

## CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

### Executive Summary

The Council consulted on a new climate change strategy 'Woking Net Zero' between May - June 2023. This strategy was intended to replace 'Woking 2050' and set out our new ambitious targets for net zero across the Council's operations and the wider Borough. The strategy initially set out nine themes intended to target all sectors within the community and provide guidance on how the Council, residents and businesses should go greener and respond to the impact of climate change.

In June 2023 the Council issued a S114 notice, which led to difficult decisions being made and the restructure of services which are now focused on the delivery of our statutory duties. As a result of the restructure the actions set out within Woking Net Zero have been reviewed to ensure they remain within the Council's capacity and resources. Further consultation has occurred internally to consolidate feedback from officers on the proposed changes.

The following strategy (Appendix 1) being presented to Committee sets out a streamlined version of the Council's climate change interests and objectives to address. The modified strategy reflects the significant changes to the Council's services while also acknowledging the national targets for net zero set by central government through the Climate Change Act 2008.

The adoption of the revised strategy will demonstrate the Council's commitment to consider climate change within decision-making and strategic plans in the future.

### Recommendations

The Committee is requested to:

#### RESOLVE That

- (i) the Committee supports the Council's adoption of the strategy;
- (ii) the changes to the WBC Climate Change Strategy and key objectives be noted;
- (iii) the committee supports the final strategy and the Council's continued sustainable practices within the delivery of our statutory services; and
- (iv) the representations to the Climate Change Strategy consultation made between May - June 2023 are noted (Appendix 2a – 2b).

The Committee has the authority to determine the recommendations set out above.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	None.
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### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the revised climate change strategy to Committee following a report to Executive (13<sup>th</sup> June 2024) which provided an update and set out the intention to ensure that the revised climate change strategy would reflect the changes to service delivery following the S114 notice.

### 2.0 Background

- 2.1 The revised strategy largely follows the same format as the one which was consulted on last year, except there are now eight themes instead of nine which include: WBC's Journey to Net Zero, Energy, Waste, Water, Transport, Economy (Business and Supply Chains), the Natural Environment, and the Built Environment.
- 2.2 The strategy has been streamlined so that repetition across actions and guidance has been removed and focuses on the objectives the Council can do with current resources.
- 2.3 The strategy has been set out across each theme in a clearer format which features an introductory paragraph to provide context and occasionally facts on the Borough's performance, before listing objectives for the Council, residents and businesses to consider as the UK moves toward net zero in 2050.
- 2.4 The objectives set out within each theme are designed to be factored into decision-making processes and to serve as an aid to those within the Borough looking to make greener choices. For the Council, these objectives provide a framework to factor in climate change (and its impact) within the delivery of our statutory services.

### 3.0 Proposal

- 3.1 The process of streamlining the strategy has resulted in a set of objectives for the committee and Council to consider in terms of feasibility and deliverability. The following paragraphs provide a snapshot of what each theme is looking to achieve:
  - i. (Theme 1) WBC's Journey to Net Zero: the Council has a duty to demonstrate that climate change has been factored into decision-making. To do this we need to review our current organisational procedures and assess how to embed the principles of net zero within them. This extends to our communication with staff and the local community on the important of making sustainable choices and also in lobbying government for higher standards within national policy.
  - ii. (Theme 2) Energy: the cost-of-living crisis is just one of a few recent events which has placed energy at the forefront of people's minds. The Council will remain committed to ensuring owned buildings perform efficiently and will continue to work through Action Surrey/Thamesway to enable residents to access advice and opportunities to reduce their energy consumption.
  - iii. (Theme 3) Waste: contributing towards a circular economy is key to making sustainable choices for everyone within the Borough. Through reviewing our current procurement processes and communicating / signposting advice to staff and residents, the Council will continue to reduce the amount of waste generated across the Borough.
  - iv. (Theme 4) Water: the Council will report on the water efficiency of owned buildings and ensure guidance (such as planning policy) continues to be updated according to changes in building regulations. We will also continue to work with environmental bodies to protect the water quality, ecology and habitat of water infrastructure within the Borough. This includes mitigating against the impact of flooding.

- v. (Theme 5) Transport: the Council will continue to work in collaboration with Surrey County Council, as the lead transport authority, to promote active travel and support the network to connect services and communities through sustainable transport modes.
- vi. (Theme 6) Economy, Business and Supply Chains: we will signpost to opportunities for local businesses to help them to make sustainable choices. Additionally, the Council will consider internally how emergency and continuity plans will address climate change and seek to minimise associated risks.
- vii. (Theme 7) The Natural Environment: where there is opportunity to do so, such as through the planning process, the Council will continue to collaborate with partner organisations/groups to support projects to enhance and conserve habitat and wildlife. We will also continue to perform our statutory duties to protect the health of the environment and monitor air quality.
- viii. (Theme 8) The Built Environment: improving the energy efficiency of buildings, both owned by the Council and across the Borough, is vitally important in reducing carbon emissions. To do this we will signpost to advice and update Council guidance accordingly.

### **4.0 Purpose and Outcome**

- 4.1 The committee is asked to recommend the strategy to Exec for adoption to enable the Council to continue to deliver on its commitments to demonstrate mitigating / adapting against the impact of climate change.
- 4.2 The strategy, once adopted, will provide a basis to embed sustainable decision-making within strategic plans in the future, and ensure that climate change remains a consideration irrespective of changes to the Council's services.

### **5.0 Process**

- 5.1 As mentioned above a version of the climate change strategy went to public consultation last year. Since then, there have been several changes to the Council which have meant that version is no longer deliverable.

### **6.0 Decision Type**

- 6.1 The climate change strategy and its forthcoming adoption is a key decision for members to consider. The objectives within the strategy detail what the Council will need to commit towards doing and delivering within its statutory duties. Every department across the Council has a duty to consider the impact of climate change on service delivery. Decision-making must consider the adoption of more sustainable practices so that future generations are not left disadvantaged.
- 6.2 The ambition is for the strategy to be approved for adoption later in the year once approved by Exec. Upon adoption, the strategy will be published on the Council's website in a clear and accessible format for the public to access.

### **7.0 Implications**

#### Legal

- 7.1 Under the Climate Change Act 2008 local authorities are required to demonstrate how strategic plans have considered the impact of climate change. Additionally central government has committed to net zero across all sectors by 2050.

### Resources (including finance)

- 7.2 The Council has reviewed the revised Climate Change Strategy to reflect the changes imposed by the S114 notice issued in June 2023. The financial implications of adopting the strategy have been considered and agreed by senior management.

### Equalities and Diversity

- 7.3 There are no equalities or human resources implications associated with this report. The purpose of the strategy is to engage with everyone within the Borough and support greener choices which help to mitigate against the impact of climate change.

### Risk (Corporate Governance)

- 7.4 There are no risk implications to consider, however without the adoption of the strategy future decision-making may fail to acknowledge the risks associated with climate change.

### Scrutiny

- 7.5 At this stage the purpose of presenting the strategy to O&S is to allow members the opportunity to review the strategy in its most recent form following both public consultation and the subsequent S114 notice.

### Decision Scope

- 7.6 The committee is asked to recommend the strategy to Exec and approve for adoption later this year.

## **8.0 Engagement and Consultation**

- 8.1 A six-week public consultation took place between 18 May and 30 June 2023. Residents and stakeholders were invited to review the strategy and feedback their views online via the Woking Net Zero hub on the Woking Community Forum.
- 8.2 The consultation ran in parallel with the Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which was subsequently adopted in November 2023. Consultation on both the SPD and Strategy was part of a wider Net Zero engagement plan which included the delivery of workshops and advertising material being used.
- 8.3 Further public consultation is not deemed necessary. The changes within the strategy retain the key messages and actions of the consultation document, but within the context of our statutory services and the Council's current resources.

REPORT ENDS





## Woking Climate Change Strategy

A Vision for a Net Zero Borough

*August 2024*

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## 1. Introduction

Climate change affects every aspect of our lives from the weather we experience to the food we eat. It is vital that actions are taken by all sectors of the community now so that future generations are not disadvantaged, and we can continue to protect the earth from the impact of human activity.

Woking Borough Council is currently facing financial difficulties which has limited the capacity for work that is non-statutory. Under the Climate Change Act 2008, local government is not required to monitor or report on statutory climate change targets. It does however set the legally binding target for central government to be net zero by 2050 across all sectors.

As a local authority the Council plays an important role in supporting climate action on a local-scale and communicating with groups on the need to take action and reduce their impact on the environment. Although there is no statutory duty, the Council must still demonstrate within its strategic plans a consideration for the wider impact of climate change. Therefore, within our statutory services we will continue to factor in climate change and promote sustainable practice as outlined within our objectives below.

The following activities offer a snapshot of what the Council has done to progress the climate change agenda:

- The Council's biodiversity and green infrastructure strategy and guidance – Natural Woking – was adopted in 2016;
- In July 2019, the Council declared a climate and ecological emergency pledging to become net zero by 2030 across its own estate and operations, and by 2050 (or sooner) across the wider Borough;
- A Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) was adopted in February 2020 setting out a range of priority actions in furtherance of the declaration;
- The Council's climate change and biodiversity communications campaign, Planet Woking, was launched in September 2020;
- May 2022 saw the new political administration confirm climate change within its top three priorities;
- The Council's Woking for All corporate strategy (adopted in 2022) includes a core 'greener communities' theme, acknowledging the commitment to climate change action by the local authority and in its role as a key influencer and enabler for engagement by others;

## Key Actions:

In order to progress our net zero ambitions, the strategy proposes key actions to reduce our environmental footprint at both the corporate and Borough level, as follows:

- Optimising energy efficiency and decarbonising energy supplies;
- Promoting and facilitating positive sustainable behaviours for the benefit of our environment and communities;
- Conserving resources by continuing to move away from unsustainable consumption and waste generation;
- Support the continuing transition to sustainable modes of transport away from fossil fuel powered vehicles;
- Balancing growth and prosperity with sustainable development and habitat conservation.

## 2. Working towards a Net Zero Woking

This strategy sets out our priorities across the following eight themes:

- ❖ Woking Borough Council’s Journey to Net Zero
- ❖ Energy
- ❖ Waste
- ❖ Water
- ❖ Transport
- ❖ Economy, Business and Supply Chains
- ❖ The Natural Environment
- ❖ The Built Environment

In alignment with the national target for all sectors of the economy to be net zero by 2050<sup>1</sup>, these chapters are designed to engage with all communities within Woking by providing actions for them to consider as we all look towards achieving net zero. So, whether you work, live or are visitors to the Borough, ultimately, we can all help to achieve our shared goals to the benefit of the earth.

### Guiding Principles:

Beyond our net zero objectives are a set of guiding principles for the future of our Borough which were agreed in our previous strategy and remain relevant now. For the benefit of all, we want a Borough:

- ...that protects and enhances its high-quality natural environment;
- ...where resources are used wisely, and biodiversity is conserved;
- ...that has a built environment that is developed sustainably, which meets local needs and enables the local economy to prosper; **and**
- ...that recognises, prepares and adapts to the socio-economic; environment and demographic changes that the future will bring.

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<sup>1</sup> DESNZ and DBEIS. (2023) [Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener](#).

### 3. How we're tackling climate change locally

This strategy reaffirms our commitments to hold climate change at the heart of our activities. The nature of our earlier declaration and continuing work is such that many activities are cross-service and involve inter-departmental working. All Council activities and services have an important part to play in reducing its overall climate impact. The need for cross-service collaboration is vital and fundamental to achieve our goals.

Many activities and projects continue to be made possible through working together with key stakeholders, commercial partners and volunteer organisations to meet our shared environmental goals. These activities are key to achieving net zero both across the council estate and Borough wide. Our continuing collaboration with organisations such as ThamesWey, Action Surrey, Woking Environment Action, Woking Chamber, Surrey Heathland Partnership and Surrey Wildlife Trust (amongst others) is highlighted throughout this strategy.

There are clear synergies between the Council's own climate commitments and those of our neighbouring districts and Boroughs; and Surrey County Council's own Greener Futures Climate Change Delivery Programme. The Council will continue to collaborate with these key stakeholders through partnership working in order to contribute towards wider county-level ambitions to reduce our carbon footprint.

It is important to note that our ability to engage with partners will be driven through the delivery of our statutory services. This means that we will consider climate change where there is opportunity to do so. Within the objectives outlined below the strategy will reference the need to engage with partners where we must consider sustainable practice through our services.

#### 4. Theme: Woking Borough Council's Journey to Net Zero

The Woking for All Strategy (2022 – 2027) sets out strategic objectives for our staff, residents, partners and businesses to follow. These objectives centre on four overarching themes including 'Greener communities' which presents outcomes focused on the delivery of sustainable communities across the economy, living standards and leadership. This cements our drive as a Council to support Woking residents and businesses to be greener and more sustainable.

National economic challenges and the cost-of-living crisis means that our residents and businesses are experiencing additional pressures which can diminish intentions to go greener and live more sustainably. Although the Council is working with less resources, the commitment to our climate change objectives within this strategy remain a priority and will be monitored/reported on as services are reviewed and a new local plan is developed.

Our circumstances require us to maximise delivery against our climate ambitions via externally funded opportunities and, as reiterated throughout this document, partnership working will be vitally important moving forward.

Climate change is not an isolated challenge but a global issue that has the potential to damage the earth beyond repair unless we all act collaboratively as communities to install change. The goal is that the objectives set out below, and under each theme, will enable us to do this and meet the national target of net zero across the Borough by 2050.

##### **Objectives:**

##### **4.1. Continue to embed climate change in WBC organisational procedures, governance, policies, and decision-making.**

It is important that staff at the Council recognise the significant influence climate change has on the lives of residents. Through reviewing our internal procedures, we can identify and address where training is needed, or guidance must be strengthened to reaffirm the objectives of this strategy.

##### **4.2. Ensure that the emerging revisions to the Council's procurement policies accounts for the climate impact of all our contracts and services.**

This feeds into the Council's ongoing review of services including the way we procure work from other suppliers. Through this strategy and service redesign we will focus our procedures on increasing efficiency and reducing risk from climate related factors.

##### **4.3. Consider how the plan will net zero by 2050 (or sooner).**

Reporting and monitoring on our climate change progress will allow the Council to identify where services may be failing to consider the impact of climate change. These results will be formalised within reports such as the annual monitoring strategy which reports on the success of our adopted local plan policies.

**4.4. Continue to lobby to national government for changes in policy and funding.**

Councils play an important role, on behalf of the local population, in advocating to central government for higher national standards. We will liaise with our partners and collate strong responses to changes proposed by government which weaken considerations for climate change.

**4.5. Continue to communicate on climate change to our staff and councillors.**

We will organise carbon and climate literacy training for staff and councillors to improve conceptions around climate change and instil the principles and benefits of net zero in the workplace and at home.

**4.6. Work with community groups and local stakeholders to identify opportunities for green volunteering.**

Climate change cannot be addressed by the Council alone, we need every sector within society to consider their impact on the earth and take action to mitigate and adapt. The Council will work in partnership to take action and lead their communities towards a more sustainable future. These might be community-based energy projects which enable communities to generate, use, own and save on their own energy usage.

**4.7. Work with partners such as the Surrey Local Resilience Forum to strengthen our preparedness, resilience and collective response to disaster and emergency management in the face of a changing climate.**

Climate change impacts us in the present, but it also poses a significant risk for the future. The Council has a duty to plan ahead for any risk imposed by climate change in order to safeguard the future of those living or working in Woking. It is key that Council services are able to consider and identify the impact of climate change and how that may affect service delivery.

## 5. Theme: Energy

Energy use is the largest contributor to our Borough's carbon footprint across the industrial, commercial, public and domestic sectors. Combined, electricity and gas use equate to almost 58% of the total footprint<sup>2</sup>. We rely on energy to heat, power and light our homes and businesses. Although renewables now contribute in large part to the UK's energy supply mix ([circa 60%](#)), we do still have a dependence on fossil fuels, particularly on gas for heating. In order to support local and national net zero goals, we need to support the transition to a fossil fuel free energy model. We can do this by reducing energy demand; investing in energy efficiency; electrifying heating and cooling; and continuing to support and invest in renewable energy generation. By making changes to how we use energy we can all make a difference to the sustainability and carbon footprint of the Borough.

