

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – THURSDAY, 4
DECEMBER 2025



Title of Report	ZERO CARBON UPDATE	
Presented by	Cllr Michael Wyatt Community and Climate Change Portfolio Holder	
Background Papers	<p>Minutes of 31 March 2020 Cabinet meeting where Zero Carbon Roadmap and Action Plan was adopted: Agenda for Leader of the Council Cabinet Member Meeting on Tuesday, 31st March 2020, 5.00 pm - North West Leicestershire District Council (nwleics.gov.uk)</p> <p>Minutes of 29 August 2024 Corporate Scrutiny meeting - Zero Carbon Update Agenda for Corporate Scrutiny Committee on Thursday, 29th August 2024, 6.30 pm - North West Leicestershire District Council</p>	<p>Public Report: Yes</p>
Financial Implications	<p>At its meeting on 25 February 2020, Council agreed to establish a £1m reserve to support the costs of climate change. Details of spend to date on both revenue and capital costs are set out in section 11 of the report.</p> <p>The costs of the Climate Change Programme Manager have been met from the £1m reserve. This will be reviewed annually as part of the budget setting process.</p>	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	<p>All decisions arising from the implementation of the action plan must comply with the Council's established governance and decision-making processes. The project team will seek legal advice on specific aspects of the action plan on a case-by-case basis.</p>	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	<p>Staffing implications will be an intricate part of each project's business case. The Council's ambition is to achieve net Zero Carbon by 2030 for the Council's direct operations, by 2050 for the District. This is reflected in the Council Delivery Plan 2023-2028</p>	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	

Purpose of Report	To provide an update on the Council's Zero Carbon Roadmap and Action Plan.
Recommendations	THAT CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE CONSIDERS THE PROGRESS THAT THERE HAS BEEN WITH THE ZERO CARBON ROADMAP.

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) declared a climate emergency on 25 June 2019, one of over 300 UK local authorities to do so.
- 1.2 The Zero Carbon Roadmap and Action Plan was adopted by the Council on 31 March 2020. The Action Plan summarises recommended activity to achieve the ambition of working towards a net Zero Carbon Council by 2030 and a net Zero Carbon district by 2050.
- 1.3 The Zero Carbon Roadmap estimated, from a baseline of 2016, that the emissions from Council-owned assets of 18,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) represent just 1.5% of the total emissions of the North West Leicestershire (NWL) district. This is dominated by the buildings owned and operated by the Council, in particular housing. Whilst tackling the emissions from the Council's own operations is an imperative, the scale of the emissions from the wider district highlights how important it is for the Council to show leadership to influence wider district emissions.
- 1.4 The target for the Council's operations to be net Zero Carbon by 2030 for its own operations and the district by 2050 is highly challenging and the Council cannot achieve this alone. The Council, in its civic leadership role, has a responsibility to lead in this area to help ensure that NWL recognises and embraces the crucial activity required to meet the challenge.
- 1.5 The [Council Delivery Plan 2023-2028](#) identifies one of the four priorities as "clean, green and Zero Carbon.....looking after the environment we live in". A key aim is "We will aim to be carbon neutral as a council by 2030 and a district by 2050". The 2030 target focuses on the Council's own operations and the buildings it occupies. The 2050 target includes the Council's housing and General Fund property portfolio along with the NWL district.

2.0 ZERO CARBON ROADMAP KEY THEMES

- 2.1 The Zero Carbon Roadmap is divided into distinct activity groups.

Buildings	Forestry and Land Use
Power	Industry
Waste	Aviation
Transport	F-gases *

*Used in refrigeration, air conditioning etc

- 2.2 North West Leicestershire emissions are dominated by transport, buildings, and industrial installations.

- 2.3 As part of the Zero Carbon Roadmap, Council emissions were estimated at 2 ktCO_{2e} for Council operated buildings and vehicle fleet; and a further 16 ktCO_{2e} for Council homes, leased buildings and leisure centres. The total of 18 ktCO_{2e} equates to 1.5% of the total estimated emissions of 1281 ktCO_{2e} for the NWL district.
- 2.4 The Council can directly influence a further 32% of emissions mainly through:
- Planning for new buildings
 - Planning control for new industrial installations and site emissions
 - Electric vehicle infrastructure
 - Waste reduction and diversion from landfill
- 2.5 The initial focus is on the Council's own activities and what direct action it can take. Other categories of activities identified are where the Council can influence and where it can help to facilitate.

3.0 WIDER PERSPECTIVE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

- 3.1 The Climate Change Committee (CCC) is an independent, statutory body established under the Climate Change Act 2008 which has statutory obligations to monitor progress in responding to climate risks and opportunities.
- 3.2 Their latest progress report was published on 25 June 2025. It advises that emissions in the UK have been steadily decreasing, with levels in 2024 50.4% below those in 1990, with a tenth consecutive year of reduction (excluding Covid 2020/2021). The emissions reduction in 2024 was driven by the electricity supply and industry sectors, with the UK's last coal-fired electricity power station, Ratcliffe-on-Soar, closing in October 2024.
- 3.3 Looking forward to 2030, priorities identified are the electrification of surface transport, buildings and industry. Electric vehicles, charging infrastructure and heat pumps are key to achieving this along with further investment in renewable energy, under the Clean Power 2030 Action Plan.
- 3.4 The CCC assess that 61% of the required reduction in emissions for 2030 target have credible plans, mainly electricity supply and surface transport sectors, but 39% do not. The biggest risks include driving the uptake of heat pumps and industrial electrification.
- 3.5 The CCC has published a priority list of ten recommendations, including to make electricity cheaper, scale up heat pump deployment, introduce regulations to ensure new homes are not connected to the gas grid, expand the low-carbon electricity system, provide long term funding to decarbonise public sector buildings and ramp up rates of tree planting and peatland restoration.

