

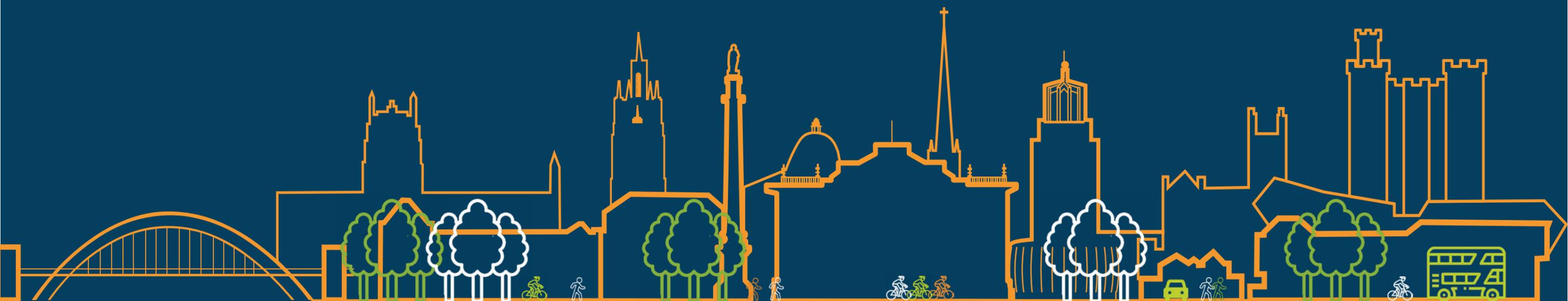
# Our Newcastle Our Future

## Net Zero Newcastle - 2030 Action Plan

### Priority Actions Update



September 2020 - March 2021



# Net Zero Newcastle Foreword from the Leader

In April 2019 Newcastle City Council (NCC) declared a Climate Emergency and made a bold commitment to achieving city-wide Net Zero status by 2030.

We're by no means alone; over 300 UK councils have taken the important step of declaring a Climate Emergency and establishing Net Zero commitments, as well as the UK Government enshrining a Net Zero 2050 target into law. But while we are not alone in declaring a Net Zero transition, it is absolutely the case that there is no precedence or road map for the city-wide Net Zero transition. So, in September 2020, Newcastle City Council produced and approved a bold and comprehensive 'Net Zero Newcastle - 2030 Action Plan' (referred to as the 'Action Plan'). The Action Plan is hosted on our new Net Zero webpage: [www.newcastle.gov.uk/netzero](http://www.newcastle.gov.uk/netzero).

The Action Plan sets out (among other important topics) the challenge facing the city, the vision for a Net Zero future, how we intend to engage with our residents, businesses and organisations, and very importantly establishes more than 100 Priority Actions that we can take over the coming years to set us off in the Net Zero transition. These Priority Actions cover three key themes (namely **Energy**, **Transport**, and **Adaptation and Sustainability**) reflecting the three primary elements of our emissions inventory (namely energy, transport and waste) which accounts for 99% of our Scope 1 and 2 emissions (for further information, please see 'Emissions Profile' section below).

Despite the devastating impacts of Covid-19 over the course of 2020, the city's determination and cross-party commitment to achieving Net Zero status by 2030 remains undiminished. It is increasingly clear that the crisis that we are facing now must be a pivotal moment in our transition to a low carbon future.

The Climate Emergency is as real as it was before the pandemic and climate change remains the challenge of our generation. It is clear from the scientific evidence that the impacts of climate change are stark and accelerating in severity. These systemic climate shocks are expected to have similarly profound and wide-ranging impacts on the city infrastructure and environment, and its residents and businesses.

I am very pleased that despite the enormous challenges of Covid-19, there has been no let-up in our overall city-wide commitment and drive towards Net Zero and in many cases, I have observed an acceleration of Net Zero activity across the Council and partner organisations. In fact Newcastle was recognised as an international Climate Leader and is one of only four places in the UK to receive the top "A" grade from international climate research provider Carbon Disclosure Platform (CDP) and one of only 88 globally.

City partners including the Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Newcastle University, Northumbria University and Newcastle College Group have also made excellent progress with defining science-based targets, strategic action planning and delivering programmes of work for the Net Zero transition. I have also been delighted to see the rapidly growing commitment to the Net Zero agenda from a range of businesses, utility companies and community groups within the city and the region.

I am pleased to present this report which gives an update on city-wide progress against the Priority Actions listed in the 'Net Zero Newcastle - 2030 Action Plan' and demonstrates the enormous amount of progress that we have collectively made over the last six months towards our Net Zero goal.

**Cllr Nick Forbes**

Leader of Newcastle City Council and Co-Chair of the Newcastle Net Zero Taskforce

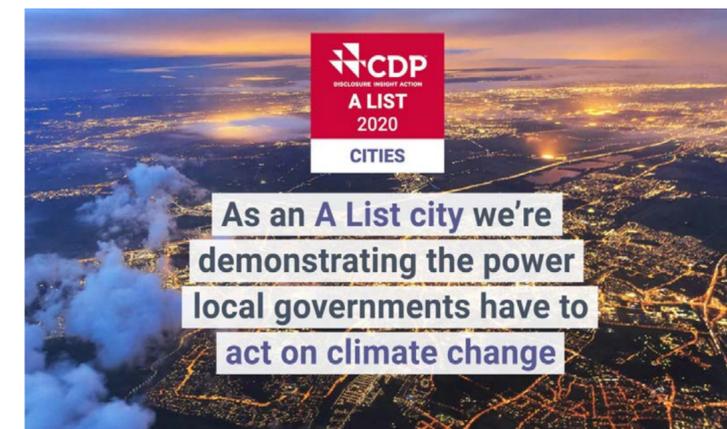
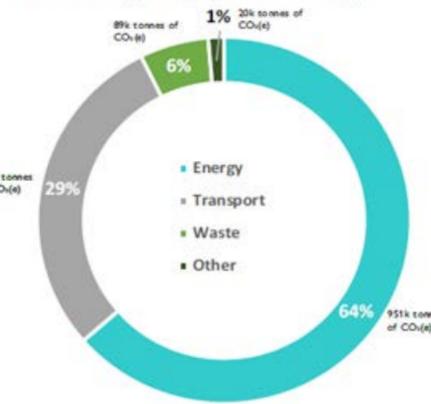