### Objectives:

**5.1. Assess the Council's performance across all departments against achieving a carbon neutral position.**

Climate change is considered a golden thread which runs through the Council's activities. In meeting the national target of net zero by 2050 we will continue to ensure our services identify opportunities for carbon reduction and monitor output through our regulatory services and through the development of new local plan policies.

**5.2. Optimise and improve the energy performance of Council owned properties (commercial and housing).**

Through funding and other schemes we will continue to reduce the climate impact of all Council owned buildings through planned retrofit and maintenance (i.e., improving average EPC rating). Where buildings are not connected to the Town Centre decentralised energy network we will ensure they only operate on a renewable electricity tariff.

**5.3. Support and facilitate the decarbonisation of our energy networks in line with ThamesWey Business Plan objectives.**

We will continue to work with Thameswey to support investment in local renewable energy sources and comply with the national target to decarbonise the grid by 2035<sup>3</sup>. The energy centre plays a key role for the Council in ensuring development provides more cost-effective and sustainable energy. Current local plan policy supports investment into the DENs across Woking and outlines requirements for developers to connect or be connection ready if in proximity<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> Source: [UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics \(ktCO<sub>2</sub>e\)](#) – published by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) 30 June 2022

<sup>3</sup> BEIS. (2023) [Plans unveiled to decarbonise UK power system by 2035](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Climate Change SPD - Woking 2027](#)

**5.4. Support local residents and businesses to reduce their energy use and signpost to the advice provided by Action Surrey to enable everyone to make energy and water savings.**

Through our partnership working with Action Surrey we will advocate for residents to receive energy advice and grant funding to reduce fuel poverty.



## 6. Theme: Waste

Reduce, reuse, recycle – the old adage still rings true. Reducing the amount of waste we all produce is one of the most effective ways of reducing emissions. We can all rethink our approach to waste. Many of the items we throw away have not reached the end of their useful life. Landfill sites are fast filling up, and combined with the resulting greenhouse gases they create, the way we treat waste needs to be re-evaluated. Furthermore, local projected population growth and additional homes will result in increased pressure to local waste collection and disposal services magnifying the environmental impacts. Now, more than ever, its important we all look to reduce our waste and recycle in the right places to avoid contamination.

### Objections:

**6.1. Reduce the amount of waste generated by the Council across its own estate and operations.**

Through training initiatives, the Council will encourage all staff to consider how they can reduce waste while working and at home.

**6.2. Raise awareness on the principles of waste reduction through behaviour change initiatives for staff and by identifying waste streams.**

We will identify waste streams across the Council estate to establish where they can be reduced. For example, recycling office equipment, improving recycling facilities in leased properties, and advocating for tenants to follow the waste hierarchy. We will also promote local waste and recycling schemes to reduce consumption; reduce household residual waste and increase recycling rates.

**6.3. Communicate advice and support to local businesses and residents on reducing waste and enhancing recycling through partnerships such as Woking Chamber of Commerce.**

We will encourage use of reuse and preloved schemes and shops such as the Woking Community Furniture Project, charity outlets, Freegle, Vinted and others.

**6.4. Demonstrate our commitment to resources management and waste prevention through corporate actions and procurement processes.**

The Council's review of current procurement and management processes provides an opportunity to embed sustainability within the Council's operations.

**6.5. Continue to provide advice on waste management to owners and operators of food premises as part of routine inspections conducted by Environmental Health Food Officers.**

Safeguarding the health and wellbeing of those in Woking remains a priority of the Council and we will continue to perform our statutory duties to protect the health of the environment.

**6.6. Continue to enforce penalties on those who commit waste crimes, such as littering and fly tipping.**

The Council maintains a duty to protect the natural environment from the damage caused by waste when not disposed of correctly and is committed to ensuring those guilty of waste crimes are penalised.

**6.7. Commit to implement the government's Resources and Waste Strategy, SEP 2025 Strategy and Surrey's Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.**

The Council will work collaboratively with the Surrey Environment Partnership (SEP) to progress the 2025 targets and through our contracts with Joint Waste Solutions/SEP ensure alignment with our shared net zero goals. We will also remain committed to lobby the government to increase the availability of recycling streams for residents and businesses.

## 7. Theme: Water

The objective(s) of this theme looks at water as a precious resource to conserve and protect, particularly in terms of its efficient use and availability. It also considers water in the context of climate adaptation and the consequences of drought and flooding. With the predicted rise in extreme weather events so will our need to adapt to increases in intensity and frequency of local flood events and extreme heat.

We can all change our approach to water to use it more efficiently and better protect ourselves from water scarcity and flooding. Population growth and increased demand on utilities and infrastructure, combined with the effects of climate change will cause increasing pressure on this already precious resource affecting future water availability. Likewise, our ageing buildings and infrastructure that were designed for a cooler climate and less extremes highlight the need for greater adaptation and resilience.

### Objectives:

#### 7.1. Establish monitoring and targets for reduced water consumption in Council owned buildings.

In order to demonstrate progress, we will ensure outputs are recorded and monitored. Ensuring the Council makes efficient use of water resource is a priority which will be addressed and enforced across the whole organisation and through training initiatives.

#### 7.2. Continue to work in partnership with others to improve the water quality and ecology of watercourses, water channels, tributaries, and their associated habitats in the Borough.

Several of the main water channels<sup>5</sup> are designated special protections which ensure any potential harm is mitigated or avoided. Through our relationships with statutory bodies (e.g., the Environment Agency) we will endeavour to monitor and facilitate their conservation and improvement.

#### 7.3. Continue to monitor and update planning policy to ensure all types of development implement utilise water efficient devices which reduce water demand and introduce water recycling measures.

Guidance will continue to be updated to align with national policy and building regulations to ensure that properties within the Borough are performing efficiently and make best use of water.

#### 7.4. Continue to work with partners to implement flood risk management and alleviation activities to mitigate against flood risk and reduce the impact of flooding on the natural and built environment across the Borough.

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<sup>5</sup> (i.e., the River Wey, Hoe Stream, the Basingstoke Canal, River Bourne and The Wey Navigation)

Climate change increases flood risk and the Council will continue to promote opportunities to reduce risk and protect the natural and built environment against potential flooding.

**7.5. Support the incorporation of drought tolerant planting in public and green spaces to reduce watering requirements where appropriate.**

Through planning guidance, the Council will advocate for all development to mitigate against surface water flooding and drought through the inclusion of suitable planning and green features.

## 8. Theme: Transport

As a largely fossil fuel-based sector, transport is a major contributor to air pollution and generates a variety of emissions that have a detrimental impact on the climate, our health and our environment. Transport accounts for almost a third of Woking Borough's carbon footprint (source Local Authority territorial greenhouse gas emissions estimates 2020 (kt CO2e), BEIS, published June 2022).

Decarbonising transport offers a fundamental way to cut carbon emissions. Other linked pollutants include nitrous oxides and particulate matter which can severely impact air quality and are linked to health concerns and respiratory diseases. Poor air quality can also adversely affect our wildlife and habitats.

Whether you live here, work here or are a visitor, we want getting around in Woking to be easy while also contributing to and maintaining a cleaner, greener Borough. We hope that walking, cycling and public transport will be the first choice for short trips. Not only does this benefit local air quality and carbon emissions, but there are clear health and well-being advantages of "active travel". We can make positive changes to the sustainability of the Borough by adopting greener modes of transport.

### Objectives:

**8.1. Continue to work with partners to provide an integrated transport system that connects communities to local services and promotes healthy and sustainable transport methods.**

To enable Woking to develop sustainably it is vital that transport services respond to the needs of our residents and the services they use. For instance, we will facilitate and promote links between health partners and local agencies to enable health and wellbeing benefits through initiatives such as active travel GP prescribing.

**8.2. Continue to promote and encourage all modes of sustainable transport and active travel amongst those working and living in Woking.**

Active travel has wider reached benefits including improving the health and wellbeing of the public. It is important that the Council continues to signpost to best practice and supports the implementation/management of recreational spaces (e.g., secure bike storage). To do this we will continue to improve and expand the existing cycle network with our partners and increase the number of local cycle journeys made in the Borough.

**8.3. Promote and expand usage of the electric charging infrastructure in Woking.**

The Council remains committed towards working with partners to deliver electric vehicle (EV) charging points in publicly owned locations and expanding EV charging infrastructure.

**8.4. Continue to monitor air quality throughout the Borough, reporting annually to DEFRA and declaring Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) where necessary.**

This enables the Council to ensure compliance with Air Quality Local Government Objectives, and where these are not met, identify actions to reduce pollution to safe levels.

## 9. Theme: Economy, Business and Supply Chains

A prospering community is one of the key themes behind the Council's Woking for All Strategy. The ambition is a Borough of opportunity benefitting from new technology; a strong and sustainable economy; and a destination with a strong case for infrastructure investment.

Commerce and industry accounts for 32% of Woking Borough's carbon footprint (source Local Authority territorial greenhouse gas emissions estimates 2020 (kt CO<sub>2</sub>e), BEIS, published June 2022).

This theme looks at how local companies can incorporate sustainability into their business. Reducing energy and water consumption; enhancing waste and recycling initiatives; promoting sustainable travel; incorporating sustainable procurement practices; and adapting to climate change can all make a positive difference – not only to the sustainability objectives for the Borough, but also economically for a business.

Our aim is to create a dynamic Borough that is a hub for business growth but one that also helps local businesses to play their part in contributing to a sustainable Woking and the transition to a net zero economy.

### Objectives:

- 9.1. **Communicate information on grant funding and resources (i.e., carbon reduction. Energy efficiency) to local businesses (i.e., SMEs) and the community.**  
We will signpost to advice and opportunities for local businesses to support them on the journey to become net zero.
- 9.2. **Deliver actions within the Council's own Digital Strategy to support improved sustainability across services.**  
The Digital Strategy<sup>6</sup> sets out several areas to improve performance efficiency across the Council's operations and more widely across the Borough's digital infrastructure. The outcomes of that strategy will continue to be considered adjacent to our net zero objectives.
- 9.3. **Promote sustainability good practice amongst local businesses and signposting to support networks in line with the objectives of the Economic Development Action Plan.**  
We will work with our partners, networks and working groups to ensure businesses are supported to make sustainable decisions and reduce their carbon emissions.
- 9.4. **Install software to proactively manage corporate energy consumption and identify measures for improved efficiency.**

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<sup>6</sup> [Digital Strategy 2022 to 2025 | Woking Borough Council](#)

This feeds into the review of the Council's services which currently provides an opportunity to reduce waste, identify inefficiencies and improve the overall performance on our digital platforms.

**9.5. Ensure our emergency and business continuity plans address climate adaptation and projected local impacts and risks.**

Net zero ambitions will be front and centre so that any areas of risk are identified appropriately, and local businesses can continue to operate safely and sustainably in the long-term.



## 10. Theme: The Natural Environment

This chapter promotes and celebrates our diverse countryside and urban environments. We want to enhance accessibility to our natural habitats and wildlife, where appropriate, and promote the benefits that enjoying the great outdoors can bring including to our own health and well-being. We also recognise the need for ensuring biodiversity security and protection so that future generations can benefit and the importance of working in partnership to achieve these aims. Woking Borough Council is committed to supporting our local flora and fauna and the diverse environments these call home. Protecting biodiversity is one of our key objectives – playing our part locally to help reverse its global decline and address climate change.

### Objectives:

**10.1. Work with partner organisations / groups to implement and support wildlife and species protection projects.**

Working collaboratively is key to ensuring we can efficiently address the significant decline in nature across the UK. It is important that we work together so that our goals are shared, and we can meet the needs of wildlife and people across Woking and the wider County area.

**10.2. Through the planning process ensure the enhancement and conservation of habitat and wildlife.**

Planning policy and guidance will continue to be updated to reflect changes in national guidance and best practice. The emerging local plan will consider the implications of biodiversity net gain for local policy. The Council will also address the new biodiversity duties and implement measures to ensure biodiversity is monitored and reported on efficiently. Additionally, through consultations with government and other authorities we will continue to advocate and raise awareness for the need for biodiversity conservation and enhancement.

**10.3. Promote the use of the Borough's green spaces for sport, recreation and social interaction and the benefits this can bring to health and well-being.**

To do this we will work with partners to protect our green spaces and habitats in the face of challenges brought about by climate change, drought, heat and flood tolerant planting.

**10.4. Ensure our services continue to fulfil our statutory duties to protect environmental health.**

This means continuing to monitor and review local air quality in line with Government based health standards, and penalising those who commit environmental crimes, such as fly tipping and the unlawful burning of waste. Additionally, we will work towards minimising pesticide use and consider non-chemical alternatives where cost effective.

**10.5. Continue to seek out opportunities for nature-based solutions (NBS) such as habitat conservation and creation to support our climate change and biodiversity goals.**

This is fundamental to our climate and ecological declaration and will be considered across all services provided by the Council. Planning will continue to advocate for the inclusion NBS across national guidance and policy.

## 11. Theme: The Built Environment

Where we live, work, shop and socialise plus the infrastructure and facilities that connect us. As stated in the UK Climate Change Committee’s 2021 Report to Parliament Progress in adapting to climate change, “The vast majority of people in England live in built-up areas, with about 92% of the population living in cities and towns. The built environment therefore has a strong influence on how climate change will impact upon people and communities”.

The UK has the oldest buildings stock in Europe and buildings (residential, public and commercial)<sup>7</sup> remain the UK’s second highest-emitting sector<sup>8</sup>. Therefore, how we manage and retrofit existing buildings to ensure they are safe and comfortable for people is also a priority of the Council and the objectives below reflect this.

We are living through a housing crisis and significant considerations should be given to new buildings that are developed alongside the infrastructure that is needed to support sustainable communities. There are several regulatory systems which are directly managed by the Council (namely planning and building control). As national policy and regulation look towards increasing the standard and efficiency of new buildings the Council will continue to ensure our objectives and services perform our duties under the Climate Change Act 2008 and demonstrate a commitment to mitigate and adapt against the effects of climate change.

### Objectives:

#### **11.1. Continue to work with landlords to improve the energy efficiency of private sector rented accommodation.**

As we look to improve the performance of residential properties across Woking and reduce fuel poverty, we will engage with landlords with our partners, and signpost to funding opportunities and guidance to improve building performance.

#### **11.2. Ensure emerging planning policy and guidance has regard to the need for energy efficiency and climate positive development.**

The Council is anticipating changes in national policy (e.g., Future Homes Standard, Heat Network Zoning), and as a new local plan emerges, these updates will be consolidated into local policy. We will continue to engage with government and our partners through consultation and push for higher efficiency standards that contribute towards achieving sustainable communities.

#### **11.3. Collaborate with Surrey County Council on its Surrey Adapt strategy and action plan to build resilient people, places and partnerships in the local area.**

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<sup>7</sup> Surface transport was reported as the highest emitting sector ([Climate Change Committee, 2023](#))

<sup>8</sup> Around 40% of existing homes are reported to be built before 1944 ([MHCLG, 2023](#))

To ensure the wider implications of climate change are addressed, we will continue to feed into SCC's reporting of climate change, which consolidates the outputs from all local authorities within Surrey and provides a snapshot of progress so far.

**11.4. Enable and support buildings to adapt and mitigate against the challenges of climate change.**

The Council will support measures, such as urban greening and NBS, which have social, environmental, and economic benefits and promote sustainable development.

## 12. Conclusion

Our objectives are clear, from now we need to ensure climate change is factored into the decisions made by the Council and in how we deliver our statutory duties. This does not mean backtracking on our previous commitments but instead recognising that the circumstances of the Council have changed. To move forward this strategy cements our commitment to climate change and provides a stepping stone for further action.

Our commitment is longstanding, demonstrated by our early work on energy efficiency and climate change dating back to the late 1990s and early 2000s. This has been strengthened and reaffirmed in recent years by the pledges made through our climate and ecological emergency declaration, continuing local action and our steadfast political and corporate priorities.