4.0 WORKING COLLABORATIVELY ON CLIMATE CHANGE

- 4.1 The challenges of the Zero Carbon Roadmap are similar across the county of Leicestershire. Working collaboratively enables partners to learn from each other and achieve more together. This approach has enabled the Council to take part in activities and deliver projects that the Council would not be able to undertake on its own.
- 4.2 Green Living Leicestershire Partnership

- 4.2.1 Leicestershire district and borough councils, together with Leicestershire County Council, have an established environmental group which is currently chaired by the Chief Executive of Oadby and Wigston Borough Council. In 2022, the “Green Living Leicestershire” (GLL) partnership was created; an officer led and chief executive supported mechanism to undertake joint Zero Carbon related projects together across the county. It is a collaborative approach, sharing best practice, pooling resources and learning together.
 - 4.2.2 The GLL partnership is currently working together on Warm Homes Local Grants, a grant funded retrofit programme to improve energy efficiency of private homes which is due to launch in 2026; a shared statement of intent to support standard Eco Flex criteria across Leicestershire expanding to incorporate Rutland; a solar PV hub electric vehicle charging project which will see a hub installed at Money Hill car park, Ashby; funding for EV chargepoints for parish and community buildings; exploring options to continue the Solar Together group buying scheme; and taking a shared approach to community engagement. The net zero toolkit has been refreshed to help support community groups to reduce carbon emissions in their local area.
 - 4.2.3 The group is also supporting Leicestershire CAN (Collaborate to Accelerate Net Zero), funded by Innovate UK, which is looking at a whole-systems approach to decarbonisation and breaking down non-technical barriers to the delivery of net zero to enable accelerated delivery of projects through harnessing the collective power of collaborative working. The four workstreams are governance, decarbonisation pathway plan, community energy and an advisory service. Information about the projects is available on the [Greener Future Leicestershire website](#) which will be funded for three years after the project concludes. The local area energy plan and interactive tool is due to be published in late autumn 2025.
- 4.3 Midland Net Zero Hub (MNZH)
- 4.3.1 MNZH supports public sector organisations across the Midlands to identify and develop local net zero and energy strategies and projects.
 - 4.3.2 MNZH leads a consortium offer for Warm Homes Local Grant which GLL is taking part in, led by the Warm Homes team at LCC.
 - 4.3.3 MNZH has also provided support for the solar PV hub electric vehicle charging project, at Money Hill in Ashby.
 - 4.3.4 Alongside other districts, the Council and Everyone Active has supported MNZH to develop a [guide to support decarbonisation of public leisure centres](#).

5.0 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION (LGR)

- 5.1 The Government is working on a programme of devolution which involves taking powers and funding away from central government and into regional areas.
- 5.2 The LGR change is due to be implemented in May 2027 where a shadow council will be created to prepare for the future organisation structure which will take effect from April 2028.

- 5.3 The impacts of LGR are currently unknown. The Council remains committed to its Council Delivery Plan priority under “Clean, green and zero carbon district” and its aim to be carbon neutral as a council by 2030 and as a district by 2050.

6.0 EMISSIONS REPORTING

- 6.1 For the Council’s reporting, the Local Partnerships greenhouse gas accounting tool is used to report on direct emissions. It is based on the DESNZ carbon emission factors.
- 6.2 This year, the Council emissions data is reported against the targets of 2030 and 2050 to improve clarity. The historic data has been re-worked to provide the same split back to 2019/20.
- 6.3 Fleet and buildings occupied by the Council fall under the 2030 target.
- 6.4 Social housing and General Fund commercial tenanted properties are reported against the 2050 target.
- 6.5 Both 2030 and 2050 are reported by greenhouse gas emissions scope type in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO_{2e}).
- Scope 1 - emissions that the Council makes directly (e.g. gas boilers, vehicle fuel);
 - Scope 2 - indirect emissions (e.g. electricity) and
 - Scope 3 - emissions that the Council is indirectly responsible for (e.g. procurement of products).

Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3
Fuel combustion Company vehicles Fugitive emissions	Purchased electricity, heat and steam	Purchased goods and services Business travel Employee commuting Waste disposal Use of sold products Transportation and distribution (up- and downstream) Investments Leased assets and franchises

- 6.6 Data is sourced from the Council’s invoices for utilities, fuel usage and mileage claims.