'Net Zero Newcastle - 2030 Action Plan'

Emissions inventory by sector

Newcastle awarded International Climate Leader status (CDP A-rating)

Emissions inventory by sector (Scope 1 and 2 emissions only)\*



# Net Zero Newcastle Priority Actions Update

For each of the Priority Actions listed in the 'Net Zero Newcastle - 2030 Action Plan', an update is provided below which includes the following information:

**Priority Action Number**

**Priority Action Description**

**PROGRESS UPDATE**

-

**NEXT STEPS**

-

1 2 3 4 5

Priority Action reference number

Priority Action description

Concise update on progress on the Priority Action over the course of 2020.

Concise update on expected next steps for the Priority Action

Net Zero progress bar

Progress description diagram

## Net Zero Progress

For each of the Priority Actions, a progress bar is provided. To date, the following Priority Actions have been progressed to the greatest extent:

- Priority Actions A16 and E18 - securing large sums of grant funding through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) and the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery scheme.
- Priority Action A21 - establishing a Citizen's Assembly at North of Tyne regional scale.
- Priority Action T8 - as part of the Healthy Pupil Capital Fund, schools are receiving resources and support to help educate their pupils about air quality and take steps to improve the levels of pollution around the school.
- Priority Action T11 - initiating an e-Scooter trial throughout the city.
- Priority Action A&S5 - establishing a Cold Weather Plan which includes consideration of the impacts of climate change and cold weather on public health, operational winter servicing and social care.
- Priority Action A&S9 - securing funding through the Urban Tree Challenge Fund and delivering tree planting.
- Priority Action A&S19 - submitting a comprehensive response to the Government's Planning White Paper including detailed representation on Net Zero issues.

NET ZERO PROGRESS BAR



LEGEND

- 1 Priority Action not yet started.
- 2 Priority Action initiated and early works conducted.
- 3 Reasonable progress to date on Priority Action.
- 4 Priority Action progressing well towards completion.
- 5 Priority Action complete.

**A1**  
Develop list of carbon offset opportunities taking into account the key considerations set out in Key Considerations for Carbon Offsetting.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Initial list of carbon offset opportunities under development.  
- Negative Emissions Technologies study in progress with consultant.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Compile list of potential carbon offsetting options.  
- Critically assess offsetting options to determine if they meet Key Considerations for Carbon Offsetting.



**A2**  
Ensure that representatives on the Tyne and Wear Pensions Fund continue to lobby for further disinvestment in fossil fuels.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Review underway by Newcastle City Council of options to lobby Tyne and Wear Pensions Fund for disinvestment in fossil fuel revenue businesses.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Engage with Tyne and Wear Pensions Fund and seek changes to Investment Strategy to address Net Zero changes.



**A3**  
Explore whether a city-scale carbon insetting programme would be suitable for Newcastle, and gauge interest from local organisations, businesses and residents.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Developing an initial list of potential carbon insetting projects and capital cost requiring funding.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Monitoring pilot programmes for carbon insetting to determine their effectiveness and key considerations.  
- Develop framework for carbon insetting and initiate trial.



**A4**  
Further develop Key Performance Indicators and Local Metrics of Performance.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Working with Newcastle University, developed a brief for local metrics of performance, data analytics and associated Net Zero research programmes

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Secure funding to deliver brief and establish Key Performance Indicators for achievement of Net Zero in the city  
- Implement OpenData approach and establish data platform and regular updates  
- Incorporate data into Carbon Disclosure Platform (CDP) 2021 submission and ongoing disclosures to demonstrate performance against Net Zero 2030 target



**A9**  
Continue to engage at local, regional, national and international forums to learn lessons, access funding and deliver resources to key Net Zero actions.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Engagement at local, regional, national and international forums in progress and learning lessons to be applied in Newcastle.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue engagement and prepare for further activity in advance of COP-26.



**A10**  
Engage with local and regional businesses and business forums on Green Growth and how best to maximise the benefits to the city.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- First webinar (Green Homes Grant and Domestic Decarbonisation - Opportunities for Installers) held on 10 November 2020 - positive feedback from participants

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Establish programme of webinars and business engagement prior to Business Climate Change Summit.  
- Work with Invest Newcastle, CBI, North East Chamber of Commerce and others, to develop understanding of requirements of local businesses to successfully deliver their Green Growth ambitions.  
- Determine opportunity of COP-26 to attract inward investment for local business



**A11**  
Engage in and promote new forums and routes for research, development, innovation and pilot programmes in the low carbon sector across the city.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Engagement ongoing with universities regarding low carbon heat research including geothermal boreholes supplying heat to Helix District Energy Network

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue to expand links between NCC, universities and other research companies and organisations.  
- Facilitate and encourage links between research organisations and businesses.  
- Establish Newcastle as a Low Carbon Research and Innovation Hub and focus on attracting low carbon businesses to the city.



**A12**  
Work with city higher education providers and education partners to prepare for, and support, a low carbon skills transition.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Initial engagement undertaken with Newcastle College Group.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Further engagement with higher and further education providers required.  
- Assess options to access North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) funding for Low Carbon Skills Funding and use to best effect.



**A5**  
Continue to engage with all members of the city through the Climate Change Convention. Hold additional Climate Change Summits, including a Youth Summit.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Regular meetings of the Climate Change Committee and the Net Zero Taskforce held during 2020.  
- North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) Citizen's Assembly Steering Board established and first meeting held. Resident recruitment underway.  
- A Student Climate Change Summit was held in March 2021.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Work with NTCA to implement Citizen's Assembly  
- Hold 3 further Climate Change Summits in advance of COP-26 - Youth; Voluntary Sector and Community; and Business.