However, the scale of the challenge requires that this momentum not only continues but accelerates in order to reach zero carbon in less than seven years. And for our wider Borough, we will need to rally support of the community to secure that area wide goal for the benefit of all.

This is set in the backdrop of huge financial and inflationary pressures facing households, businesses and of course, the public sector. However, what we know is that tackling climate change cannot be pitched head-to-head against other issues and shouldn't be a binary choice. The co-benefits of environmental action for the economy, for health and wellbeing and for the community are more pressing than ever.

There's no doubt that zero carbon will be challenging. However, we are in a strong position and clearer than ever what needs to be done to leverage much needed carbon reductions. Ongoing collaborative working plus the identification of vital external and innovative funding mechanisms will continue to be crucial to this agenda.

And by working together to make changes to the way we live and work, no matter how small, we can all make a positive difference.



	Theme	Do you agree with this theme's objectives?	Do you support the actions the council plans to take?	What else could we be doing?	What actions will you take?	Do you agree with the nine suggested themes? (Applies to Our Vision theme only)	Do you agree with the two overarching objectives proposed? (Applies to Our Vision theme only)	Do you agree with our guiding principles? (Applies to Our Vision theme only)	What else should we be thinking about? (Applies to Our Vision theme only)
1	Our vision					Yes	Yes	Yes	
2	Our vision					To some extent	Yes	Yes	
3	Our vision					To some extent	Yes	Yes	
4	Our vision					To some extent	Yes	Yes	n/a
5	Our vision					Yes	Yes	Yes	All fine
6	Our vision					No	No	No	Woking council can't afford net zero and the changes made will have NO IMPACT globally. We need to be focused on creating a strong economy in Woking that's open for business and creates jobs and brings people to Woking.
7	Our vision					No	No	No	Net zero comes at a financial cost which is unnecessary at this time.
8	Our vision					Yes	Yes	Yes	I think there are too many cars on the road and people should use public transport more. But I think the council do a good job of looking after our borough. The verges could do with a trim and the pavements are sometimes bumpy but you can't do everything with limited budgets.
9	Our vision					Yes	Yes	Yes	Infrastructure - roads, schools, transport, health services to be developed before housing schemes undertaken. Cycling and walking are not feasible alternatives for people with limited mobility/physical capabilities or for those with complex lifestyles where there are insufficient hours in the day to get everything done.
10	Our vision					Yes	Yes	Yes	n/a
11	Our vision					Yes	Yes	Yes	The present financial crisis the Council is in and the attitudes of the public to these targets.
12	Our vision					Yes	Yes	Yes	Moving to net zero more quickly, time is fast running out. Be more radical, regulations should be enforceable to show that you are serious. Why are people still allowed to completely pave over their front gardens? Net zero should be in place before 2045 not later.
13	Our vision					Yes	Yes	Yes	Bringing the move to Zero Emissions forward. Bringing in Regulations for individuals as well as organisations to change their habits that are enforceable with meaningful financial penalties. For example regulations to prevent people from paving over their front gardens to provide parking instead of using an alternative such as gravel that allows rainwater to soak into the ground and having lighting in buildings at night that are not being used.
14	Our vision					Yes	Yes	Yes	I agree with the 9 themes and am pleased to see the inclusion of the wider carbon/environmental impacts/activities/opportunities, including waste; water; economy and business; the natural environment; communicating and enabling change and the built environment, as well as the direct carbon impacts from energy and transport. This is a comprehensive and informative document which reads like a 'sustainability handbook'. I only hope that Woking's Climate Change Strategy survives the spending cuts which will inevitably occur as a result of Woking BC's challenging financial circumstances.
15	Our vision					Yes	To some extent	Yes	WEAct strongly believes that Woking should aspire to become a Net-Zero council by 2045. This would bring us in line with Surrey as a whole (as Surrey County Council has signed up). We recognise the difficult financial position that the council is in, therefore the council should look at ways to mobilise private investment (i.e. green finance) to solve some of the issues that it is clear that public sector or local stakeholders are not able to fund. E.g. as has happened in Bristol: Bristol City Leap and is being planned in Coventry - 'Coventry seeks strategic energy partner in £2bn contract to make city net zero'   New Civil Engineer. There is currently no mention of how the council is using data to support their decision-making or how they will measure and monitor. Understanding at a local geospatial level where the biggest demands are or the biggest opportunities to rapidly scale-up solutions can help make resource constraints go further. This is a good example: Bristol's carbon emissions - Bristol Climate Hub.
16	Our vision					To some extent	To some extent	To some extent	Become a member of UK100: show commitment to Net Zero and work with other elected leaders, sharing knowledge and best practice
17	Our vision					To some extent	To some extent	To some extent	Could the vision reference key unique features to Woking council area that are potentially very relevant (e.g. to transport; landscape character; natural value; etc.), such as: - Basingstoke Canal (and river Wey) - Green Belt - multiple areas of ecological designation, and natural beauty - M25 (and proximity to Heathrow airport in particular) - key public transport infrastructure corridors - esp. railways
18	Our vision					To some extent	To some extent	To some extent	The 9 suggested themes could include Food (how we become more self-sufficient / source more locally; how we reduce the carbon footprint) - Objective 2 should clearly align with 2045 to be consistent with other UK100 ambitious councils - the overarching Vision could be more "exciting" and "bold". It should explicitly recognise the urgency, and the potential of the UK (and of Woking within the UK) to play a leading role in the transition to Net Zero (recognising our history of carbon usage; our relative wealth; and our leadership position over recent decades). To this extent, it could seek to feature some large & bold schemes / project ideas - including those of a visual nature - the guiding principles talk about adaptation but could reference building "resilience" (subtly but importantly different definition) - there is good reference to "protect and enhance" - could it reference alternative phrases with some meaning, such as an aim to be "restorative" or "regenerative"?
19	Our vision					No	No	No	Making agencies accountable and ensuring they follow through in their responsibilities
20	Our vision					No	No	No	
21	Our vision					Yes	To some extent	Yes	The Target of 2050 should be reduced to 2045 this recognises the emergency that we are in, and is the target adopted by other Councils including Surrey County Council

22	Our vision					No	Yes	Yes	Your strategy lacks focus and specific targets. The biggest area of emissions is Domestic - and that is mostly Domestic Gas. You should put much stricter targets on how much you are going to reduce this by - annual - on how many houses you are going to target to move off gas and get houses better insulated and able to cope with future climate. If this is a net zero strategy then you should be laser focused on how you achieve this. I am a huge supporter of looking after the environment, worrying about biodiversity, clean water etc. But this strategy is supposed to be about getting to net zero - not all the other stuff - they can be covered in other strategies and other documents and they are of course linked but getting everyone to net zero is going to be incredibly difficult and I think you need to be much more focussed on that rather than covering so many areas. Key themes should be Energy (Domestic & Industry/Commercial), Transport and Behaviour Change - cut it down to 3 themes and get really focussed. Under energy you could include all the aspects of how buildings use energy. People can remember 3 things they can't remember 9. Waste is only 2.8% of the issue so cover that separately, it's not going to be a huge influence on reaching net zero and misleads people - they think putting a few things in for recycling makes a big difference - it helps but is not the big issue. The big issues are energy use and transport - get people to really focus on those 2 things.
23	Energy	Yes	Yes	Solar panels compulsory on all new build houses and offices					
24	Energy	Yes	Yes	Ban construction of private swimming pools - they waste a lot of energy and thus have a large CO2 footprint.					
25	Energy	No	No	Woking council is not here to invest in energy schemes.	I will do all I can to stop Woking council create more crazy unaffordable schemes.				
26	Energy	Yes	Yes	One of the reasons many don't insulate lofts is because they are used for mass storage, often of old, unused items which the householder is physically incapable of removing. Plus people are very wary of rogue companies offering poor quality insulation services for walls/lofts and do not want to risk losing money or being taken advantage of. So research companies offering good quality services for removal of junk and installation and recommend them to the local residents; get Which? involved as consultants.	We live in a large 1930s property with little opportunity to make significant improvements without investing large sums of money. At the moment, sadly, that just doesn't make any financial sense. Replacing a leaking 90 year old roof is our main priority this year.				
27	Energy	Yes	Yes	Looking at heat pumps more.	Look at the benefits of using heat pumps.				
28	Energy	To some extent	To some extent	Look into alternative heat sources such as heat pumps. Needs to be more funding from the government for this, as it's too expensive at the moment.					
29	Energy	Yes	Yes	More campaigns informing people of benefits. Supports/Grants like other European countries. Tax incentives. People especially older generation and less educated totally do not understand the benefits and what's worst the urgency that we find our self in. Why am I not getting free parking in Town Centre for my electric vehicle as an example. Council as well as government needs to treat diesel vehicles same as smokers strip them of benefits or put an extra cost on them to enforce change. Everything happening so slowly and there is very little forward thinking in council. Few charging points in Town centre that are slow but very expensive will not make that much difference. I could go on and on but as a last thing which is probably the most important to me being Woking resident for almost two decades is seeing old diesel buses leaking oil in to new developed surfaces and smoking like steam trains yet they are allowed to operate want to reduce pollution in Town and surrounding areas remove them from the road and do not say it is Surrey County Council :) Please please see what other Towns and counties doing like Holland, Denmark or Norway for example and follow their example you do not needs to do anything new just learn from them. Thanks for reading.	We already running electric vehicle and installed substantial solar system with batteries and our energy bills has been reduce significantly. Tax incentive on council tax would be nice however small. This could be one of the benefits to encourage people and help us pay massive initial cost that we made.				
30	Energy	Yes	Yes						
31	Energy	Yes	Yes	Provide more information on what the public can do. For example, section 7.8 'What you can do' is light on information about what the public can do to save energy, particularly for those who are not in the 'low income' group, a private landlord, or live in social housing. There are a large number of people in Woking who do not fall into these 3 groups, (some of whom live in large energy inefficient houses with a substantial carbon footprint) but how do they find out what they can do to save energy in their homes? For the purpose of this document, I suggest that Section 7.8 is written more along the lines of the 'What you can do' sections incorporated into the other themes in the strategy document (e.g. waste, water, transport, natural environment etc) which are very informative and helpful.	We live in a solid brick walled detached house built between 1900-1910. In the past 2 years, we've replaced the windows with double glazed units, insulated the loft, installed a 'Hive' heating control system, reduced the temperatures of the hot water and heating thermostats. I track our monthly gas and electricity consumption and over 2 years since 2020/21 to current 2022/23, annual gas consumption is down by 30.4% and electricity is down by 22.9%. However, the majority of our energy losses are most likely through the solid brick walls which are difficult and expensive to insulate. The next steps will be to replace the few remaining non-LED lights with LED's and register for the Solar Together Surrey scheme to get a quote for roof-mounted solar panels. However, what we would really like is an energy survey to provide advice on the feasible energy saving steps available to us but as we don't fall into the low income group, we're not sure how to organise this.				
32	Energy	Yes	Yes	Officer time should be focussed on areas of climate action where the biggest impacts can be gained. This includes working with ThamesWey on the decarbonisation of energy networks. At the moment, WEAct feels that insufficient emphasis is being placed on the 'big wins'. We don't see any mention of how the industrial emissions are being tackled. Sometimes these are where the biggest advances can be made, i.e. if there is some energy intensive manufacturing in the borough					
33	Energy	To some extent	To some extent	As far as funding allows' doesn't reassure that the conclusions of the council's corporate carbon footprint assessment will be prioritised in terms of cost/benefit/impact. Linked with that is harnessing of private investment to augment council budgets, as is happening in other councils. What confidence do we have that elected leaders will be making informed decisions wrt climate impact, e.g. consideration of training, best practice in other councils etc. Given the well-known polluting impact of open fires and wood burning stoves, ramp up WBC's position on this: <a href="https://www.woking.gov.uk/environmental-services/pollution/open-fires-and-wood-burning-stoves">https://www.woking.gov.uk/environmental-services/pollution/open-fires-and-wood-burning-stoves</a>					



34	Energy	To some extent	To some extent	Objectives to include: support community-led innovation and engagement. [recognising that this can achieve a lot through very modest levels of investment, and has potential to generate significant returns in hard-to-tackle areas... e.g. domestic heating, covering 25% of the borough's total footprint - requires a step-change which the current actions won't cover; community-led programmes can support demonstration effect and socialisation of - Actions to specify: working directly with the local building sector, ensuring that the building trade is both aware of and trained/qualified to carry out energy efficiency improvements at key opportunities (such as extensions, home improvement projects, etc.) - Actions to specify: going deeper on work with private landlords and home-owners. This needs greater ambition. e.g. not simply relying on grants to be made available and then helping people access them, but proactively seeking out other (more innovative) forms of finance measures, such as revolving funds or facilitating low-interest loans. - Actions to specify: "Promote AND FACILITATE community energy projects"	Consider installation of heat pump and solar PV, as part of wider home extension project - install EV charging point, ready for EV as next vehicle				
35	Energy	No	No	Proper composting, bio fuels in vehicles.	I have already shelled a substantial sum of money for solar panels. It is not enough to provide for our households energy needs. There is nothing else I can do, we have made out home as energy efficient and ecological sound as possible.				
36	Energy	Yes	To some extent	Possibly there needs to be a plan to develop more local renewable energy, building or solar over car parks. schemes with opportunity for local community funding. Ground source heat systems with combined Heat and energy for community such as Goldsworth Park Centre, Shopping Centre, Medical centre, Hospice and pub.	Will consider removing my home from the Gas system when this becomes an option.				
37	Energy	Yes	Yes	More help for households with low EPC ratings and incomes that are above the £31,000 threshold on a sliding scale according to means.	Have a go at fitting loft insulation and more loft boarding. Thermal film on windows that aren't suitable for curtains or blinds.				
38	Energy	No	To some extent	I can't actually find specific objectives related to energy in your document. You state how much energy is used now in different sectors. There isn't a clear target for what this will be reduced to and by when. You need clear targets and a very clear plan that shows how these targets will be achieved. You are doing various things - probably all good stuff but unless you can show a definitive link between doing each action and how this meets a specific target you should rethink - particularly when money is tight. How many homes are you going to need to be retrofitted each year? How much is this going to cost? How can the money be found - from individuals, gov and business. It feels like you are shotgunning lots of actions at the issue and hoping that some of them will work. There are good case studies and examples available internationally of what does work - look at those and then work out how to adapt and fit to work in Woking. You need to link this with behaviour change much more and get schools and young people to take home the message to their parents of what they need to do. Young people have most to lose if we don't get to net zero as they will be here longest and want to be able to live reasonable quality lives and not be terrified of what climate change might mean to them and their future children.	I have installed solar panels and moved to an electric car. I have installed a more efficient gas boiler - heat pumps didn't seem to be very effective for us.				
39	Energy	Yes	Yes	Response from ThamesWey: Support for draft strategy. A priority area for partnership working on this topic, as highlighted in the Council's independent carbon footprint assessment, is the growth and decarbonisation of Woking's decentralised energy networks.					
40	Waste	Yes	Yes	Repair cafe to support make do and mend. Tool library for same reason	Already do most of the things on the list.				
41	Waste	Yes	Yes						
42	Waste	Yes	Yes	Widen the variety of items accepted for recycling into blue bins. E.g. start accepting juice and milk cartons (Tetrapack and others).					
43	Waste	Yes	Yes	Using all food in the house. Reduce food waste. Teach people that date labels are just for guidance. People need to use their common sense and smell food.					
44	Waste	Yes	Yes	Would like more options to recycle at kerbside and tetrapak recycling	Request food waste bin clothes recycling				
45	Waste	Yes	Yes	Need to encourage people to grow their own food more. Keep allotments. Show people that they can grow food like tomatoes indoors if they lack outdoor space.					
46	Waste	Yes	Yes	More frequent waste collection	Really careful with portions and no food waste				
47	Waste	Yes	Yes	Really need to make sure that single use plastic is eradicated from everyday life. It shouldn't be allowed in shops, supermarkets etc. I think the street food market is plastic free?					
48	Waste	Yes	Yes	8.8 "Reduce food waste and use your food caddy to dispose of any appropriate leftovers". Information exists about the items that can be put into the food caddies (SEP's website for instance) as well as how to procure a food caddy (SEP), but your guidance appears to assume that households are already aware that food can be recycled and are indeed recycling (once reduction of food waste strategies have also been implemented, although this need not be the case). To what extent does this assumption hold true? If overall awareness does exist as a result of information campaigns, does this consistently translate into action i.e. requesting a caddy and recycling food waste (correctly)? To what extent do households believe that they do not produce enough food to even warrant the request of a caddy? What other barriers to recycling food waste are there and how are they addressed in practice? Do households actually find it easy (i.e. make the effort) to procure a caddy given the available information? Do they suffer from information overload? Have nudges been used (successfully) to increase capture rates in Woking and Surrey? Perhaps consider adding "procure a caddy" to the guidance? Thank you.	Meal plan, adjust fridge temperature, store, and freeze food, eat leftovers, compost, recycle, use the Olio app				

