

# WYCHAVON

*Intelligently Green 2020-2030*



## Draft plan

**ALEO South East  
February 2020**

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# ABOUT WYCHAVON

Large district council – one of six in Worcestershire

Predominantly rural – one of most desirable places to live, towns of Evesham, Broadway, Pershore, Droitwich

Population of 117,000 and around 5,900 businesses

Current net expenditure of £10 million 300 + employees

Mixed economy of service provision



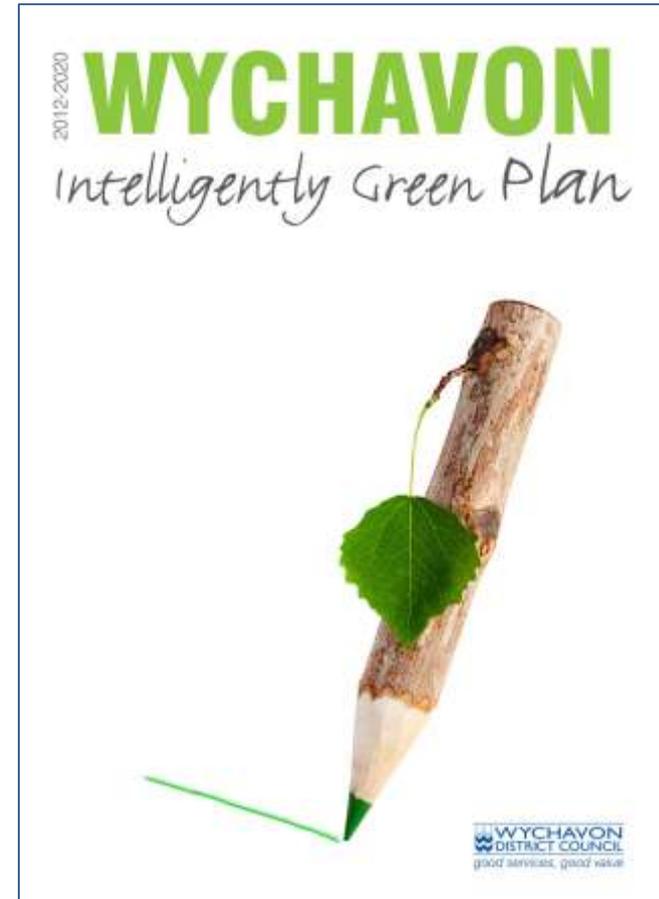
# What is intelligently green?



Making choices that have:

- a positive **environmental impact**
- **and** generate a **financial return**
- **and/or** have a clear **community benefit**

Our existing Intelligently Green Plan sets out our vision for a greener, more energy efficient and self-sufficient Wychavon by 2020. It focuses on four themes: energy; construction; food, tourism and green space; and transport.



# PERSHORE HYDRO SCHEME



- **224kw Twin Archimedes Screws (enough energy for 211 average uk homes)**
- **Power to Pershore Leisure Centre**



# Introduction



- Global temperatures have already increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels, damaging climate impacts are already being felt
- The world is on track to overshoot Paris Agreement 1.5°C limit before 2050
- 2018 IPCC special report says limiting warming to 1.5 °C may still be possible with ambitious action.
- The next decade is crucial.
- Need to halve emissions by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050 or sooner.

