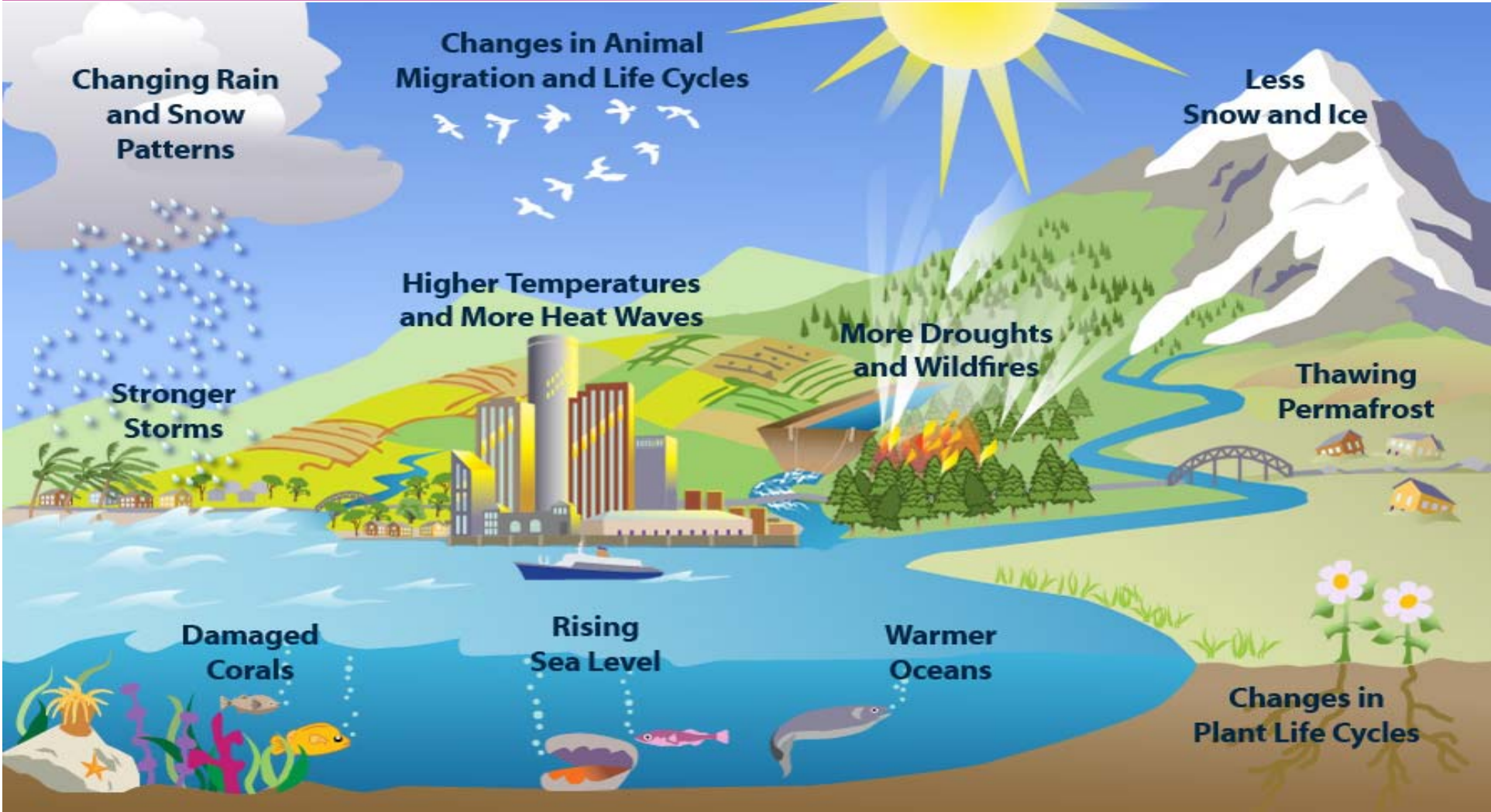




Association for Public Service Excellence

Councils and Climate Emergency: The UK wide picture

Paul O'Brien,
Chief Executive, APSE





Association for Public Service Excellence



Local Authority Climate Emergency Declarations

Strategic and practical considerations for climate emergency declarations, targets and action plans



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Local government **Climate crisis: can councils deliver on bold promises to cut emissions?**

Many councils have committed to going carbon neutral, but they lack the power and funds to take effective citywide action

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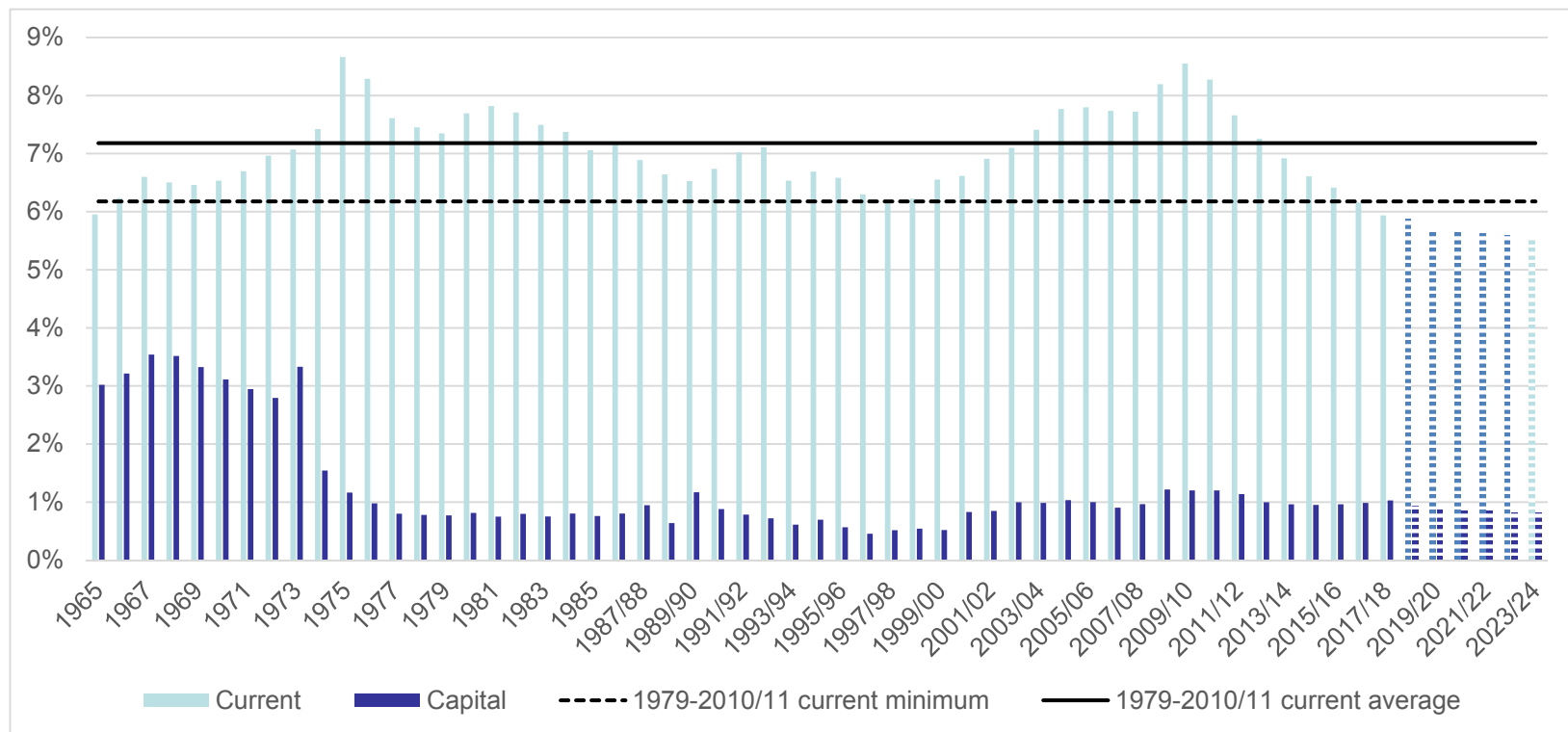


▲ In areas of Nottingham, there has been a mass installation of solar panels on houses. Photograph: E On/Page One/Nottingham Council

Jessie Sims is one of 600 people in Stroud, Gloucestershire, to have had their homes retrofitted to make them more energy efficient. In 2013, the district council replaced the windows and doors, insulated the loft and floors, and installed solar panels on the roof as part of its