49	Waste	Yes	Yes	1.) work with and support local businesses that already have circular economy business processes by using their services e.g. electronic machines repair services such as those we offer at crc-tasktron.co.uk, based in Woking. Encourage businesses and residents to extend the life of their office machines. 2.) encourage responsible e-waste recycling. E-waste is the fastest growing domestic waste stream and should have it own priority in your strategy as it is increasing exponentially and companies are not doing enough to slow this down. 3. Help small businesses to work together to create a circular economy. There needs to be greater collaboration and partnership working to make this work. Manufacturers and businesses need to use the services of e-waste businesses that can repair, re-use and recycle e-waste professionally. Any actions you take to help that collaboration online and face to face will help us all to achieve this. Contact us for more input at info@crc-tasktron.co.uk - we'd love to help	We are constantly looking to reduce our carbon footprint and want our repair re-use recycle ethos to translate to more of our operational business processes.				
50	Waste	No	No	Doing all you can to generate investment and making Woking a welcome and easy to do business town.	I'll do all I can to stop schemes that won't work or won't make a difference to the worlds CO2.				
51	Waste	Yes	Yes	The communal bin area where I live is not kept tidy. People leave rubbish on the floor and it's smelly and unsightly. Perhaps more could be done to educate people	I separate my waste and recycle what I can				
52	Waste	Yes	Yes	Much clearer/definitive info on what can and cannot be recycled would be helpful; stickers to put on blue bin lids inside. Put charity recycling bins in areas which are well lit with cameras and not where people can dump rubbish, eg Parley Drive. Prosecute and publicise/name and shame those who do the dumping, including tradespeople. Education is key; start with the young, have waste warrior teams.	We already take the recommended actions. Recently started recycling all plastic films/bags etc.				
53	Waste	Yes	To some extent	Encouraging more people to do their bit eg food recycling. Flytipping a problem but cost involved. Fines should be higher	Engaged already and doing everything I can				
54	Waste	Yes	Yes	Could the council coordinate/ facilitate/ publicise/ make it as easy as possible to pass on as many different kinds of unwanted items as possible to other people - either for giving away for free or for selling? I know there are ways of doing this already, but I feel the council could play an organisational role here. Maybe providing a one stop shop - a single telephone number to ring to find out where/how a particular item can be passed on, probably with a web page on the council website to back it up. And organising a similar scheme for services to mend/renovate as many different kinds of broken or dilapidated items as possible. Rather than leaving it for each individual resident to waste time trying to find out what to do - no need to reinvent the wheel. And also organising another scheme for collecting/ delivering items for mending or passing on. If it were easy to mend or pass on items then I think we could be doing a lot more of it.	Our black bin is already practically empty most weeks. We could look to avoid more food items which do not have recyclable packaging.				
55	Waste	Yes	Yes	Better communications on how to get a new food waste bin and other bins. Didn't know about textiles and electrical recycling. Better awareness raising. Segregated bins at leisure centre not actually separate so recycling and waste go into same bin. Seen large recycling bins at maisonettes in Knaphill being emptied into same black bin waste lorry. Opportunity for surplus fruit and veg from allotments to be sold locally or used in food banks. Speakers in schools to talk to kids about waste and recycling. Could recycling collection be weekly but keep black bin fortnightly.	Will start using food waste bin now I know I can use bags.				
56	Waste	Yes	Yes	Better awareness raising on items that can be recycled at the doorstep e.g. textiles, batteries etc	I will request a food waste bin now that I know I can use bags to put my waste in				
57	Waste	Yes	Yes	Expanding schemes to enable people to refill reusable water bottles - great way to reduce plastic waste. More awareness raising. Often there is an assumption that people are doing what they can or using the facilities available to reduce their waste, when in fact they are not. If everyone did something to reduce their waste it would make a difference. Feel that supermarkets too slow in removing packaging and that they should ban plastic bags altogether - perhaps local authorities could lobby supermarket chains.	We drink a lot of sparkling water and to avoid generating lots of plastic waste we now use a soda stream to carbonate our own water. We buy loose fruit and veg. We opt for recyclable packaging whenever we can.				
58	Waste	Yes	Yes	Much more presence needed on social media to get the message across, not just occasionally. Where possible, go into schools and educate young. Where applicable more visits to homes that don't put out food waste to see why (they may be composting) Encourage things that would go into food waste to be used in the garden such as coffee grinds, crushed egg shells.	Continue to only buy the food we need, use food waste bin if any waste, turn applicable food waste into bird food for the feeders, use charity shops and continue to repair and re-use, upcycle or find a different use for no longer wanted items				
59	Waste	Yes	Yes	Encourage the use of reuse bottles and tins eg consumers pay a deposit on bottles and drink tins that is refundable when returned as was the case in the mid 20th century. Also publicise sites such as Freecycle	Try to make sure that anything that is reusable is taken to an appropriate centre such as a charity shop or use Freecycle				

60	Waste	Yes	To some extent	Zero waste to landfill is a perfectly achievable ambition which many organisations achieve, rather than to reduce the volume to landfill. Any general waste should be burnt for energy recovery. The case study mentioned (Bare+Fair) has now closed down because of rent in the town centre being too high. We could follow the example of Guildford Borough Council with their recycling centre (Suez) which has elements we are missing, such as a paint recycling station which can sell second-hand paint. Although a repair café is temporarily being established, this could be something to explore and promote. Centralising repair, refills and green initiatives into one hub (bigger than the current, temporary, Woking Climate Action hub) - similar to the Zero Guildford - would make this more accessible and reduce costs. Reducing waste collections also a good idea but this requires more education and training (and engagement) of Woking residents. Single-use plastic recycling hubs via schemes such as ReWorked (cheaper than Terracycle) would enable residents to collect single-use plastics and recycle them in a central location. ReWorked could be a great circular initiative for the Council as you could then buy the plastic boards, or items they produce from the recycled plastic such as bins, tables or chairs etc to install around Woking.					
61	Waste	Yes	Yes	The waste section is very informative and useful. Section 8.8 'What you can do' is particularly helpful and I suggest that the Energy chapter 'What you can do' section is modelled on this section. I was surprised to read that despite Surrey being ranked as third amongst the 30 best performing waste collection authorities in England that almost 17,000 tonnes of recyclables had to be disposed of as rubbish as it was contaminated and nearly half of what residents put into their rubbish bins could be recycled. So suggest better communication with the residents on exactly what can and cannot be recycled - I know this is difficult and a lot is done already but perhaps targeted communication on what NOT to put into the recycling bin and further publicising the use of the food waste bin could be helpful.	I actively try to reduce my waste already but in future, I'll try to buy food with less packaging, although recognise there can be a trade off with the use of packaging and it increasing food shelf life. In my capacity as Environment Officer for the Byfleet, West Byfleet & Pyrford Residents Association, I will write an article on reducing waste and increasing recycling for the next RA magazine to raise community awareness on this important issue!				
62	Waste	To some extent	Yes	Whilst WEAct agrees with the direction of travel, it feels the objectives in this area need to be more SMART. For example, rather than 'continue' to increase recycling rates, there should be measurable targets. From our time at the WEAct Hub, we know that there is a great appetite amongst Woking residents to recycle. However, there is often confusion about what can be recycled and disappointment at the reduction of recycling banks across the borough. This is particularly true with Tetra Pack recycling, and it is felt that residents would appreciate further recycling points. The strategy states that the council will look to increase recycling of difficult items such as blister packs and tetrapaks alongside WEAct. Whilst we are of course willing to support any activities, we think the focus should be on working with District and Borough colleagues to ensure a more consistent approach to recycling across the county. For example, at the moment Tetrapaks are collected in the kerbside recycling in Guildford but not Woking Borough Council. In its communications, we believe the council should move away from the three Rs's Reduce, reuse, recycle' and replace with 6Rs: Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair. We have seen great enthusiasm for our Repair Cafe initiative and there are a number of active Woking 'Buy Nothing' groups on Facebook. Promoting these initiatives can support people to save money and reduce carbon emissions.					
63	Waste	To some extent	To some extent	More consistency at county level for recycling, e.g. blister packs, tetrapaks, using existing facilities (rather than "Work with Woking Environment Action to introduce recycling facilities") Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair encourage sharing of surplus food/produce (including allotment/garden fruit/veg), with foodbanks, community fridges etc. promote Repair cafe at Martyr's Lane waste site incentivise local businesses to be single-use plastic free 8.9: what are WBC's plans for zero waste/refill now that Bare+Fair is no more?					
64	Waste	Yes	Yes	STOP encouraging car rental (also known as PCP) is in direct contradiction of the recycle policy. It encourages getting new as much as possible, instead of using things for as long as possible. Local council should not be spending money on this initiative. They need to continue with their food waste reduction, encourage use of food leftovers apps, community food hubs such as the one in Knaphill.	Batch cooking, have a wormery for composting most food waste, plan meals according to what we can get/what we already have in the cupboard and fridge. Only buying what we need, food wise. Growing our own fruit and veg while we're still allowed.				
65	Waste	Yes	Yes	Coming down harder on production and sale of products that are not recyclable. Making it much clearer what can be recycled and broadening items, and much easier to dispose of non-blue bin recycle. Investing more on attracting green energy jobs; collective purchase schemes (like the solar one) eg for insulation or heat pumps; stop the daily unnecessary clean of the road edge; support local biomass energy production for Woking; higher threshold of green new builds and model innovation.	Insulation; bicycle; recycling				
66	Waste	Yes	Yes	Make it crystal clear what can be put in recycling bins and what cannot. People are finding this very confusing. Make it easier to recycle blister packs, TetraPaks etc.					

67	Waste	To some extent	To some extent	I think you need to think about how much effort should go into this from a net zero point of view. Your own data on page 8 says that waste management is only 2.8% of the carbon emissions in the Borough. Yet on page 28 you say "Reducing the amount of waste we all produce is one of the most effective ways of reducing emissions." I don't see how this can be true? I absolutely support reducing waste and reusing etc. I am involved in setting up the Woking Repair Cafe to help people fix things and make sure they don't get thrown away (you could mention the repair cafe in your doc if you were minded to do so). However I'm not sure recycling is really that critical from a net zero point of view - it's good as a way to get people involved as it's easier to do than giving up flying. However people need to understand that one flight a year will completely wipe out whatever emissions they have saved all year by recycling stuff. I think you need to educate people more on what really makes a difference to their emissions - and it is energy use and transport - and perhaps what food they choose to eat. Cutting out or reducing meat and dairy makes a big contribution. The other thing you should be doing on this is getting the same level of recycling kerbside across all of Surrey so we can recycle tetrapaks, aerosols etc. However as above not sure this is really key for net zero compared to bigger issues.	We compost and recycle soft plastics at supermarkets. I take tetrapaks to Morrisons and we do all the kerbside stuff.				
68	Water	Yes	Yes						
69	Water	Yes	Yes	Stop permitting construction of private swimming pools, especially indoor ones - they promote excessive water consumption in the drought months, increase impermeable surface which is detrimental in rainy months and they also require a lot of energy for heating in local climate which means they have a big CO2 footprint.					
70	Water	To some extent	No	Stop building ridiculous blocks of flats that are unsustainable.					
71	Water	Yes	Yes	New builds should all have water harvesting and storage facilities, domestic and commercial. Underground storage tanks should be compulsory. Why are we still using drinking water for flushing toilets; harvested water could be used in new housing developments. It's simple to add water butts to downpipes; why isn't this automatically part of planning permission on new builds/extensions etc?? Water butts can be linked up to get the most from roofs and downpipes; using just one if space is available for more is wasteful.	We use a minimum amount - full loads for dishwasher/washing machines, short showers, no baths. Check all taps regularly for any leaks. Don't wash cars. Use stored water for garden as much as possible. Plant drought resistant varieties of shrubs/perennials. Water is our cheapest utility bill by far.				
72	Water	Yes	Yes	More messaging on media platforms needed for Refill Woking. Encourage people to use grey water for gardens. Work with developers to encourage all new houses to have water butts and bigger buildings to have living walls. Work with partners if possible to offer low cost water butts	Continue with no dishwasher and only one lot of dishes a day, more economy short washes for laundry. Get a water butt. Keep using non-dirty grey water from dishes and a bath when used.				
73	Water	Yes	Yes	Make it mandatory that planning consent has to be obtained for paving over front gardens - why isn't required in any event for conservation areas?	Increase the number of water butts we have				
74	Water	Yes	Yes	The water section is a useful, informative section. I have the following comments: 1. Section 6.2 Flooding: It is good to see that the mention of the Sanway Road flood alleviation scheme in Byfleet which is being progressed in partnership with the Environment Agency. I am representing the views of the Byfleet, West Byfleet & Pyrford Residents Association who are insistent that this scheme goes ahead in it's entirety and is not compromised in any way by Woking BC's stricken financial situation. 2. Section 6.5 Watercourses: It is important to recognise that watercourses flow through adjoining boroughs and therefore collaborative working with other councils is required in the management of water courses. 3. Section 6.9: What you can do: Rather than 'Consider a water meter to help monitor water usage and reduce consumption', be stronger and encourage people to take responsibility for their water consumption by getting a water meter installed.	We already try to reduce our water consumption but will try to reduce it further by using waste water to water the garden. We already have a water butt but during dry periods, this runs low and we need to use mains water for the garden, so we will reuse waste water in the garden in the future.				
75	Water	Yes	Yes	Again, we feel the objectives in this area need to be more SMART. However, we agree with the direction of travel.					
76	Water	To some extent	To some extent	More on climate adaptation, adjusting to more volatile weather (including heavy rainfall, but also drought). Review/upgrade Woking's drainage infrastructure, consider restrictions in water supply, impact on habitats, e.g. drought-resistant planting in Woking public spaces, subsidise/promote the use of water butts.					
77	Water	Yes	Yes	Make sure the drains are regularly cleaned and the roadsides are kept clear of muck, sediment and biodegradable (grass cuttings etc). Ensure that water companies respond quickly and properly to reports of leaks.	We already are doing all of the things you recommend. I am disappointed to see that water meters has been enforced in the area. It does not make economic sense, except that I am sceptical about the water companies and Ofwat's role in reducing water usage. Especially when they hardly look after it themselves, as recently revealed when Thames Water is on the brink of collapse. Greed is the enemy of the community as a whole.				
78	Water	To some extent	To some extent	This theme is not directly related to achieving net zero and so should be covered under some other strategy - perhaps a general climate strategy. I agree that you should be doing it but you need to be very focussed on the topics that relate to getting to net zero. The objectives that you have on this theme need to be more specific with proper annual targets - you want to reduce water consumption - by how much and by when and who exactly? Then you can put a more targeted plan together to achieve this. Can the water company tell you who uses most water in the Borough - can you target them? Can you use nudge techniques to encourage people to use less - Affinity doing some of this already - support them. Do it on a street basis - "do you know that you are using 20% more water than your neighbours?" get people to think about this and how they change - link to behaviour change theme	We have a water butt for the garden, I have reduced the number of showers I take. We use lower than usual amounts of water according to Affinity.				
79	Transport	Yes	Yes	'Transport' is a helpful and informative chapter. Unfortunately, the roads in Woking are extremely congested with the resulting air pollution and frustrated drivers. I know Woking BC do a lot already to encourage people to get out of the car and travel actively by foot or bike or by public transport. and this section lays out great ideas about how to travel sustainably. However, the challenge will always be to convince people to stop using their cars and I have no magical ideas I'm afraid!	Download the 'Better Points' app and use my bicycle, as well as walking for local journeys.				

