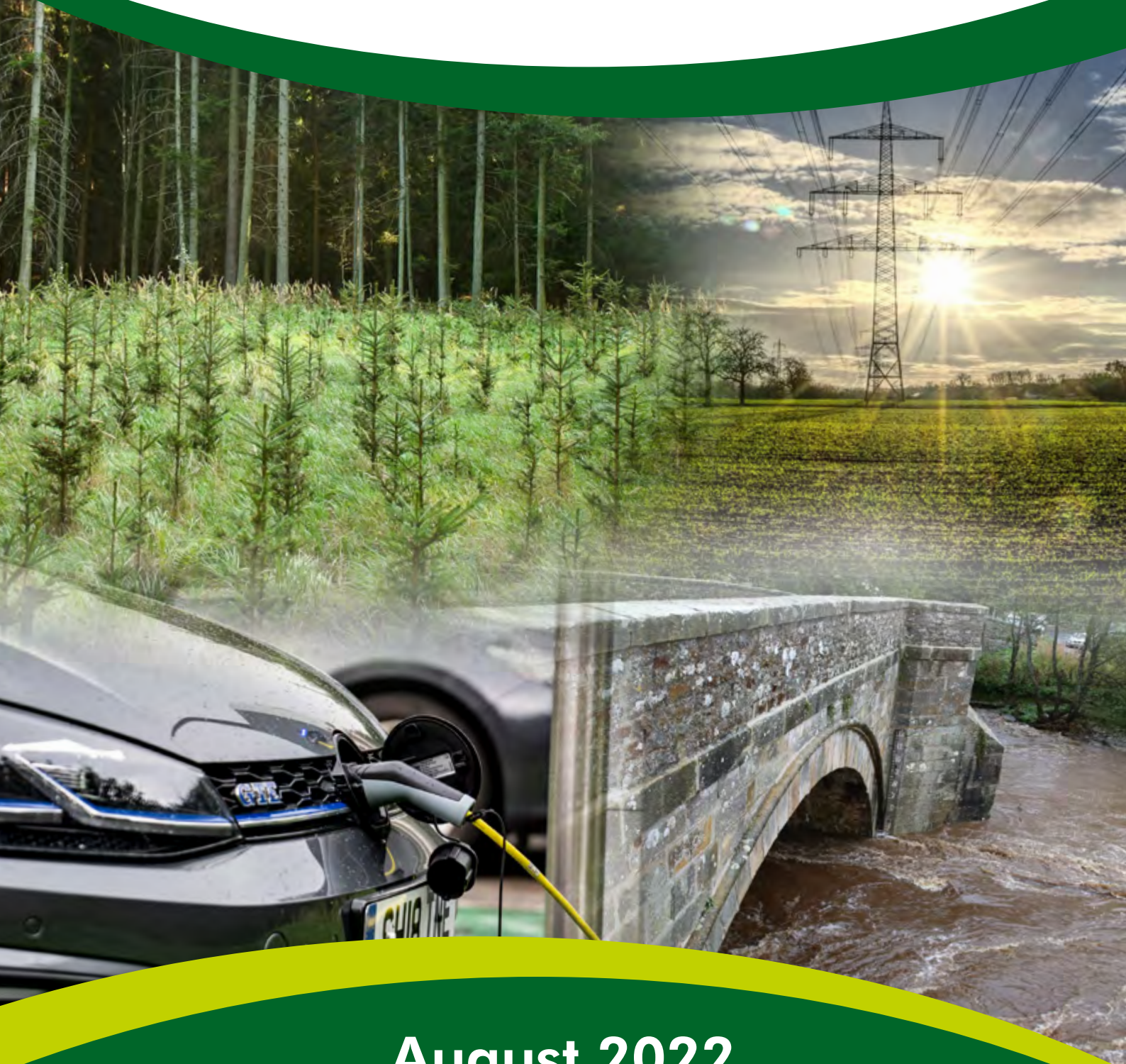


Update to Climate Change Action Plan – 2022/23



August 2022

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Introduction

The Climate Change Action Plan was initially published in July 2021. This plan was put together before the outcome of local government reorganisation was announced and the workloads of officers across the council were realised. With the decision to move to a unitary council in April 2023 officers across the council have been required to deliver additional work on top of their usual duties to plan for the new council for North Yorkshire. This additional workload has meant that a rethink of the action plan was required to make everything within it deliverable in the final year of Richmondshire District Council.

The following document lays out the modified Climate Change Action Plan for Richmondshire District Council to 31st March 2023. This plan has been cut down from the original plan due to the lack of resources to deliver all the original actions. The key spending commitments have remained in the plan.