**A6**  
Improve over time local emission monitoring (either directly or via indicators) to improve the accuracy of Newcastle's emissions inventory.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Initial engagement with organisations holding potential data sources for local emission monitoring underway.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Determine appropriate sources, access and analytics of those datasets to determine local proxy data.  
- Incorporate data into Newcastle's emissions inventory.



**A7**  
Promote and encourage uptake of the Net Zero Pledge and associated local low carbon action by city residents and businesses.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Net Zero Pledge made live - please sign up by visiting 'Pledge your support' link at [www.newcastle.gov.uk/netzero](http://www.newcastle.gov.uk/netzero).

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Further develop carbon calculator and incorporate Net Zero Pledge.  
- Promote Net Zero Pledge and develop follow-on activities.



**A8**  
Prepare for and seek to implement as many Net Zero projects as possible by COP-26 in November 2021 to demonstrate Newcastle's climate leadership.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Various projects in progress including the City Decarbonisation Delivery Programme, the Heat Network Decarbonisation Feasibility Programme, Electrification of Heat programme, etc.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue to develop, seek funding and deliver Net Zero projects.  
- Monitor Shared Prosperity Fund developments and consider further opportunities for working in partnership with North of Tyne Combined Authority through the Green New Deals, Low Carbon Skills Fund-ing and Economic Recovery Funding.



**A13**  
Provide business support to SMEs in the city through a Green Growth delivery strand of the Business and IP Centre (BIPC) Newcastle.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Framework under development for BIPC support to businesses to reduce their carbon footprint and to access support for identifying future low carbon revenue streams and business opportunities.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Establish Net Zero Business Forum.  
- Finalise framework for BIPC Net Zero business support and secure funding.  
- Explore opportunities of working with North Star Ventures on new start-ups and attracting inward investment for low carbon businesses



**A14**  
Actively promote climate change action, learning, research, idea generation and leadership through the Students in Newcastle Forum (SiNF).

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Links established and Climate Change / Net Zero is one of the three selected target areas for the Students in Newcastle Forum (SiNF).  
- Student Climate Change Summit took place in March 2021 in partnership with the SiNF.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Climate Change Student Champions to be appointed  
- Priority Actions by SiNF to be agreed and Climate Change Champions to progress and monitor delivery.



**A15**  
Each January, prepare an annual update for the previous year, and a concise forward plan for the next year of actions taken through the Net Zero Newcastle programme.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- First annual update produced for period September 2020 to March 2021.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue providing annual updates each year.



**A16**  
Monitor, prepare for and submit grant and other funding applications to deliver on the city's Net Zero commitment, with an immediate priority to stimulate economic growth and job retention and creation.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Several funding applications progressed over the course of 2021 including Net Zero Innovation Fund, Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery programme, Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, European Regional Development Fund, among others. Funding applications have related to research programmes, domestic low carbon retrofits, public sector building retrofits, low carbon heat network expansion.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue to monitor upcoming funds, work to ensure local content in the delivery of the funds and drive forward Net Zero programme.



**A17**  
Support city partners in making successful applications for grant, research and other funding.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Several funding applications have been supported to date around Net Zero related work programmes.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue to support upcoming activities by city partners.



**A18**  
Look beyond grant funding by working with public and private sector partners to develop pathways to commercial deployment and mass roll-out of low carbon measures.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Ongoing activity across multiple work-streams.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Ensure continued and enhanced attention on reducing unit costs of low carbon measures by conventional and innovative means.



**A19**  
Working with the Youth Democracy Group (formerly the Youth Council), a Climate Change Youth Summit will be arranged.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Youth Climate Change Summit planned for 2021, in advance of COP-26 in November 2021.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Hold Youth Climate Change Summit and establish Climate Change Champions  
- Priority Actions by SiNF to be agreed and Climate Change Champions to progress and monitor delivery.



**A20**  
Explore opportunities to engage with school age children on Climate Change issues and solutions through the curriculum, by providing hands on Net Zero project ideas and supporting in their delivery.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Youth Climate Change Summit planned for October 2021, in advance of COP-26 in November 2021.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- During the Youth Climate Change Summit, engage with schools and community groups for young people to determine suitable routes to encourage participation and action on Net Zero projects.



**E2**  
Monitor developments in the national and international energy sector to identify new and / or promising emerging technologies and applications to deliver Net Zero.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Engagement with Association of Public Sector Excellence (APSE) in relation to learning about future technologies and applications  
- Review of new and promising emerging technologies to contribute to Net Zero transition in housing in progress.  
- First trial project in progress to test smart home technologies to social housing units.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Review of non-domestic promising low carbon energy technologies



**E3**  
Continue to work to eliminate fuel poverty through installation of energy efficiency measures and provide ongoing advice and support to fuel poor residents.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- £1m Renewable Heat Incentive application made to install ground source heat pump system to 2 tower blocks (164 properties)  
- £1.6m ECO funding bid submitted – install cavity loft insulation to 17 tower blocks (1,465 properties)  
- NCC started trial of new low carbon technologies and insulation to deliver significant Fuel Poverty and energy reduction.  
- Gas boiler upgrades and thermal improvements also underway across social housing stock.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Progress low carbon technologies and insulation products trial in social houses.



**E4**  
Work with private sector partners and housing organisations to deploy available Green Homes Grant and other funding streams to as many properties as possible within the city.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- £4.68m Electrification of Heat installation of 250 heat pumps across the city  
- £1.02m Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery (GHG LAD) Phase 1a secured - installation of external wall insulation/ heat pumps to 90 owner occupied properties.  
- GHG LAD Phase 1b application successful (c. £1.9m) for installation of external wall insulation/heat pumps/solar PV to 175 owner occupied properties.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Prepare for upcoming grant funding opportunities including Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund.



**E5**  
Engage with the private rented sector to ensure adherence with the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) and support where possible implementation of low carbon measures to deliver EPC improvements.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Prepared response to the Government Consultation on 'Improving the Energy Performance of Privately Rented Homes in England and Wales' which addresses minimum standards, delivery timeframes, monitoring and enforcement, etc.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue to support national Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) that is ambitious and delivers on the Net Zero 2030 agenda.  
- Assess and engage on Future Homes Standard and what it will mean for private rented sector properties in the city.