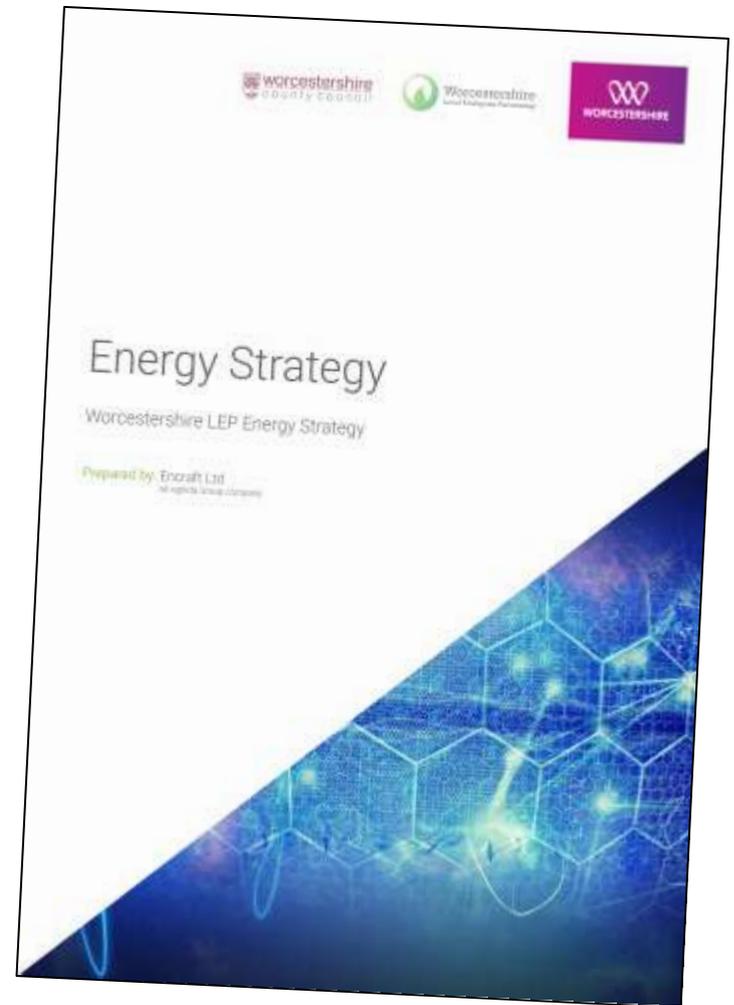
# How we got here

- **September:** agreed proposals to develop a new ten year Intelligently Green Plan
- **October:** Council motion and resolution
- **November:** productive workshop involving 32 councillors and 20 officers - 100s of ideas generated
- **January:** stakeholder workshop
- Plenty of research, discussions and expert advice