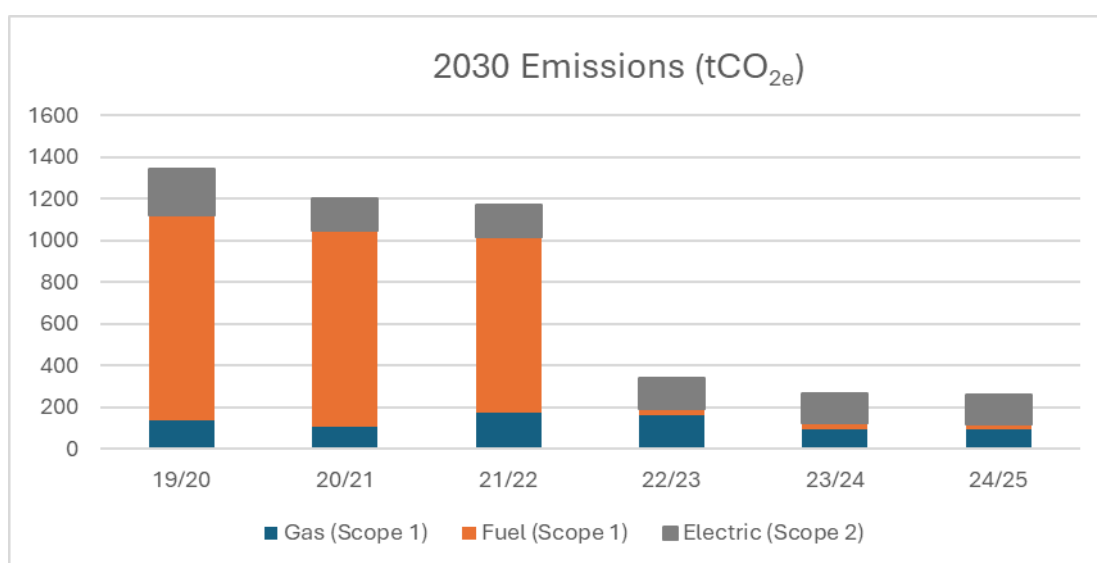
7.0 SUMMARY OF EMISSIONS PROGRESS

7.1 2030: Council Emissions

- 7.1.1 The chart and tables below summarise the direct and indirect emissions relating to the Council's 2030 target for operational emissions.
- 7.1.2 Total 2030 Scope 1 and 2 emissions are down by 80.87% versus the baseline year of 2019/20.

- 7.1.3 There has been a reduction of 3.35% in 2024/25 versus 2023/24, to 257.45 tCO_{2e}.
- 7.1.4 The biggest change in 2024/25 is driven by a reduction in fuel related emissions. This is due to the end of use of gas oil, often referred to as red diesel. There has also been an uplift in the use of electricity for vehicles as the electric fleet has expanded.
- 7.1.5 The key driver of a reduction in gas usage of 2023/24 is the move from the old Council offices to Whitwick Business Centre in April 2023. Between March 2020 to early 2022, changes in gas and electric related emissions are linked to Covid-19.
- 7.1.6 The majority of residual gas emissions are related to Whitwick Business Centre and Stenson House heating, accounting for 31% of Scope 1 and 2 total emissions. Linden Way workshop is heated by LPG, which equates to a further 7%.
- 7.1.7 Linden Way depot offices, Coalville Park depot and the Customer Centre are all electrically heated.
- 7.1.8 The UK government has set a national target to delivery of clean power by 2030 driving an associated reduction in the grid's carbon intensity. Whilst the target remains ambitious, the UK is on track to achieve a very green grid by 2030. This will deliver a reduction in emissions related to electricity usage.
- 7.1.9 To drive further reduction in the Council's operational emissions by 2030, minimising gas consumption is key. This currently equates to 95 tCO_{2e}. Replacing gas heating systems with electrical solutions across the three sites will form part of the asset management plans.

2030 Council Emissions



Emissions tCO _{2e}	Sector	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
Scope 1 - Direct Emissions	Total	114.73	123.68	189.03	1017.64	1048.22	1121.92
Gas	Buildings	95.38	92.77	158.31	173.47	107.47	135.67
Fuel	Fleet	19.35	30.91	30.72	844.17	940.75	986.25
Scope 2 - Indirect Emission	Total	142.72	142.68	147.97	152.26	155.1	224.01
Purchased Electricity	Buildings	137.97	141.15	147.97	152.26	155.1	224.01
Purchased Electricity	Fleet	4.75	1.53	0	0	0	0
Total Scope 1 & 2	Total	257.45	266.36	337	1169.9	1203.32	1345.93
Scope 3 - Indirect Emissions	Total	41.67	45.52	43.04	41.84	39.55	65.84
T&D loss - electricity		12.61	12.34	13.54	13.47	13.34	19.02
Business Mileage		29.06	33.18	29.5	28.37	26.21	46.82

Emissions	Sector	% Change	% change	% change	% change	% change	% change
		24/25 v 23/24	23/24 v 22/23	22/23 v 21/22	21/22 v 20/21	20/21 v 19/20	24/25 v 19/20
Scope 1 - Direct Emissions	Total	-7.24%	-34.57%	-81.42%	-2.92%	-6.57%	-89.77%
Gas	Buildings	2.81%	-41.40%	-8.74%	61.41%	-20.79%	-29.70%
Fuel	Fleet	-37.40%	0.62%	-96.36%	-10.27%	-4.61%	-98.04%
Scope 2 - Indirect Emission	Total	0.03%	-3.58%	-2.82%	-1.83%	-30.76%	-36.29%
Purchased Electricity	Buildings	-2.25%	-4.61%	-2.82%	-1.83%	-30.76%	-38.41%
Purchased Electricity	Fleet	210.46%					
Total Scope 1 & 2	Total	-3.35%	-20.96%	-71.19%	-2.78%	-10.60%	-80.87%
Scope 3 - Indirect Emissions	Total	-0.084568	5.76%	2.87%	5.79%	-39.93%	-36.71%
T&D loss - electricity		2.19%	-8.86%	0.52%	0.97%	-29.86%	-33.70%
Business Mileage		-12.42%	12.47%	3.98%	8.24%	-44.02%	-37.93%

* T&D Loss is the difference between the electricity supplied and the electricity converted into useful power