**A21**  
A Net Zero Champions approach to communicating key messages will be considered by the Citizen's Assembly.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- NCC representative appointed to Oversight Panel for Citizens' Assembly.  
- First meetings of Citizen's Assembly held and full programme expected to be completed in 2021.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Engage with the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) to ensure that Newcastle's Climate Change Champions are engaged fully in delivery of the city-wide Net Zero programme



**A22**  
Work with trade unions, city-wide businesses and employers and business forums to support the transition to a low carbon / green economy in the city.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Engagement undertaken to date through the Net Zero Taskforce.  
- Economic Development team at Newcastle City Council reviewing opportunities for upskilling and retraining for future growth economies in the city.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Ensure greater focus on this topic at upcoming Net Zero Taskforce meetings.  
- Create framework for engaging all parts of the green economy in the city to enable key sector skills, supply chain and emerging businesses to be supported over the coming years.



**A23**  
Use the tools at our disposal to promote our key 'Asks of Government' (see orange box to the right) either directly to decision makers, through consultations, or via collective advocacy groups.

Various policy positions communicated to Government to influence the successful delivery of the city-wide Net Zero programme.



**E1**  
Work with Northern Powergrid and Northern Gas Networks to assess and identify the best route to deliver Net Zero in the energy sector.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Extensive engagement has been carried out over the course of 2020 with Northern Powergrid and Northern Gas Networks in relation to Local Area Energy Planning, Future Energy Scenarios, and city-wide forward investment programmes to facilitate Net Zero project delivery.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Conduct Local Area Energy Plan for area of city supplied by a single substation over course of 2021 and assess options for scaling up to city-wide view.  
- Continue to monitor the progress made on decarbonising grid gas and electricity  
- Conduct a review of grid capacity issues from the Electrification of Heat programme.



**E6**  
Develop Newcastle GREEN (GIS-based Renewable Energy and Energy efficiency Network) website and promote uptake of low carbon measures to all property owners (domestic and non-domestic).

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Newcastle GREEN project initiated - solar PV map in preparation (example [here](#)).  
- Working with Newcastle University to develop underlying evidence base for tailored property recommendations.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Explore group purchasing options for city residents (example [here](#))  
- Launch Newcastle GREEN including procurement/installation streamlined support service from NCC



**E7**  
Through the planning process, require and encourage developers to design and build properties that are fit for the future and conform fully with Policy CS16 (Climate Change).

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Series of engagement events held by NCC and Gateshead Council in relation to reviews of the Core Strategy and Urban Core Plan on Net Zero topics.  
- Improved oversight and rigourousness checks of Sustainability Statements in progress.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Establish Development Manager training and internal up-skilling of NCC staff in relation to Sustainable Construction and Modern Methods of Construction.  
- Review and update Core Strategy and Urban Core Plan.



**E8**  
Continue to support local SMEs with access to energy audits and energy grants through the Business Energy Savings Team (BEST) project.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- To date, 170 energy audits have been carried out across the project, with 44 audits within the city of Newcastle Upon Tyne. 7 Newcastle businesses have received grant awards to carry out energy efficiency improvements with a combined annual carbon saving of 110 tonnes.  
- Delivering audits up to Dec 2021. Project extension approved to June 2022 requested from MHCLG.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Working with partners to explore options for an extension to the BEST programme (BEST-2) to build on progress made.



**E9**  
Seek to expand the existing provision to local SMEs to have access to energy audits and energy grants through expansion of the BEST project.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Feasibility of expanding the existing provision and how that would be structured is currently underway.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Considering options for further energy saving business support with North of Tyne Combined Authority and the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NE LEP).



**E10**  
Promote through all suitable means, small scale renewable energy generation and self consumption in domestic and non-domestic properties.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Currently installing a 65kWp solar PV array at Cragside Primary School.  
- The Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 1a and 1b projects includes solar photovoltaic (PV)  
- The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) applications and the Net Zero Schools projects include solar PV installations across the board  
- City partners including the universities and the hospital trust have continued to develop their plans for solar PV installations on their campuses.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Build internal expertise and assess replacement programmes.



**E11**  
Apply for funding for a pilot project for a Neighbourhood Virtual Power Plant.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Initial feasibility work and project definition underway and considering funding opportunities for a Neighbourhood Virtual Power Plant demonstration project.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Progress demonstration project and determine plans for scaling up the approach if demonstration project is successful and financeable.



**E12**  
Continue to develop world-leading programmes of research and investment into enhanced renewable energy generation and storage and improving efficiency of generation through our universities.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Newcastle University have engaged in a research programme for supplying the Helix District Energy Centre with renewable energy from the 1.6km geothermal borehole on site.  
- Both Newcastle and Northumbria Universities have various research programmes underway on smart cities, energy storage and power system management and enabling renewable energy expansion.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Develop further opportunities for collaboration between universities and the Council and businesses.



**E13**  
Encourage uptake of renewable energy by preparing a Planning Process Note which sets out when installations are likely to benefit from Permitted Development and when they will need to secure the necessary planning approvals.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Planning Process Note in preparation.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Publish Planning Process Note in 2021, in advance of COP-26.



**E18**  
Prepare for and deliver an ambitious programme of Public Sector Decarbonisation of anchor institutions property portfolios via the forthcoming funding mechanism.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Secured funds through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Programme for decarbonisation projects worth £27.5m for 32 major sites including 16 schools within the city. The projects would remove 4,050 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions each year.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Submit Net Zero schools grant funding applications to any future schools. Consider options to align Schools Capital Programme to Net Zero programmes.  
- Prepare for future rounds of grant funding through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Programme and other available funds.



**E19**  
Ensure that all new buildings and major capital programmes embed low carbon and renewable heat and electricity measures into their design and construction.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- A voluntary Low Carbon Construction Standard is under development with city partners as the basis for new buildings and major capital programmes taking into account embedded carbon and lifecycle carbon, including for new planning submissions.  
- North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) Net Zero Innovation Fund project successful - the project involves determining decision making structures in capital programmes to enable Net Zero decisions.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Finalise and publish voluntary Low Carbon Construction Standard and secure pledges from public and private sector to adopt it.