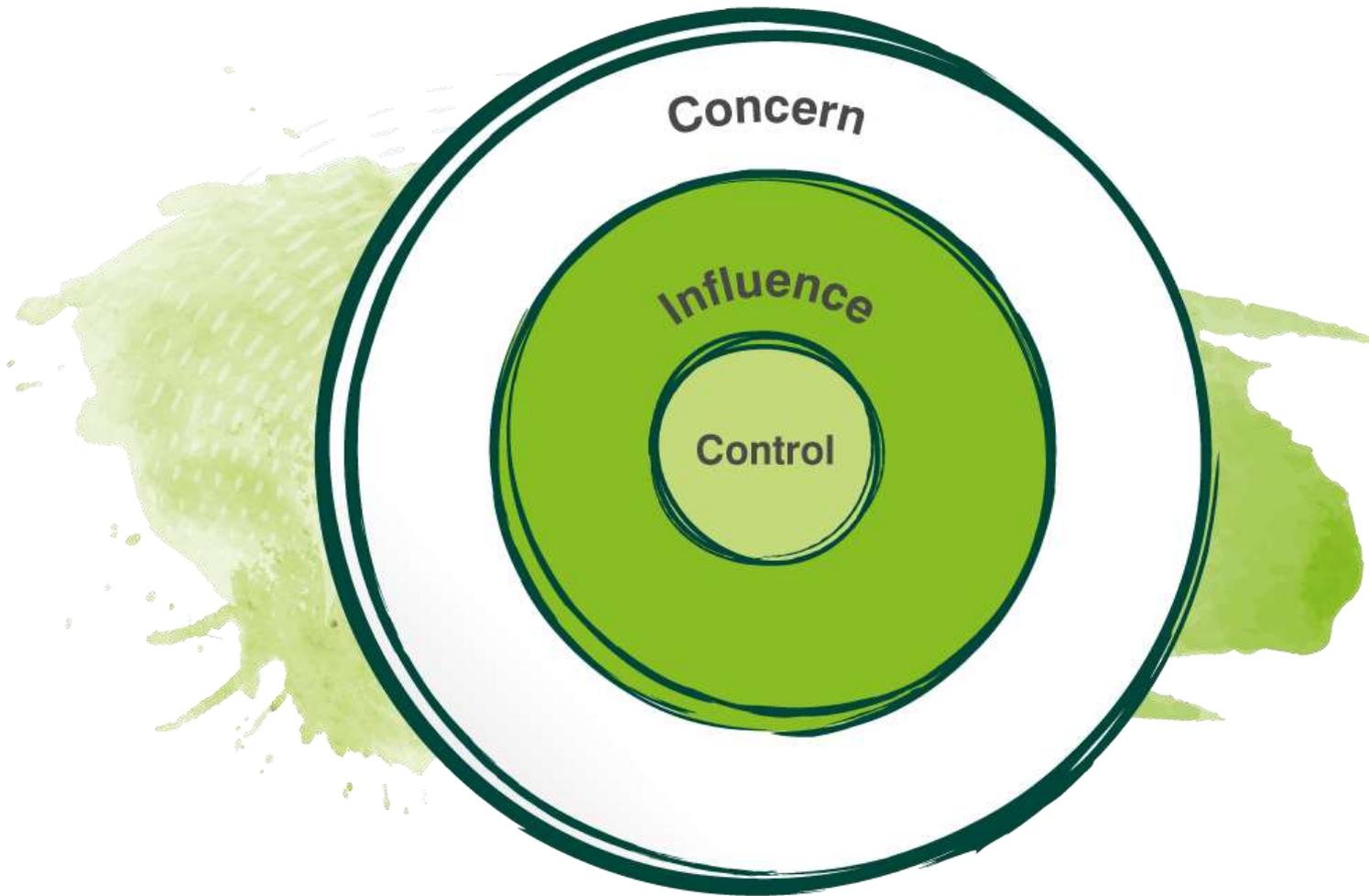


# Worcestershire Energy Strategy targets

- Halve county wide carbon emissions from 2005 levels by 2030
- Double the size of the low carbon economy between 2016 and 2030
- Treble the amount of renewable generation in the county by 2030 (2016 base year)



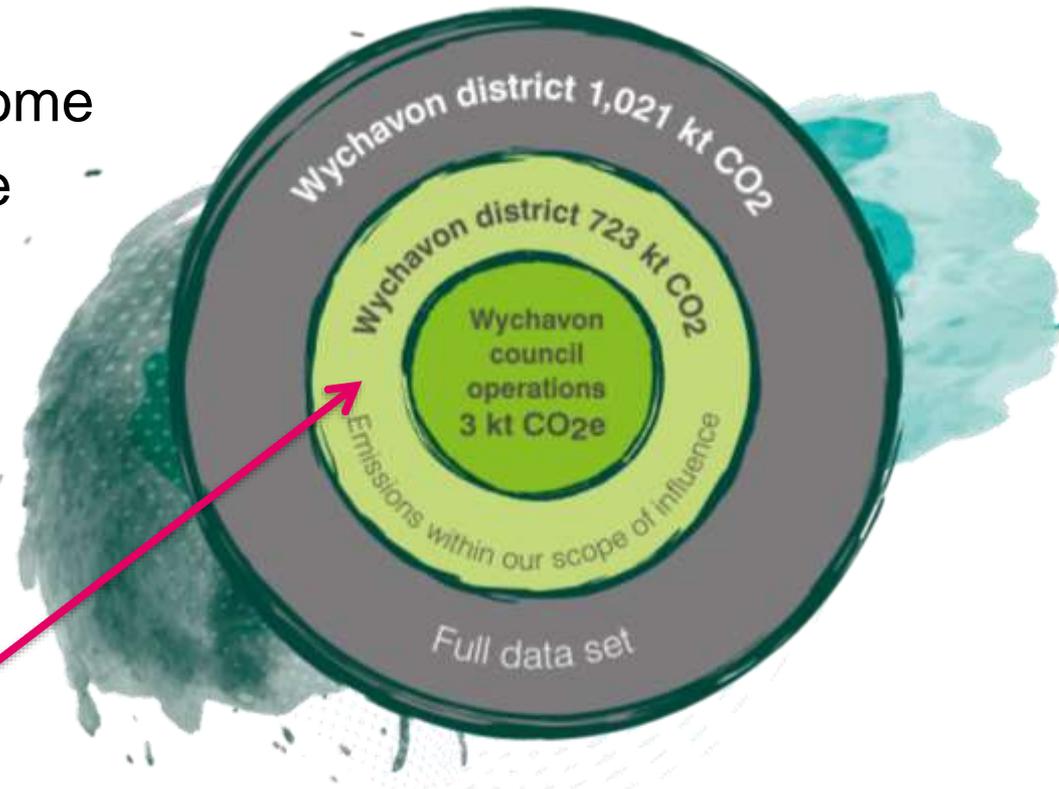
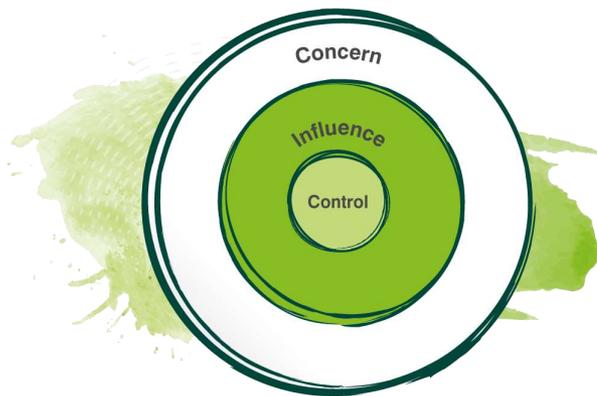
# The influence of local authorities