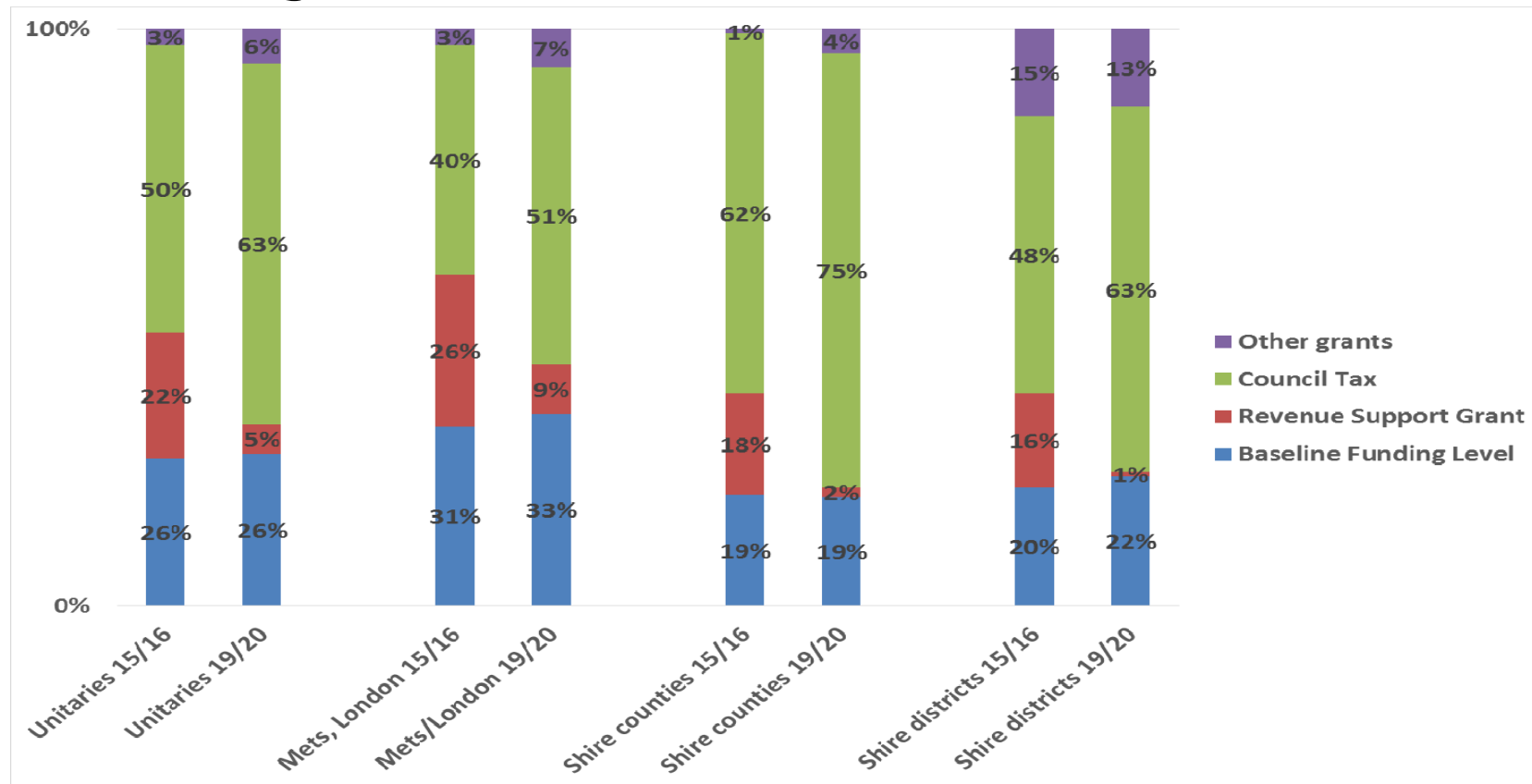


UK local government spending as a share of GDP: current spending, already below the 1979-2014 minimum, is projected to go on falling to 2020 and beyond



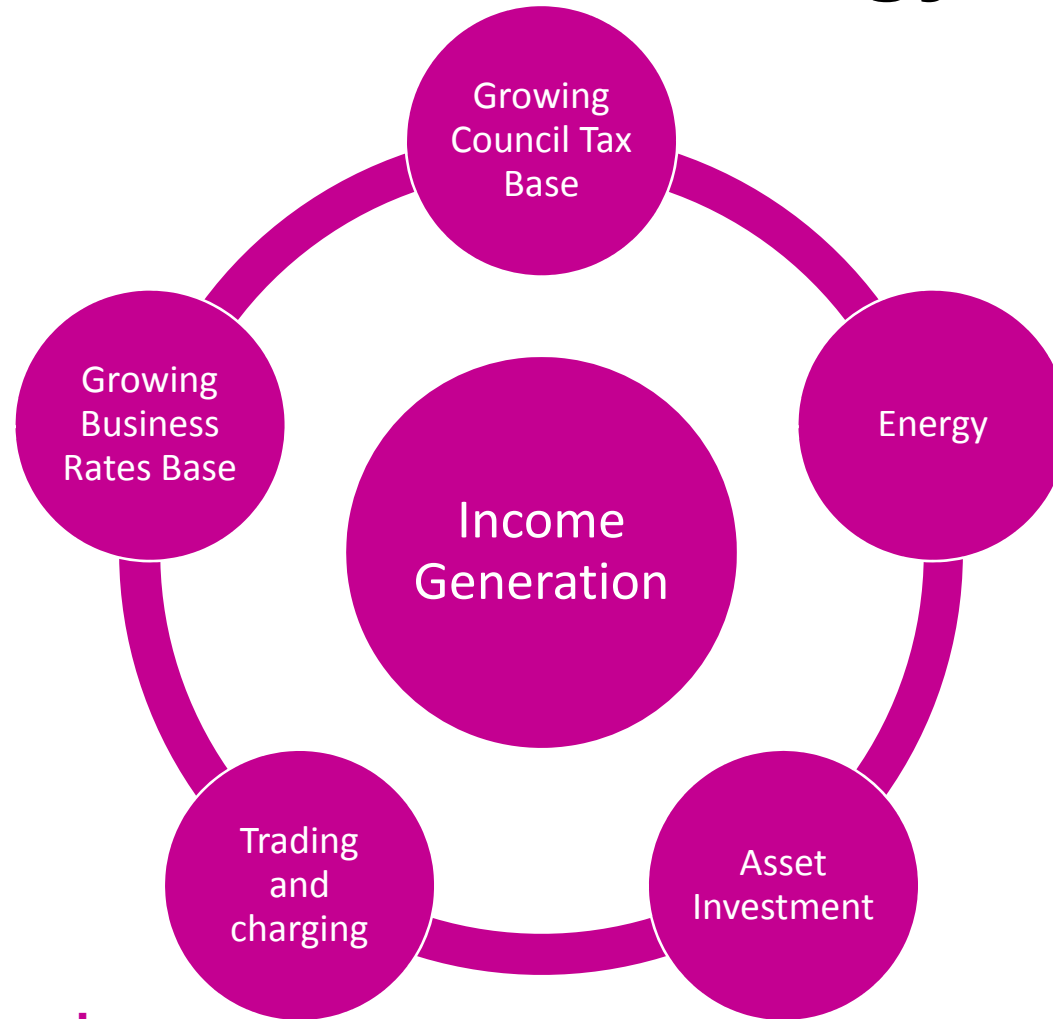


Balance of core spending power 15/16 and 19/20: as RSG shrivels beyond London and the Mets, most LA funding will come from council tax





Commercialisation strategy





What has changed

1. Government for the first time held most responsible for decline in Council services.
2. *Climate change has emerged as a high local government priority*
3. The public support Councils being given more funds to deal with climate change.



Key fact 3: Relative Trust in Councils high

Trust in Councils and Councillors is at its highest relative to Government and Ministers since 2016. Trust in Councils has moderately increased, trust in government and MPs has crashed while many distrust anyone.

Seven and half times as many people trust the local Council over the Government to make decisions about how services are delivered in your local area (Four times 2018).

Eleven times as many trust local Councillors over Government ministers to make decisions about their local area (Seven times 2018).

Nine times trusted Council to provide services in their local area over the government (Five times as many 2018).

Five times as many trusted Council to provide services in their local area over a private company (Four and a half 2018).



