

East Lothian Council's Climate Change Strategy & Action Plan: How we developed it and the role of Council Officers

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Outline of presentation

- Developing our Climate Change Strategy
- Climate Emergency Declaration
- Our Strategy & Action Plan
- Lessons learned


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TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE TOGETHER

What does East Lothian Council need to do?

Lead by example

Across all Council Service Areas:

- Reduce carbon emissions to reach Net Zero by 2045 at the latest
 - Improve sustainability
 - Prepare for climate change impacts
- across our estate, systems, processes, services

- **Work in partnership** with local communities, businesses, organisations, individuals, key partners including government, all relevant agencies and partner organisations



East Lothian Council's Climate Change Planning & Monitoring Group

- **Role & Remit**
- **Chaired by Head of Service** (and another Head of Service attends meetings)
- **Service Managers and Officers from across the Council:**
- Emergency Planning & Resilience; Environmental Health (Air Quality); Sport, Countryside & Leisure / Amenity Services; Structures & Flooding; Housing; Energy Efficiency; Transport; Roads & Sustainable Travel; Engineering Services & Building Standards; Connected Communities; Waste Services; Flood Protection; Energy Transformation; Planning; Economic Development & Tourism; Education; Property Maintenance; Facilities Management; Procurement; Corporate Policy & Improvement; Finance; Strategic Asset & Capital Plan Management; Corporate Communications; I.T.; Development
- East Lothian Health & Social Care Partnership

First round of public consultation on the Development of an East Lothian Climate Change Strategy (2018)

- Series of public drop-in events
- Online consultation
- 166 people took part: 105 people came along to the drop-in events, 52 took part in the online consultation, and 9 people emailed additional comments/feedback
- Informed the Draft Strategy & Action Plan



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EAST LOTHIAN CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

Take part in our consultation at:
eastlothianconsultations.co.uk
by 14TH October 2018

have your say



Consultation on Draft East Lothian Climate Change Strategy (2019)

- 160 responses received on the Consultative Draft Climate Change Strategy (May-July 2019)
- 116 responses from children & young people to a separate Climate Change survey for young people
- I coordinated responses from CCPMG to points made / issues raised
- Strategy was then revised and updated



have your say

East Lothian Council

CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

PUBLIC CONSULTATION 2019

East Lothian Council has developed a draft strategy for consultation setting out how we will continue to reduce carbon emissions that cause global warming, adapt to changes in our climate, and improve sustainability.

We would like to hear your views on our proposals for how the council, and the wider community including local community groups, businesses, organisations and individuals, can tackle climate change.

SOME GREAT WAYS TO REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT & BE MORE SUSTAINABLE

- WALK OR CYCLE INSTEAD OF DRIVING FOR SHORTER JOURNEYS
- REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE WASTE
- IMPROVE THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF YOUR HOME AND BUSINESS
- USE SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT
- BUY LOCAL FOOD OR GROW YOUR OWN
- HELP IMPROVE YOUR LOCAL GREENSPACE FOR BOTH WILDLIFE & PEOPLE

Take part in our public consultation on the draft strategy at:
eastlothianconsultations.co.uk
or email **climatechange@eastlothian.gov.uk**
between 27TH May and 22ND July 2019

Climate Emergency declared

A motion declaring a Climate Emergency was approved by Elected Members at Tuesday's meeting of East Lothian Council.

The motion, which was moved by Councillor Norman Hampshire, Cabinet Spokesperson for the Environment, reads:

"There is a global climate emergency. The evidence is irrefutable and the science is clear. Warnings have been issued about the damage human beings are causing to the planet and how that damage has accelerated over the past 50 years.

"The impacts of climate change are having a serious effect on our communities.

"We believe that it's not too late for us to turn things around but to do so requires transformative change and action now.

"East Lothian Council therefore resolves to;-

"Declare a Climate Emergency that requires urgent action to make all our Council Services net Zero Carbon as soon as reasonably practicable or in any case by 2045 and to lobby, support and work with all relevant agencies, partners and communities to fulfil this commitment. East Lothian Council will also commit to work with our communities and partners towards making East Lothian a carbon neutral county as well as enabling the county to deliver its part of wider national and international commitments."

East Lothian Council's Climate Change Strategy 2020–2025

- Strategy approved by ELC's Cabinet on 21 January 2020.
- It sets out East Lothian Council's commitment to tackling the Climate Emergency at a local level and sets out the vision and overall aims for a 'Net Zero Council' and a 'Carbon Neutral East Lothian' with specific outcomes, key priority areas and actions over the next five years towards achieving these overall aims.
- Incorporates principles of Climate Justice and reducing inequalities.



CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

Working together in East Lothian to tackle climate change

OUTCOME 7 Key Priority Areas

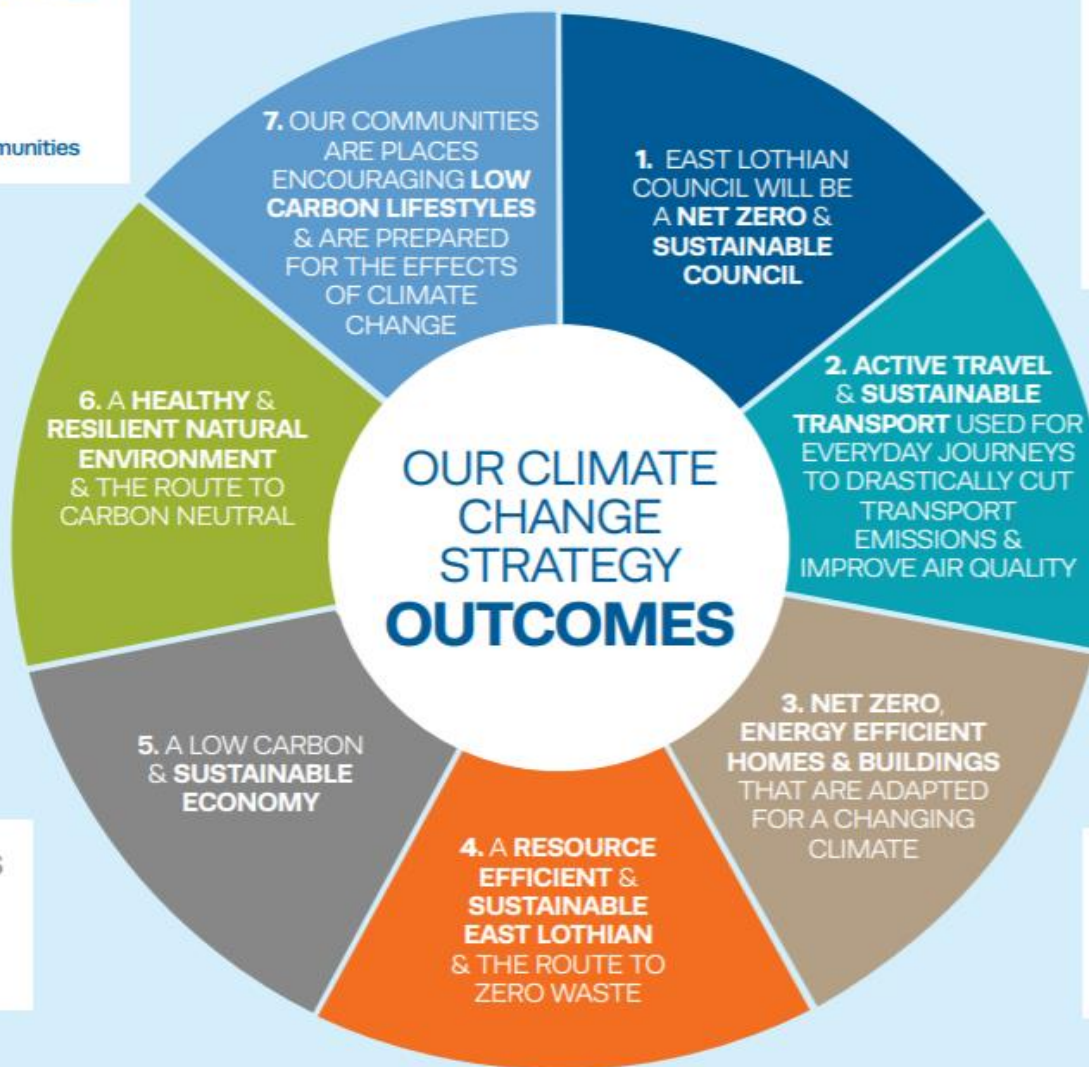
- 1: Our communities and placemaking
- 2: Planning for new developments
- 3: Local food growing
- 4: Awareness raising and engagement
- 5: Climate adaptation: Climate ready communities

OUTCOME 6 Key Priority Areas

- 1: Our natural environment and biodiversity
- 2: Climate adaptation and the natural environment

OUTCOME 5 Key Priority Areas

- 1: Businesses and the local economy
- 2: Thriving town and rural centres
- 3: Climate adaptation: Climate ready businesses



OUTCOME 1 Key Priority Areas

- 1: Leadership and governance
- 2: Embedding sustainability & ensuring a just transition
- 3: Funding and resources
- 4: Reduce emissions across the council's buildings and services
- 5: Improve resource efficiency and sustainability
- 6: Reduce emissions across our transport fleet and staff travel
- 7: Sustainable procurement
- 8: Our schools and young people
- 9: Climate adaptation: A resilient council

