

Climate Action Plan

Focus area 1: Estate emissions

Building decarbonisation

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Utilise the approved capital expenditure of £22.5m to undertake the first tranche of building decarbonisation works on our freehold sites with fossil fuel heating, as agreed by Cabinet in June 2023.	2025	Corporate Property Team	Tranche 1
Apply for 2023 round of Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund to support building decarbonisation.	2023	Corporate Property Team	Tranche 1
Prepare options appraisal for second tranche of building retrofit works.	2025	Corporate Property Team	Tranche 1
Continue to seek external grant funding towards the decarbonisation of NCC buildings Ongoing Corporate Property.	Ongoing	Corporate Property Team	Tranche 1

Vehicle Fleet

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Keep under review the hybrid leased emergency response vehicles within Norfolk Fire Service for the potential to transition the vehicles to full electric versions as charging infrastructure allows.	Ongoing	Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service	Tranche 1
Oversee completion of the current tranche of around 40 charge point installations across 16 council-owned sites	2024	Corporate Property Team	Tranche 1
Review lessons learned from first set of charge points and develop options for further rollout across NCC sites - based around feedback and use.	2024	Corporate Property Team	Tranche 1
Develop usage policy that encourages staff and visitor use of County Hall charge points.	2023	Human Resources	Tranche 1
Transition NCC owned cars and light vans to electric when they come up for replacement where practicable.	Ongoing	Procurement in consultation with user departments.	Tranche 1

IT

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Keep reducing and rationalising the on-site server estate over the next three years for the remaining local requirement. This includes a reduction in storage volumes, advances in our server efficiency, and migration of locally held files and applications to cloud services	2025	Digital Services	Tranche 1
Improve smart energy management systems through a redesign of the collection of half-hourly data on gas, electric and solar usage across the corporate estate.	2023	Digital Services	Tranche 1
Install Internet of Things-enabled smart sensors across our corporate estate to track temperature, humidity and CO2 in a building. This provides insight to energy consumption patterns to identify energy-efficient practices.	2023	Digital Services	Tranche 1

Focus area 2: Indirect emissions

Procurement – Building construction and maintenance

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Let a framework for retrofit works to decarbonise our estate that helps drive the development of local green skills	2023	Procurement	Tranche 1
Include a requirement for suppliers joining the new construction framework to have corporate carbon reduction plans. The new construction framework is due to replace the existing framework which will expire at the end of September 2023	2023	Procurement	Tranche 1

Procurement – Highways construction and maintenance

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Integrate carbon reduction as an evaluation criterion in the procurement of the Long Stratton Bypass construction works	2023	Highways Services	Tranche 1
Use lessons learned from the Long Stratton Bypass procurement to inform approach to integrating carbon reduction in the procurement of the West Winch Housing Access Road	2024	Highways Services	Tranche 1

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Integrate carbon reduction into the re-procurement of our highway works, design and traffic signals contracts for the new contracts that take effect in 2026	2025	Highways Services	Tranche 1
As condition of renewal of Norse Highways maintenance contract require a carbon reduction plan to be introduced	2024	Highways Services	Tranche 1
Draw on the expertise in innovative road pavement design and engineering of Norse Partnership Laboratory for specifying appropriate low carbon materials and techniques when contracting for highways works	Ongoing	Highways Services	Tranche 1

Procurement – Passenger transport

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Develop a carbon reduction strategy for the passenger transport procurement category	2023	Procurement	Tranche 1
Engage with districts through the Norfolk Climate Change Partnership on aligning hackney and private hire licensing arrangements with the transition to lower carbon passenger transport contracting	2024	Procurement	Tranche 1
Engage with passenger transport operators about barriers and opportunities for reducing the emissions related to home-to-school transport provision	2024	Passenger transport	Tranche 1

Procurement – Social care

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Use the reprocurement of home care services across the county to encourage more efficient route planning and use of lower emission vehicles or sustainable travel options where practicable	2024	Procurement	Tranche 1
Build on the residential care energy audit pilots to engage with the care sector on sharing opportunities and best practice for lowering energy costs and reducing carbon	2024	Procurement	Tranche 1

Procurement – Collaboration

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Explore opportunities for public sector procurement partnering with local NHS providers through Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care System	Ongoing	Procurement	Tranche 1

Procurement – Waste

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Review carbon-efficient solutions for processing Norfolk's residual waste as part of exploring options beyond the current contract with Veolia and Suffolk County Council. These arrangements run until 2027 with possible extension until 2029	2027	Waste	Tranche 1

Procurement – Processes

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
For our gold tiered contracts, make our carbon management approach more rigorous and standardised, including: - Monitor the publication and updates to corporate carbon reduction plans of our gold tier suppliers - Take opportunities of contract breakpoints in our gold contracts for integrating carbon reduction considerations - Seek feedback from suppliers on how we can be a better client in supporting carbon reduction (such as through our specifications and KPIs)	Ongoing	Procurement	Tranche 1
Improve our procurement intake process to enable early identification of requests with carbon implications	2024	Procurement	Tranche 1