Climate Change now a priority for Councils

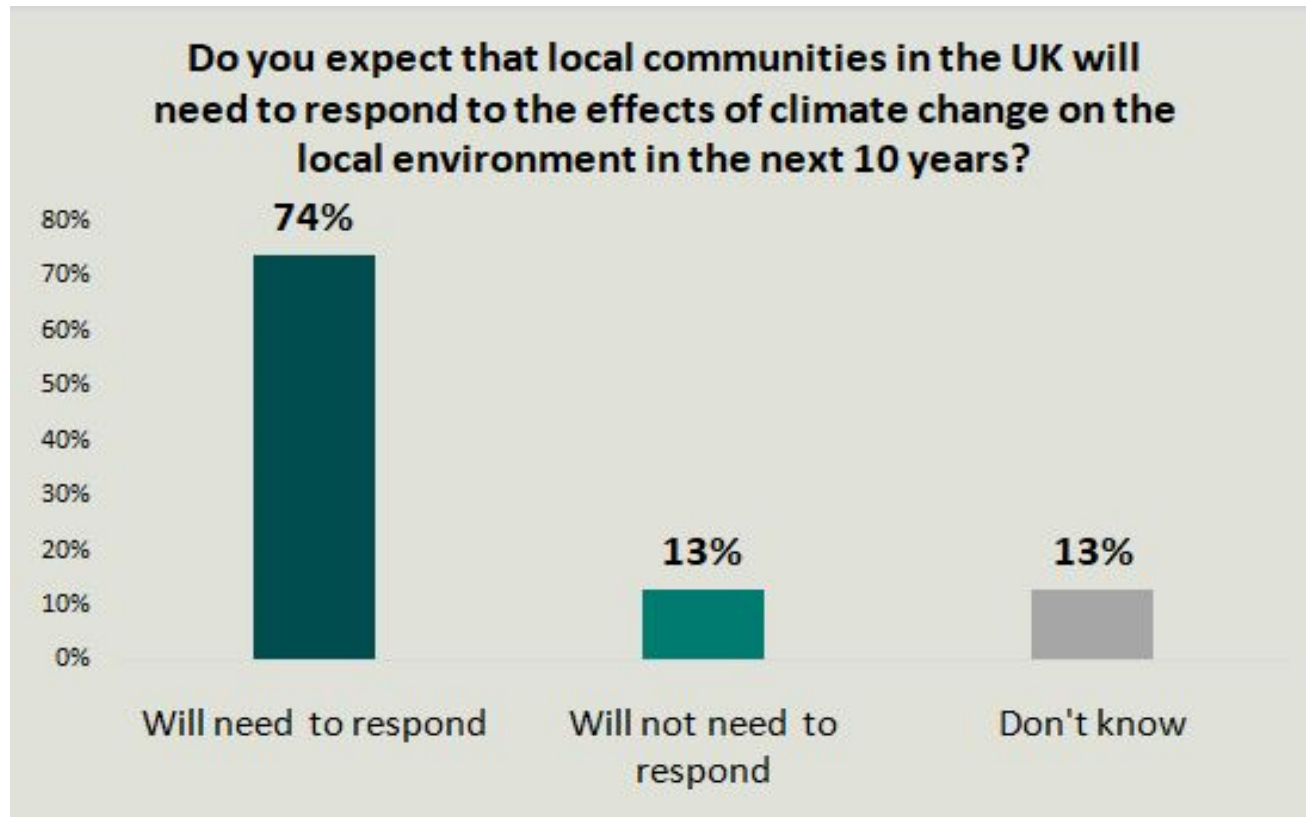
This year we undertook additional questions about Councils and climate change which show that it a priority for the public and they expect Councils to take a leading role in responding to climate change.

Five Key findings

1. 74% expect that local communities will have to respond to the effects of climate change in their area.
2. 66% support additional money for Councils to respond to climate change locally compared to 22% opposed.
3. Equal support for Councils being best placed to combat community effects of climate change with Government at 36% each.
4. Top priorities for local climate change action are making homes more energy efficient and improved waste and recycling.
5. Climate change is the second highest new spending priority after Social Care and ahead of Housing and Road Maintenance.

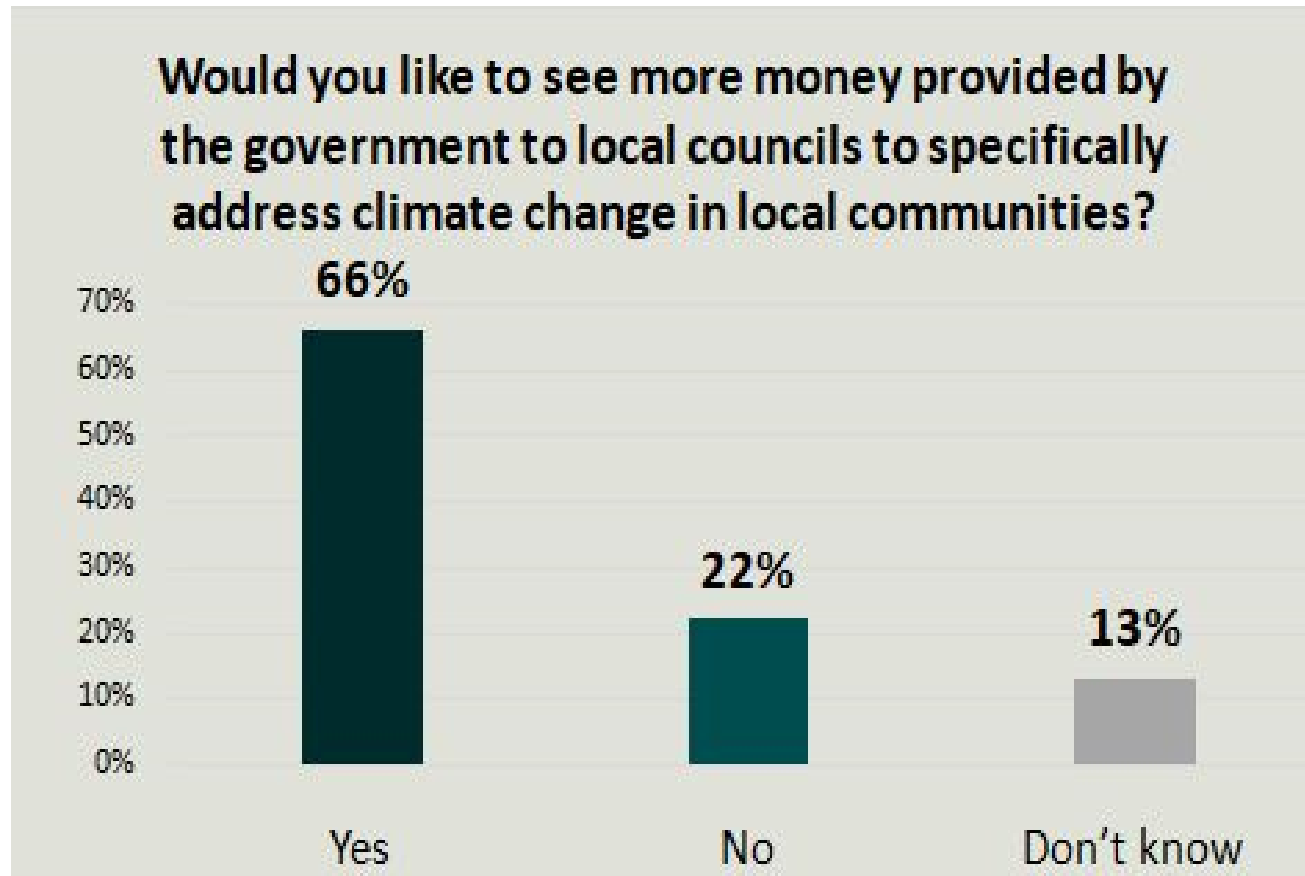


74% of people think their local community will need to respond the climate change