The new plan is split into two sections, priority actions to be completed in the year 2022/23 and then actions that are collaborative and will work with organisations across North Yorkshire with the aim for them to continue beyond the end of the council.

Priorities for 2022/23

This section outlines the key priorities for Richmondshire District Council to deliver over the course of the financial year of 2022-2023. These actions are based on the original actions outlined in the July 2021 plan but have been cut back to those actions that can be delivered before the 1st April 2023 when Richmondshire District Council will become part of the new unitary North Yorkshire Council.

The priorities section has been split into Transport, Decarbonising Housing and Public Buildings, Property, Environment and Sequestration.

Transport

Transport is a large source of greenhouse gases (GHG) with them being responsible for 27% of total emissions in the UK in 2019. The councils own fleet emitted around 300 tCO₂e (tonnes of CO₂ equivalent) in 2021/22. This means this is a key area to focus on improving emissions, this section includes looking at the councils' emissions as well as helping residents to transfer to lower emission vehicles.

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
P/TRAN01	Electric Vehicle Charging Points - Council car parks	Installation and commissioning of 20 affordable electric vehicle charging points in Council car parks across the district.	Corporate Director (Operations)	31 Dec 22	£295,000 capital programme, £20,000 green initiatives budget.
P/TRAN02	Community Renewal Fund - Local E-motion	Investigate demand and options for personal e-transport schemes and hubs in Richmondshire (Leyburn/Hawes & Catterick Garrison) and Scarborough (Eastfield and Whitby). Business case ready report and findings by end of June 2022.	Climate Change Officer	31 Jul 22	RDC contribution £500

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
P/TRAN03	Purchase and operate at least one small electric vehicle.	Procure electric vehicle(s) and procure and install appropriate EV charging infrastructure at Depot. Report on the learnings from this pilot vehicle	Corporate Director (Operations)	31 Jul 22	£15k for depot charging & £35k allocated from capital budget
P/TRAN04	Encouraging commercial /retail premises to install electric vehicle charging points	1. Discuss with commercial/retail premises. 2. Signpost to grants and information	Climate Change Officer	31 Mar 23	No further costs
P/TRAN05	Electric Taxi Incentive Scheme	Design and deliver limited one-off incentive scheme to increase electric taxi numbers.	Housing Options and Environmental Health Manager	30 Apr 22	£5,000 Green Initiatives Budget
P/TRAN06	Catterick Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan	Work with NYCC on walking and cycling infrastructure plan for Catterick Garrison/ Richmond area - to underpin future funding bids.	Planning Manager	31 Jul 22	£3.5k Funding no longer required to contribute to project extension to Richmond.
P/TRAN07	Investigate the potential for Biodiesel in the councils' fleet	Investigation into the feasibility of providing biodiesel for vehicles at the depot. Implications to be assessed on the suitability of biodiesel products being used in the fleet and on any cost implications.	Climate Change Officer / Waste Street Scene Manager	31 Jul 21	Initial investigation within existing budget but if biodiesel is feasible there may be cost implications

Decarbonising Housing and Public Buildings

Buildings account for around 30% of the UK's emissions and so are another large sector to target in reducing emissions in Richmondshire. This section lays out schemes to improve emissions in sheltered housing, council housing as well as schemes the council is involved in to help residents to reduce emissions.

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
P/HOU01	LAD2 programme - Delivery of LAD2 housing improvement	Assist with LAD2 delivery, including the solar panels pilot on council buildings as well as the wider work to deliver energy efficiency measures across the county. Explore the procurement of work to survey housing stock in Richmondshire.	Supported Housing and Improvement Manager	30 Sep 22	LAD2 funding for improvements plus £32k for survey work - no resource from Climate Change Budget
P/HOU02	Community Renewal Fund - Hitting Hard	Contribute to the Hitting Hard scheme to deliver a suite of reports for Hard to decarbonise homes	Climate Change Officer	31 Jul 22	No RDC contribution to this project
P/HOU03	Council House Improvement Programme.	Replace 54 back boilers with more energy efficient combi or heat ones. Replace 19 electric heating systems with new high heat retention electric heaters plus top up loft insulation to 300mm. Install LED lighting as part of 52 planned bathroom upgrades. Old items recycled where possible.	Supported Housing and Improvement Manager	31 Mar 23	Existing HIP.
P/HOU04	Community Renewal Fund - Decarbonising community buildings	A share of 30 feasibility assessments, 20 site surveys of community buildings and the creation of a joint business case to deliver schemes across Scarborough and Richmondshire.	Climate Change Officer / Community Officer	30 Jun 22	No RDC contribution to this project