80	Transport	Yes	Yes	Improve bus services				
81	Transport	Yes	Yes	More support for walking and cycling to town centre				
82	Transport	To some extent	Yes	Sort out the buses! A reliable public transport service is needed to reduce car use, particularly for short journeys around the borough. The buses aren't frequent or reliable enough to get people out of cars, particularly for regular short journeys such as the school run.	I avoid using my car as much as possible, walking (with my kids) into Woking centre and to after school activities			
83	Transport	Yes	To some extent	The walking and cycling strategies don't go far enough. They are too connected with the existing road network, the cycle path assessments miss some key elements, like air quality (cycle along the A320 to Ottershaw during rush hour and you'll know what I'm talking about). You need to have mandatory cycle storage for all residents as a planning policy - at least 1 per bedroom plus 1.				
84	Transport	Yes	Yes	Apologies in advance if this reads as arrogant. I think this is my calling, and if I don't do this for the environment and the members of my family I haven't met as they haven't been born yet in a back-to-the-future kind of way! If I pull this off, I will be anonymous. I will be keeping up on CO2 Emissions so I can see the difference with eagle eyes. I think I have an excellent solution to stop the number of cars on the road. The concept is called JIRNEY, and it's so straightforward that it'd be sacrilege not to seriously consider this. The TD;LR is if you want to know more about JIRNEY call me on +44 xxxx xxxx. Every day people drive to work in a car big enough for 5, but with only 1 person in it. Car sharing is obvious, but it will never work, because people don't want to share their cars with others. So what can be done? Cue JIRNEY My name is John and I visit my mom in Guildford each Monday lunchtime. I have signed up to JIRNEY because for trips I am making anyway, I can deliver goods from approved retailers on the way, and that means I get some money for driving to places that I usually go to and I can choose how much further/ how much more driving I will do. Let's say that I set up my Jirney account and when I complete the profile I can choose (with the max being 15-20%) how much further I am willing to drive than my original trip. Simply, open app, put in the destination and if there are any parcels from business or retail outlets that match my JIRNEY, they are offered to me on the app. A simple RED for no and a GREEN TO ACCEPT is all I need to do. I am then rerouted to the pick up location, kerbside pick up, where a member of staff from the company hands me a parcel - sealed for tamper-proving purposes, which has a QR CODE which I scan with my phone. This means that I have taken possession of the parcel, but also it alerts the recipient that their delivery is on XX minutes away. Think of it like UBER for everything except people. Take a look here <a href="https://youtu.be/Gb1SU6QYJFI">https://youtu.be/Gb1SU6QYJFI</a> When I get close to the destination, which is only 0.5 miles away from my mom's house, my phone displays a QR code and the recipient must then scan my phone for proof of delivery. - The RETAILER or BUSINESS is pleased that they have offered a great customer experience (and not had to pay for services fees) while enabling them to be something in fact	What else but use Jirney when I need something and walk or use a bike otherwise.			
85	Transport	Yes	To some extent	Make at least some effort to provide cycle facilities on the roads around and into Woking especially when major new roads are being installed which appear to be devoid of any such facilities.	I already walk and cycle for journeys in and around Woking and further afield. Many more people would shift from car or bus to cycling if there were some facilities (other than paint on the road which ends randomly)			
86	Transport	Yes	Yes	Public transport - protecting routes and services to keep people connected. Walking and cycling - narrow paths in Byfleet not suitable for shared use.	I take the bus and liftshare already			
87	Transport	Yes	Yes	More free parking. Can be for special times i.e. Sundays, 2 hours at lunchtime. This will encourage people to come into the high street and spend money at cafes etc.	Need a new car, looking at getting either fully electric or hybrid car.			
88	Transport	To some extent	To some extent	Make sure that the ULEZ doesn't extend to Woking! There is no democracy in charging people to use their cars - I know people that can't visit their elderly parents now as the ULEZ is costing them £12 more to see them. That's on top of a £6 parking charge. Not everyone can afford a new car.				
89	Transport	Yes	Yes	Work with transport operators to restore bus routes eg to hospitals and improve frequency of buses to avoid car dependence. Also important for elderly accessing hospital who depend on public transport.	I use public transport to get out and about			
90	Transport	No	No	Electric cars are not sustainable and creating a car unfriendly environment will deter folks from coming to Woking to spend their money. The council should be doing all it can to repair roads and do a better job of managing Surrey Council on Woking road hotspots.				
91	Transport	Yes	Yes	Simply building a network of bike routes is not enough - as has been seen in (for example) Milton Keynes. The routes must go where people want to go and they must be joined up, well-maintained and feel safe. More importantly, they must be at least as direct as the equivalent route by car, and preferably faster and more direct. When combined with factors making motoring less convenient such as car parking charges, then people will choose the bike - not because they have been trained to do so, or encouraged to do so for their health or the environment, but because it is the most convenient way for them to get to where they want to go. Prioritise active travel. Woking needs to prioritise pedestrians, cyclists and people who use public transport when developing and maintaining connected travel routes. Prioritising people who walk and cycle, as well as those who use public transport, empowers people to make travel choices that help to create healthier places and happier lives for everyone Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this	I use my cycle for 90% of my journeys. We have reduce our car usage as a family of 3 to one car and using it when it "Needs" to be used. The points made above will mean that those who are less experienced or less confident have an easy way to transition in to other modes of transport not just relying on cars.			
92	Transport	To some extent	To some extent					
93	Transport	Yes	Yes	I think there are too many cars on the road and more people should use public transport. I rely on the bus service to get me to local community centres but there is only one bus an hour. It would be great to have more buses. I am over 80 and public transport is so important to my independence.	I rely on public transport			

94	Transport	Yes	Yes	Segregated cycle lanes especially for parents and children to cycle safely. canal path is great but need connections to other routes. Need better connections. lack of lifts at Byfleet and new haw station make it tricky for parents with buggies - if i could better access the station i could avoid shorter car journeys. better advertising of local bus routes and timetables might attract more people to use public transport. Introduce a scheme that enables cheaper travel e.g. £2 go anywhere routes for a day.	Improvements above would help me travel more sustainably. Summer months make sustainable travel easier. I would love to use the car less and cycle more but without segregated routes I don't feel safe taking my child on a bike.				
95	Transport	No	Yes	Diesel buses removed! Some sort of platform for locals to benefit from council support to change to electric and decarbonise whole transport across the borough. Hurry up we do not have a time. Stop making plans start doing the work. Employ people that have forward thinking not just doing what has to be done because government told you so.	Drive electric and do not use old polluting buses.				
96	Transport	Yes	Yes						
97	Transport	Yes	Yes	Improve public transport for example smaller more frequent buses	Try to reduce the use of our car				
98	Transport	Yes	Yes	All the actions are good, yet there is more influence the council can have under the 'Avoid' theme through working with local anchor institutions, e.g. from the UCL research 'The role of cross-sector collaboration in reducing the need to travel': "Traditionally, cities have focused mainly on introducing 'Shift' policy measures, as this is the area where they have most control and experience; but they are increasingly looking at 'Improve' measure, working with energy suppliers and distributors to support the electrification of the vehicle fleet. What has been largely neglected, until now, has been the widespread application of 'Avoid' Measures, and the engagement with other sectors of the economy that this would require. The potential range of contributions that each of the three strategies can make to achieving zero transport carbon is likely to be: 'Avoid': 15 - 25%; 'Shift': 20 - 50% and 'Improve': 40 - 65%. However, the shared goal of transport decarbonisation, and the adoption of Scope 3 accounting by many public and private sector organisations provides a unique opportunity for collaboration and close links between transport and the various trip-generating sectors. This goes beyond simply supporting efforts to decarbonize fleets or encourage employee mode shift, to influence overall levels of travel demand, by supporting localization of service delivery and encouraging some substitution of digital for physical travel."					
99	Transport	To some extent	To some extent	See my previous comments on the Woking Master Plan: Victoria Arch widening project driven by congestion issue on A320 and air pollution hotspot - how does encouraging more cars through the town address that? Surely fewer cars would be a better solution - e.g. as a result of better investment in public transport, provision of park+ride etc. While the Victoria Arch may ultimately improve rail infrastructure, where is the cost/benefit analysis of doing that work now rather than in 20 years' time (the suggested life remaining for the bridge as per Network Rail) and deepening the road underneath to maintain the existing headroom? As a cyclist and pedestrian in Woking, road surfaces could be better maintained to remove potholes; cycling lanes could be better integrated (rather than stopping suddenly); street lighting could be brighter (with shorter gaps between lit streetlights, so I don't have to rely on my bike light to see where I'm going. Car-centric, focus on parking revenue - latest council scheme to offer free 3rd hour of parking rewards car drivers. Is that the best use of scarce funds, is it sending the right message to residents? Isn't there a case for extending/subsidising/rewarding public transport instead?					
100	Transport	No	No	Be realistic and tell the truth. This is nothing more than fulfilling the WEF agenda for reducing private ownership. EVs are not the answer, in my opinion. The work needed for battery production alone negates the "environmental " wins, apart from profit for those in the manufacturing process. I suggest you listen to Sandy Adams who has a long history of studying these plans. I do not believe that reducing car ownership is suitable. Also, we live in a commuter area. Many people are already WFH or travelling by train/bus. Those who are travelling in the mornings/evenings are clearly mostly commuting to work. Are you proposing they relocate their work? Are you going to implement pay-per-mile and hamstringing the people you want to pay their council tax (presumably at an inflated rate since the revelations about the amount of debt Woking is now in?)	I already drive conservatively. I already walk when I can. I already only use transport if I have no alternative. There is NO public transport heading in the direction of my work.				
101	Transport	Yes	Yes	Improve the Better Points app (I have never managed to get it to work, and I've heard this from other people too). A bus service to and from Byfleet in the evenings. More EV charging points in the villages. Please roll out car clubs to the villages - if I have to travel from Byfleet to Woking to pick up a car, it rather defeats the object! Regarding air quality, please monitor for PMs as well as NOx.					

102	Transport	No	To some extent	This is very important topic for getting to net zero. You don't have an objective that says you will reduce transport emissions in Woking Borough by x% in next 3 years and by y% in next 10 years (or something similar). I know Surrey CC have more influence on transport than a Borough does - but you could at least say you would be working in partnership with Surrey CC to achieve these reductions. You need to specifically acknowledge that you are currently incentivised to get people to drive into Woking town centre and pay for parking as you need the income. You have got to start planning to reduce this and get a much better bus service set up with much more regular services - in electric buses. Your document has one paragraph 10.5 about public transport - this is not enough for such an important topic. You need to work out how to get people out of their cars much more - and how to start long term planning to redesign how Woking is laid out to achieve this. Buses should be cheaper than parking and not that much slower than driving yourself - although will probably always be a bit slower. Trucks and lorries will have biggest emissions - who has the largest fleet of these in Woking and what are you doing with them to get them to minimise carbon emissions. Need to link this with Behaviour Change and use young people to educate their parents - they have most to lose by climate change and they have huge influence.	I have just switched to an EV, I would prefer to bus into town centre but too slow and expensive compared to car for me to consider. I'm trying to fly much less frequently.				
103	Economy, business and supply chains	To some extent	To some extent	Higher business rates just means that the consumer pays more, therefore no one wins. Keep business rates lower, which will also allow more businesses to stay open. The high street is dying. Free parking at times will also help, Sundays and lunchtimes and after 6pm.					
104	Economy, business and supply chains	No	No	Woking councils finances are a disaster and the council should be doing everything to address this by making Woking the leading place to do business cutting red tape and reducing rates.	If Woking remains open for business I'll save CO2 emissions by driving to Woking rather than other towns further away.				
105	Economy, business and supply chains	Yes	Yes						
106	Economy, business and supply chains	Yes	Yes	This is a useful and informative chapter with great links to additional resources which will be useful for businesses. No further comments on this section.	Buy from local and independent shops to support the local economy where possible.				
107	Economy, business and supply chains	Yes	Yes	Does the Council know who the 10 highest carbon emitting companies are in the Borough? Understanding how they could reduce their emissions could have more impact than many other activities.					
108	Economy, business and supply chains	No	No	Investigate and bring to justice the team that facilitated the high amount of debt. Including the various agents who must have agreed the loans with out due diligence.	None. I see businesses closing, small businesses which you can no longer support because of the Section 114. I do not believe a net zero economy is possible or desirable.				
109	Economy, business and supply chains	To some extent	To some extent	I think you need to be really focused on the objectives and actions needed to get to net zero. You are covering all sorts of other things in your document. This section of the document has lots of really good things in it and hard to be critical of any individual things. But the more I read the more confusing I find it. You set 2 overarching objectives at the beginning to do with reaching net zero as a council and as a borough. But lots of the document is about things outside of this and around this - how to mitigate for climate change - or how to protect environment. I guess these are covered with the guiding principles but I think you need to make them more than this and for them to be objectives in their own right. And perhaps have a section about planning for mitigations? A climate strategy is not the same thing as a net zero strategy and in my eyes your document muddles the two. You've already covered energy, water, transport, environment and waste in five other themes but you are duplicating by covering them again in this section. What is it that you uniquely want to cover in this theme/topic? Can you talk about attracting green jobs to Woking? Converting jobs that are heavily fossil fuel/ high carbon emissions jobs to green jobs? Which businesses are the top 10/20 for carbon emissions in Woking and how can you focus on them and what targets would you want to encourage them to think about? What key climate mitigations are they going to need to start planning for? What are your key asks for central government to help Woking businesses get to net zero?	I don't work in business so not sure I can do the things suggested.				
110	The natural environment	n/a	n/a	Response from Natural England here: <a href="https://wokinggovuk.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/GreenInfrastructure/Climate%20Change%20and%20Sustainability/Natural%20England%20Response%20to%20CCS%20Review%20June%202023.pdf?csf=1&amp;web=1&amp;e=UGmKm6">https://wokinggovuk.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/GreenInfrastructure/Climate%20Change%20and%20Sustainability/Natural%20England%20Response%20to%20CCS%20Review%20June%202023.pdf?csf=1&amp;web=1&amp;e=UGmKm6</a> Feedback included: •Nature-based solutions (NbS) are an essential part of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reducing risks to people through ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) measures, such as natural flood management (NFM). •The quicker GHG emissions can be reduced from all sectors the more the pressure of climate change on the natural environment can be reduced. •The natural environment can play a vital role in tackling the climate crisis - and in reaching net zero - as healthy ecosystems take up and store a significant amount of carbon in soils, sediments and vegetation. •NbS can help reduce climate risks to people e.g. natural flood management and urban cooling from green infrastructure. •Recover and restore natural processes and habitats to build resilience of and accommodate change within the natural environment. •Adapt conservation objectives for designated sites and management techniques to adjust to changes that have already happened or are inevitable.					
111	Communicating and enabling change	Yes	Yes						
112	Communicating and enabling change	No	No	It is not the council's job to generate propaganda. This is a waste of resources.	Resist Woking council stupidity on crazy schemes that will make no difference.				