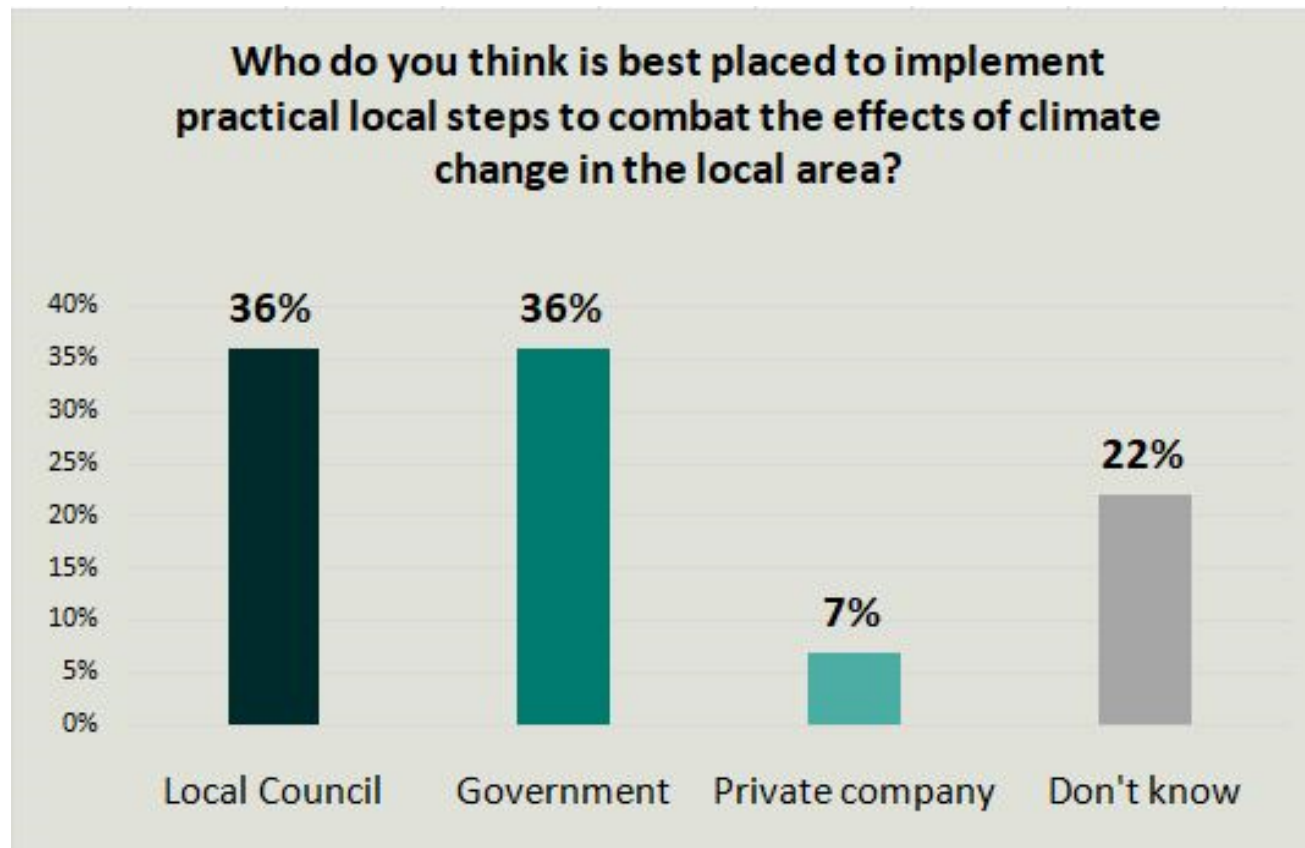


66% support more funds for Councils to combat climate change locally



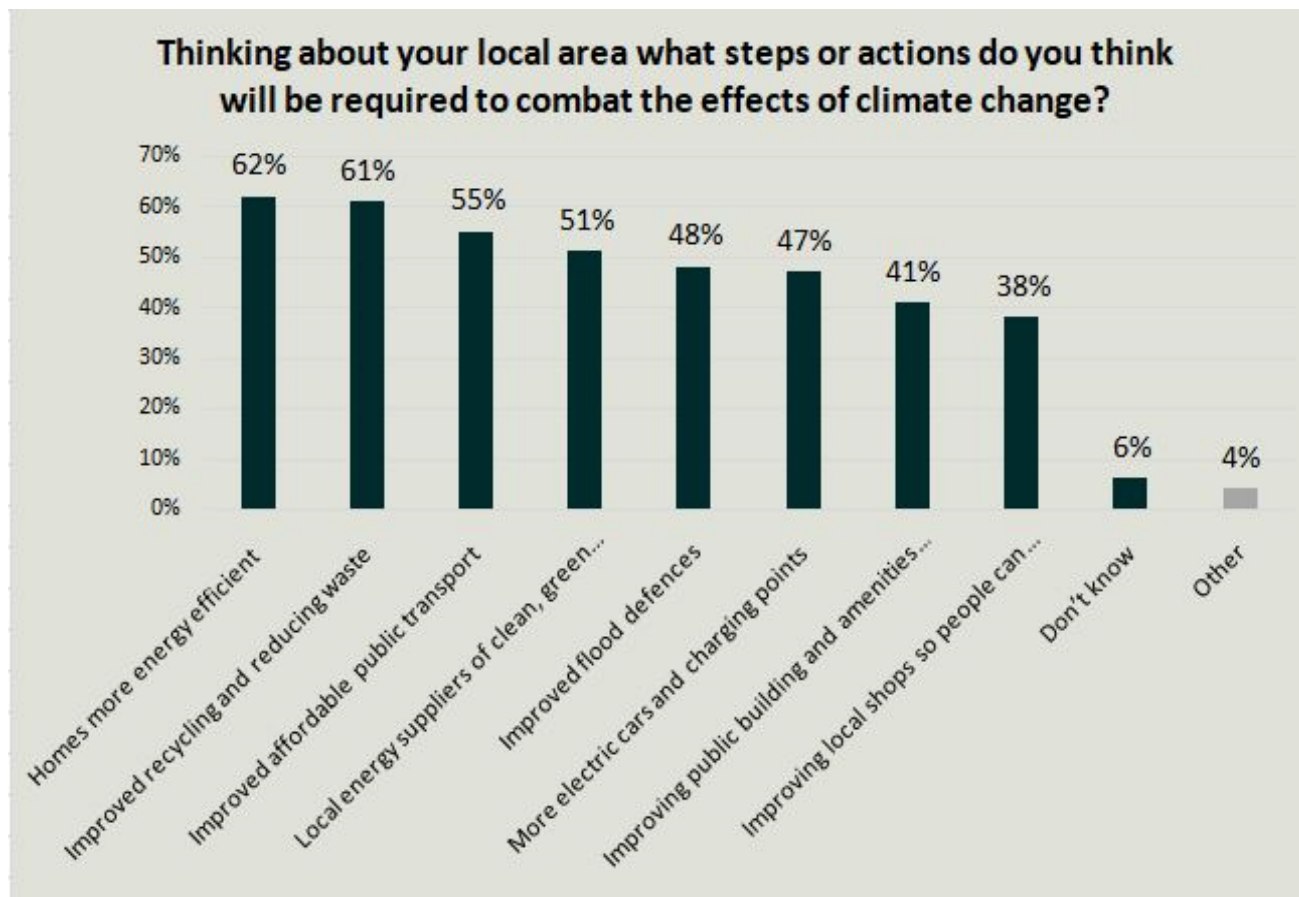


Councils and government equally best placed to combat effects of Climate change



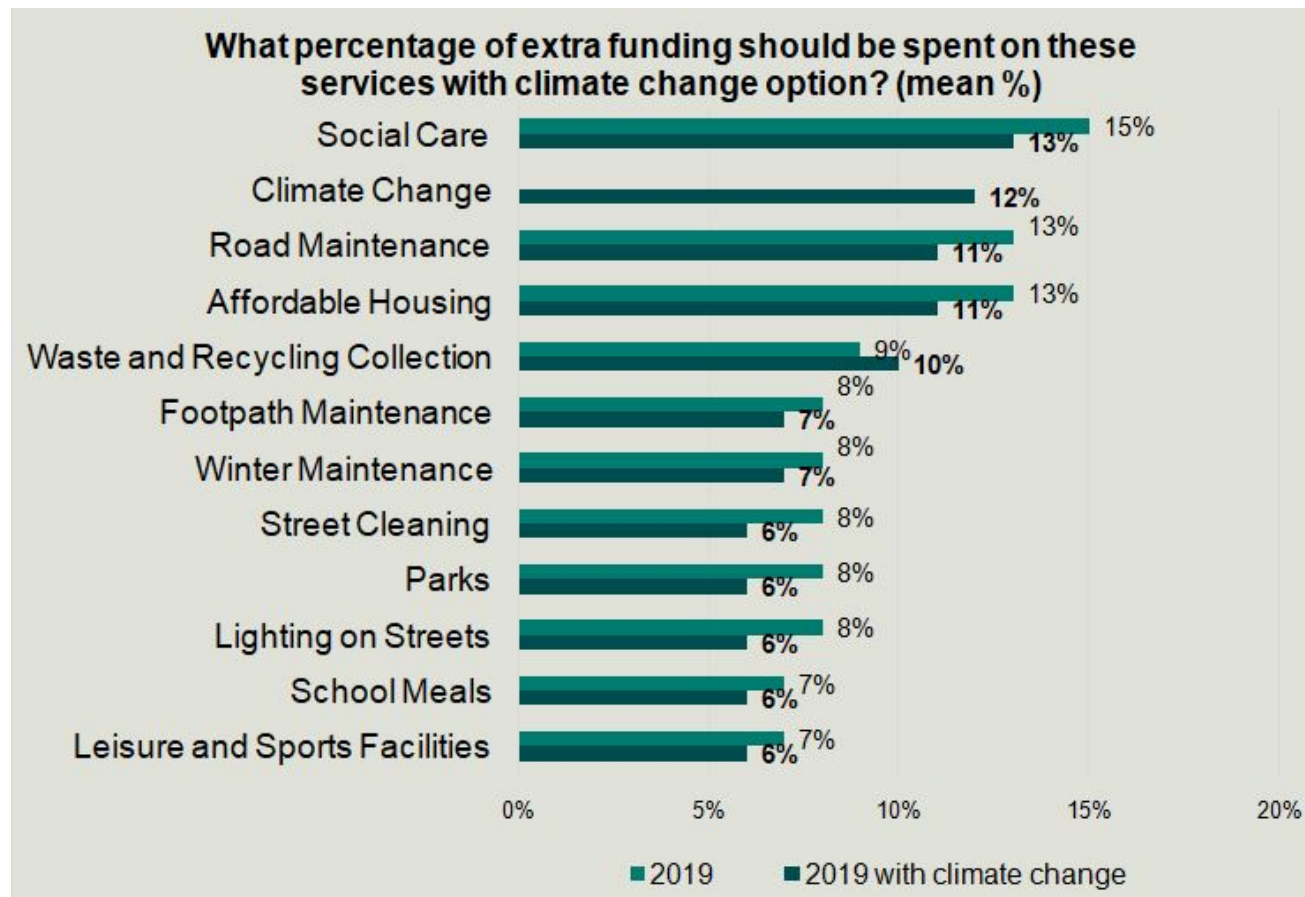


Top priorities for local climate change action



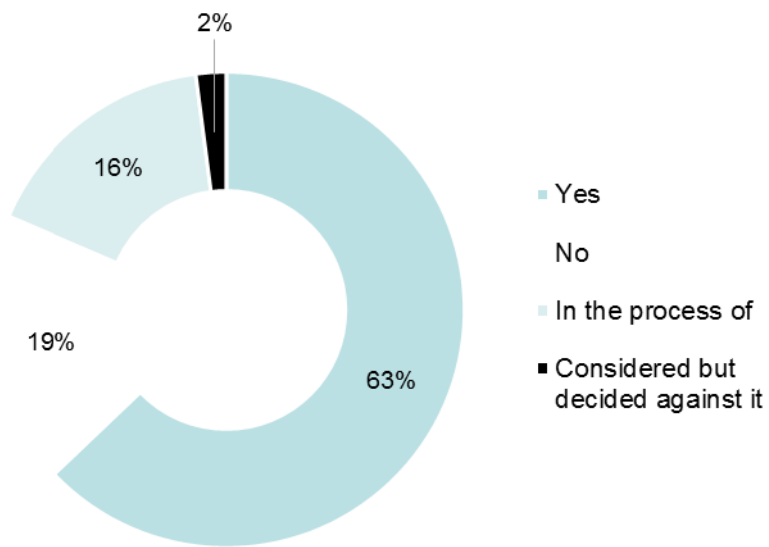


Climate change Second highest new spend

