

# Climate Change Annual Report

30<sup>th</sup> November 2023

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Strategy

# Introduction

**Progress made on the Climate Change Corporate Programme over the reporting period July 2022 to July 2023.**

The report provides an update on:

- new priorities and focus for Hampshire County Council
  - baseline emissions
  - updates on key programmes within the Strategic Framework
  - networks and partnerships
  - communications and marketing
  - engagement activities
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# New priorities and focus for Hampshire County Council

## Move from Action Plan to focussing on the Strategic Framework

The creation of the Hampshire 2050 directorate provided an opportunity to review the existing internal arrangements for delivering against the Climate Change Strategy through the Action Plan and Strategic Framework.

- Action Plan now part of business as usual and in many cases forms part of directorate reporting processes.
- The Strategic Framework established as the focus of the climate change activity that will deliver the biggest impacts.

Agreed

- the Strategic Framework would be the **main focus** of the Climate Change Programme going forward
  - reporting on the Action Plan would no longer form part of the annual reporting cycle
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# New priorities and focus for Hampshire County Council

The primary areas of focus for 2023 onwards are:

- working on the delivery of the outward-facing elements of the Strategic Framework
  - focus on supporting our residents through behaviour change and building resilience
  - continue to build on the strategic leadership, influencing, enabling, and advocacy role
  - supporting corporate join-up and the embedding of climate change into business as usual across the County Council
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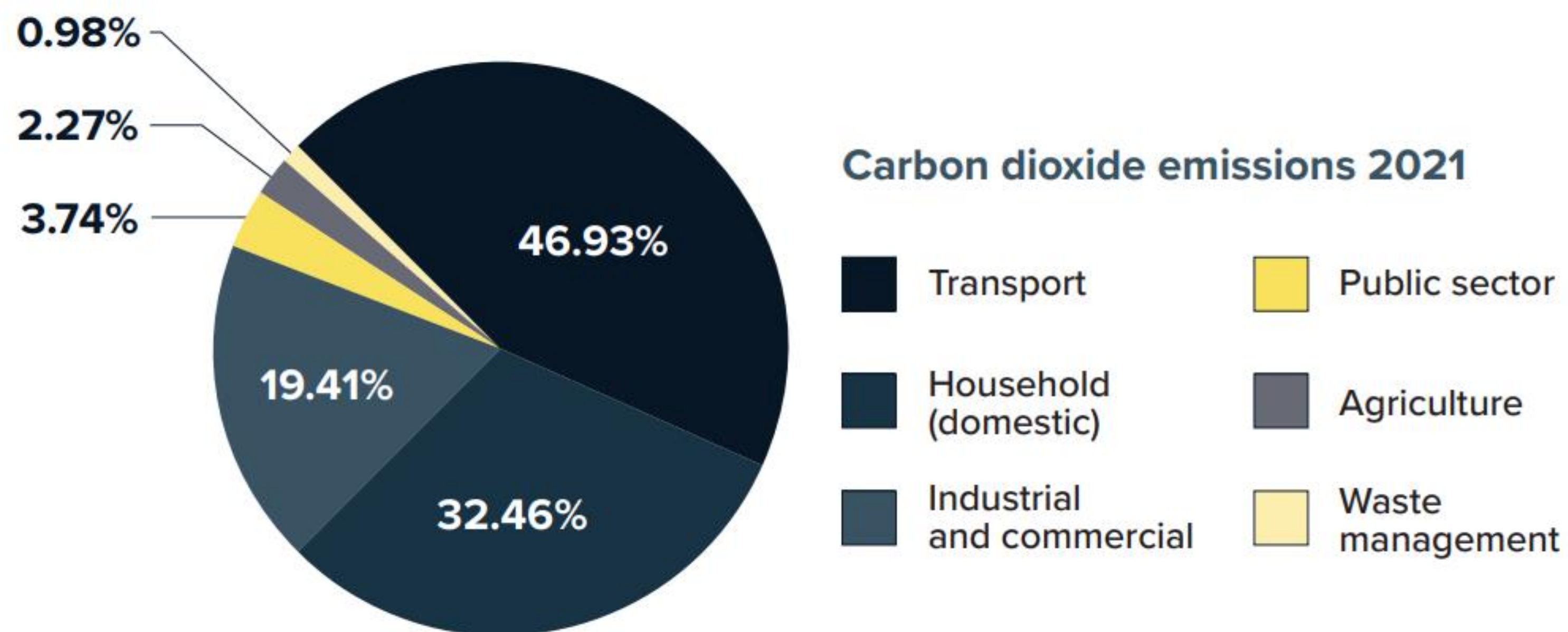
# New priorities and focus for Hampshire County Council

Embedding climate change across the County Council remains a key priority.

- Climate Change Group
  - Decision Tools
  - New E-Learning
  - New embedding programme to support teams
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# Baseline emissions

Between 2019 and 2021 there was an overall reduction in Hampshire's territorial emissions of 7.3%, resulting in a cumulative reduction of 46% since 2005. Included in this figure is carbon sequestration, which was 0.5% higher in 2021 than in 2019.