Focus area 3: County-Wide

Digital Solutions and Connectivity

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Better Broadband for Norfolk (BBfN) phase 3 - deliver gigabit capable broadband to 8,221 premises across Norfolk	2024	Digital services	Tranche 1

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Project Gigabit (Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport funded) - contract awarded in June 2023 with 62,000 rural premises in scope for upgrade to gigabit capable fibre broadband	2026	Digital services	Tranche 1
Fixed Wireless Access project: connect 10 rural village halls with Starlink satellite based internet services installed, along with free public wireless access. Services will be funded for up to 3 years with regular assessments into the effectiveness of the service, and whether it is suitable and cost effective for communities with poor internet coverage	2025	Digital services	Tranche 1
Deploy test case Internet of Things sensors that can monitor air quality, identify pollution hotspots and guide targeted interventions. The initial use case will be at Castle Meadow in Norwich with a second site on Magdalen Street in Norwich. A different type of sensor will also be tested at a school site linked to a roadside Wescotec device	2024	Digital services	Tranche 1
Deliver the Smart Farm Project to trial the use of IoT sensors and devices across two farm locations with both arable and livestock use cases. The project aims to demonstrate benefits to the farm team in areas such as monitoring field conditions, storage of grain and fertiliser, water, livestock, and safety and security	2024	Digital services	Tranche 1
Engage with local businesses, community organizations, technology providers and academia to foster collaboration in implementing IoT solutions for climate action	Ongoing	Digital services	Tranche 1

Energy

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Work with Norfolk Climate Change Partnership to produce a Norfolk wide energy plan identifying the optimal pathway to decarbonising power, heat and transport for residents, businesses, and properties. This will build on focused stakeholder meetings in Autumn 2023 and with a brief for a procurement exercise in 2024 - timeline contingent on County Deal.	2024	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Support UK Power Networks to identify opportunities which can help overcome power constrained areas.	2023/24	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2
Engage with the National Grid East Anglia cluster model to explore how Nationally Significant Infrastructure projects can demonstrate socio-economic benefits.	2023/24	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2
Provide National Grid and UK Power Networks with local housing, jobs and technology data to feed into their future scenario modelling and investment strategy. This will help ensure sufficient electricity infrastructure is planned to allow the uptake of electric heating and transport.	2023/24	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2
Support renewable energy generation across the county by facilitating discussions between District Council and Energy Systems Catapult to identify innovative onsite energy solutions where new infrastructure is not currently available.	2023	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2
Feed into the National Grid study into options for electricity network infrastructure in East Anglia, ensuring Norfolk's objectives for minimal onshore infrastructure and upgrades that benefit local residents and businesses are considered.	2024	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2

Waste – reduction & circular economy

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Reducing food waste: Work with colleagues in Suffolk to deliver a communications campaign under the banner of 'Food Savvy', supporting householders to make the most of their food and throw away less. Moreover, deliver training to Food Waste Ambassadors within the community to raise awareness of resources available and enable individuals with skills and tips to manage food.	2025	Waste	Tranche 2
Home composting: Provide subsidised home compost bins and supporting their use through the Master composter volunteer programme. Training members of the community in successful home composting working with Garden Organic research charity.	2025	Waste	Tranche 2

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Expand recycling credits for districts and community groups to support parish councils, charities, and other not for profit organisations in collecting household waste for recycling.	Ongoing	Waste	Tranche 2
Reduce Single Use initiative: Maintain a communications campaign to reduce the number of single use items thrown away, with a current focus on Refill campaign to target single use food and drinks items.	2024	Waste	Tranche 2
Work through the Norfolk Waste Partnership on initiatives and campaigns focused on reducing recycling contamination and increasing the capture rate of recyclable materials.	Ongoing	Waste	Tranche 2
Improved recycling centres: Review feasibility for improvement of the network of recycling centres across the county to improve services, performance and accessibility.	Ongoing	Waste	Tranche 2
Support the East of England Plastic Coalition in their aims to reduce the amount of plastic waste in the marine debris around our coast and reduce the amounts of plastics found in our wastewater systems from households.	Ongoing	Waste	Tranche 2
Support the placement of community fridges across the county preventing food from retailers close to expiry from going to waste. Fridges are located in community hubs and accept donations from individuals. All food is free to be taken from the fridges.	2025	Waste	Tranche 2
Review opportunities to develop infrastructure to support reuse and raising awareness of opportunities to reuse items that may have otherwise gone to waste. This includes potential expansion of reuse shops at recycling centres, developing partnerships with third sector and increasing breath of operations to include more materials, such as furniture and electricals.	Ongoing	Waste	Tranche 2

Waste – Closed landfill management

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Maximise capture of landfill methane through efficient gas monitoring and collection systems for its use as an energy source.	Ongoing	Waste	Tranche 2

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Bioremediation: Use planting schemes to maximise the efficiency of methane breakdown in the landfill.	Ongoing	Waste	Tranche 2
Leachate treatment: Aim to implement on-site leachate treatment systems that reduce transport and energy use.	Ongoing	Waste	Tranche 2