7.2 2050: Council Emissions

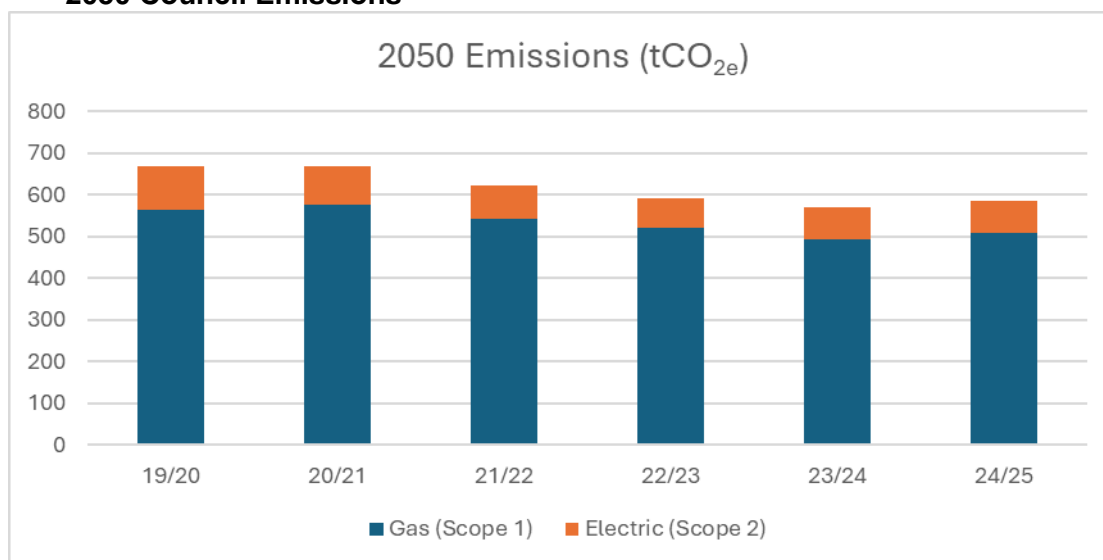
- 7.2.1 The chart and tables below summarise the direct and energy indirect emissions relating to the Council's 2050 target, relating to operational emissions.
- 7.2.2 Total 2050 Scope 1 and 2 emissions are down by 12.41% versus the baseline year of 2019.
- 7.2.3 There has been an increase of 3.06% in emissions in 2024/25 versus 2023/24, to 586.13 tCO_{2e}.
- 7.2.4 The main driver of the 2050 target gas emissions is the Council's housing (99%); for electricity, 95% of emissions relate to housing, with sheltered schemes in both cases accounting for the majority of usage. This is because for sheltered housing accommodation, utilities are paid by the Council and charged out to the tenants.
- 7.2.5 There is significant improvement activity underway across the Council's housing stock which will drive energy efficiency improvement, partly grant funded from the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. This links directly with the aim for all properties to achieve a minimum energy performance certificates (EPC) rating of C by 2028, in advance of the legal requirement of 2030. The

status of EPC is illustrated in the table below, recognising it is constantly updating.

EPC Rating	Count	%	Cum %
A	5	0.1%	0.1%
B	170	4.2%	4.3%
C	2,482	60.8%	65.1%
D	1,253	30.7%	95.8%
E	139	3.4%	99.2%
F	14	0.3%	99.6%
TBC	18	0.4%	100.0%
Grand Total	4,081	100.0%	

7.2.6 For the General Fund property portfolio, all properties are compliant with EPC legislation.

2050 Council Emissions



Emissions tCO _{2e}	Sector	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
Scope 1 - Direct Emissions							
Gas	Buildings	508.73	492.39	520.5	542.89	576.17	564.42
Scope 2 - Indirect Emission							
Purchased Electricity	Buildings	77.4	76.34	70.84	80.13	92.35	104.72
Total Scope 1 & 2	Total	586.13	568.73	591.34	623.02	668.52	669.14
Scope 3 - Indirect Emissions							
T&D loss - electricity		6.84	6.6	6.48	7.09	7.94	8.89

Emissions	Sector	% Change 24/25 v 23/24	% change 23/24 v 22/23	% change 22/23 v 21/22	% change 21/22 v 20/21	% change 20/21 v 19/20	% change 24/25 v 19/20
Scope 1 - Direct Emissions							
Gas	Buildings	3.32%	-5.40%	-4.12%	-5.78%	2.08%	-9.87%
Scope 2 - Indirect Emission							
Purchased Electricity	Buildings	1.39%	7.76%	-11.59%	-13.23%	-11.81%	-26.09%
Total Scope 1 & 2	Total	3.06%	-3.82%	-5.08%	-6.81%	-0.09%	-12.41%
Scope 3 - Indirect Emissions							
T&D loss - electricity		3.64%	1.85%	-8.60%	-10.71%	-10.69%	-23.06%

* T&D Loss is the difference between the electricity supplied and the electricity converted into useful power

7.3 2050: Wider District Influence

7.3.1 Usage of electric vehicle charging facilities provided in the Council's public car parks is summarised in the table below. There has been an increase in usage across all locations versus last year, with most growth at Vicarage Street, Whitwick (189%), the Green at Thringstone (169%) and High Street at Ibstock (115%).

Financial Year	No. of Charges	% Change v PY	Sum of kWh Used	% Change v PY	Sum of tCO _{2e} saved
2019-2020	299		5295		3.0
2020-2021	141	-53%	2029	-62%	1.1
2021-2022	1256	791%	16608	718%	9.3
2022-2023	2685	114%	45045	171%	25.2
2023-2024	2446	-9%	37236	-17%	20.9
2024-2025	3631	48%	42547	14%	23.8
Grand Total	10458		148761		83.3