113	Communicating and enabling change	Yes	To some extent	Make it mandatory for people and companies to change the habits - encouragement isn't working!	Become more active in talking about climate change and persuading people to be greener				
114	Communicating and enabling change	Yes	Yes	An important chapter recognising that achieving net zero will only be possible by working in partnership & collaboration with the local community. The chapter mentions: This chapter, and the wider strategy, will be further developed as we consult on this. Suggestion made on behalf of the Byfleet, West Byfleet and Pyrford Residents Association for Woking BC to work in partnership with local Residents Groups to share ideas, suggest priority themes to engage residents into, key messages to go out to the community, share lessons learnt - what has worked well, what would be better if etc. Could a community net zero forum/working group be set up? This would have the benefit of community communication, harnessing local talent and ideas, mobilising community action etc. Also as a general point for this Climate Change Strategy document. The document is a really useful climate change and environmental sustainability resource with valuable information for communities and businesses. Please could it be publicised widely and then kept up to date because climate change environmental sustainability is a rapidly developing and changing subject and it would be a shame if the document was not maintained and remain current.	I will continue to volunteer as Environment Officer for the Byfleet, West Byfleet & Pyrford RA and continue to publicise Woking's climate change agenda in the local community.				
115	Communicating and enabling change	To some extent	To some extent	We believe the focus should be on training rather than communication (as was stated in the Anthesis report). WEAct are unsure of the impact of e-learning and instead suggest that classroom carbon literacy training should be implemented - starting with the Council's Senior Leadership Team and Executive. A train the trainer approach to delivery Carbon Literacy could reduce costs. Data should be kept of staff and councillor attending training and monitored at the Greener Woking Working Group.					
116	Communicating and enabling change	To some extent	To some extent	Better design of this consultation so contributors can retain a copy of their input					
117	Communicating and enabling change	To some extent	To some extent	Citizens' assemblies. Timely publication of consultation results, e.g. Woking Master Plan consultation? "Continue to facilitate take up of carbon and climate literacy training by staff and councillors." Provide metrics on % completion					
118	Communicating and enabling change	To some extent	To some extent	Objectives to include: working with BUSINESS SECTOR to take a lead. - Also, explicitly "Provide support for community-led projects/groups to engage public awareness and action" (e.g. support widespread uptake of home energy audits), through ongoing mediation with council teams, ongoing promotion, and prioritised communication channels - Actions to include: Key council staff (not just comms team) to undertake regular training on communication methods & developing / supporting green skills - Quantify the targets... e.g. the Carbon Literacy target (AND ensure that this is cross-department, not just certain roles) - Consider other forms of support for communities (beyond raising awareness and signposting to grants)... e.g. exploring reduced business rates in exchange for lowering energy consumption; using the council's central position to facilitate pooling of resource to access lower interest loans; etc.	Continue to work with WeAct to come up with innovative public engagement measures				
119	Communicating and enabling change	No	No	Make sure you know who you're in bed with, so to speak. Who are these stakeholders? Are they Woking residents? That sounds very vague to me. What lobbying? The council is bankrupt.	Take the people responsible to court. There is something very fishy about how Woking ended up with a Section 114.				
120	Communicating and enabling change	No	To some extent	Set up citizen's assemblies to get a representative group of Woking residents together - properly explain the net zero challenge Woking faces. Get them to help come up with ideas and take decisions on how to move forward. Set up neighbourhood groups and champions for net zero - link these to schools and involve young people very actively - they have most to lose and they are huge influence on their families. Much more actively promote initiatives such as Take the Jump - set targets for the number of people signed up. Your strategy barely mentions influencing residents to think about what they eat and what they buy - yet the emissions from this can be substantial. One of the big things people can do is to reduce the amount of meat and dairy they consume. Also to try and think about where food comes from and to try and eat locally produced food. Reuse of products is also good - try and buy more secondhand stuff rather than new. Measure attitudes to climate and net zero in Woking and then figure out how to shift attitudes and measure improvements. People need to feel net zero actions are being done fairly - and the biggest culprits should pay more. Charge big SUVs and gas guzzlers more for parking in town centre. Give EV drivers 1 hour free parking so people can see an incentive to change. Behaviour Change is the most important topic to help get people to understand what they need to do and why - and get them to start being willing to make changes. It will be very hard - but all levels of government need to get on with this - we owe it to our children and grandchildren and future generations. The UK also needs to set an example internationally as we have one of the worst histories of carbon emissions over time.	I have signed up to Take the Jump and I now only eat meat/fish at weekends. I use oat milk not dairy as it has least environmental impact. I try not to buy fruit/veg imported by air - except very occasionally. I have got involved with Woking Environment Action to try and help promote to other people and am now involved in setting up the Repair Cafe.				
121	The built environment	Yes	Yes	In section 14.4 Retrofitting our homes and buildings p75 for energy efficiency. Provide retrofitting advice obtained for privately owned hard-to-heat homes occupied by people not classified as 'low income'.	Register with Solar Together Surrey to obtain a quote to fit roof mounted solar panels.				
122	The built environment	Yes	To some extent	Not build on the greenbelt. Pressure on infrastructure, air quality and transport will be worse with new houses on green belt in Byfleet					
123	The built environment	No	No						
124	The built environment	Yes	Yes	Wonder about sustainability of new buildings built in town centre eg to their full capacity	Privately rent so feel hands tied but landlord makes improvements to energy efficiency				
125	The built environment	To some extent	To some extent	Concerned about common wood area fires. Cobham heath fires were scary last year. I'm worried about them this year. More needs to be done to stop them.					
126	The built environment	To some extent	To some extent	It is getting too hot in this country now. Everyone has air con which is bad for the environment. This didn't happen 10 years ago.					



127	The built environment	Yes	Yes	Focus on what has been built already and not destroy our green spaces for the sake of new developments. Broadoaks development has negatively impacted local wildlife and importantly the mental health and quality of life of existing residents. Impact on roads and infrastructure and take into account facilities available when building new homes and developments and increasing the local population.	Limited ability to alter property - we rent a military property. Council could work in partnership with military to improve homes and their energy efficiency etc. Properties are circa from the 1940s and quite outdated.				
128	The built environment	To some extent	To some extent	Encourage the general public to invest in the improvement of their own buildings by frequent publicity.	Arrange to get professional advice as how best to improve the sustainability our home and then carry out the recommendations if affordable.				
129	The built environment	To some extent	To some extent	Response from The Woodland Trust: This section could usefully integrate nature-based solutions rather than pigeon-holing them in the natural environment chapter. Trees, hedgerows and other green infrastructure frame and enhance developments, helping mitigate the impacts of climate change, delivering natural cooling in urban heat islands through transpiration as well as providing shelter and shade, and contributing to sustainable urban drainage systems. They also make a valuable contribution to the quality of the public realm, helping reduce air, noise and light pollution and improve people's mental health. Integrating trees and green spaces into developments early on in the design process minimises costs and maximises the environmental, social and economic benefits that they can provide, as well as making a valuable contribution to biodiversity net gain requirements. We recommend the guidance published by the Woodland Trust "Residential developments and trees - the importance of trees and green spaces" (January 2019).	The Woodland Trust offers guidance on planning for urban trees and integrating existing trees into development sites.				
130	The built environment	Yes	Yes	Compulsory solar panels on all new build offices and houses					
131	The built environment	Yes	Yes	Targets need to be more ambitious and SMART. Again, the council needs to recognise that this is a 'big' win area and apportion resources appropriately.					
132	The built environment	No	No	Nothing. I feel this is all a misnomer. Advising people on how to make their homes and businesses does not enable them to be able to actually afford the astronomical costs involved. Especially when it probably won't work, will need upgrading as the goalposts are moved in subsequent years, and in all probability won't work as well as initially promised or expected.	Have already taken all measures possible in our price range. Now have no spare money and can barely afford to clear our bills.				
133	The built environment	Yes	To some extent	The building private sector appears to be moving too slowly and building new property as they have for decades. An example are the new £1m houses built in the new Broadoaks estate in West Byfleet still being built with Gas hot water and central heating. There is little chance that these property will be retrofitted with better systems such as ground source heating before 2045, and the home owners will experience significant costs for Gas as the price increases.	New homes should be Passive house standard.				
134	The built environment	To some extent	To some extent	(Just a point of feedback on the structure of your document - please could you put your objectives at the beginning of each section rather than at the end.) Objectives need to say "comfortable and healthy homes for all" - increasingly too hot in summer could be as much of an issue as too cold in winter. How will you measure progress on these objectives? As with other sections in this document there is a lot of overlap with other sections - particularly energy. In terms of other things to do then need to ensure future built environment supports less use of cars and more self-sufficient neighbourhoods - perhaps think of target to provide 15 minute neighbourhoods <a href="https://yougov.co.uk/topics/society/articles-reports/2023/03/06/most-britons-would-their-area-become-15-minute-nei">https://yougov.co.uk/topics/society/articles-reports/2023/03/06/most-britons-would-their-area-become-15-minute-nei</a> I also think to link with the 2 overarching objectives at the beginning of the doc then there should be a linked objective in here about getting the built environment to net zero by 2050 (2045). The points in here are generally good	Solar panels have been installed and we have a smart meter and thermostatic valves on radiators. No longer use our gas fire as we found out it was using a huge amount of gas!				
135	The council's journey to net zero	No	No						
136	The council's journey to net zero	Yes	Yes	The net zero agenda needs to remain a priority for the council alongside the current financial challenges. Net zero options will ultimately save money and the planet.					
137	The council's journey to net zero	Yes	Yes	Woking BC has an ambitious Climate Change Strategy and has been a leader in the Climate Change Agenda for many years The Byfleet, West Byfleet and Pyrford Resident's Association would like to express strong support for Woking's Climate Change Strategy and very much hope the strategy will not be adversely impacted or diluted by the financial challenges being experienced by the council.					
138	The council's journey to net zero	To some extent	To some extent	Tied in with the vision section, ensure council reports/comms indicate how decisions have been take wrt climate impact					
139	The council's journey to net zero	To some extent	To some extent	Incorporate innovative schemes to support staff behaviour change, such as clean energy heating for the home (to improve homeworking conditions), and signing up to the Climate Perks programme (rewarding sustainable travel choices for holidays with additional holiday allowance to recognise the extra time requirement)					
140	The council's journey to net zero	To some extent	To some extent	Ensure ongoing commitment to improving training and awareness on climate-related issues (e.g. set targets around 100% staff to have carbon literacy as base-level training, by a certain date: 2027?)					
141	The council's journey to net zero	No	No	This is the least of our worries. We are bankrupt. Section 114 has been served. I believe the council needs to wake up and smell the coffee. Woking is the intimate of deliberate demise behaviours. Whatever we do, and I have been led to believe that Woking was a leading beacon of environmentally sound plans and loving, but look where we are: no more money and vulnerable people are suffering.					

141	Various	n/a	n/a	<p>No reference made to the remaining emissions if High Ambition reduction pathway achieved.</p> <p>Need quantified estimates of carbon emissions from housing. Data on housing utilisation would help as would intensifying occupancy to reduce need for new builds.</p> <p>Paving over front gardens for driveways - WBC should enforce covenants. Concern for pavement parking.</p> <p>With regards to transport, emphasis should be on walking, cycling and public transport.</p> <p>Public should be discouraged to use private car. Variations in car emissions noted. Incentivise efficient cars through parking pricing structure.</p> <p>Support for encouraging and facilitating lower carbon transport choices. Consider a trial for e-scooters and expanding segregated walking/cycling routes such as the planet trails for use by e-scooters.</p>					
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Our vision	Yes	%	No	%	To some extent	%	Total	%
Do you agree with the nine suggested themes?	11	52.4	5	23.8	5	23.8	21	100.0
Do you agree with the two overarching objectives proposed?	13	61.9	4	19.0	4	19.0	21	100.0
Do you agree with our guiding principles?	15	71.4	4	19.0	2	9.5	21	100.0
What else should we be thinking about?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Net zero financial cost not feasible at this time.</li> <li>• Infrastructure improvements should be priority over more housing.</li> <li>• Net zero before 2045, not later. Explicitly recognise urgency. Also same target adopted by other councils e.g. Surrey.</li> <li>• Join UK 100 network.</li> <li>• Prevent people paving over driveways.</li> <li>• Comprehensive and informative document which reads like a 'sustainability handbook'. Hope it survives the spending cuts.</li> <li>• Look at ways to mobilise private investment e.g. Bristol and Coventry</li> <li>• Use data to support decision-making; measurement and monitoring</li> <li>• Use data to understand at a local geospatial level where the biggest demands or opportunities are to rapidly scale-up solutions and make constrained resources go further e.g. Bristol Climate Hub.</li> <li>• Include reference to unique features in borough e.g. transport; landscape character; natural value.</li> <li>• Include food in nine themes.</li> <li>• Include reference to building resilience alongside adaptation.</li> <li>• Include phrases such as "restorative" and "regenerative".</li> <li>• Strategy lacks focus; too broad for net zero - too many topics that could be covered by other strategies. Energy, transport and behaviour change should be key focus.</li> <li>• Put your objectives at the beginning of each section rather than at the end.</li> </ul>							
Council response/action/amendment to strategy:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs set in context of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). We recognise that we cannot fund net zero alone and will need to work in partnership and identify innovative finance solutions.</li> <li>• Target date amended in strategy to 2045.</li> <li>• Further to consultation feedback, the council will seek membership of UK100. This is now reflected in the actions.</li> <li>• Monitoring, including SMART targets, to be developed as part of action plan that will be updated following adoption of the strategy. This is stated in section 15.4 'Monitoring and governance' of the draft strategy.</li> <li>• For ease of reference, the impact of food (and other consumables) is covered in the theme on waste.</li> <li>• The broadness of the strategy reflects all the areas that play a part in our collective journey to net zero. Themes can be taken as bitesize standalone themes to engage the community. Good practice and strategies elsewhere demonstrate a similar breadth of topics addressing both net zero and broader climate change topics.</li> <li>• Objectives moved to beginning of each section as requested.</li> <li>• Resilience is referred to alongside adaptation and discussed across themes. Also a key part of Surrey County Council's Surrey Adapt strategy (also cited).</li> <li>• The borough's Development Plan - the Core Strategy - sets out a 'spatial portrait' which sets out the area's unique features. See <a href="https://woking2027.info/developmentplan/corestrategy/adoptedcorestrategy.pdf">woking2027.info/developmentplan/corestrategy/adoptedcorestrategy.pdf</a> p16 onwards.</li> <li>• Paving over gardens links to national planning controls set by central government e.g. 'permitted development', which include in recent years requirements for permeable surfacing material or a full planning application (see <a href="http://www.planningportal.co.uk/permission/common-projects/paving-your-front-garden/planning-permission">www.planningportal.co.uk/permission/common-projects/paving-your-front-garden/planning-permission</a>). Swimming pools can be permitted development too <a href="https://urbanistarchitecture.co.uk/planning-permission-for-outdoor-swimming-pool/">https://urbanistarchitecture.co.uk/planning-permission-for-outdoor-swimming-pool/</a></li> </ul>							

Energy	Yes	%	No	%	To some extent	%	Total	%
Do you agree with this theme's objectives?	11	64.7	3	17.6	3	17.6	17	100.0
Do you support the actions the council plans to take?	10	58.8	2	11.8	5	29.4	17	100.0