# Three groups of emissions



There are some emissions we have direct **control** over, some we can **influence** and some that are of **concern** but that we have little or no influence over.



**We need to focus here to have the greatest impact**

# WYCHAVON

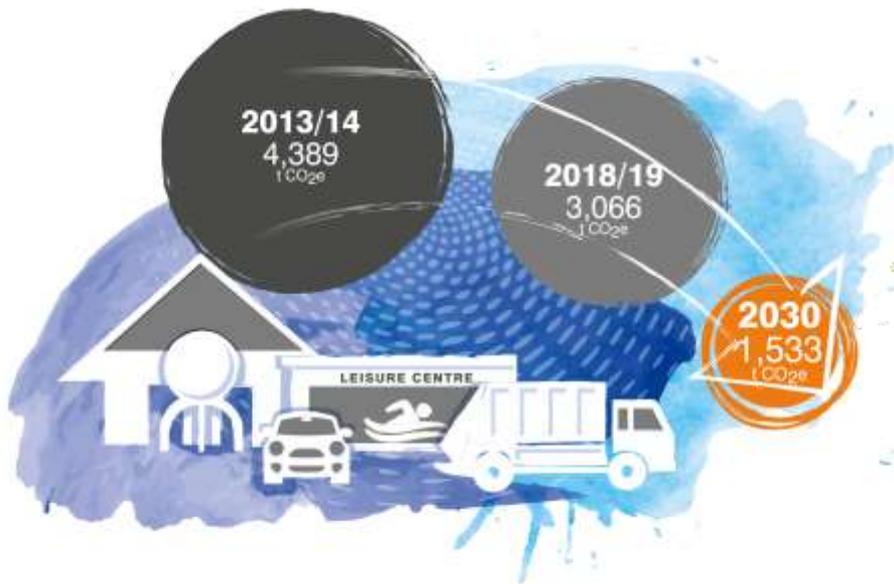
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## Proposed vision

For the Wychavon district to be carbon neutral as soon as possible and by 2050 at the latest and to make the most of the opportunities that tackling climate change presents to further strengthen and grow our local economy.

