



Climate Emergency Action

Review 2021

Tina Iball – Environmental Strategy Officer
Dan Massey – Head Ranger

www.westlancs.gov.uk

Overview

Engaging communities to support action on the climate emergency, with a focus on:

- Production and increase of renewable energy generation
- Public engagement of the Waste Reduction Strategy
- Supporting biodiversity projects
- Development of Water Management Strategies



Aim

This presentation aims to provide:

- Current position – where we are at the moment.
- Our plans – projects planned for the coming year
- Ideas of projects/ opportunities that may be of interest



Climate Change Action

Background

- Climate Emergency declared in July 2019
- Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2030 adopted in November 2020
- Carbon footprint baseline and targeting
- 7 key priority areas for action



Community Action

Objectives:

- To identify stakeholders, partners and interested parties.
- Hold a citizens assembly to encourage stakeholder engagement and identify targets and key areas of interest for action.
- Encourage climate action in our communities.



Community Action Plan

12.4 PRIORITY 6: Community Action - Action Plan 2021-22

Action	Lead responsibility	Partners	Resources/ Conditional Upon	Milestone Progress	Targets/ Anticipated Outcomes	Funding/ Income Generation Opportunities	Timescale
Climate Action Groups	Environmental Strategy Officer	Energy Saving Trust	Officer time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen existing partnerships with local climate action groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong working relationships and sharing best practise. 		December 2021
Member Involvement	Environmental Strategy Officer	Councillors	Officer time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage local Councillors to take action in their communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillors actively involved in promoting and delivering climate action. 		December 2021
Citizens Assembly	Environmental Strategy Officer	External Support	Officer time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Citizens Assembly and hold an initial workshop. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish low carbon targets and actions 		December 2021
Establish a West Lancashire Climate Action Group	Environmental Strategy Officer	Digital Communications Manager	Officer time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify a diverse range of new partners, stakeholders and interested parties across the Borough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New climate action group is formed. 		December 2021

Shared vision with this review



Projects 2021-22

Phase 1b - £2m grant for Lancashire

- Approx. £250,000 for West Lancs
- Energy efficiency retrofits for 50 Council owned properties,
- Occupied by low income households
- Completion by September 2021



Phase 2 - £10.4m (tbc) grant for Lancashire

- Approx. £850,000 (tbc) for West Lancs
- Energy efficiency retrofits for privately owned/rented properties
- Occupied by low income households
- Completion by December 2021

GHG Voucher Scheme

- Open now - to all homeowners
- Energy efficiency measures
- £5,000 maximum contribution



Projects 2021-22

On-Street Residential Charge Point Scheme

Round 1

- £103,350 grant secured for West Lancs.
- 32 new electric vehicle charge points
- 4 Council owned car parks
- Delivered by April 2021

Round 2

- Open now, bids to a max. of £100,000
- Look more community based
- Identify demand in local areas



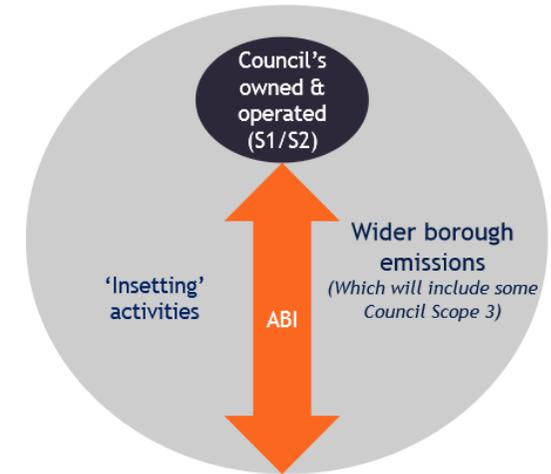
Potential Projects

Solar Together

Group-buying for solar panels and battery storage: better offers together.



AUTHORITY BASED INSETTING



Rural Community Energy Fund

A funding scheme to support rural communities across England wanting to set up renewable energy projects in their area.



Waste Reduction Strategy

Current and future work areas include:

- Love Food, Hate Waste campaign
- Re-use and reduce focus
- Tackling recycling contamination in identified areas
- Blog posts – food waste and sustainable fashion
- Schools partnership – Recycling superhero project and visits, when possible.