Focus area 4: Green Economy

Green Skills

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Develop the retrofit provider network through engaging with installers and housing providers in retrofit objectives. This will work to the recommendations arising from the NCC-commissioned analysis of retrofit skills demand and builds on existing availability of Skills Bootcamp retrofit training provision.	2024	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2
Establish the Green Skills for Net Zero group, by working with industry stakeholders (offshore, electric vehicle, solar, housing, hydrogen) in methods to address skills demand. This will take forward recommendations from the NCC-commissioned skills analysis of net zero industries.	2024	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2
Partner with the Norfolk Chambers of Commerce to ensure our work aligns with the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) they are leading on.	2023/24	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2
Establish the feasibility of a Norfolk-based Retrofit Skills Academy through Norfolk Investment Framework pilot funding	2023/24	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2

Green Apprenticeships

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Fulfil strategic aim 1 of the council's Apprenticeships Strategy in relation to the promotion of green apprenticeships. This includes marketing campaigns, website development and social media promotion, and a specific award for 'Contribution to Green Apprenticeships' within the Apprenticeships Norfolk Awards.	2025	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Fulfil strategic aim 2 of the Apprenticeships Strategy in relation to the promotion of green apprenticeships through conducting research to understand the awareness, demand and barriers for Green Apprenticeships from Norfolk businesses.	2025	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2
Fulfil strategic aim 3 of the Apprenticeships Strategy to support increase in the number of green apprenticeships starts in Norfolk. This includes working with local providers to develop effective pre-apprenticeship provision to prepare prospective apprentices for the work environment, and working with District Councils to develop funding proposals that support increased provision.	2025	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2
Fulfil strategic aim 5 of the Apprenticeships Strategy by developing the Apprenticeships Norfolk employer and provider networks. This includes facilitating peer support scheme for employers to share good practice and through funding the IEMA Foundation Certificate in Environmental Management to develop green apprenticeship delivery capacity across the county.	2025	Growth and Investment	Tranche 2

Sustainable Tourism

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Support the partnership application to become a Visit England Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) underpinned by the ambition to become the UK's most sustainable tourist destination.	2024	Environment	Tranche 2
Maintain, develop and implement solutions take Norfolk towards the ambition to become UK's most sustainable tourist destination (eg maintaining boardwalks, sustainable travel between key tourist destinations)	2024	Environment	Tranche 2
Maintain, develop and implement solutions to increase community and tourist engagement in local environmental action (eg Gressenhall Environment hub) and seek similar models at key locations in the county associated with landscape scale nature recovery projects	2024	Environment	Tranche 2

Focus Area 6: Nature Recovery

Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Produce, agree, and politically sign off the governance framework, working groups and steering group structure that will be adopted to deliver the LNRSs, agreeing terms of reference, roles, functions and sign off process.	2023	Environment	Tranche 1
Review and refresh operation of the Norfolk and Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership and its involvement in the LNRS process.	2023	Environment	Tranche 1
Develop a Communication and Engagement plan to raise awareness and enable engagement with key stakeholders from all sectors needed for the delivery of the LNRS.	2024	Environment	Tranche 1
Develop the Habitat and Opportunity Mapping for the LNRS	2025	Environment	Tranche 1
Develop the Statement of Biodiversity Priorities	2025	Environment	Tranche 1
Develop strategic relationships needed to facilitate the delivery of both small- and large-scale nature recovery projects	2025	Environment	Tranche 1

Greenways to Greenspaces

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Increase the number and length of all-abilities routes connecting people and places by 10 routes and 100 kilometres by 2029 (p.78 of Norfolk Access Improvement Plan)	2029	Environment	Tranche 1
Identify new linear and circular walks opportunities from Norfolk Trails, the National Trail, Norfolk Coast Path and Public Rights of Way that link business, heritage and culture sites and improve connectivity with residential areas. This includes links with public transport and supporting applications for funding (p.77 of Norfolk Access Improvement Plan)	Ongoing	Environment	Tranche 1
Use spatial planning to identify where gains for biodiversity (connectivity of habitats and landscapes) can be made associated with the access network (p.80 of Norfolk Access Improvement Plan)	Ongoing	Environment	Tranche 1

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Increase the number of Roadside Nature Reserves from 111 to 300 and provide quality management to improve their status	2025	Environment	Tranche 1
Develop, sign-off and implement a new roadside verge management policy by the end of 2024.	2024	Environment	Tranche 1
Establish 1 million new trees across the county through planting and natural regeneration by 2025	2025	Environment	Tranche 1
To connect communities, landowners and parishes with external schemes, provide expertise, and identify opportunities for council-led planting.	Ongoing	Environment	Tranche 1

Protected Landscapes

Action	Date	Owner	For NCC reference
Work with partners to undertake the Landscape Recovery pilot scheme - 'Wilder, Wetter, Better for Wildlife'. This will work with land managers to increase the amount of land managed for nature in North Norfolk by 2,000 ha. This should ultimately create contiguous habitat for nature of at least 20,000 ha	2030	Environment	Tranche 1
Redesign protected area management plans which cover land and seascape following guidance from Natural England, providing a joined-up approach to planning and delivery	2025-2026	Environment	Tranche 1