**E20**  
Explore options for increasingly smart energy systems which adopt 'time of use' and 'flexible demand' approaches to energy consumption.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Feasibility works underway considering the use of Thermonics and V-charge heat storage to act as flexible demand and energy storage devices. At present, this is based on the use of Economy 7 tariffs.  
- Part of the Neighbourhood Virtual Power Plant demonstration project entails using 'time of use' tariffs to extract maximum value from the low carbon technologies.  
- Completed a study on markets and opportunities relating to batteries and revenue stacking

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Progress with demonstration projects and look at options for scaling up deployment.



**E21**  
In preparing the updated Local Plan, key low carbon and national or international standards will be considered and assessed for suitability to be incorporated into citywide planning policies.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Various planning policy developments have occurred over recent months including consultation on the Planning White Paper, consultation on amendments to the Building Regulations Part L / Future Homes Standard and other Building Regulations changes to facilitate the Net Zero transition.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Consider opportunities under new planning guidelines for Planning Authority to implement Sustainability Guidance and establish a higher standard for low carbon measures through planning policy.  
- Capture ambitious low carbon considerations into updates to the Local Plan / Core Strategy.



**E14**  
Working with our delivery partner E.ON, deliver the BEIS funded Electrification of Heat Demonstration Project and learn lessons that can be applied in future heat pump roll out projects.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Good progress made on project over the course of 2020. The latest figures at 14th Dec 2020 were 1,611 referrals received, 568 surveys conducted, 213 systems designed, 11 installations completed.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue to deliver project against project plan and success criteria.  
- Prepare a lessons learned document at the end of the assignment to facilitate future policy / deployment of electrification of heat.



**E15**  
Develop a delivery plan for wide-scale deployment of heat pumps to homes addressing key barriers such as supply chain issues, training of heat pump engineers, cost reductions, understanding of the technology, etc.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Initial engagement in relation to planning barriers for heat pump wide-scale deployment underway.  
- Analytics programme for identifying suitable properties for heat pumps is underway through the City Decarbonisation Delivery Programme.  
- Undertake commercial review of heat pump deployment across corporate estate and factor into asset management plans.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Part of our delivery partner's (E.ON) brief under the Electrification of Heat programme is to produce a learnings document.



**E16**  
Monitor closely developments in the hydrogen sector and the potential for hydrogen to play an increasing role in our Net Zero heat / gas supply future.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Working with Northern Gas Networks, the universities and others, Newcastle City Council is monitoring the developing hydrogen sector including the demonstration project of hydrogen in a residential development in Gateshead.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue to monitor developments in the sector and determine if hydrogen will play a key role in our Net Zero heat / gas supply future.  
- Considering factoring hydrogen into the Core Strategy as a new local planning policy.



**E17**  
Work with Engie through the Regenerate Newcastle Partnership to deliver District Energy Network and associated projects within the city, creating an expanded and increasingly integrated low carbon heat system.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Feasibility studies are in progress on several low carbon heat network schemes through the Regenerate Newcastle Partnership.  
- Secured funding through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme for extension of the Helix Heat Network to Blandford House / Discovery Museum.  
- Overarching city wide heat network strategy under development.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Progress low carbon heat networks to Heat Network Investment Programme or alternative funding to secure pipeline of upcoming projects.



**E22**  
Use the tools at our disposal to promote our key 'Asks of Government' (see orange box to the right) either directly to decision makers, through consultations, or via collective advocacy groups.

Various policy positions communicated to Government to influence the successful delivery of the city-wide Net Zero programme.



**T1**  
Develop detailed plans for a citywide Low Carbon Transport Vision including 15 Minute City concept, Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and incorporating the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan and School Streets initiative.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTN) - forthcoming plans under development for new LTNs and School Streets  
- Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) - drafted and awaiting internal approvals. The Department for Transport (DfT) have encouraged authorities to produce plans but no dedicated funds have yet been announced.  
- A sustainable transport corridor was included in the Transforming Cities Fund which is allocated regionally.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Secure funds and start implementation of addition LTN and LCWIP actions.



**T2**  
Assess options and develop a plan for limiting growth in the number of private motorised vehicles in the city, to counter the impacts of population growth.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- A key aim of the Low Traffic Neighbourhoods is to reduce ownership and use of private motorised vehicles in the city.  
- Emission based discounts for permit parking are under review, taking into account potential discount on parking permit for low emission and ultra-low emission vehicles.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Citizen's Assembly and citywide Climate Change Summits to consider opportunities for embedding long term behaviour change.



**T3**  
Systematically develop and implement plans to remove private motorised vehicles from the city centre, commercial districts and sensitive part of the city.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Road space reallocation programme has been progressed and encouraging greater use of active travel in the city.  
- City Centre Transformation Programme (CCTP) at advanced stage of development and incorporates low carbon transport elements and reducing impact of private motorised transport in the city centre.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue to prioritise active travel and low carbon transport measures in relation to citywide commercial districts and sensitive parts of the city.



**T4**  
Implement the Clean Air Zone (category C) using secured funds.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Revising business case for the Clean Air Zone to account for Covid-19 impacts prior to resubmission.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Resubmit business case to the Government's Joint Air Quality Unit (JAQU)



**T5**  
Develop and implement an emissions based parking tariff in the city centre and key commercial districts.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Review in progress of parking tariffs in the city centre and across the city, including consideration of emissions based parking charges.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Finalise and implement parking tariff plans.



**T6**  
Assess the potential for wider deployment of car clubs within the city, based on Ultra Low Emission Vehicles. Ensure that access to travel options is enhanced in communities with low car ownership through community clubs as opposed to household ownership.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Looking to change or renew car clubs scheme contract in 2022 and will consider expansion options.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue ambition to expand - soft market testing may be required to determine best deployment method.