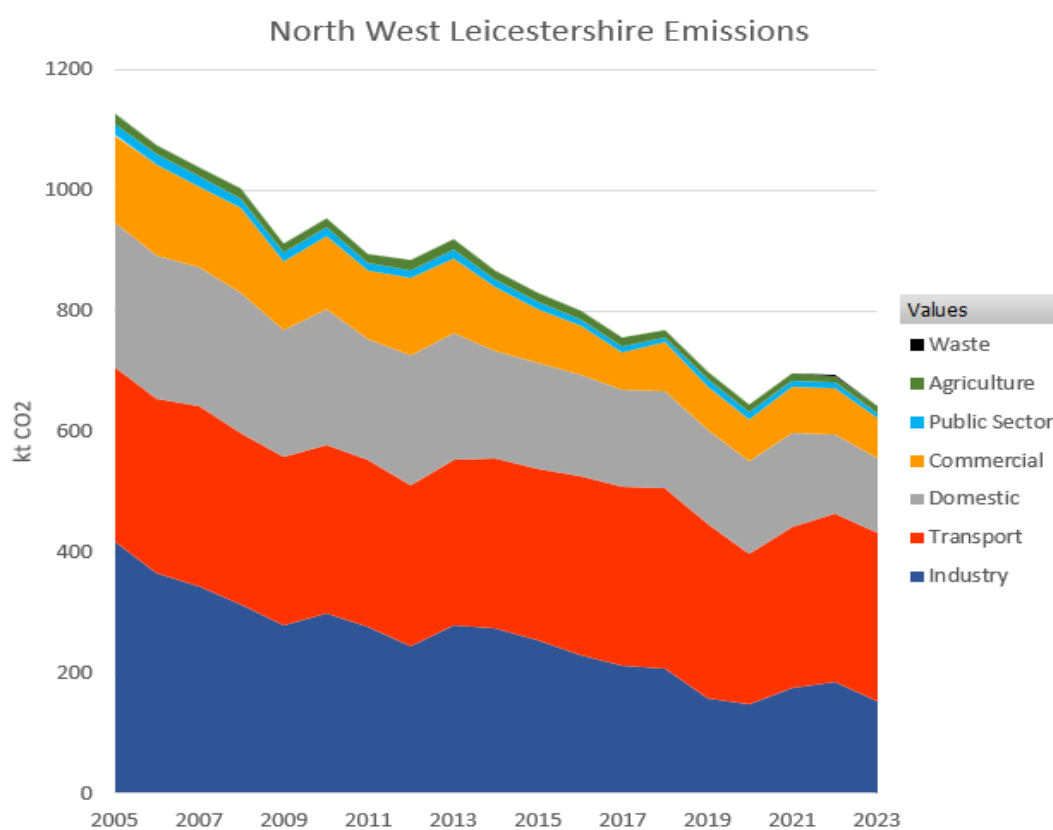
7.3.2 Taxi licencing policy changes from 1 January 2026 which will require that all vehicles must be fitted with at least a Euro 6 compliant engine at licence renewal, which will drive a reduction in emissions. Currently 81% of taxi vehicles meet this standard.

7.3.3 Recycle more activity continues. The Government expects that a weekly food waste collection will be rolled out district wide in 2026. Whilst capital funding has been received no revenue funding has been allocated by the government for this roll out. It is estimated that the addition cost for the Council to roll out food waste collections beyond the current trial will be £900.000. The district wide Flex Collect, collecting plastic bags and wrappings and tetrapaks, is planned for 2027.

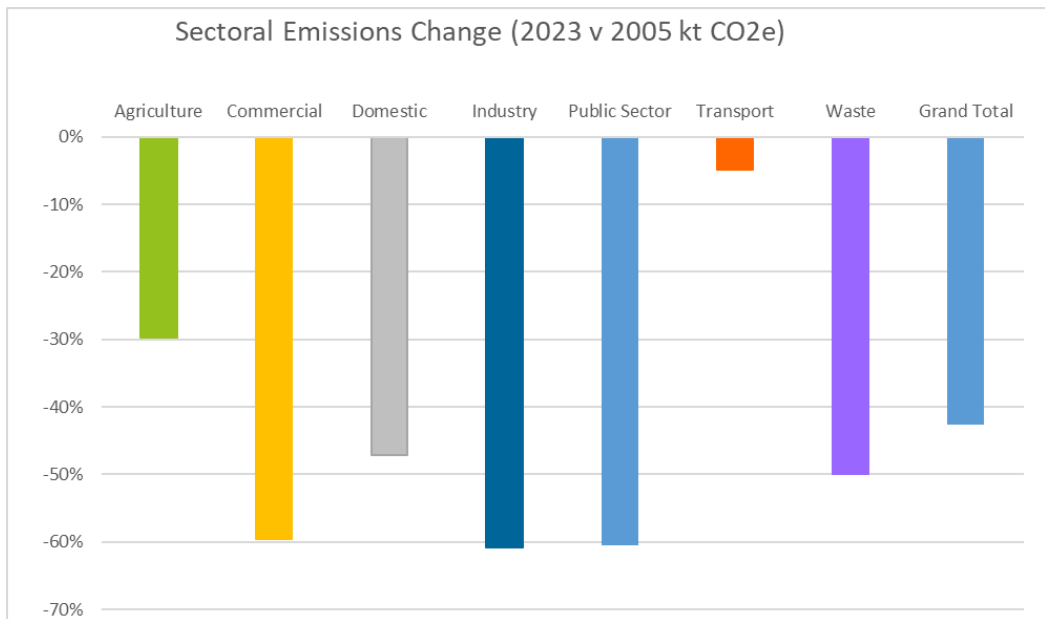
7.4 2050: North West Leicestershire

7.4.1 The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ, formerly BEIS) produces local authority territorial carbon emission estimates data, which is released annually each summer. This data is produced two years in arrears, and is based on territorial CO₂ emissions, those that occur within the district's borders.