# Target 1

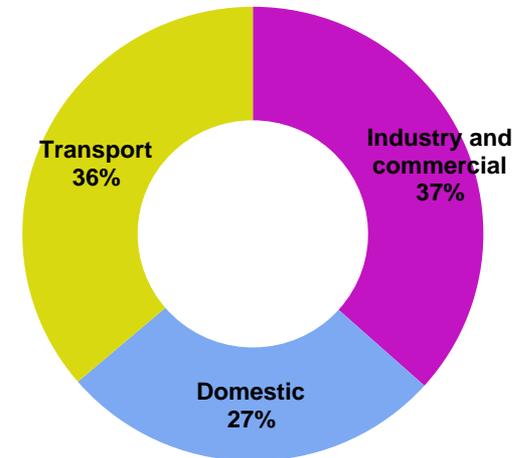
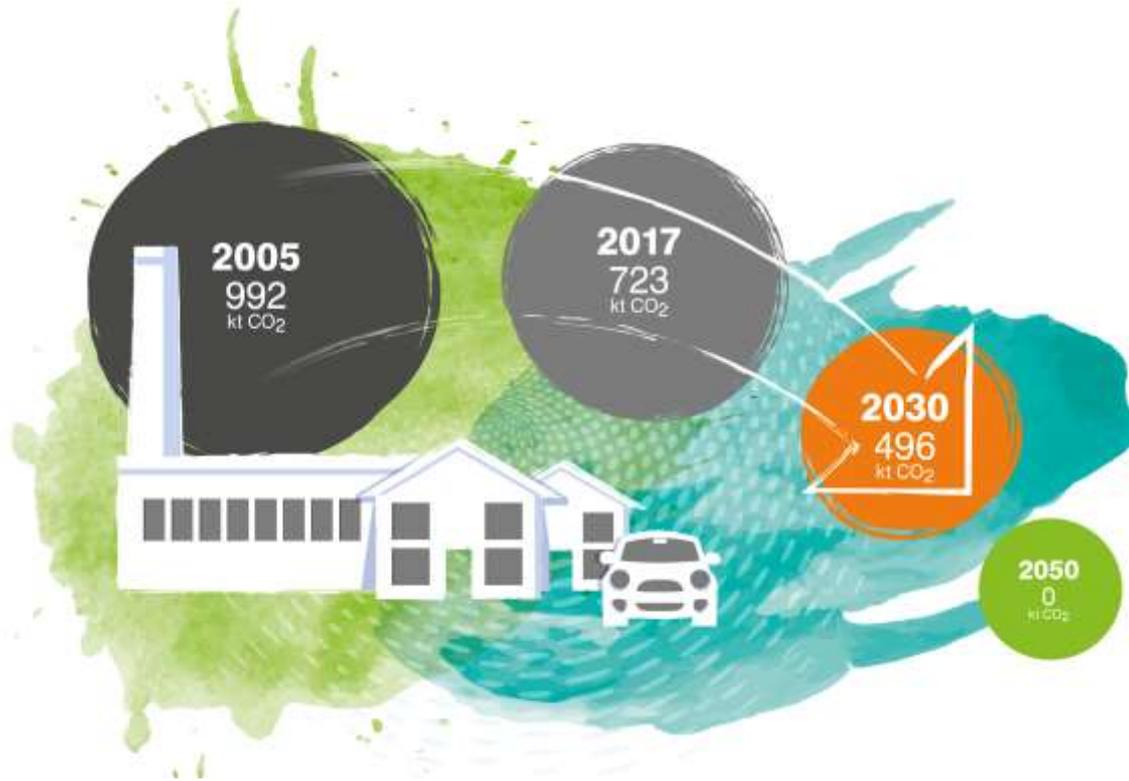
Reduce Wychavon District Council's own greenhouse gas emissions by **at least 75%** from 3,066 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2018/19 to 1,533 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2030.



# Target 2



Halve district wide carbon emissions from 992 kt CO<sub>2</sub> in 2005 to 496 kt CO<sub>2</sub> in 2030.



# Target 2



Double the size of Wychavon's low carbon economy.