OUTCOME 2 Key Priority Areas

- 1: Sustainable transport
- 2: Active travel
- 3: Improving air quality
- 4: Climate adaptation: Resilient transport networks & infrastructure

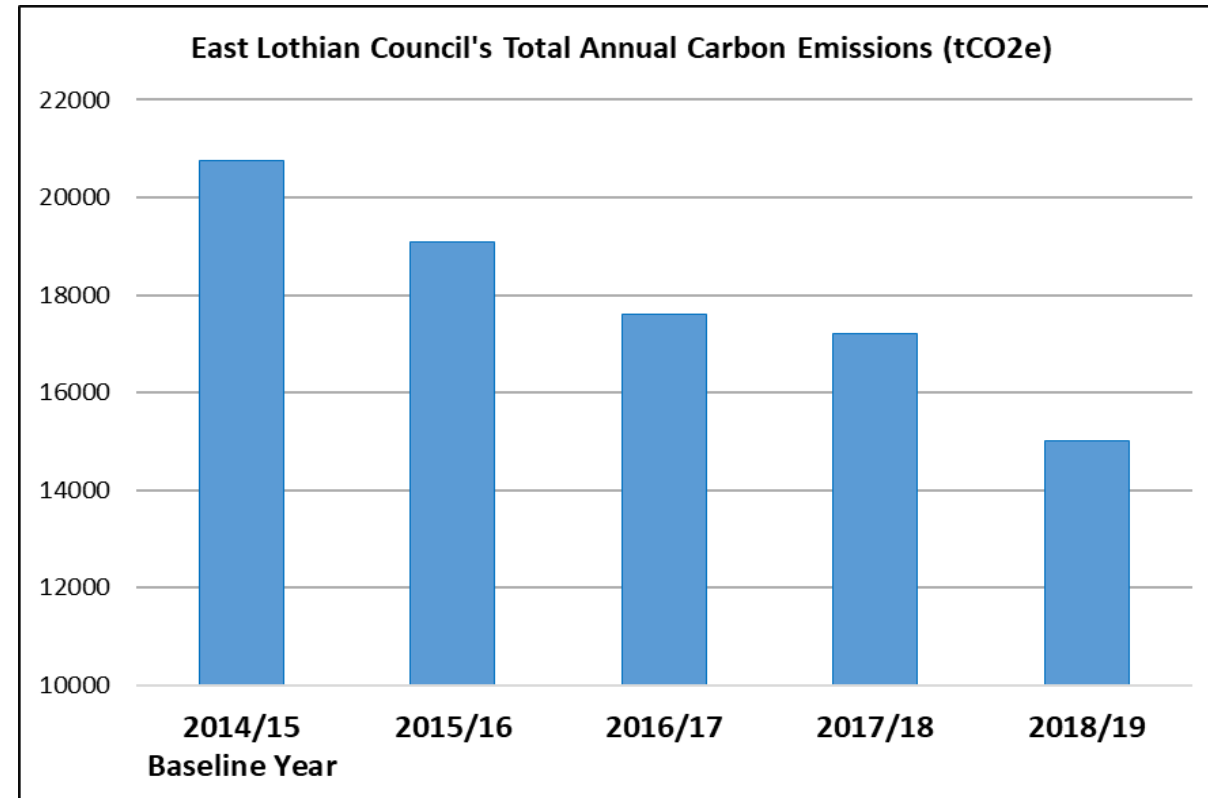
OUTCOME 3 Key Priority Areas

- 1: Energy efficient homes & buildings
- 2: Opportunities for sustainable energy and heat
- 3: Climate adaptation: Climate ready buildings

Monitoring & Reporting

Climate Change Planning & Monitoring Group is key to delivery

- 5 year strategy; subject to ongoing review
- 2 Reporting Templates sent out to Service Managers / CCPMG:
 - Summary of highlights, key achievements, key risks, new projects underway
 - Spreadsheet of all Actions in CCS Action Plan, each allocated to individual officer(s) to provide update on
- Statutory annual Climate Change Reporting to the Scottish Government (by end November each year)
- Reporting to Cabinet (January each year)



What I've learned during this process

- Identify your key service areas and ideally key individuals (e.g. Service Managers / key officers) who can assist you
- A structure like our Climate Change Planning & Monitoring Group will help you deliver
- Need to get Senior Management buy-in – links to Chief Executive
- Establish two-way communications with Elected Members
- Establish a good relationship with Corporate Communications (for both internal & external communications)
- Key links with key partner organisations, local communities, key local groups & organisations, local businesses
- Clear workplan, role & priorities for Climate Change Officer if in an overarching 'coordination' role
- Clear roles for other services & officers across the Council in delivery and embedding climate change targets


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Thank you
Questions?

climatechange@eastlothian.gov.uk

<https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/climatechangestrategy>