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
P/HOU05	George Nickling House - energy efficient and low carbon renovations and refurbishment	Pivot existing project proposal to include exemplar energy efficiency/use of renewables.	Housing Options and Environmental Health Manager	31 Mar 23	Within Homelessness Grants awarded. Additional £5k allocated from the Green Initiatives budget for additional spend on LED lighting
P/HOU06	Exemplar low/zero carbon development	Investigate the opportunities for an exemplar low/zero carbon schemes specifically around the Colburn Lorry Park and the Broadacres scheme	Planning Manager	31 Mar 23	£25k allocated from Corporate Board for the Colburn Lorry Park.
P/HOU07	Consultancy study to survey, cost and make recommendations on energy use, low carbon heating and energy efficiency options for the sheltered housing stock.	Study to investigate the following properties. George Nickling House, Queens Court, Oak Tree Court, Quaker Close, St. Cuthbert's Green, Thornborough Hall and Noel's Court	Facilities Management Officer	31 Mar 23	£21k from the Green Initiatives budget - £3k per study
P/TRAN07	Investigate the potential for Biodiesel in the councils' fleet	Investigation into the feasibility of providing biodiesel for vehicles at the depot. Implications to be assessed on the suitability of biodiesel products being used in the fleet and on any cost implications.	Climate Change Officer / Waste Street Scene Manager	31 Jul 21	Initial investigation within existing budget but if biodiesel is feasible there may be cost implications

Property

The Council's emissions for heating were around 360 tCO₂e in 2021/22. This section specifically addresses the council's own buildings with survey work and improvement programmes in Mercury House, Richmond Swimming Pool, and the Gallowfields Depot.

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
P/PROP01	Mercury House Survey & Improvements	Part 1 - Consultancy study to survey, cost and make recommendations on energy use, low carbon heating and energy efficiency options.	Facilities Management Officer	30 Jun 22	£3.5k from Green Initiatives Budget
P/PROP01	Mercury House Survey & Improvements	Part 2 - Implement initial easy wins from report	Facilities Management Officer	31 Mar 23	Any underspend from Part 1 - funding to be reviewed when report is complete.
P/PROP02	Richmond Swimming Pool Improvements	Replacing/refurbish existing fabric curtain walling and roofing and installing solar panels on the roof.	Corporate Director (Operations)	31 Mar 23	Part of the overall estimated £1.44 million cost is for energy efficiency and renewable energy generation works. Funded by early use of capital receipts and business rates growth funding, as per the reserves and capital plan update report.
P/PROP03	Energy efficiency improvements at Gallowfields Depot	Replacement of existing roof, windows and wall cladding of the stores and main building with more thermally efficient materials, where possible within budgets.	Facilities Management Officer	31 Dec 22	£150,000 in capital programme - depot repairs and improvements project.

Environment and Sequestration

The environment is a key part of the fight against climate change. Sequestration is the removal of CO₂ from the atmosphere, and this can be achieved through planting trees and protecting natural environments. The two projects continue this work by supporting rewilding projects and supporting tree planting across the district.

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
P/E&S01	Rewilding appropriate areas of open space across the district.	Pilot areas at community request until project CRP27 has concluded, such as Middleham closed churchyard and land around and below Mercury House.	Open Spaces and Amenities Manager	31 Mar 23	Likely cost neutral - additional costs of any wildflower planting offset by reduced management/maintenance cost.
P/E&S02	Tree Planting in Richmondshire	Continue with community tree planting project in Autumn 2022, whilst also looking at opportunities to plant trees on council land.	Climate Change Officer	31 Mar 23	Includes budget from previous plan and additional budget reallocated from other projects. £3.5k

Energy and Infrastructure

This section is looking at the ways in which the council can support more sustainable energy and infrastructure in the district.

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
P/E&I01	Street lighting upgrades	Section A - Accelerate programme to replace all remaining streetlamps with more energy efficient LEDs. Section B - Identify and install one or more solar powered streetlamps where suitable, practical, and feasible, as part of programme to provide up to 30 new lamps in response to community requests.	Open Spaces and Amenities Manager	31 Dec 22	Separate allocation from climate change budget
P/E&I02	Community Renewal Fund Local Area Energy Plans.	One of 3 Local Area Energy Plans for North Yorkshire will cover an area which combines Richmondshire, Harrogate and Craven Districts. Will identify where new technology and infrastructure is needed to achieve a carbon negative energy system.	Climate Change Officer	31 Dec 22	Within existing budget
P/E&I03	Community Energy Scheme - feasibility study	A feasibility study to investigate the possibility of allowing small settlements to be more energy independent using local energy generation. Initial study to focus on one or two settlements.	Climate Change Officer	31 Mar 23	Initially £20k allocated from the Green Initiatives budget

Communications

This section of the plan outlines the key activities that the council is doing to communicate climate change activities both internally and externally.