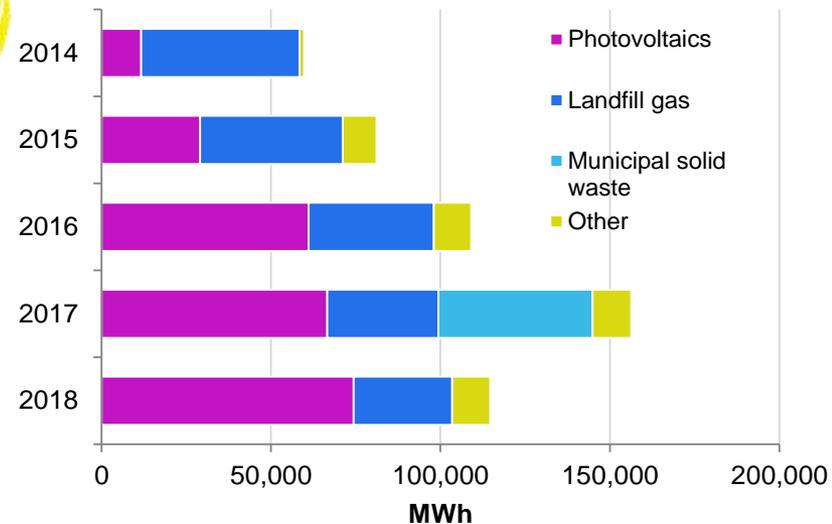
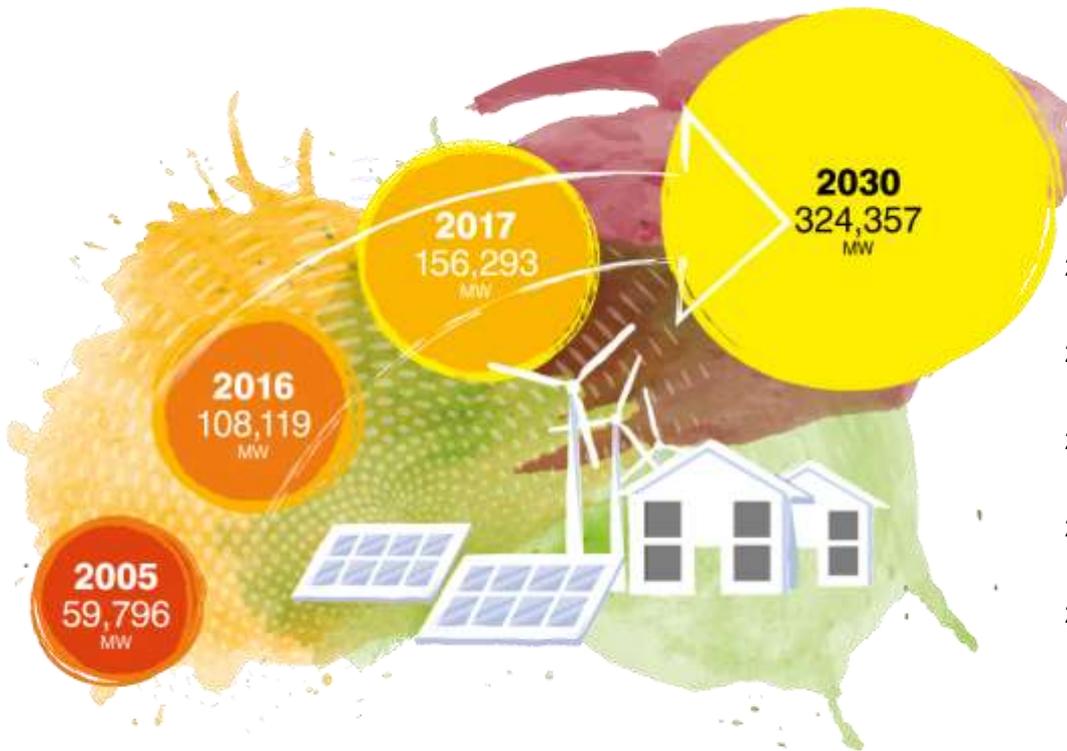
Currently working with the LEP to agree a definition of the low carbon sector and establish a baseline, likely to include:

- Low carbon services
- Low carbon heat
- Low emission vehicles
- Energy from waste and biomass
- Low carbon electricity
- Energy efficiency products

# Target 4



Treble the amount of renewable generation in the district from 108,119 MWh in 2016 to 324,357MWh in 2030.



# Target 5

Capture at least X tonnes of carbon through restoring, enhancing and creating a range of habitats across the district.

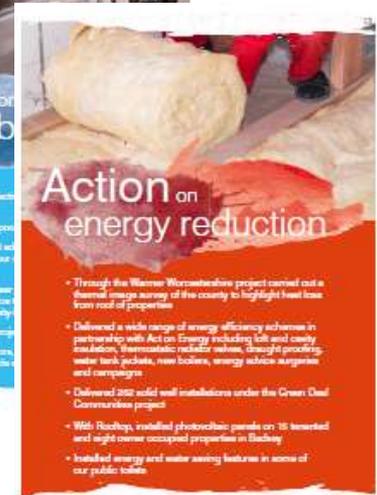


# WYCHAVON

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## Four priorities

- Energy
- Low carbon travel
- Natural environment
- Policy and resources



# How we will assess the potential actions

- **Scale of impact:** potential carbon savings
- **Deliverability:** financial, staff and any other resource requirements
- **Timescales:** quick wins / medium term / longer term
- **Co-benefits/impacts:** positive or negative e.g. contribution to other strategic priorities, investment income, community impact



# a) Energy: potential actions

## Control

- Reduce energy consumption in all our buildings through active energy monitoring and reporting, energy champions and switch it off campaigns.
- Investigate and implement measures to significantly reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions generated by our three leisure centres and the lido.
- Switch to purchasing green gas and green electricity for all our buildings when our current energy contracts expires in 2021.
- Consider measures to reduce the carbon impact of our other buildings including the Civic Centre and public toilets.

## Influence

- Facilitate a domestic bulk solar PV buying scheme.
- Work with partners to consider a green loans scheme to help householders install energy efficiency measures and renewable technologies.