<p>What else could we be doing?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•More investment in heat pumps. Solar panels on all new houses and offices.</li> <li>•Collective purchase schemes for insulation, heat pumps etc (like Solar Together).</li> <li>•Attract green energy skills/jobs.</li> <li>•Council should not invest in energy schemes.</li> <li>•Advice on loft clearance and insulation. Inform people of benefits of action.</li> <li>•Free parking for electric vehicles; remove diesel buses.</li> <li>•Council tax incentives for those investing in renewables.</li> <li>•No mention of how industrial emissions being tackled e.g. energy intensive manufacturing</li> <li>•Lack of reassurance that carbon footprint findings will be prioritised in context of financial situation.</li> <li>•Harness private investment to augment council budgets.</li> <li>•Strengthen position on open fires and wood burning stoves.</li> <li>•Objectives to include: support community-led innovation and engagement.</li> <li>•Actions to specify: working directly with the local building sector to carry out energy efficiency improvements at key opportunities (such as extensions, home improvement projects, etc.)</li> <li>•Actions to specify: going deeper on work with private landlords and home-owners. Proactively seek out other (more innovative) forms of finance measures, such as revolving funds or facilitating low-interest loans.</li> <li>•Actions to specify: "Promote AND FACILITATE community energy projects"</li> <li>•More plans for local renewable energy projects that are community funded.</li> <li>•Ground source heat pumps and combined heat and power for Goldsworth Park centre.</li> <li>•More help for households with low EPC that are above income thresholds for grant support.</li> <li>•There are no specific energy related objectives. Need to demonstrate e.g. how many homes need to be retrofitted; how much it will cost and how the money will be found.</li> <li>•Use international case studies and tailor to Woking.</li> <li>•Behaviour change is key and engaging young people to take message home.</li> <li>•Priority area is the growth and decarbonisation of Woking's decentralised energy networks.</li> </ul>
<p>Council response/action:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Green skills / training - focus area of LoCASE and SCC-led schemes in development.</li> <li>•Action Surrey / SCC programme in development to address the gap in support for households that do not meet current grant eligibility criteria.</li> <li>•Action Surrey offers valuable advice and signposting on measures such as loft insulation and ancillary services.</li> <li>•Action and objective around community focused and community funded local energy projects strengthened in strategy.</li> <li>•Decarbonisation of energy network in Woking is a priority in ThamesWey business plan and in findings of the carbon footprint assessment.</li> <li>•The revised Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) will provide updated guidance to developers and homeowners on a range of themes including fabric first energy efficiency improvements and low and zero carbon energy technologies. The draft SPD is available to view here - <a href="https://www.woking2027.info/supplementary/climatechangespd/draftccspd2023.pdf">https://www.woking2027.info/supplementary/climatechangespd/draftccspd2023.pdf</a> - and was subject to public consultation between 18 May - 30 June 2023.</li> <li>•Carbon footprint assessment findings have been built into the strategy's theme on "The council's journey to net zero" and will be subsumed into the accompanying action plan as stated. Due to the prevailing finance situation this is set in the context of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and the reliance on external sources of funding.</li> <li>•To date, EV drivers have enjoyed free charging in Woking Town Centre car parks.</li> </ul>

Waste	Yes	%	No	%	To some extent	%	Total	%
Do you agree with this theme's objectives?	24	85.7	1	3.6	3	10.7	28	100.0
Do you support the actions the council plans to take?	23	82.1	1	3.6	4	14.3	28	100.0

<p>What else could we be doing?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Repair café and tool library. Request to mention WEAct repair cafe in strategy.</li> <li>•If waste related emissions only count for 2.8% how important is it to net zero?</li> <li>•Widen variety of what can go in kerbside recycling e.g. tetrapak; consistency at county level for recycling items like blisters packs etc rather than work with WEAct on these.</li> <li>•Work with Surrey districts and boroughs towards a more consistent approach to recycling.</li> <li>•Awareness raising to reduce food waste; grow your own fruit/veg. Encourage sharing of surplus food / allotment produce with food banks, community fridges etc.</li> <li>•Raise awareness of kerbside textiles and electrical recycling; improve recycling and also waste segregation in communal bin areas; advice on what to do with items no longer needed e.g. freecycle and equivalents; promote 'Buy Nothing' Facebook groups; food leftover apps and community food hubs like one in Knaphill. Crystal clear messaging on what can be recycled in blue bins.</li> <li>•Eradicate single use plastic. Expand schemes to enable people to refill reusable water bottles to reduce plastic waste. Lobby supermarkets and local businesses to reduce packaging and ban single use plastics / plastic bags altogether.</li> <li>•Work with / support local businesses that offer circular economy processes such as electronics / machine repairs.</li> <li>•Include separate section on domestic e-waste as fast growing sector.</li> <li>•Support small businesses to work together to achieve circular economy.</li> <li>•Higher fines to stop fly tipping.</li> <li>•Engage schools on waste and recycling - children take messages home.</li> <li>•Encourage deposit return schemes.</li> <li>•Bare+Fair now closed - remove case study. What are council's plans for refill now?</li> <li>•Consider ReWorked as a plastics recycling hub.</li> <li>•Any general waste should be burnt for energy recovery so nothing goes to landfill. Support biomass energy.</li> <li>•Measurable targets to increase recycling - SMART.</li> <li>•Replace 3Rs with 6Rs: Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair.</li> </ul>
<p>Council response/action:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•WEAct repair café case study included (to replace Bare + Fair).</li> <li>•Although a relatively small proportion of emissions, tackling waste is key to a sustainable borough and in achieving the strategy's other guiding principles e.g. preserving resources etc.</li> <li>•Awareness raising done locally via WBC and Planet Woking communications but noted as action to continue messaging around waste and recycling.</li> <li>•Surrey Environment Partnership (SEP) website has resources and advice on a range of waste related topics and runs focused campaigns to improve awareness. See <a href="https://www.surreyep.org.uk/">https://www.surreyep.org.uk/</a>. These are also promoted through WBC communications channels.</li> <li>•New section on e-waste included in the strategy.</li> <li>•The strategy references SEP2025 which is the bridging strategy for strategy while further information awaited from governments on its Resources and Waste Strategy.</li> <li>•The Council, as a member of SEP, will lobby government for enhanced waste and recycling schemes such as bring/return schemes, as stated in the draft strategy.</li> <li>•Woking Environment Action runs a project called WEAct on Plastic which raises awareness on the need to cut plastics. The group has run mass unwrap events at local supermarkets and works with local organisations to help them achieve Plastic Free Community status (part of the Surfers Against Sewage campaign). See <a href="https://wokingenvironmentaction.com/plastic-free-woking/">https://wokingenvironmentaction.com/plastic-free-woking/</a></li> <li>•Eco schools is a globally recognised programme that aims to make sustainability an integral part of school life. SCC coordinates engagement and membership of the programme locally. Topics include waste and recycling, biodiversity, active travel and air pollution. Eco Schools programme mentioned in the strategy in section 10.10. There are currently eight eco schools in Woking borough.</li> <li>•Sadly Bare+Fair closed in Woking in June 2023, after the draft strategy was published for consultation. This case study has been replaced. There are alternative refill and eco shops locally including Kate's Eco Shop in Knaphill, Woking.</li> <li>•Monitoring, including SMART targets, to be developed as part of action plan that will be updated following adoption of the strategy. This is stated in section 15.4 'Monitoring and governance' of the draft strategy.</li> <li>•As requested the 6Rs of waste management (Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair) are now referenced in the opening section of the waste theme.</li> </ul>

Water	Yes	%	No	%	To some extent	%	Total	%
Do you agree with this theme's objectives?	8	72.7	0	0.0	3	27.3	11	100.0
Do you support the actions the council plans to take?	8	72.7	1	9.1	2	18.2	11	100.0

<p>What else could we be doing?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stop permitting construction of private swimming pools; stop construction of blocks of flats.</li> <li>• New builds should all have water harvesting and storage facilities, domestic and commercial.</li> <li>• Add water butts to downpipes. Scheme for discounted water butts.</li> <li>• Raise awareness about Refill Woking on social media.</li> <li>• Require planning consent for paving over driveways.</li> <li>• Useful informative section.</li> <li>• Byfleet, West Byfleet &amp; Pyrford Residents Association insistent that Sanway Road flood alleviation scheme in Byfleet goes ahead in it's entirety and is not compromised in any way by Woking BC's stricken financial situation.</li> <li>• Need SMART objectives. Annual targets - you want to reduce water consumption - by how much and by when and who exactly?</li> <li>• More on climate adaptation, adjusting to volatile weather.</li> <li>• Drought-resistant planting in Woking public spaces.</li> <li>• Review/upgrade Woking's drainage infrastructure.</li> <li>• This theme is not directly related to acheiving net zero and so should be covered under some other strategy - perhaps a general climate strategy.</li> <li>• Use nudge techniques to encourage people to use less water - "do you know that you are using 20% more water than your neighbours?" get people to think about this and how they change - link to behaviour change theme.</li> </ul>
<p>Council response/action:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The revised Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) will provide updated guidance to developers and homeowners on a range of themes including flood risk resilience, use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs) and water efficiency including the use of grey / rain water harvesting. The draft SPD is available to view here - <a href="https://www.woking2027.info/supplementary/climatechangespd/draftccspd2023.pdf">https://www.woking2027.info/supplementary/climatechangespd/draftccspd2023.pdf</a> - and was subject to public consultation between 18 May - 30 June 2023.</li> <li>• Water companies including Affinity Water offer customer discounts on water butts - see <a href="https://www.affinitywater.co.uk/saveourstreams/garden">https://www.affinitywater.co.uk/saveourstreams/garden</a> - link included in strategy.</li> <li>• Monitoring, including SMART targets, to be developed as part of action plan that will be updated following adoption of the strategy. This is stated in section 15.4 'Monitoring and governance' of the draft strategy.</li> <li>• The Sanway Road flood alleviation scheme in Byfleet seeks to improve the local environment and access to green space while also protecting 150 homes from flooding. Public consultation on the scheme's design took place in May 2022. Delivery in partnership with the Environment Agency, Surrey County Council and others remains a priority pending the full project funding being confirmed by these partner organisations. Further information is available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sanway-byfleet-flood-alleviation-scheme/sanway-byfleet-flood-alleviation-scheme">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sanway-byfleet-flood-alleviation-scheme/sanway-byfleet-flood-alleviation-scheme</a> and at <a href="https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/thames/sanway-byfleet-flood-alleviation-scheme/">https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/thames/sanway-byfleet-flood-alleviation-scheme/</a>.</li> <li>• The Refill Woking scheme has been promoted via Planet Woking and WBC social media channels and articles on both websites. The scheme will continue to be promoted and new retailers are welcome to join the scheme.</li> <li>• Water is key to a sustainable borough and raising awareness around its efficient use is important in achieving the strategy's other guiding principles e.g. preserving resources etc. The broadness of the strategy reflects all the areas that play a part in our collective journey to net zero. Themes can be taken as bitesize standalone chapters to engage the community. Good practice and strategies elsewhere demonstrate a similar breadth of topics addressing both net zero and broader climate change topics.</li> <li>• The suggestion to use nudge techniques to encourage people to use less water (and adopt other sustainable changes) will be incorporated into the action plan to be developed alongside the strategy and in awareness raising campaigns.</li> <li>• Adaptation is a key theme within this strategy and runs throughout the themes. The strategy also cites Surrey County Council's Surrey Adapt strategy and action plan to build resilient people, places and partnerships in the local area.</li> <li>• Reference is made to incorporating drought tolerant planting in public and green spaces both in the theme on water and on the natural environment. The forthcoming Planet Woking Wildlife Gardening Guide includes tips and advice for planting in a changing climate and which plants are best for drought and flood tolerance.</li> <li>• Paving over gardens links to national planning controls set by central government e.g. 'permitted development', which include in recent years requirements for permeable surfacing material or a full planning application (see <a href="http://www.planningportal.co.uk/permission/common-projects/paving-your-front-garden/planning-permission">www.planningportal.co.uk/permission/common-projects/paving-your-front-garden/planning-permission</a>). Swimming pools can be permitted development too <a href="https://urbanistarchitecture.co.uk/planning-permission-for-outdoor-swimming-pool/">https://urbanistarchitecture.co.uk/planning-permission-for-outdoor-swimming-pool/</a></li> </ul>

Transport	Yes	%	No	%	To some extent	%	Total	%
Do you agree with this theme's objectives?	16	66.7	4	16.7	4	16.7	24	100.0
Do you support the actions the council plans to take?	16	66.7	2	8.3	6	25.0	24	100.0

What else could we be doing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Walking and cycling strategies don't go far enough - too connected with the existing road network.</li> <li>•Provide cycle facilities on the roads around and into Woking especially when major new roads are being installed. Routes need to be direct, joined up, well-maintained and feel safe.</li> <li>•Segregated cycle lanes especially for parents and children to cycle safely.</li> <li>•Make cycle storage mandatory through Planning - at least 1 per bedroom plus 1.</li> <li>•Fewer cars would be a better solution over schemes like Victoria Arch. Better investment in public transport, provision of park+ride etc would mean better air quality.</li> <li>•Better maintain and integrate walking and cycling routes e.g. repair potholes and improve streetlighting.</li> <li>•Car-centric, focus on parking revenue - wrong message to residents. Subsidise/reward public transport instead.</li> <li>•Seek to reduce transport emissions in Woking Borough by x% in next 3 years and by y% in next 10 years (or something similar) and state that WBC will work in partnership with Surrey CC as transport authority.</li> <li>•Trucks and lorries will have biggest emissions - who has the largest fleet of these in Woking and what are you doing to get them to minimise carbon emissions.</li> <li>•A reliable public transport service is needed to reduce car use, particularly for short journeys . It is key to maintaining independence for some. The buses aren't frequent or reliable enough to get people out of cars. Restore bus routes eg to hospitals.</li> <li>•Creating a car unfriendly environment will deter folks from coming to Woking to spend their money.</li> <li>•EVs are not the answer - their battery production alone negates their "environmental" benefits.</li> <li>•More EV charging points and car club vehicles in the villages.</li> <li>•Prioritise active travel. Prioritising people who walk and cycle, as well as those who use public transport, empowers people to make travel choices that help to create healthier places and happier lives for everyone.</li> <li>•Introduce a scheme that enables cheaper travel by bus e.g. £2 go anywhere routes for a day.</li> <li>•Reduce the need to travel at all by supporting localisation of service delivery and encouraging some substitution of digital for physical travel.</li> <li>•Improve the Better Points app.</li> <li>•Biofuels in vehicles.</li> <li>•Consider a trial for e-scooters and expanding segregated walking/cycling routes such as the planet trails for use by e-scooters.</li> <li>•Incentivise efficient cars through parking pricing structure.</li> </ul>
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Council response/action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The revised Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) will provide updated guidance to developers and homeowners on a range of sustainable transport themes including the prioritisation of walking, cycling and public transport; secure cycle parking; and the provision of EV charging facilities. The draft SPD is available to view here - <a href="https://www.woking2027.info/supplementary/climatechangespd/draftccspd2023.pdf">https://www.woking2027.info/supplementary/climatechangespd/draftccspd2023.pdf</a> - and was subject to public consultation between 18 May - 30 June 2023.</li> <li>• Woking's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) considers walking and cycle routes in the borough and scores them in terms of safety, provision and 'usability'. The findings have been used to identify prioritised routes and the measures and interventions that would be needed to provide for high quality safe and convenient routes to encourage increased cycling and walking in place of the private car. The findings are used to evidence bids for grant funding to implement further active travel infrastructure improvements for both shared and segregated routes.</li> <li>• Monitoring, including SMART targets, to be developed as part of action plan that will be updated following adoption of the strategy. This is stated in section 15.4 'Monitoring and governance' of the draft strategy.</li> <li>• While revenue from parking contributes to sustaining important services provided by the council it is not the only income source and is balanced with other priorities.</li> <li>• Surrey County Council (SCC) is the Local Transport Authority for this area and has a Public and Shared Transport Policy as part of its Local Transport Plan (LTP4). Its key principle is to shift travel to more sustainable modes: public transport, walking, and cycling, away from car use. As stated in Woking's draft strategy, the council will continue to work with partners, including SCC, to provide an integrated transport system that promotes lower carbon and healthy transport choices. Information on how SCC will be working with operators to improve public transport services and simplify fares is available on their LTP4 webpages <a href="https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/policies-plans-consultations/transport-plan/policy-areas/public-transport">https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/policies-plans-consultations/transport-plan/policy-areas/public-transport</a>. This statement has been included in the section on public transport.</li> <li>• EVs are not the only answer but they form part of the shift away from combustion engine vehicles. The strategy highlights the need to shift away from private vehicles to active travel modes and/or public transport, particularly for shorter journeys. In order to highlight this, the strategy now includes a sustainable travel hierarchy section.</li> <li>• SCC's LTP4 recognises the importance in reducing the need to travel at all. Similarly Woking's climate change strategy acknowledges that digital connectivity can play a key role in reducing mileage e.g. audio or video conferencing can be an effective alternative to a face-to-face meeting. WBC's Digital Strategy supports the aspirations of the climate change strategy by identifying digital technologies that can support a low carbon economy.</li> <li>• Take up of biofuels for public transport outside of the borough council's sphere of influence.</li> </ul>
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Economy, business and supply chains	Yes	%	No	%	To some extent	%	Total	%
Do you agree with this theme's objectives?	3	42.9	2	28.6	2	28.6	7	100.0
Do you support the actions the council plans to take?	3	42.9	2	28.6	2	28.6	7	100.0
What else could we be doing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Reduce business rates to keep businesses open.</li> <li>•Identify the ten highest carbon emitting companies in the Borough and understand how they could reduce their emissions, targets to aim for and key climate mitigation they will need to start planning for.</li> <li>•Attract green jobs to Woking. Convert jobs that are heavily fossil fuel/ high carbon emissions jobs to green jobs.</li> <li>•What are your key asks for central government to help Woking businesses get to net zero?</li> <li>•Do not believe a net zero economy is possible or desirable.</li> </ul>							