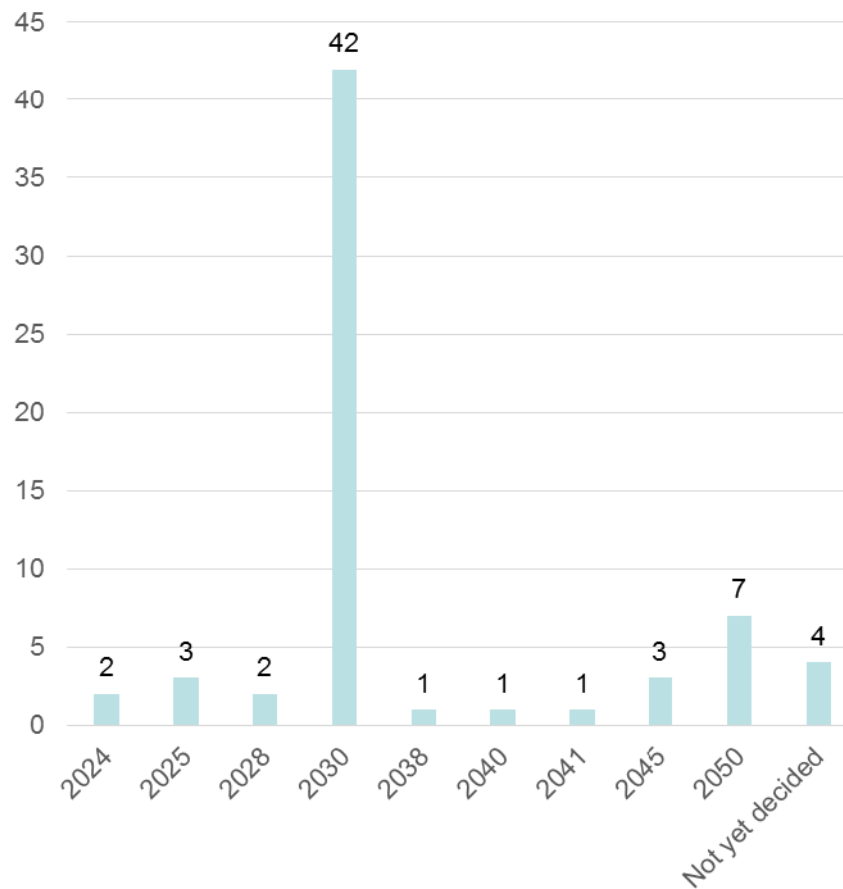




Have you set a net zero emissions target date?

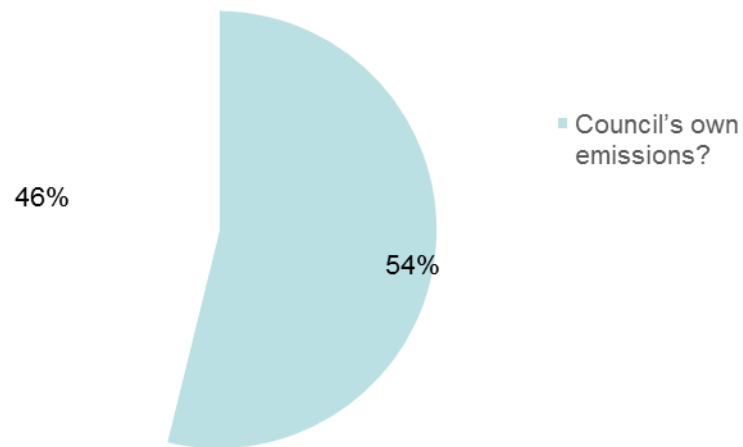


If so, what date has been set?

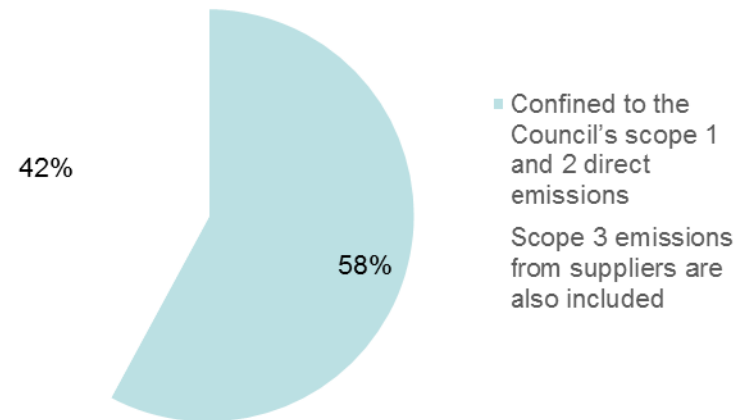




What does this target date relate to?

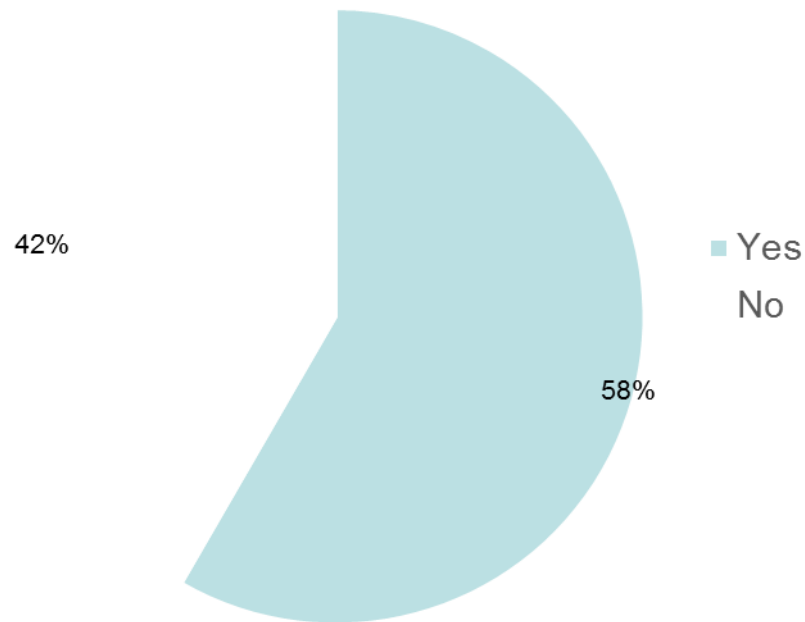


What does your declaration include within the scope of the 'net zero carbon' equation?