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
P/COM01	Maintain internal and external communications about climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Monthly newsletter to staff on climate change issues b. Press releases on climate plan c. Communications about the online services that the council offers d. Maintain climate messages on the website e. External messages to residents on climate change 	Climate Change Officer / Planning and Climate Change Apprentice	31 Mar 23	Within existing budget
P/COM02	Climate change introductory training module - new & existing staff.	York & North York's wide online training module with RDC specific content.	HR Manager	30 Apr 22	£900 contribution from the HR budget

Council Procedures

This section outlines actions to be taken to embed climate change into council procedures and to enable staff to work in a climate conscious manner.

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
P/PROC01	Planning applications to consider climate impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Process to be developed to allow the climate change officer to comment on appropriate planning applications. 2. Look into mandating a climate change monitoring report to allow for assessment of projects 	Climate Change Officer / Planning Manager	31 Mar 23	Within existing budget
P/PROC02	IT Training - Teams & Office 365	Training to be provided for staff on the use of Teams and Office 365 - these working practices can help reduce paper use and digital footprints.	ICT Business Change and Business Support Manager	30 Sep 22	Within existing budget
P/PROC03	Climate Change Impact Assessment	Climate Change Impact Assessment to be introduced to Managers to ensure climate change is considered in the decision-making process for new projects.	Climate Change Officer / ICT Business Change and Business Support Manager	31 Jul 22	Within existing budget

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
P/PROC04	Volunteering Day	Proposal for a volunteering day to be established at Richmondshire for the 2022/23 financial year specifically with a focus on events that can help with climate change.	Senior Management team	31 Mar 23	Within existing budget, unless costs required to cover day of volunteering
P/PROC05	Council Meetings	1. Investigation into providing QR codes at council meetings to replace paper copies. 2. Lift share for councillors - investigation into the feasibility of lift share arrangements for councillors including at county level.	Democratic Services Manager	31 Mar 23	Within existing budget
P/PROC06	Visits and Meetings outside of the office	1. Continue to review meetings & visit procedure 2. Integrate the use of council EV	Climate Change Officer Working Group	31 Mar 23	Within existing budget

Collaborative Work

This section outlines the steps being taken to reach out to partners in North Yorkshire and beyond, to investigate collaborative work and innovative approaches to tackling the climate crisis. These projects fall into five categories, Environment & Sequestration, Transport, Housing, Communications and Data.

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
Transport					
C/TRAN01	LEVI scheme	Work with other councils for the bid towards the LEVI scheme for electric chargepoints across North Yorkshire.	Climate Change Officer	31 Mar 23	Within existing budget
Environment & Sequestration					
C/E&S01	Tree Planting Trial with Biochar	Investigative trial to measure growth for trees when using Biochar	Climate Change Officer	31 Mar 23	Within existing budget

Ref	Project Name	Details	Responsible	Completion Date	Budget Notes
Housing					
C/HOU01	Bids for future Housing Grants	Investigate the potential for future housing bids in a consortium with other authorities in North Yorkshire	Climate Change Officer	31 Mar 23	Within existing budget
Communications					
C/COM01	Communications across the North Yorkshire area	Work with other councils to release joined up communications	Climate Change Officer	31 Mar 23	Within existing budget
C/COM02	Keeping in contact with other partners in the area for joined up work and communications	In particular, staying in touch with the Yorkshire Dales National Park and MoD	Climate Change Officer	31 Mar 23	Within existing budget
C/COM03	Working with Richmondshire Climate Action Partnership and other community groups to deliver projects	a. Transfer £5,000 to assist with initial set up. b. Investigate opportunities for joint working with the Richmondshire Climate Action Partnership.	Climate Change Officer	31 Mar 23	£5k for initial set up of Richmondshire Climate Action Partnership.
Data					
C/DATA01	Collection and publication of all data required by the new organisation	Statutory Returns for 2021/22 Data prep for the new council 2022/23	Climate Change Officer	31 Mar 23	Part of existing

**This information is available in
alternative formats and languages**



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