Council response/action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revenue from business rates contributes to sustaining important services provided by the council and play an important role in supporting the local economy. The money collected is channelled into services such as police, fire and waste management, as is the case with council tax.</li> <li>Woking Environment Action is running a project to identify the ten highest carbon emitting companies in the borough. The council will be interested to hear the findings which could inform further engagement.</li> <li>The strategy looks at how local companies can incorporate sustainability into their business offering practical advice and signposting to further information and financial support.</li> <li>Further to the take up of grants by Surrey businesses through the LoCASE scheme (see section 11.8), SCC is working with partners to develop a follow-on scheme to give further assistance to businesses to achieving a net zero economy.</li> </ul>
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The natural environment	Yes	%	No	%	To some extent	%	Total	%
Do you agree with this theme's objectives?	n/a		n/a		n/a			
Do you support the actions the council plans to take?	n/a		n/a		n/a			

What else could we be doing?	<p>One response from Natural England:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nature-based solutions (NbS) are an essential part of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reducing risks to people through ecosystem-based adaptation (Eba) measures, such as natural flood management (NFM).</li> <li>The quicker GHG emissions can be reduced from all sectors the more the pressure of climate change on the natural environment can be reduced.</li> <li>The natural environment can play a vital role in tackling the climate crisis - and in reaching net zero - as healthy ecosystems take up and store a significant amount of carbon in soils, sediments and vegetation.</li> <li>NbS can help reduce climate risks to people e.g. natural flood management and urban cooling from green infrastructure.</li> <li>Recover and restore natural processes and habitats to build resilience of and accommodate change within the natural environment.</li> <li>Adapt conservation objectives for designated sites and management techniques to adjust to changes that have already happened or are inevitable.</li> </ul>
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Council response/action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBC welcomes the response from Natural England. Sections 12.2 (The role of nature in tackling climate change) and section 12.4 (Biodiversity and nature-based solutions) touch on these principles but have been expanded to reflect Natural England's response.</li> </ul>
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Communicating and enabling change	Yes	%	No	%	To some extent	%	Total	%
Do you agree with this theme's objectives?	3	30.0	3	30.0	4	40.0	10	100.0
Do you support the actions the council plans to take?	2	20.0	2	20.0	6	60.0	10	100.0

What else could we be doing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not the council's job to generate propaganda - waste of resources.</li> <li>Work in partnership with Residents Groups to share ideas, suggest priority themes to engage residents into, key messages to go out to the community, share lessons learnt - what has worked well, what would be better if etc. Could a community net zero forum/working group be set up? This would have the benefit of community communication, harnessing local talent and ideas, mobilising community action etc.</li> <li>Introduce Citizens Assemblies - to get a representative group of Woking residents together - properly explain the net zero challenge Woking faces. Get them to help come up with ideas and take decisions on how to move forward. Set up neighbourhood groups and champions for net zero - link these to schools and involve young people.</li> <li>Please could the strategy be publicised widely and then kept up to date because climate change environmental sustainability is a rapidly developing and changing subject and it would be a shame if the document was not maintained and remain current.</li> <li>Focus should be on training rather than communication. Classroom carbon literacy training should be implemented - starting with the Council's Senior Leadership Team and Executive. A train the trainer approach to delivery Carbon Literacy could reduce costs. Monitor and report on % completed.</li> <li>Objectives to include: working with business sector to take a lead. Also, "Provide support for community-led projects/groups to engage public awareness and action" (e.g. support widespread uptake of home energy audits). Actions to include: Key council staff to undertake regular training on communication methods and developing / supporting green skills.</li> <li>Consider other forms of support for communities (beyond raising awareness and signposting to grants) e.g. exploring reduced business rates in exchange for lowering energy consumption; using the council's central position to facilitate pooling of resource to access lower interest loans; etc.</li> <li>Actively promote Take the Jump.</li> <li>Strategy barely mentions influencing residents to think about what they eat and what they buy - yet the emissions from this can be substantial. One of the big things people can do is to reduce the amount of meat and dairy they consume.</li> <li>People need to feel net zero actions are being done fairly - and the biggest culprits should pay more. Charge big SUVs and gas guzzlers more for parking in town centre. Give EV drivers 1 hour free parking so people can see an incentive to change. Behaviour change is the most important topic to help get people to understand what they need to do and why.</li> </ul>
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Council response/action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The suggestion (see feedback received under the Water theme) to use nudge techniques to encourage people to use less water (and adopt other sustainable changes) will be incorporated into the action plan to be developed alongside the strategy and in awareness raising.</li> <li>• As stated in the strategy (section 13.2 Rallying community support), local authorities have powers or influence over roughly a third of emissions in their local areas. Waste, energy, transport, housing and supply chains are within that sphere of influence. The Council therefore has a key role in leading, enabling, influencing and collaborating with the community and partners to act together on climate change.</li> <li>• The draft strategy was promoted via the Council and Planet Woking websites, e-newsletters and social media channels. This digital promotion was complemented with a series of in-person drop-in events. Once adopted, the strategy (and accompanying action plan) will be published to the council and Planet Woking's website. Subject to resources, officers will look at how each theme could be used to produce quick reference articles to continue to share its content.</li> <li>• Future opportunities for resident engagement will be considered as part of the council's wider engagement activities. This has been added as an action. Woking Environment Action (WEAct) offers a range of community engagement activities. A WEAct representative attends the council's Greener Woking Working Group which reviews and directs implementation of the climate change strategy and Natural Woking, the council's biodiversity and green infrastructure strategy.</li> <li>• WEAct has recommended that the council commits to a programme of Carbon Literacy training. This was also recommended in Anthesis' carbon footprint assessment findings. Currently a climate e-learning module is available to all staff. The ambition to roll out staff climate training is shared by all Surrey districts and boroughs and SCC. Alternative training options to build on the e-learning module is being explored currently. Training is recorded as an action in the strategy.</li> <li>• Community support and facilitating behaviour change are recognised as a key element of the strategy and this theme in particular. Take the Jump is included as a case study in the strategy and is featured on the Planet Woking website.</li> <li>• The impact of food and consumables is covered in the theme on waste with suggested actions that the public can take.</li> <li>• Engagement with the business sector is explored in detail in the theme on Economy, Business and Supply Chains.</li> <li>• "Promote and facilitate community-led climate change initiatives, subject to available council resources." has been added as an action further to the request to support community-led engagement and action.</li> <li>• Revenue from business rates contributes to sustaining important services provided by the council and play an important role in supporting the local economy. The money collected is channelled into services such as police, fire and waste management, as is the case with council tax.</li> <li>• Unfortunately in the current economic climate it would not be possible to facilitate loans but there are alternative sources available for community climate projects through organisations such as Groundwork and The National Lottery.</li> <li>• The current cost of a parking season ticket is based on a vehicle's carbon dioxide (CO2) emission rating determined by the Vehicle Certification Agency. Vehicles with lower carbon dioxide emissions receive a discount on the standard 'band C' price, and vehicles with higher emissions pay a surcharge. Band G vehicles pay 25% more.</li> </ul>
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The built environment	Yes	%	No	%	To some extent	%	Total	%
Do you agree with this theme's objectives?	7	50.0	2	14.3	5	35.7	14	100.0
Do you support the actions the council plans to take?	5	35.7	2	14.3	7	50.0	14	100.0
What else could we be doing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide retrofitting advice for privately owned hard-to-heat homes that do not fall into 'low income' criteria for grants.</li> <li>• Don't build on the greenbelt. Pressure on infrastructure, air quality and transport will be worse with new houses on green belt in Byfleet.</li> <li>• Focus on what has been built already and don't destroy our green spaces for the sake of new developments. Broadoaks development (West Byfleet) has negatively impacted local wildlife and importantly the mental health and quality of life of existing residents.</li> <li>• Encourage the general public to invest in the improvement of their own buildings by frequent publicity.</li> <li>• Integrate nature-based solutions in this theme rather than pigeon-holing them in the natural environment chapter. Trees, hedgerows and other green infrastructure frame and enhance developments, helping mitigate the impacts of climate change, delivering natural cooling in urban heat islands as well as providing shelter and shade, and contributing to sustainable urban drainage systems. They also make a valuable contribution to the quality of the public realm, helping reduce air, noise and light pollution and improve people's mental health.</li> <li>• Compulsory solar panels on all new build offices and houses.</li> <li>• Targets need to be more ambitious and SMART.</li> <li>• All a misnomer. Advising people on how to make their homes and businesses more sustainable does not enable them to be able to actually afford the astronomical costs involved. Especially when it probably won't work.</li> <li>• The construction sector appears to be moving too slowly and building new property as they have for decades e.g. the new £1m houses built in the new Broadoaks estate in West Byfleet have gas hot water and central heating.</li> <li>• Objectives need to say "comfortable and healthy homes for all"</li> <li>• Increasingly too hot in summer could be as much of an issue as too cold in winter.</li> <li>• Need to ensure future built environment supports less use of cars and more self-sufficient neighbourhoods - include target to provide 15 minute neighbourhoods.</li> <li>• Include linked objective about getting the built environment to net zero by 2050 (2045).</li> </ul>							

Council response/action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action Surrey / SCC programme in development to address the gap in support for households that do not meet current grant eligibility criteria.</li> <li>Action Surrey offers valuable advice and signposting on retrofit measures and the availability of financial support where eligible.</li> <li>The role of nature-based solutions has been integrated into this chapter and added as an objective.</li> <li>The revised Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) will provide updated guidance to developers and homeowners on a range of themes including low and zero carbon energy technologies. The draft SPD is available to view here - <a href="https://www.woking2027.info/supplementary/climatechangespd/draftccspd2023.pdf">https://www.woking2027.info/supplementary/climatechangespd/draftccspd2023.pdf</a> - and was subject to public consultation between 18 May - 30 June 2023.</li> <li>Monitoring, including SMART targets, to be developed as part of action plan that will be updated following adoption of the strategy. This is stated in section 15.4 'Monitoring and governance' of the draft strategy.</li> <li>Objective changed as requested from "Ensure warm and healthy homes for all" to "Ensure comfortable and healthy homes for all".</li> <li>Underpinning each of the strategy's themes are two overarching objectives to meet our net zero targets (2030 and 2045). These are stated in section 3 of the strategy (Our vision for a net zero Woking).</li> <li>An element of Surrey County Council's Local Transport Plan (LTP4) includes Planning for Place whereby the principle is to avoid and reduce the number and length of trips needed by improving land use planning, travel planning and levels of digital connectivity. The purpose is to plan, design and improve local neighbourhoods and other parts of towns and villages to provide attractive environments for people, and to increase opportunities to live and work locally in order to reduce trip numbers and lengths. One of the measures that SCC seek to establish is Liveable Neighbourhoods - an element of which seeks the reduction of "the dominance of cars and goods vehicles resulting in improved safety, air quality and noise pollution to encourage more walking, cycling and social interactions".</li> <li>The council's Planning Policy team will be reviewing the Core Strategy (first adopted in 2012) in line with national planning policy and legislation. The purpose of the review is to identify any updates required to the policies in the Core Strategy, as a sound and robust framework for decision making across the borough. The review will consider corporate and national policy updates and wider market and economic changes that may have spatial implications. The review will take into account changes to corporate climate and biodiversity policies in this context and in delivering the council's wider green ambitions.</li> <li>Policy CS6 of the Council's Core Strategy relates to the Green Belt and is designed to ensure the Green Belt continues to serve its key functions and be protected from harmful development. There are a handful of sites such as Broadoaks that have been removed through the Green Belt through the Site Allocations Development Plan Document (SADPD) (<a href="https://www.woking2027.info/allocations/siteallocationsdps.pdf">https://www.woking2027.info/allocations/siteallocationsdps.pdf</a>), to meet part of Woking's need for housing development, as the Core Strategy committed to do. At the same time, the majority of dwellings that are built will be in the existing urban area, as recommended by the respondent. The sites removed from the Green Belt were chosen through a Green Belt Boundary Review (<a href="http://www.woking2027.info/ldfresearch/greenbeltreview">http://www.woking2027.info/ldfresearch/greenbeltreview</a>) to minimise the harm to the Green Belt. Development on these sites will be subject to the key requirements set out for each one in the SADPD, and to further scrutiny at planning application stage. The remaining Green Belt (which is the vast majority) will continue to be highly protected by Policy CS6 of the Core Strategy (<a href="https://www.woking2027.info/developmentplan/corestrategy/cssubmission/borough/cs6">https://www.woking2027.info/developmentplan/corestrategy/cssubmission/borough/cs6</a>). Furthermore future permissions will be subject to the requirement for Biodiversity Net Gain provision.</li> </ul>
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The council's journey to net zero	Yes	%	No	%	To some extent	%	Total	%
Do you agree with this theme's objectives?	2	28.6	2	28.6	3	42.9	7	100.0
Do you support the actions the council plans to take?	2	28.6	2	28.6	3	42.9	7	100.0

What else could we be doing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The net zero agenda needs to remain a priority for the council alongside the current financial challenges. Net zero options will ultimately save money and the planet.</li> <li>Strong support for Woking's Climate Change Strategy and very much hope the strategy will not be adversely impacted or diluted by the financial challenges being experienced by the council.</li> <li>Ensure council reports/communications indicate how decisions have been taken with regards to climate impact.</li> <li>Support staff behaviour change e.g. clean energy heating to improve homeworking conditions and sign up to the Climate Perks programme (rewarding sustainable travel choices for holidays).</li> <li>Ensure ongoing commitment to improving training and awareness on climate-related issues (e.g. set targets around 100% staff to have carbon literacy as base-level training, by a certain date e.g. 2027).</li> <li>This is the least of our worries. We are bankrupt.</li> <li>No reference made to the remaining emissions if High Ambition reduction pathway achieved.</li> </ul>
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Council response/action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The strategy recognises the co-benefits of environmental action for the economy, for health and wellbeing and for the community are now more pressing than ever in the context of economic challenges and the cost-of-living crisis. This is brought into closer focus with the council's Section 114 notice and government intervention. Furthermore, the council acknowledges that it cannot fund net zero alone and will need to work in partnership and identify innovative finance solutions. Delivery of this strategy will be determined through the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy which balances the priorities of the Council with the resources available to deliver these priorities.</li> <li>In section 15.6, the strategy states as an action that subject to funding, the council will implement energy efficiency and energy demand measures as outlined in the High Ambition Pathway of the carbon footprint assessment. A net zero corporate estate by 2030 is set within its objectives as first laid out in the climate and ecological emergency declaration.</li> <li>As part of the strategy adoption process, council officers will be developing a plan for staff and councillor engagement on the council's climate commitments and the Woking Net Zero strategy. The plan will include recommendations on strengthening of climate considerations for reports and projects; staff training; promotion of Take the Jump following the campaign's endorsement by the Executive; and a 'climate crib sheet' for the staff intranet offering a one-stop-shop for information on the council's climate commitments and sustainability tips and advice for both at work and at home. This has been included within the strategy as an action the council will take.</li> <li>The carbon footprint assessment gives details on the High Ambition reduction pathway and recommendations for managing remaining emissions. The assessment is available to view at <a href="https://www.woking.gov.uk/carbonfootprint">https://www.woking.gov.uk/carbonfootprint</a></li> </ul>
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