# a) Energy: potential actions

## Influence

- Invest £10,000 over two years to promote the growth of the low carbon economy in Wychavon by doubling our investment in the Low Carbon Opportunities Programmes and increasing apprenticeship grants to business working in green technologies.
- Work with RSLs to deliver carbon neutral housing schemes.
- Run targeted energy efficiency awareness campaigns aimed at residents.
- Promote development of further renewable energy schemes in the district including solar PV and geothermal.
- Consider the development of a biofuel or low carbon oil buying club.

## Concern

- Lobby power distributors and OFGEM to upgrade distribution networks/ increase capacity for renewable.
- Lobby the government to provide Council Tax or other incentives to drive take-up of home energy efficiency measures.

# b) Low carbon travel: potential actions

## Control

- Reduce council-related staff travel and move to lower emission vehicles for our small fleet.
- Develop a taxi licensing policy to encourage the take-up of electric and other low emission vehicles and to discourage higher polluting older vehicles.

## Influence

- Move all FCC fleet to low emission vehicles when technology permits.
- Ensure that cycling and walking options are an intrinsic part of all plans for new settlements in Wychavon.
- Improve connectivity from the railway stations to the towns through improving signage and piloting one or more bike hire schemes by 31 March 2022.
- We are working on developing another cycling action
- Investigate a work place parking levy offering discounts for low carbon transport initiatives i.e. EV charge points, bike scheme and renewable energy installations.
- Promote the development of at least one electric forecourt in the district.
- Review EV charging points in our own car parks and encourage and incentivise others to install them.
- **This section of the plan will also incorporate our electric vehicle policy.**

# c) Natural environment: potential actions

## Control

- Review all council owned land and assess the suitability for tree planting and other forms of carbon capture
- Consider purchasing of strategic land to create additional high carbon storage habitats such as woodland or wetlands.
- Adopt emerging national policies on biodiversity and green infrastructure as soon as possible.
- Trial less carbon intensive machinery in our parks and open spaces

## Influence

- Support and actively contribute to a county wide Nature Recovery Network working with partners through habitat restoration and creation opportunity mapping..
- Work with other organisations to enhance the natural environment and natural carbon capture and storage.

# c) Natural environment: potential actions

## Influence

- Work with partners to support delivery of the Worcestershire Pollinator Strategy including creating new and improved pollinator habitats on our own land and promoting parish pollinator packs and signpost to existing advice for residents to encourage more wildlife friendly practices.
- Work with town and parish councils to identify new opportunities for developing allotments in areas of high demand.

## Concern

- Lobby and seek to influence farming practices which reduce carbon emissions/create carbon capture.

# c) Policy and resources: potential actions

## Control

- Reduce the amount of packaging and single use plastic waste created at the Civic Centre.
- Explore more sustainable options for disposing of green waste from our own activities/land.
- Strengthen our procurement policies to allow additional weight to be given the carbon cost in competing bids and require contractors to report on their carbon emissions.
- Ensure that all new council strategies, policies and plans encourage and incentivise carbon emission reductions wherever possible.
- Carry out a call for sites to identify land suitable for renewable technology developments.

# c) Policy and resources: potential actions

## Influence

- Reduce the average household black bin waste by at least 10% (2018/19 baseline) by 2024 through targeted waste reduction campaigns, offering subsidised compost bins and incentivising at least five communities to set up community fridges to reduce their food waste.
- Review and refresh the Wychavon Intelligently Green Award scheme after 2020 with greater community involvement and a focus on carbon reduction.
- Work with developers for the SWDP strategic allocations to consider how energy for the development could be provided from a decentralised source and ensure consideration for climate change adaptation is at the heart of their proposals.

## Concern

- Lobby the government to require all new homes to be carbon neutral as soon as possible and to urgently update national planning policy to minimise carbon emissions.

# Implementation



- Managed through Intelligently Green Group
- Six monthly monitoring of actions through our usual performance management and reporting process
- Review and refresh of actions in 2025

## Key success measures:

- Our own greenhouse gas emissions
- District wide carbon emissions (under the scope of influence of local authorities)
- Size of low carbon economy (to be defined)
- Amount of renewable energy generation in Wychavon
- Amount of carbon captured through council action

# Next steps

- Wider stakeholder targeted consultation
- Assess and prioritise potential actions
- Refine plan in light of all feedback
- 18 March: Executive Board approve plan
- 22 April: Council approve plan
- 11 June: public launch at the 2020 Intelligently Green Awards ceremony



**THANK YOU  
ANY QUESTIONS**