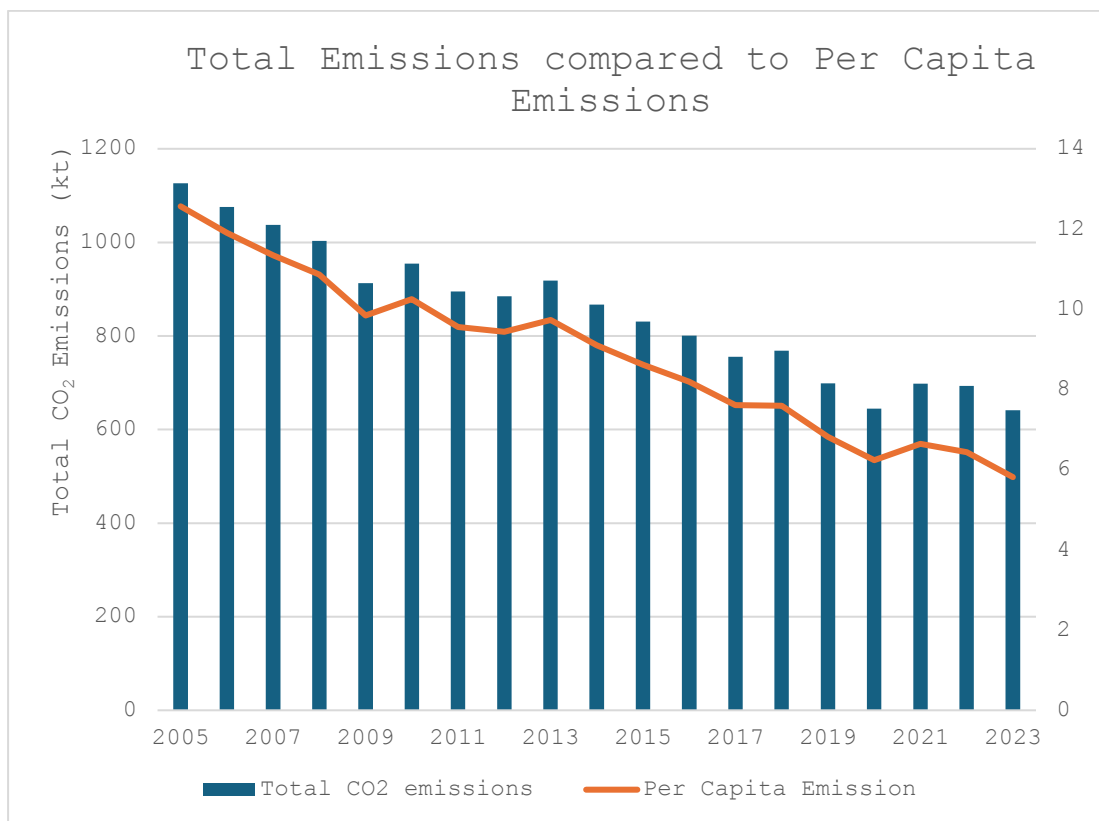
- 7.4.2 These statistics provide the most reliable and consistent breakdown of CO_{2e} emissions across the country using nationally available datasets going back to 2005. Source: [UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-greenhouse-gas-emissions-statistics).
- 7.4.3 Each year, North West Leicestershire district emissions will be reported to assess whether carbon reduction is 'on track' using the dataset that DESNZ publishes of emissions within the scope of Local Authorities. The data used excludes emissions that Local Authorities do not have direct influence over – for example, transport motorway emissions are removed.
- 7.4.4 The chart below illustrates the changes in emissions between 2005-2023, split by sector.



- 7.4.5 The chart below illustrates the percentage change since 2005, the start of the Government data set by sector.



7.4.6 Adding in the population data, the chart below indicates that the reduction per capita is improving at a similar rate to recent years.



8.0 COST OF NET ZERO

- 8.1 Forecasting the cost of achieving net zero is in progress.
- 8.2 The Council's fleet which is not electric will continue to run on hydro-treated vegetable oil, HVO. The roll out of weekly food waste collections will increase fleet mileage, driving an estimated 9% increase in fuel usage and related emissions, approximately 1.2 tCO_{2e} annually.
- 8.3 For social housing, a stock condition survey has been completed. The results will inform the Council's housing asset management programme. There are c1,424 Council properties which are below EPC C, although this data is constantly being updated. The SHDF grant programme will target 975 of these properties for energy efficiency improvement. The stock condition report forecasts that it will cost the Council £66 million, spread across 20 years up to 2040, to achieve net zero. This will be unaffordable without further external funding support.
- 8.4 A report has been commissioned by Property Services to forecast the cost of achieving Zero Carbon across the entire General Fund property portfolio. Priorities to achieve a reduction in the 2030 emissions target are Whitwick Business Centre and Stenson House, with gas usage being the priority as together they account for 31% of the 2030 Scope 1 and 2 emissions.

9.0 YEAR FIVE UPDATE SUMMARY – Financial Year 2024/25

- 9.1 The Council's Tree Management strategy was adopted in March 2025 and action plan developed. Further solar panels have been installed on the roof of Whitwick and Coalville Leisure Centre. The flexible plastics recycling scheme has been expanded, running alongside the on-going food waste trial. The local cycling and walking plan has been developed, and work is ongoing to deliver improvements. A mine water phase 1 feasibility has been undertaken to explore the opportunity to utilise the mines around Whitwick and Coalville Leisure Centre to provide low carbon heat. An environmental policy has been drafted which is due to be considered by Scrutiny and Cabinet in December 2025. Regular activities such as the free tree scheme and green shoots bulb scheme continued, together with one-off projects such as over 500 trees planted at Hermitage Eco Park and 47 more mature trees across cemeteries and parks.
- 9.2 In terms of the Fleet Management Strategy, the electric vehicle fleet increased to 15. The large emissions benefit of the fuel switch from diesel to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) continued (saving 938 tCO_{2e}), positively impacting on the Council's 2030 emissions. A review of Waste Service has been completed and the fleet requirements determined. The roll out of food waste collections across the district will commence in 2026. Housing fleet options are still being assessed. Whilst the home charging trial is recognised as being successful, it is acknowledged that this option is not suitable for all employees.
- 9.3 Across the Council's housing estate the retrofit programme, funded in part by SHDF grants, is progressing. The final elements of Wave 2.2 are due to complete by January 2026 and work on the much larger Wave 3 scheme, spread across three years, starts in November 2025.