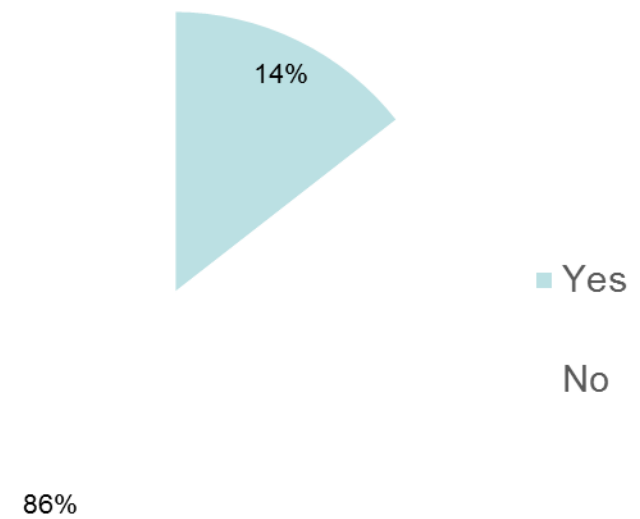


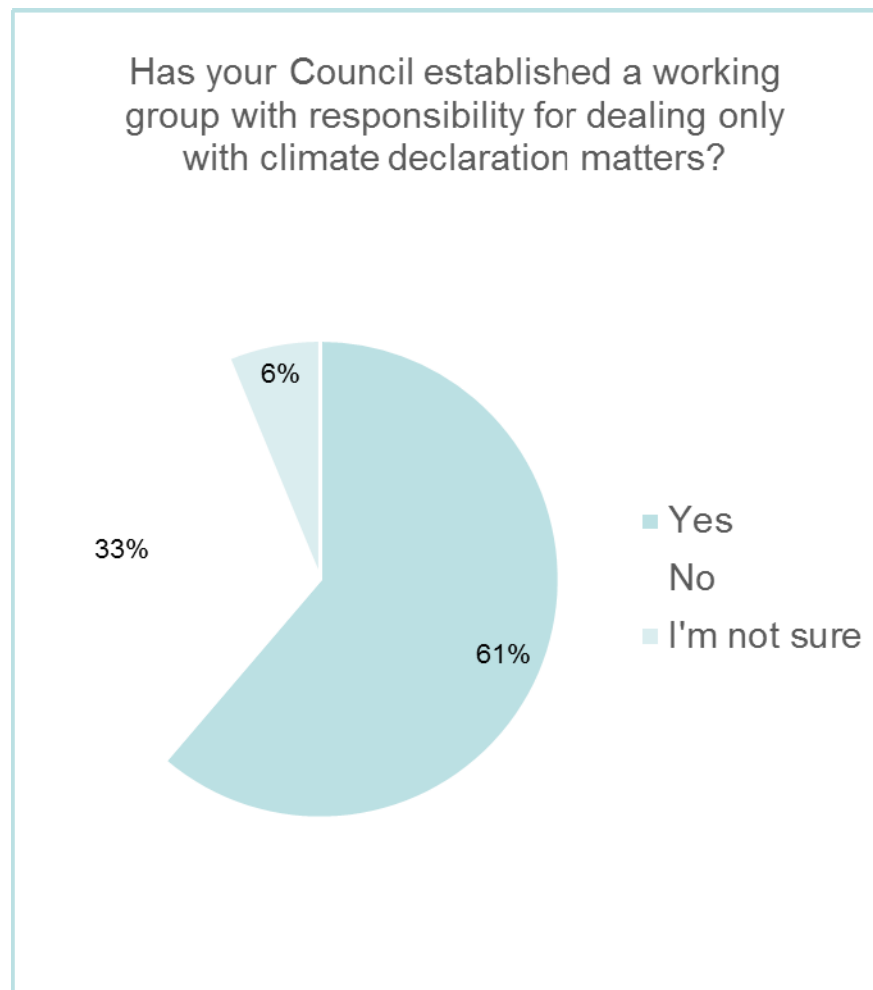
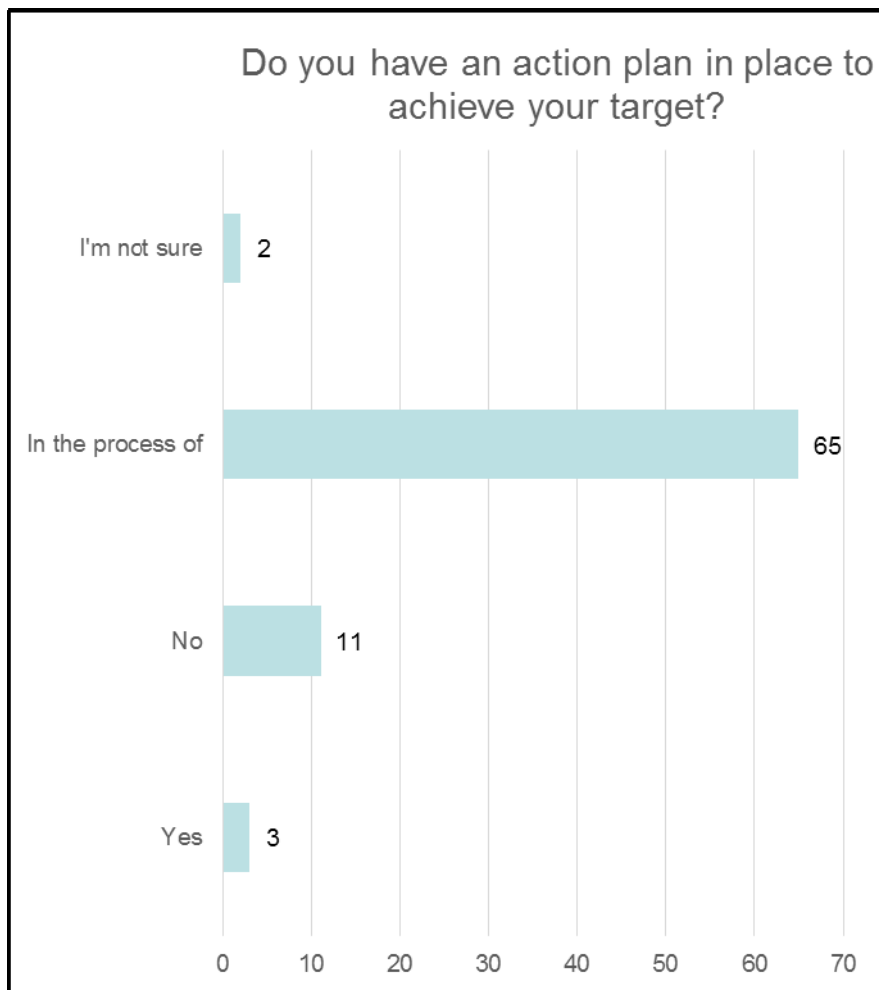


Are you planning to set a carbon budget for the timeframe between now and your target date?



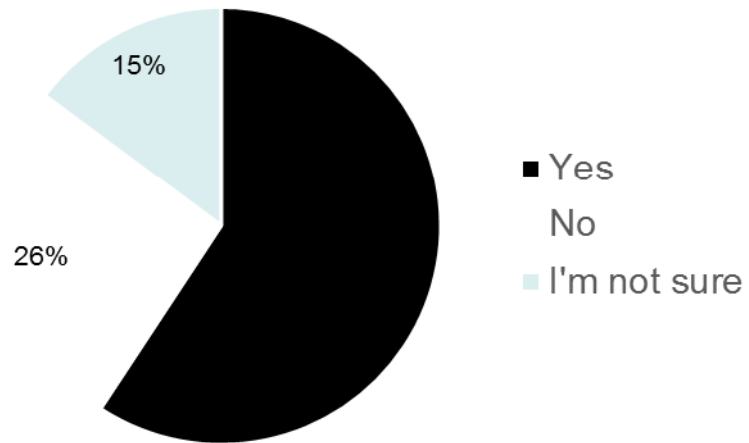
Does your Council already use carbon budgeting?