**T7**  
Develop and implement additional School Streets initiatives.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTN) - forthcoming plans under development for new LTNs and School Streets

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Evaluate impact of School Streets trials  
- Seek further funding for School Streets initiatives if successful  
- Continue to press for implementation of moving traffic enforcement powers



**T12**  
Prepare a bold, detailed and high quality submission to the Government for the recently announced Zero Carbon City Centre scheme.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Early stage analysis conducted - discussions around air quality, junction design considerations, street realignment, public transport accessibility, etc, are in progress.  
- Engagement with City Centre Transformation Programme (CCTP) in progress for updated public realm incorporating low carbon transport considerations.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Develop Zero Carbon City Centre scheme and prepare funding application.



**T13**  
Work with Nexus and other city public transport operators to develop a citywide plan for further improving transport integration and to develop and implement a Smart Ticketing system using the 'Pop' branded smartcard.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Continuing work as part of the North East Smart Ticketing Initiative to improve smart ticketing options.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Identify potential funding streams regionally to enable improved ticketing and integration.



**T14**  
Consider options for expansion of, and new sites for, Park & Ride schemes across the city. Develop and seek funding for Sustainable Park & Ride schemes.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Four Park and Ride sites are included in the Development and Allocations Plan (DAP)

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Nexus to look at Park and Ride at a wider geography as most sites likely outside Newcastle  
- Initial options analysis for solar PV car port, Electric Vehicle (EV) charging and small battery installations in public sector car parks under way.



**T15**  
Enhance the information and payment systems available for passenger transport to enable a 'Mobility as a Service' approach to transport integration.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- After initial discussions, it is considered that this Priority Action will be best dealt with as part of the Regional Transport Plan.  
- The e-Scooter trial mentioned in Priority Action T11 is linked to delivery of this increasing Mobility as a Service offer by the city.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Engage with the Regional Transport Plan development team and influence incorporation of regional improvements in the Mobility as a Service and Integrated Transport approach.



**T8**  
Implement, and where possible enhance, the Healthy Pupil Capital Fund programme.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- 16 schools will receive resources and support to help educate their pupils about air quality and take steps to improve the levels of pollution around the school. 10 schools will receive an air quality monitor, 11 will receive a cycle store, 11 will get a scooter store, 14 will get cycle helmets to store at the school.  
- All applicants will also receive support from Newcastle City Council's active school travel programme – Mode Shift Stars – and bike ability training.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Implement full programme



**T9**  
Develop and implement schemes to reduce the dominance of cars in the city by reallocating road space to active travel and low carbon transport modes, whilst meeting vibrant high street and Covid-19 requirements.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Change in design and road space allocation completed to multiple main streets within city across three priority areas: 1) city centre; 2) district centres and main transport corridors; and 3) low traffic neighbourhoods.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Complete consultations and make necessary scheme adjustments. Where appropriate, make changes permanent.  
- Target road space reallocation in selected areas.  
- Continue design and delivery of schemes to reallocate road space through the Transforming Cities Fund.



**T10**  
Implement a safe walking and cycling network to connect every school, to every park, to every district shopping centre, by implementing the key components of our Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.

Please refer to comments in Priority Action T1 in respect of LTNs and the LCWIP.



**T11**  
Work with Gateshead Council to implement a 12 month e-Scooter trial. If successful, explore ways to extend and expand the scheme.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Procurement process for e-Scooter trial completed and appointed Neuron to deliver scheme. Launched the Newcastle trial in February 2021.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Implement and monitor 1 year long trial.  
- Consider options for expanded e-Scooter scheme if trial is successful.



**T16**  
Work with bus operators to improve bus lanes and bus priority through better coordinated traffic signals on key transport corridors to improve overall public transport networks.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- The Transforming Cities Fund has funded the ITS scheme for upgrading junctions and enforcing key bus corridors and bus lanes along key routes  
- In line with the National Bus Strategy, work has begun regionally on a potential Bus Service Improvement Plan  
- A review of the John Dobson Street ruling is underway to ensure learning and scheme improvements in future initiatives.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Deliver existing schemes and seek funding for additional forthcoming schemes.



**T17**  
Assess options and the pros and cons of a bus franchising approach.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Direct power for bus franchising are not available to Newcastle without referral to Department for Transport (DfT)  
- Publication of the National Bus Strategy sets out requirements to franchise or deliver Enhanced Partnerships.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Engage with regional stakeholders to determine pros and cons of a bus franchising and Enhanced Partnership approaches.



**T18**  
Promote and support the transition towards ultra-low emission buses, taxis and freight vehicles operating within the city, including options such as cargo bikes.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Z-move (the zero emissions delivery service) has expanded.  
- 2 new rapid chargers for taxis are planned for installation.  
- Any Clean Air Zone would be accompanied by grants to upgrade to lower emission vehicles (such as HGVs, LGVs, buses, private hire vehicles and Hackney carriages).  
- Go North East have secured dedicated Electric Buses on the 'Voltra' 53/54 between Newcastle and Gateshead

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Consider options for freight consolidation  
- Continue to make funding applications and implement plans.



**T19**  
If successful in grant funding bid to Office for Low Emissions Vehicles, implement a pilot scheme to provide 23 Electric Vehicle chargers in a number of areas of the city.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Funding of £150k secured through Office for Low Emissions Vehicles for 23 EV chargers.  
- Regional electric vehicle charging infrastructure procurement exercise in progress with intention of proceeding with first installations in 2021.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Complete regional EV procurement and installations.  
- Seek Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) contributions towards future city-wide EV infrastructure plans.



**T20**  
Work with the North East Combined Authority (NECA) to renew, replace and expand the Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure across the city.

Please refer to comments in Priority Action T19 in respect of Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure roll-out.



**T21**  
Develop an ambitious city-wide plan for the rollout of Electric Vehicle infrastructure across the city. Work with North East Combined Authority to deploy Rapid Chargers, particularly to encourage use by electric taxis.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Demand study (looking at locations to put chargers for maximum uptake) in progress.  
- Considering options for integration of Electric Vehicle infrastructure into car parks.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Develop strategic document and tie into regional procurement (common infrastructure programme).  
- Increase focus on home charging expansion.  
- Engagement with the Distribution Network Operator (Northern Powergrid) to prepare network for Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure roll-out and increased demand.



