

North West Leicestershire District Council

Climate Local Commitment and Actions

19 December 2014



Climate Local

Commitments and actions – North West Leicestershire District Council

Our commitments and actions

North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) signed the Climate Local Commitment on 19 December 2014 in recognition of the important role that local authorities have in tackling climate change.

In signing the commitment we pledge to set locally-owned and determined targets and actions on both mitigation and adaptation and publish these within six months.

The table below sets out our priorities and commitments and the actions that we will undertake to deliver them. We will monitor our performance against these actions and report regularly on our progress. We will also regularly refresh this list of actions to ensure that they are up-to-date and reflect local priorities.

Signed 

Name **Cllr Richard Blunt**

Position **Leader, North West Leicestershire District Council**

Low carbon pathways

In order to create an ‘energy smart’ low carbon future we make the following commitments:

Commitment 1: We will demonstrate political commitment to act on climate change.				
Justification: The Green Footprints Challenge is one of the council’s four key priorities: “We aim to make people feel proud to be part of a greener district”.				
Ref	Specific action(s)	Measure	Responsibility	Timescale
1A	Use the vehicle of the Green Footprints Challenge to inform the public and local stakeholders of our commitment to tackling climate change.	Implement initiatives and events across the district and publicise actions taken by the council and partner businesses/community groups/schools on the Green Footprints Challenge website. http://footprints.nwleics.gov.uk/	Green Footprints Corporate Action Team	Ongoing
1B	Highlight and promote positive environmental projects across the district.	A celebration event will be held in conjunction with the main sponsor of the Green Footprints Challenge - Radisson Blu Hotel, East Midlands Airport.	Green Footprints Corporate Action Team	March 2015
1C	Encourage local businesses to share good practice and take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions within their activities.	Local businesses to be invited to include their initiatives in our commitment.	Business Focus	March 2015
1D		Engage with local businesses on the low	Business	March 2015

		carbon agenda at networking meetings.	Focus	
1E	Highlight to staff the importance of reducing climate change by running an annual 'green' staff award to encourage positive action from colleagues.	Green 'Bee Award' will be awarded at the annual staff awards' ceremony.	Human Resources & Community Focus	December 2014

Commitment 2: By 2018 we will have reduced carbon emissions from our estate and business by 25% against the 2008/09 baseline.

Justification: For the financial year 2013/14 the council's carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions totalled 3,632 t CO2 equivalents. This represents a 11% reduction in emissions from the baseline year of 2008/09.

Ref	Specific action(s)	Measure	Responsibility	Timescale
2A	Explore the possibility of accessing ECO funding to reduce emissions from council-owned residential properties.	Explore opportunities for specific use of £250K identified in initial data studies.	HRA Business Support	March 2015
2B	Initiate projects that will reduce carbon emissions from the Council's housing stock.	Develop an ongoing Capital Improvements Programme to reduce emissions.	HRA Business Support	Annually, to be reviewed in 2018
2C		Install low carbon technologies at 12 NWLDC residential properties.	HRA Business Support	June 2016
2D	Reduce electricity consumption at Hermitage and Hood leisure centres through energy efficient lighting projects.	Use Salix funding to install new lighting at both leisure centres, approx £36k	Property & Leisure	March 2015

		project.	Services	
2E	Explore potential for voltage optimisation on both Hood Park and Hermitage leisure centres.	Initiate feasibility study for voltage optimisation.	Property & Leisure Services	March 2016
2F	Reduce gas consumption at Whitwick Business Centre through heating improvements.	Install replacement boiler and zone heating system at Whitwick Business Centre.	Property	March 2015
2G	Encourage local communities to set up energy reduction projects that help reduce carbon emissions.	Set up schools' energy monitor project with five schools from areas with highest identified fuel poverty within the district.	Community Focus	March 2015
2H	Encourage use of the Green Deal and ECO funding to residents and businesses within the district.	Housing to explore use of ECO to improve energy efficiency of council housing stock.	HRA Business Support	March 2015
2I		Business Focus to signpost businesses to energy efficiency funding opportunities, including Green Deal.	Business Focus	Ongoing
2J	Promote potential ECO and other energy saving deals to Private Sector Landlords.	Organise a Private Sector Landlord forum, promoting energy saving deals and affordable warmth themes.	Housing Choices Team	September 2014
2K	Develop up-to-date information for all NWL residents detailing how to get energy advice and deals.	Design and produce an information leaflet signposting NWL residents to	Street Protection	September 2014.

		relevant energy companies.	Team	
	See also: Commitment 3, Actions 3A – 3F (Transport actions)			

Commitment 3: We will work towards a low carbon transport system that delivers multiple benefits: reduced carbon emissions, improved air quality, reduced congestion, improved health and road safety.

Justification: We support the Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 3 Strategy, particularly with reference to Chapter 6, ‘Encouraging active and sustainable travel’.

Ref	Specific action(s)	Measure	Responsibility	Timescale
3A	Initiate mobile working and dynamic scheduling for housing repairs team to reduce emissions from fleet transport.	System for mobile working and dynamic scheduling will be developed to reduce emissions from fleet transport.	HRA Business Support	March 2015
3B	Reduce direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions from council waste and recycling vehicles.	In house training for waste & recycling drivers on ‘green driving’	Waste Services	March 2015
3C		Waste services to procure vehicles which are AdBlue compatible (removes 75% of NOx from emissions - indirect)	Waste Services	March 2015
3D	Reduce transport emissions by reducing mileage through installing new software technology.	Install integrated software application to reduce the number of revisits to	Waste	March 2015

		properties for unemptied bins.	Services	
3E	Reduce staff commuter mileage by encouraging staff to walk and cycle to work.	Install cycle shelter for employees who cycle to work at council offices. Explore installation of cycle shelter at waste & recycling depot.	Property	March 2015
3F		Run an annual Cycle 2 Work scheme for staff.	Community Focus	Ongoing
	See also: Commitment 4, Action 4C (Planning action)			

Commitment 4: We will use the planning system to promote low carbon communities				
Justification: Aligned with the North West Leicestershire Local Plan, currently under development.				
Ref	Specific action(s)	Measure	Responsibility	Timescale
4A	Encourage new developments that are low or zero carbon.	Planning policies will encourage developers to pursue low and zero carbon development.	Planning Policy	Ongoing
4B		Developers of large residential or non-residential schemes will be required to prepare an energy strategy in support of their planning applications.	Planning Policy	Ongoing

4C	Ensure developments enable people to choose 'greener travel' choices, particularly for local journeys, by foot, bicycle or public transport.	Adoption by the council of new design policies.	Planning & Development	Ongoing
4D	Promote the council's design principles to encourage developers to produce well-designed places.	Publish design charter for developers to sign up to.	Planning & Development	March 2016

Climate Resilience

In order to adapt to the risks and opportunities that our changing climate will present, we make the following commitment(s).

Commitment 5: Work in partnership with Leicestershire County Council on flood planning				
Justification: Understanding the potential future climate impacts (flooding, heat-waves, etc) across the district, particularly localised risks				
Ref	Specific action(s)	Measure	Responsibility	Timescale
5A	Work in partnership with Leicestershire County Council and the Environment Agency through the Leicestershire Resilience Partnership to identify at-risk areas and solutions.	Identify areas at risk of flooding or heatwaves and work with Resilience Partnership to enable solutions to be identified.	Human Resources	Ongoing
5B	Monitor weather patterns for inclement weather (eg. flooding, heatwaves).	Maintain up-to-date risk plan and set in action with key council staff as required.	Human Resources	Ongoing