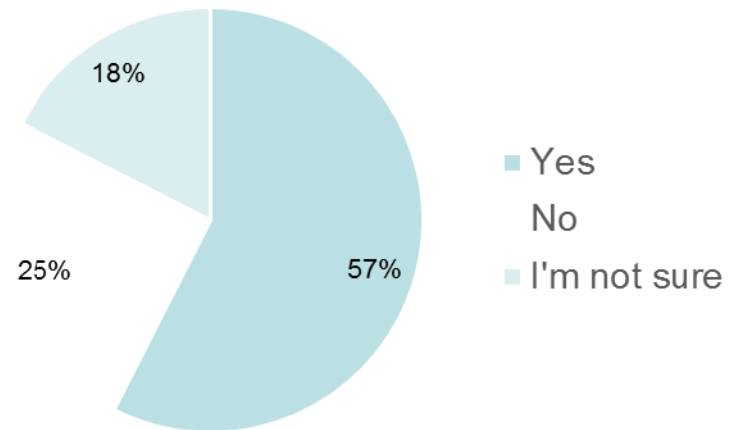




Has a councillor champion been identified?

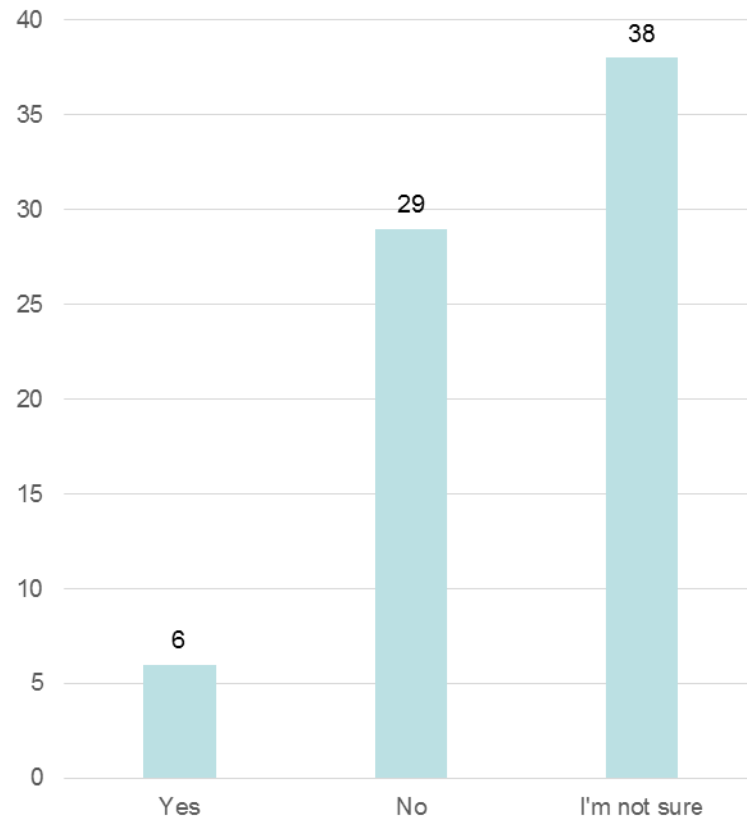


Has an officer champion been identified?

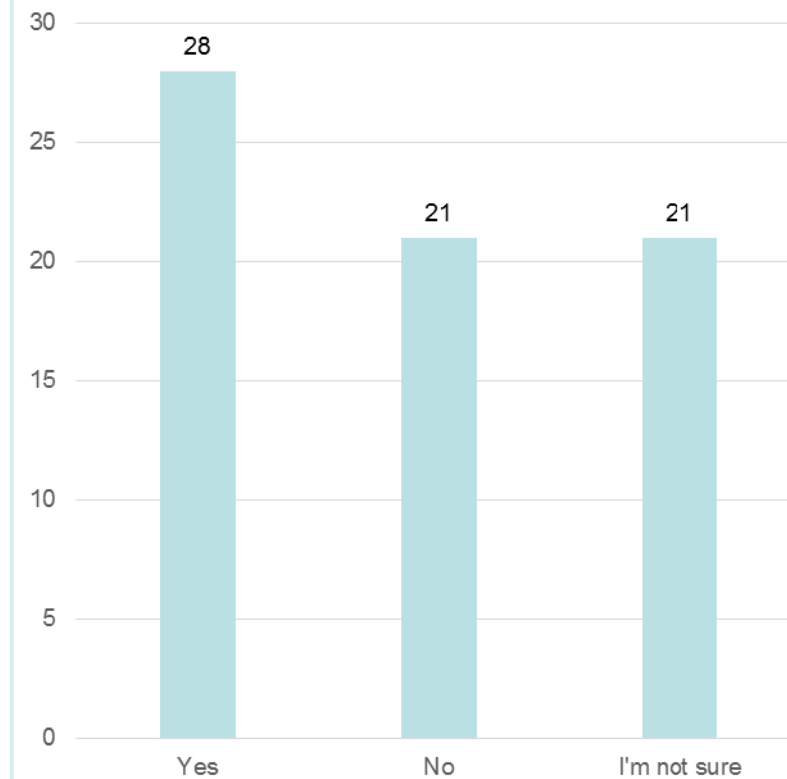




Do you have the capacity within the Council to deliver the climate emergency declaration targets?

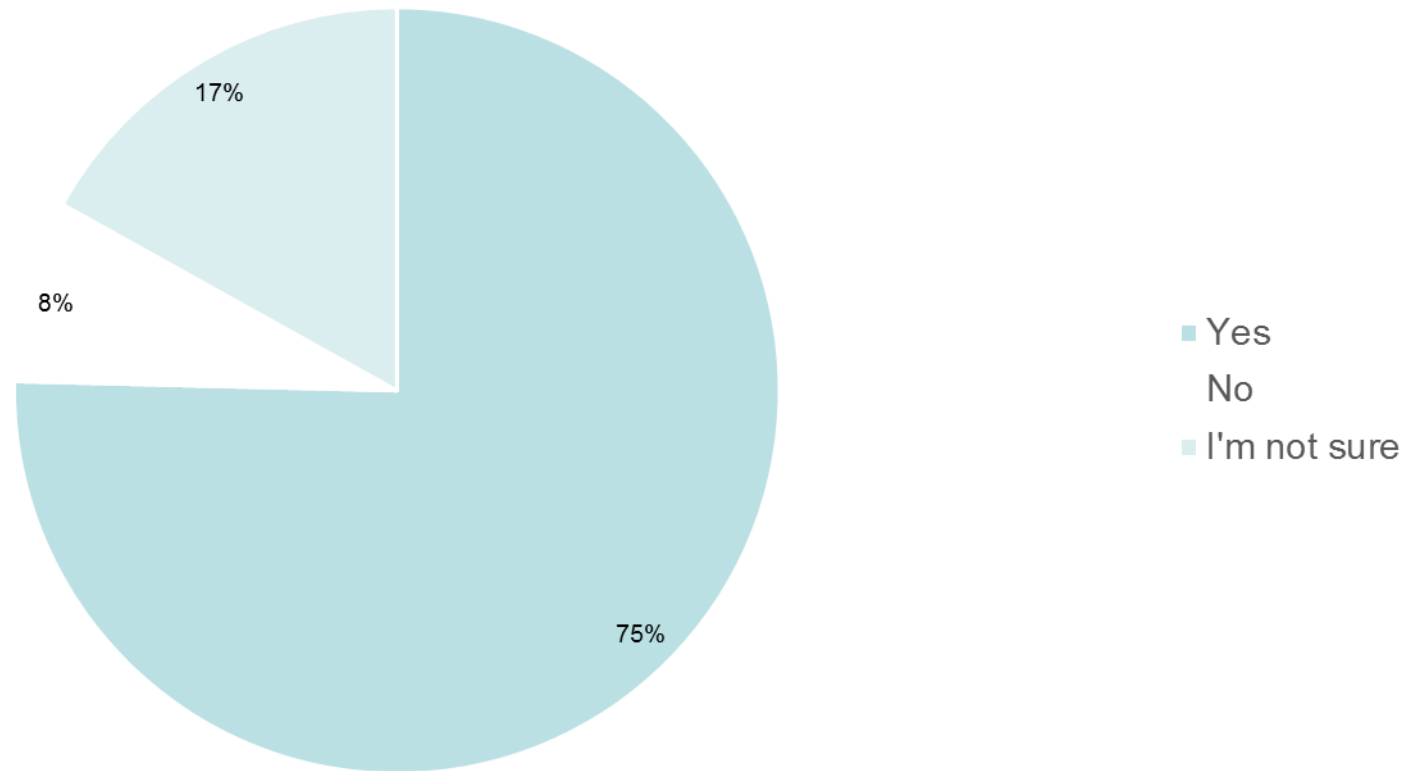


Have you identified any skills gaps so far within your Council or partners that may need to be addressed in order to achieve your target?