**T22**  
Work with the North East Freight Partnership and other relevant organisations to move freight away from road transport and to encourage the switch to zero emission vehicles.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- No progress to date.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Table at upcoming North East Freight Partnership meeting.



**T23**  
Develop a plan for the city to implement Freight Consolidation Hubs and low carbon last mile freight deliveries, and assess practical implementation options, as well as seeking funding.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Freight management is dealt with under the Core Strategy for new development and taken into consideration service delivery plans within the urban core (Policy UC8) - a validation checklist for new developments is in preparation.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Create working group to consider strategic plans for Freight Consolidation Hubs and low carbon last mile freight deliveries in the city.



**T28**  
Use the tools at our disposal to promote our key 'Asks of Government' (see orange box to the right) either directly to decision makers, through consultations, or via collective advocacy groups.

Various policy positions communicated to Government to influence the successful delivery of the citywide Net Zero programme.



**A&S1**  
Produce a guidance document for property owners that sets out a summary of the key planning policies that enable sustainable development and a simple guide to streamlining an application for low carbon initiatives.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Planning Process Note to capture these elements in preparation in 2021.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Publish Planning Process Note in 2021, in advance of COP-26.



**A&S2**  
Produce a Green and Sustainable Procurement guidance document for our city's businesses.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- No progress to date.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Guidance document to be prepared in 2021, in advance of COP-26.



**A&S3**  
Produce a template and guidance document for preparing a Sustainable Travel Plan, tailored to specific audiences / users.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- No progress to date.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Template and guidance document to be prepared in 2021, in advance of COP-26.



**T24**  
Support other city low carbon transport projects such as the Metro rolling stock replacement programme, and work with city and regional partners to increase ambition in their transition to Net Zero.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- The Net Zero Taskforce offers a platform for collaboration between city stakeholders.  
- Nexus is building a total of 42 new Metro trains, which will be delivered up to 2024.  
- Through recent Joint Transport Committee bids, Newcastle City Council has been working with regional partners to develop greater ambition for Net Zero transition.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Identify priority projects and actions that can be taken regionally to drive the transition to Net Zero transport quicker.



**T25**  
Ultra Low Emission Buses scheme. Work with bus fleet operators to assess the necessary funding and to implement the infrastructure throughout the city to take 100% of buses to ultra low emission status.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Go North East have secured dedicated Electric Buses on the 'Voltra' 53/54 between Newcastle and Gateshead.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Begin engagement with bus fleet operators and understand scale of the challenge and work with new funding schemes such as the Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA).



**T26**  
Investigate options for hydrogen to play a future role in public transport in Newcastle.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Initial discussions in progress with city partners for hydrogen to play a role in transport and for energy supply to buildings.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Progress discussions with city stakeholders to determine options for hydrogen to play a role in public transport in the city.



**T27**  
Wherever suitable and appropriate, support the decarbonisation of Out of Boundary Transport Emissions by working with local, regional and national transport organisations.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Funding secured to allow the reopening of the Northumberland Line to passenger trains, delivering a programme of activity which will see the re-introduction of direct passenger trains between south-east Northumberland and the centre of Newcastle.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue engagement with other local, regional and national transport organisations to agree key priorities and determine where the city of Newcastle can provide support.



**A&S4**  
Develop a Climate Change Adaptation Working Group including city organisations to identify key climate change risks and develop targeted and effective preparation, development and adaptation activities.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Climate Change Adaptation Working Group established and 3 meetings held. Next meeting to be held in April 2021.  
- Group purpose established and agreed by working group participants.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Consider options of working with Core Cities and regional organisations to assess the cost of climate change impacts on the city / region and determine capital programme of works required to adapt to climate change impacts.  
- Forward adaptation work programme to be determined by working group participants.



**A&S5**  
Prepare a Cold Weather Plan for Newcastle to address the city's response to protect residents and infrastructure from increasing severity and frequency of extreme weather events due to climate change.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Cold Weather Plan draft completed and currently under internal review including consideration of public health, operational winter servicing and social care.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Finalise and implement Cold Weather Plan. Periodically review.



**A&S6**  
Work with citywide partners and stakeholders to develop a plan for enhancing flood defences along the Quayside to replace the temporary barriers that have been used as a defence mechanism to date.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Quayside Barrier project under initial development with the Environment Agency and citywide stakeholders.  
- Bid made to the Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme for deployment of an ambitious programme of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) across the city. Awaiting response.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Progress Quayside Barrier project to funding and seek additional flood defence funding.



**A&S7**  
Ensure that Newcastle has sufficient provision of open spaces and green infrastructure going forward. An Open Spaces and Green Infrastructure Strategy will be prepared.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Series of engagement events (including one on Green Space and Infrastructure) held by NCC and Gateshead Council in relation to reviews of the Core Strategy and Urban Core Plan.  
- Commissioned consultants to prepare the Open Space and Green Infrastructure Strategy.  
- Naturvation project extended looking at relationship between people, green space, public health and social capital.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Progress first stages of the Open Space and Green Infrastructure Strategy with target completion in advance of COP-26.



**A&S8**  
Submit a high quality bid to the Trees for Climate Programme to deliver a proposed North East Community Forest (NECF). If successful, start woodland and tree creation at the earliest opportunity.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Expression of Interest (EoI) for NECF prepared and practicalities of establishing a new Forest Team for a period of 4 years (2021 - 2025) assessed.  
- Full partnership working with all involved local authorities, combined authorities and national partners in progress

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Intention is to lodge the EoI to England Community Forests by February 2021 and to start planting trees by 2021 planting season (in advance of COP-26).



**A&S9**  
If successful in the Urban Tree Challenge Fund, start woodland and tree creation at the earliest opportunity.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- 2019 Urban Tree Challenge Fund grant application successful.  
- Planted 100 standard size trees and 300 whips in last planting season (winter 2019/2020) across various NCC controlled sites

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Deliver 3 year maintenance period for existing planted trees to ensure longevity and carbon sequestration is achieved.