# Strategic Framework

## Residential

- The Greening Campaign
    - £500,000 National Lottery Funding
  - Building a Community Energy Network
    - There is 2MW of community energy in various stages of development across the county.
  - The Environment Centre
    - The new website received 42,395 visitors in the 8 months since its launch in November 2022 - 12-fold increase on the previous 12 months.
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# Strategic Framework

## Residential

### Solar Together Bulk Buying Scheme

- Over 2,100 households have received solar panels through the schemes, via the installation of 7,400kw of rooftop solar power, which has the capacity to save an estimated 46,000 tonnes of carbon emissions.
- The 2022 scheme achieved a 15% average discount compared to the typical market price.

### Retrofit Programme

- Stakeholder engagement event was convened in June 2023 with an outcome to establish a formal entity (consortium) to take the next steps towards implementation.
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# Strategic Framework

## Transport

- Programme of works underway to design and deliver new demonstration active travel schemes.
  - 100 staff who look after or improve our streets and spaces have been trained in how to apply the Framework
  - The Bus Service Improvement Plan has also been adopted, alongside 8 Local Cycling and Walking Implementation Plans.
  - Supplementary guidance documents are also being developed for Development Control and Master Planning to better integrate land use and transport planning.
  - A highway resilience network map has been developed and published. The main aim of a resilient network is to maintain economic activity and access to key services during extreme weather and other disruptive events through prioritised and targeted maintenance.
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# Strategic Framework

## Hampshire Energy Evidence & Research

University of Southampton began work on two further pieces of work to understand

- the future potential of renewable energy generation in Hampshire and
- the technical and economic constraints to delivering change.

## Business and Green Economy

- Using the Government's flagship Skills Bootcamps programme to directly commission a range of training courses in low carbon construction, retrofit and green transport skills to meet the identified needs of the sectors
  - Working with Hampshire and Surrey Chambers of Commerce to develop Local Skills Improvement Plans to better understand the breadth and depth of the skills needed to support the low carbon economy in our area and to focus future investment through the Local Skills Improvement Fund.
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# Strategic Framework

## Economic Strategy

- Supporting Enterprise M3 LEP with their Jet Zero cluster, and understanding the sector's strengths and challenges, and where there are opportunities for achieving net zero in the aviation sector
- Working with partners such as the LEPs, freeports, and membership organisations around their climate change and environment agendas and understanding where further support and enabling can be delivered

## Natural Environment

- Progressing the Local Nature Recovery Strategy
  - Understanding the potential for all County Council landholdings to meet Biodiversity Net Gain and mitigation requirements
  - Developing a coastal asset strategy (2050) to understand risks
  - Exploring green finance opportunities in relation to nature recovery
  - The Hampshire Forest Partnership also been launched (December 2022)
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# Strategic Framework

## Waste and Circular Economy

- The Waste Prevention Grant Fund has now supported more than 100 projects countywide to help their communities reduce waste.

## Buildings & Infrastructure and Public Health

- Climate change and health through spatial planning and placemaking is embedded into the 'Healthier Communities' theme of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

## Flood and Water Management

- Working with the Environment Agency on a 2-year pilot programme for Property Flood Resilience.
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# **Networks and partnerships**

**Climate Change Expert Forum**

**National, Regional and Local Partnerships**

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# Communications and marketing

Targeted campaigns on resilience and “Swap one to Local” campaigns focused on second hand clothes targeting younger audiences.

Between July 2022 and June 2023, there have been 19,113 unique views of the climate change webpages.

The ‘make your home resilient to climate change’ page has been created. Over the last year, this page has received 1,713 unique views.

Four email newsletters have been created.

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# Engagement activities

## Youth Engagement

Two workshops with 17, 18–24-year-olds were delivered in July 2023 in Eastleigh and Basingstoke. There was an even gender split, with 6 participants from ethnic minority backgrounds, and a mix of urban/suburban and rural participants.

In July 2023 a Climate Unity Conference was held, which offered children and young people the opportunity to work alongside their peers from across county and to engage in a series of workshops to develop their understanding of climate and environmental issues.

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# Engagement activities

- The New Forest Show. Three days of direct engagement with over 350 residents.
  - Retrofit business case stakeholder event attended by over 60 people representing organisations from up and down the retrofit supply chain.
  - Planet Petersfield. Engaged with families and local green groups.
  - Parish Engagement event to promote ways for parishes to become involved in climate action. Attended by over 50 parish representatives.
  - Winning the Regen Green Energy Award for Public Sector Local Leadership.
  - A case study for Ashden into the Council's Year of Climate Resilience.
  - A case study for the LGA on how to develop a retrofit scheme for private residents.
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# Summary & Next Steps

## **The primary focus for 2023 onwards is:**

- Working on the delivery of the outward facing elements of the Strategic Framework.
- Focus on supporting our residents through behaviour change and building resilience.
- Continue to build on the strategic leadership, influencing, enabling and advocacy role.
- Supporting corporate join-up and the embedding of climate change into business as usual across the organisation.

**Based on the research and analysis undertaken over the last 24 months the key areas identified as priorities going forward continue to be residential emissions, energy, behaviour change and engagement**

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