- 9.4 For the Council's General Fund property portfolio, a corporate asset management toolkit report was approved by Cabinet in July 2024, along with the procurement of a facility management system. Implementation of this new system is underway with a go live date in Q3 of 2025/26. Further work is required to assess the cost to decarbonise the General Fund property portfolio.
- 9.5 Working collectively under the Green Living Leicestershire partnership the Home Upgrade Grant 2 scheme continued to support improving the energy efficiency of off-gas properties. This will be followed by the launch of the Warm Homes Local Grant scheme in early 2026. The net Zero Guide was refreshed, developed to support Town and Parish Councils and community groups. Plans for an EV solar charging hub at Money Hill car park in Ashby are progressing and the Solar Together scheme 3 installations were completed.
- 9.6 The Year Five action plan and progress against each of the actions is set out in the Appendix.

10.0 YEAR SIX PLANS – Financial Year 2025/26

- 10.1 The key areas of focus continue to be on the Council's buildings and asset management plans and Housing vans replacement.
- 10.2 Further details of the plans for the remainder of 2025/26 are set out in the Appendix.
- 10.3 Progress updates are provided on a quarterly basis to both Corporate Scrutiny and Cabinet as part of the Corporate Delivery Plan monitoring.

10.4 No.	10.5 Sector	10.6 Action Plan Year 5 (2024/25)
10.7	10.8 Buildings	10.9
10.10 1	10.11 Housing	10.12 Develop an asset and investment plan for the Housing asset portfolio, including decarbonisation activity.
		10.13 Develop and deliver a retrofit programme, including decarbonisation improvements and exploration of grant funding applications opportunities
		10.14 Complete stock condition surveys, refresh EPCs (100% by June 2025) and build plan to achieve a minimum EPC rating of C by 2030 across the Housing portfolio.
		10.15 Develop new homes/new development standard aligned to the Council's zero carbon commitment and Decent Homes Standard 2 once published
		10.16 Develop an improvement and decarbonisation work programme for the Housing asset portfolio for budget cycle 26/27 and beyond, including measurement methodology and costs associated with achieving the Council's net zero carbon ambition.
10.17 2	10.18 Property	10.19 Develop and adopt a corporate assessment management toolkit.
		10.20 Procure and implement a Computer Aided Facility Management (CAFM) system to provide one stop view of all General Fund properties and the associated data, to support portfolio decision making, including zero carbon/decarbonisation activity.
		10.21 Explore opportunities to decarbonise General Fund asset portfolio linked to general maintenance activity.

		10.22	Develop an improvement and decarbonisation work programme for the General Fund asset portfolio for budget cycle 26/27 and beyond, including measurement methodology and costs associated with achieving the Council's net zero carbon ambition.
		10.23	Demonstrate how regeneration activity has considered zero carbon implications and biodiversity net gain within all projects.
10.24 3	10.25 Leisure Centres	10.26	Together with Everyone Active, continue to drive a reduction in emissions at the Leisure Centres, build the business case to install solar panels and explore funding opportunities to support delivery of energy and carbon reductions.
10.27 4	10.28 Private Sector	10.29	Together with Green Living Leicestershire partnership, deliver the Sustainable Warmth programme (LAD3 on-gas and HUG2 off-gas) to improve the efficiency of some of the worst energy efficient homes in the district.
10.30	10.31 Power	10.32	
10.33 5	10.34 Utilities	10.35	Develop building level utility usage reporting to identify opportunities to reduce utility consumption at council owned and operated buildings - across gas, electric and water.
10.36 6	10.37 Planning	10.38	Build the council's zero carbon ambition into the substantive review of the Local Plan including renewable energy and energy efficiency standards for new homes.
		10.39	Reflect the council's zero carbon ambitions in the Good Design Supplementary Planning Guidance refresh.
		10.40	Explore carbon offset options including opportunities for the council to be a biodiversity and carbon offset provider.
		10.41	Implement Biodiversity Net Gain legislation requirements and support the development of Local Nature Recovery Strategy (led by Leicestershire County Council) to increase the biodiversity of our district.
10.42 7	10.43 Solar Together	10.44	Support the delivery of the third Solar Together group buying scheme to assist householders and small businesses to install solar PV and battery storage.
10.45 8	10.46 Energy Switch	10.47	Refresh the contract and support the delivery of the Energy Switch group buying scheme to assist householders to switch to renewable energy.
10.48 9	10.49 Mine Water	10.50	Continue to explore mine water feasibility. (This technology could provide low carbon, low cost heat from water from dis-used mines underneath Coalville with the potential to feed the new Leisure Centre, Stephenson College and the Council offices.)
10.51	10.52 Waste	10.53	
10.54 10	10.55 Waste Services	10.56	As part of the Waste Services review, reflect all relevant actions from the Zero Carbon Roadmap and Action Plan.
		10.57	Continue with the food waste collection trials and prepare for legislative changes to roll out district-wide collections by April 2026.
10.58	10.59 Transport	10.60	
10.61 11	10.62 Fleet	10.63	Continue to roll out the Fleet Management Strategy, including fleet replacement and infrastructure as identified by the Waste Services review and Housing EV trial. Develop a plan for budget cycle 26/27 and beyond, including measurement methodology and costs associated with achieving the Council's net zero carbon ambition.