**A&S10**  
Implement low carbon measures and efficient resource management actions set out in the Waste Strategy Action Plan.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- All new vehicles meet the latest emissions requirements and include electric bin lifts, improving their environmental sustainability and reducing noise.  
- Improved productivity and delivered operational efficiencies through route optimisation and maximising the benefit from two more local tip-off points in the recycling contract. This has also reduced our carbon footprint.  
- Litter bin sensors are now installed in all citywide litter bins. We monitor fill levels and empty bins maximising the use of resources and reducing the carbon footprint of vehicles making unnecessary journeys

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Sourced a wholly electric Refuse Collection Vehicle to trial in the City Centre. While there were some operational issues, initial feedback was positive. The supply of these vehicles remains limited and the cost high but we continue to review their use.



**A&S11**  
Working with businesses and NE1 on experimental schemes to improve waste collection and recycling in the city centre, minimising its environmental impact.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- High Bridge initiative in progress involving consolidated shared waste collection for businesses in the business district. Newcastle City Council provide shared bin with agreed capacity (a reduced number and improved levels of recycling) with a voluntary agreement by businesses to manage the capacity themselves.  
- Improvements to waste management in the city centre planned through the City Centre Transformation Programme (CCTP)

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Underground bin collection feasibility options to be considered.



**A&S16**  
Meet Newcastle's target to better protect 578 households, including 358 currently at significant risk and 250 in the 20% most deprived areas, from surface water flooding by March 2026.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- This Priority Action relates to the capital programme for the next 6 years with the Environment Agency as referenced in Priority Action A&S15.  
- Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) proposed for incorporation into the City Centre Transformation Programme (CCTP) design.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Report back to Regional Flood and Coast Committee on progress against strategic flood defence schemes.



**A&S17**  
When the Council divests of land and property, encourage sustainable development options on the sites, such as sustainable construction methods and materials, low carbon heat and electricity sources, etc.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- No progress to date

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Establish a Modern Methods of Construction and Sustainable Construction guidance document / reference material for use by all public and private sector organisations.  
- Assess options for creating an expert panel and working group for Sustainable Construction and Modern Methods of Construction in Newcastle.

- Set minimum standard for sustainability to be achieved on divesting land and property, to be contractually fixed during divestment process.



**A&S18**  
Continue developing new plans to adapt to climate change effects including hot weather plans and surface water flooding plans. Ensure best climate change practice is captured, including green-blue linkages.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Key climate hazards and vulnerabilities have been identified through the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) and are being addressed by citywide practitioners and delivery partners.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Through the Climate Change Adaptation Working Group, establish task and finish groups for preparing the city (its residents and infrastructure) for the impacts of climate change.



**A&S19**  
Prepare comprehensive response to the Planning White Paper with citywide position on incorporating green infrastructure and active travel infrastructure into new developments.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Comprehensive response to Planning White Paper produced including detailed representation on Net Zero issues, focusing on delivering new developments that are low carbon and energy efficient, and promoting green and sustainable infrastructure across the city. Currently working with Government on the pilot programme and may consider being a pilot authority for new National Design Codes.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Continue to work with government through pilot programmes and promote Net Zero requirements.



**A&S12**  
Continue working to deliver the Energy Recovery Facility to treat 'residual waste' that should ensure over 90% of waste is diverted from landfill, delivering improved sustainability and reduced carbon emissions.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Newcastle, Durham and the five Tees Valley Authorities signed an Inter Authority Agreement that formally established the Tees Valley Energy Recovery Facility (TVERF) project, and launched an OJEU procurement process. The project focus is on 'residual waste' - this is what is left after 'reduce, reuse and recycle' has taken place.  
- Following evaluation during October, in November three bidders, FCC, SUEZ and Viridor, were invited to participate in dialogue, the next stage of the procurement process.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Selection of the preferred bidder is expected in 2022. Bidders are being asked for plans on the use of heat from the facility and heat networks, how they will reduce carbon emissions, for example using Carbon Capture.



**A&S13**  
Develop plans to improve efficiency of resource management through waste (including food waste), water, materials and other resources, particularly where a circular economy can be achieved.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Plastic Free Status in the Ouseburn established.  
- The use of recycled plastic as aggregate in roads is underway in the city.  
- Newcastle City Council is working with catering departments in schools to ensure food waste collection.  
- **Project Bind** established, supporting local groups to improve food distribution and reduce food waste across the city.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Reinvigorate Resource Newcastle Partnership and work with Food Newcastle Partnership.  
- Look at new products and means of boosting the circular economy.



**A&S14**  
Communicate personal sustainable actions to city residents to encourage significant uptake.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Net Zero Pledge now available for sign ups [here](#).  
- During the pandemic, communications moved online using social media. Posts have focused on disposing waste appropriately at home, including safe battery disposal, not overfilling wheeled bins, recycling pizza boxes, issues caused by food left in packaging and providing advice on services and changes at the HWRCs.  
- We have implemented individual 'opt-in' recycling schemes in areas of the City where recycling bins are particularly contaminated, and associated communications about what and how to recycle.  
- What and how to recycle information went to households with bin collection calendar in March 2020.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- We are working with the trade body for glass manufacturers, British Glass, on a campaign to increase the quality and quantity of glass recycled.



**A&S15**  
Work with project partners to develop an investment strategy which better protects Newcastle city centre from surface water flooding, taking into account climate change projections.

**PROGRESS UPDATE**  
- Early stages of city centre flood plan in progress with engineering consultants appointed to undertake detailed modeling. Prioritised project list including both residential and non-residential areas under consideration.  
- Tyne Estuary project in progress looking at establishing wider Blue-Green city interconnections.

**NEXT STEPS**  
- Complete city centre flood plan and seek Environment Agency funding (through business case submissions) to implement necessary defence schemes..



**A&S20**  
Use the tools at our disposal to promote our key 'Asks of Government' (see orange box to the right) either directly to decision makers, through consultations, or via collective advocacy groups.

Various policy positions communicated to Government to influence the successful delivery of the city-wide Net Zero programme.