Potential Projects

Business Waste

- Ormskirk Market pilot
- Business pledges
- Commercial leases



Residential Recycling

- Hessian bag provision -
to reduce contamination



Biodiversity

Current Position

- The 16 Parks and Country Parks managed by the Ranger Service are managed not only to provide amenity value, but to protect and enhance biodiversity and habitats.
- Active woodland, pond and meadow management programmes on a number of the sites – carried out by staff, volunteers, stakeholders and contractors (subject to funding)
- The Rangers regularly work with local schools to promote, protect and enhance green space



Biodiversity



- Working with volunteers, Friends Groups and members of the public the Ranger service has planted in excess of 2000 trees in the last 3 years – primarily at Beacon Country Park, Coronation Park and Tawd Valley Park
- Focused on improving habitat connectivity, linking up and expanding existing areas of woodland
- West Lancs has got a substantial tree stock especially in the Skelmersdale area – management of which is currently under review



Biodiversity

- Council strategies for Green Infrastructure improvements
- Sustainable transport plans – improving cycling and walking provision to address carbon emissions and to provide green corridors



Biodiversity

What is already in the pipeline?

- Extending wildlife meadow management at Beacon Country Park, Tawd Valley Park and Burscough Brickpits
- Increasing levels of on-site and digital interpretation on P&C sites
- Increased tree planting in green spaces in Ormskirk – West End Park
- Investigate tree and wildflower planting in other 'formal' parks
- Assessment to optimise/rationalise open space and playing pitch provision – to help address food and fuel poverty as well as improving habitat value
- Improving Clough Valleys in Skelmersdale -£50k Cil/Kickstart



Biodiversity

What is already in the pipeline?

- £285,000 of towpath improvements
- Investigate development of the Beacon Eco Park:



Biodiversity

Beacon Eco-Park

- Investigate potential for developing Beacon Country Park and surrounding green space
 - to address food and fuel poverty,
 - provide educational facilities,
 - community farming,
 - renewable energy sources,
 - improve physical and mental wellbeing opportunities
 - Classroom
 - Cycling routes
 - **Subject to funding**



Biodiversity

Opportunities

- Revise mowing regimes on other council greenspaces – roadside verges (esp Skem)
- Investigate areas within *every* greenspace to manage specifically for wildlife habitat
- Fairy Glen Country Park

For every person who appreciates ‘wild places’ there is another who doesn’t
‘It’s a mess and the Council are just saving money’

Solution? – Consultation, Education and Interpretation
Engendering a Green View in the population



Water Management Strategy

Current Position

- Asset management - currently no large scale proactive flood or surface water management undertaken by the Council
 - Identification of assets need mapping so maintenance requirements can to be pro-active, rather than re-active
 - Surface Water Plans produced by lead Flood Authorities for Ormskirk, Burscough and Parbold need to be actioned.
- Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (Suds)
 - Planning Policy requirement for major developments



Water Management Strategy

- WLBC are active members of both the Alt-Crossens and River Douglas Catchment Partnerships
- These groups, led by Groundwork and the EA are consortiums of stakeholders, private individuals, charities, professional bodies and local governments
- Working together to improve water quality, flood alleviation and blue/green corridors along the rivers and tributaries



Water Management Strategy

What is already in the pipeline?

- Four large scale Suds/NFMs developments in Tawd Valley Park – to provide ‘end of pipe’ solution to pollution incidents, moderate water flow (and provide amenity and habitat) –*seeking funding*
- A cross departmental Culverts and Watercourses group has been set up



Potential Projects

- Asset Management Review – comprehensive list of assets
- Offer a Property Flood Resilience Service
- Sustainable Drainage
 - Biodiversity, amenity, habitat creation, water quality improvements
 - Sponge parks
- Permeable surfaces
- Provision of water butts for the public



Thank you!

Tina Iball

Environmental Strategy Officer

01695 585197

Christina.iball@westlancs.gov.uk

Dan Massey

Head Ranger

01695 585265

Daniel.massey@westlancs.gov.uk