10.64 12	10.65 Cycling & Walking	10.66	Deliver the cycling & walking "quiet lane" improvements in Kegworth.
		10.67	Work with County to support the development of the NWL element of Leicestershire Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan with a view to being able to access Active Travel England funding to be able to deliver elements of NWL LCWIP.
		10.68	Develop local infrastructure plans and priorities to build connectivity improvements, as per the Cycling & Walking Plan.
10.69 13	10.70 EV charging	10.71	Support the Installation of a solar EV charging hub at Moneyhill car park, Ashby working with Green Living Leicestershire partnership and Midland Net Zero Hub.
		10.72	Explore EV charging opportunities across the council's property portfolio, including HRA.
10.73	10.74 Other	10.75	
10.76 14	10.77 Finance	10.78	Develop a "cost of net zero" plan for budget cycle 26/27 and beyond, including measurement methodology and costs associated with achieving the Council's net zero carbon ambition.
10.79 15	10.80 Procurement	10.81	Refresh the Procurement Strategy aligned with the Council's zero carbon ambition
10.82 16	10.83 Reporting	10.84	Establish approach to explore Scope 3 emissions (indirect, supply chain related) reporting, to shape the council's procurement policies and influence spend
10.85 17	10.86 Air Quality	10.87	Continue delivering air quality action plan
10.88 18	10.89 Biodiversity	10.90	Continue free tree scheme, planting trees and support communities with grants
		10.91	Continue to deliver elements of Hermitage Recreation Ground Eco Park and improve biodiversity working with the National Forest and Woodland Trust
		10.92	Develop Tree Management Strategy for the planting and management of the Council's tree stock.
10.93 19	10.94 Engagement	10.95	Work in conjunction with Green Living Leicestershire to develop district engagement opportunities.
10.96 20	10.97 Governance	10.98	Explore the Council's current baseline status against ISO14001 principles and draft a corporate Environmental Policy

11.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS – ZERO CARBON RESERVE

- 11.1 Each activity will be supported by a detailed business case to assess the affordability and deliverability of a potential project on a case-by-case basis. In addition, grants and funding options will be explored. At the Council meeting on 25 February 2020, a climate change reserve was established with an allocation of £1m, apportioned into £0.885m for revenue and £0.115m for capital.
- 11.2 The Zero Carbon Roadmap Financial Summary for Year Five (2024/25) is set out below showing cumulative spend against £1m initially allocated. Further capital spending has been agreed to be funded from the £0.885m revenue allocation:

Zero Carbon Reserve - Draft 24/25 Outturn & Budgets 25/26	TOTAL
Original Funding Allocation - Revenue	£885,000
Revenue used to fund Zero Carbon Capital Schemes	-£98,350
Total Revenue Project Funding	£786,650
<u>Revenue Projects - Actual Spend</u>	
Staffing	£303,736
Working Budget	£18,397
Food Waste Trial (Measham & Coalville)	£87,019
Fleet Strategy Consultants (57% contribution)	£12,284
Solar PV specification for Leisure Centre	£999
Total Expenditure	£422,435
<u>Revenue Projects - Budgeted</u>	
Staffing (25/26)	£75,970
Working Budget (25/26)	£10,020
Food Waste Trial (Measham & Coalville)	£18,981
Mine water Feasibility study	£50,000
District level resident/housing data	£10,000
Indirect emissions (Scope 3) evaluation	£15,000
Solar PV specification for Leisure Centre	£8,835
Development of works specification to decarbonise buildings portfolio	£20,000
EV charging location plans	£10,000
Biodiversity related activity	£20,000
Budgeted Expenditure	£238,806
Original Funding Allocation - CAPITAL	£115,000
External Funding - External Grant for EVCP (OLEV/EST)	£122,053
Capital Schemes Funded from Zero Carbon Reserve (Revenue)	£98,350
Total Capital Funding	£335,403
<u>Capital Projects - Actual Spend</u>	
Electric Vehicle Charging Points	£227,165
LED lighting for car parks (funded from revenue allocation)	£48,184
Solar PV specification for Leisure Centre (part funded from revenue allocation)	£166
Total Expenditure	£275,515
<u>Capital Projects - Budgeted</u>	
Electric Vehicle Charging Points	£9,888
EV charging infrastructure/strategy (funded from revenue allocation)	£50,000
Budgeted Expenditure	£59,888
Remaining Earmarked Reserve	£125,409

- 11.3 The Climate Change Programme Manager role is a permanent position. It was originally agreed by Cabinet in March 2020 that the role would be funded for three years from the Climate Change Reserve with the intention to then move it to standard staff budget. In practice, it is reviewed as part of the standard budget process and the

decision is taken annually as to where to fund the role from. To date, this has been the Climate Change Reserve.

12.0 RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 Risk Management will be a central consideration of each action's business case. Affordability will be a central concern as will the availability of technology that can deliver the required low emission solutions. Investment decisions, including for the Council's buildings portfolio and fleet, will follow the relevant Council's governance processes.
- 12.2 The achievement of net zero by 2030 for the Council's operations has been included in the Corporate Risk Register as a key risk.
- 12.3 Concerns include the lack of funding to achieve a net zero solution, reputational damage of not achieving the Council's commitment to net zero and recognition that delivering the district target of 2050 is beyond the Council's control.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	Developing a clean and green district
Policy Considerations:	Zero Carbon Roadmap and Action Plan Local Plan
Safeguarding:	N/A
Equalities/Diversity:	An impact assessment will need to be carried out as part of each project's business case as appropriate, as has been the case with the food waste trial.
Customer Impact:	Communities, council tax and businesses in the district will be engaged on the roll out of the programme, as with the net zero guide for parish councils and communities
Economic and Social Impact:	This will be a key aspect of each business case to assess not only the financial impact of intervention but the wider benefits.
Environment, Climate Change and zero carbon:	The adoption of the Zero Carbon Roadmap and associated Action Plan sets out the council's future approach to addressing the climate emergency.
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Communities and businesses will be engaged on the roll out of the programme.
Risks:	Covered under Section 12 of this report.
Officer Contact	Paul Sanders Head of Community Services paul.sanders@nwleicestershire.gov.uk