Have you identified any major barriers to achieving your target so far?



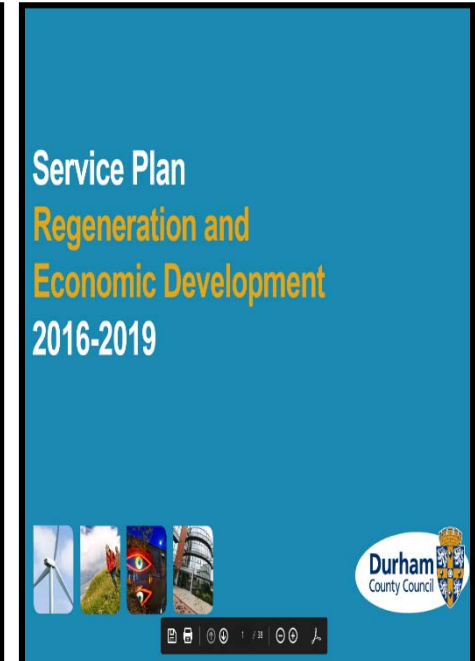
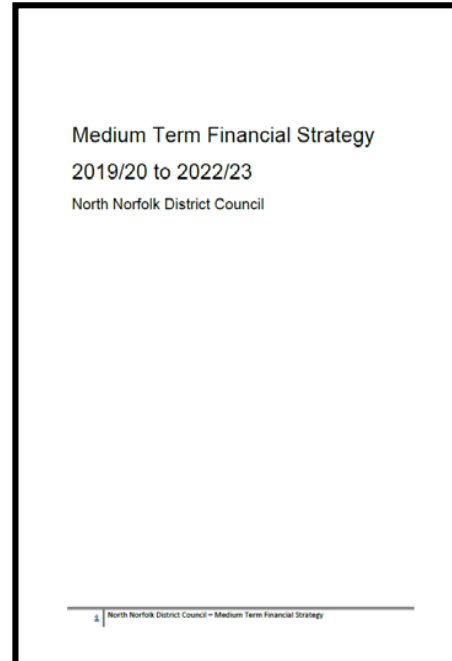
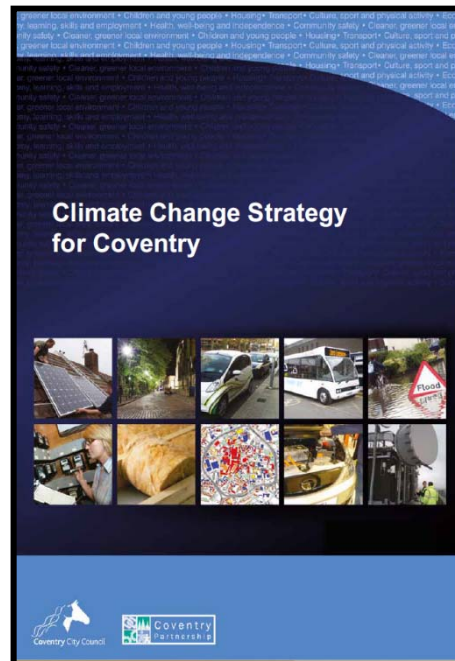
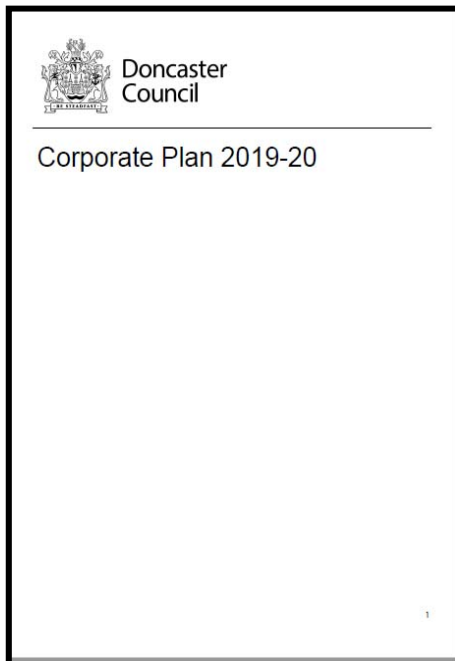


What type of emergency are you calling?

- Council footprint?
- Council footprint plus supply chain?
- Area wide footprint?
- The fragmented state
- Civic leadership



The Golden thread





Routemap on carbon eradication

Short

Property
energy
efficiency

Solar

Mid

Waste and
recycling

Electric fleet
infrastructure

Air quality

Wind

Long

Reinventing
the high street

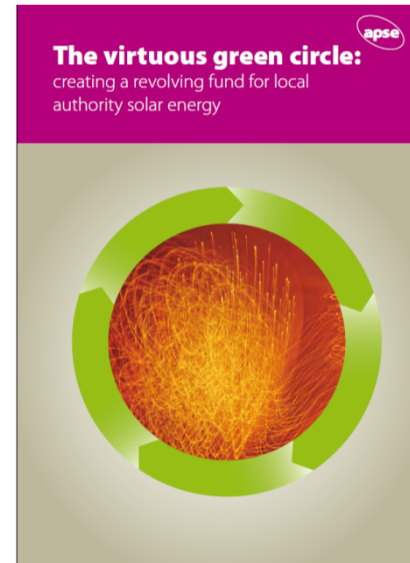
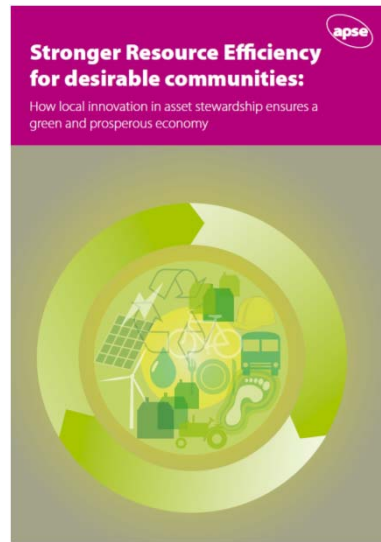
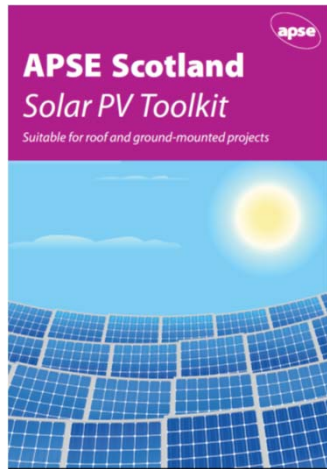
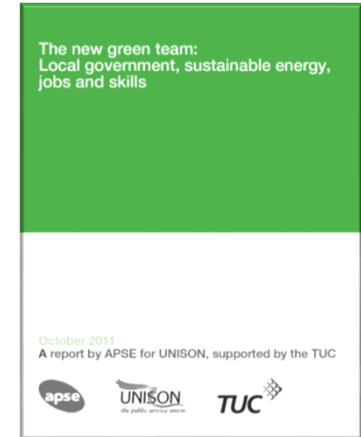
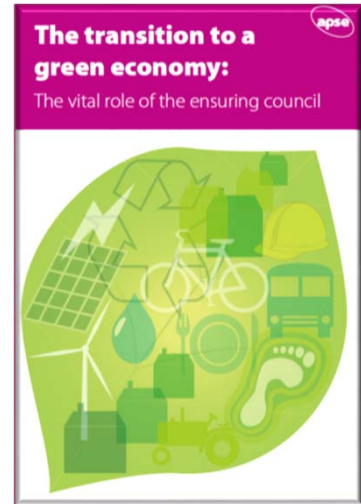
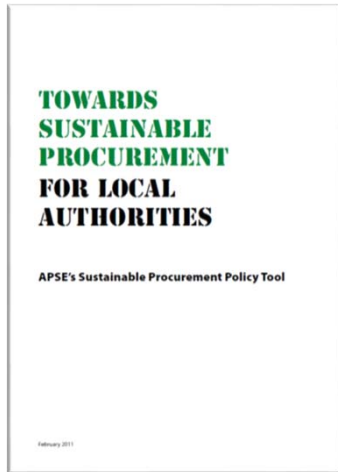
Housing plan

District
heating
networks



Government action required?

- Resources and waste strategy?
- Air quality?
- End of austerity?
- Finance and resources?
- Brexit?





Conclusions

- Time for action
- Local government action
- Government action
- Austerity, finance and resources
- Time for civic leadership – political and managerial
- Time for creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship
- Time to forge a new municipalism
- Time for a more sustainable future

NEW MUNICIPALISM

Delivering for local people and local economies



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