

Annual Climate and Environment Action Plan Review 2023.

Project: Climate and Environment Action Plan

Date: July 2023

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Version Control

Version		Description of version	Effective Date
0.1	DRAFT		June 2023

Approvals

Approved by		Date
Matt Holford		27/07/2023
Committee		

Associated Documentation

Description of Documentation	
Climate and Environment Action Plan 2021-30	
SDDC Annual Carbon Report 2023	

Executive Summary

This Climate and Environment Action Plan Review examines the Climate and Environment Action Plan 2021-30 using the outcome from the Q4 Head of Service Progress Report (2023) that tracks the progress of each of the 57 individual climate and environment aligned to their service plan and the results of the Councils Annual Carbon Report 2023. Overall, the highlights of this Action Plan Review (2022/23) shows:

- The Council has completed 26 of the 57 actions (46%), a further 20 actions (42%) are in progress and 7 actions (12%) have not started.
- There are some significant successful In-house and District-wide actions that the Council is taking that illustrate the progress that is being made by the Council, these are highlighted in this report.
- The Council's Annual Carbon Report (2023) illustrate that carbon emissions from both In-house and District-wide activities have reduced from the 2018/19 baseline figures.
- The six C&E Transformation Actions that are planned to decarbonise the Councils In-house highest carbon emission sources and locations are detailed. Without the delivery of these Transformation Actions, the Council will not deliver their In-house commitment of becoming carbon neutral by 2030 and so they do require priority awareness and focus.
- This review details the progress made on all the 57 Climate and Environment actions in 2022/23, highlights the successes and makes recommendation for amending the 2023/24 Climate and Environment Plan. These recommendations have the potential to improve the scope of individual actions and create several new actions for 2023/24 that should improve the Councils performance of achieving carbon neutrality.

Overview of the Climate and Environment Action Plan 2021-30.

The current version of the SDDC Climate and Environment Action Plan 2021-30 (C&E Action Plan) was approved in August 2022. It was agreed that it should be reviewed on an annual basis. The C&E Action Plan details the 57 actions SDDC selected to reduce its In-house carbon emissions to carbon neutral by 2030 and to support the reduction of the district-wide carbon emissions to zero in line with the UK Governments 2050 target. These 57 actions are categorised in the table below.

Types of Climate and Environment Actions.	Number of actions	Number of committed actions*
Transformative Actions High cost, high impact actions to reduce the carbon footprint of the Councils largest emission sources. The completion of these actions will deliver in-house carbon neutrality.	8	2
In-house Service Plan Actions Actions that each Service deliver through the annual service plans to reduce the carbon emissions aligned to and resulting from their service area.	30	13
District Wide Service Plan Actions Actions that each Service will deliver through their annual service plans to reduce the carbon emissions across the district that are aligned to their service area.	19	12
Total Actions	57	27
* Committed actions are those that have financial budgets attached to them		

1.1 Action Progress Methodology

This 2022/23 Annual Review is based on the outputs from the processes described below:

1. The Council’s ISO14001 Environmental Management processes and audit feedback
2. The Quarterly Service Action Plan and feedback from Heads of Service on all individual actions
3. The 2023 Annual Carbon Report that gives the current progress on both In-house and District-wide carbon emission reduction.

The outputs from these three processes give a clear indication of:

1. The Council’s governance of the Climate and Environment action delivery
2. External audited verification of the Climate and Environment Action Plan
3. The annual progress of the actions that SDDC has selected to deliver its carbon neutral commitments and progress on the carbon neutral roadmap to 2030.

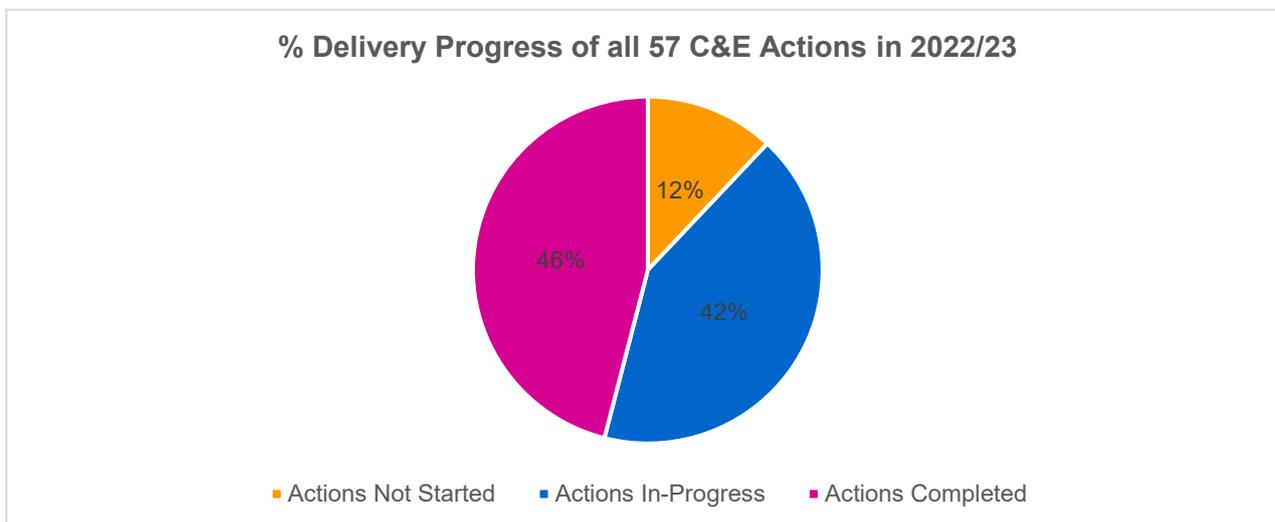
1.2 Governance Progress - Outcomes of External Audits.

During the 2022/23 period the Council’s C&E Action Plan was included within the scope of the annual ISO 14001 audit.

Audit 2022/23	Outcomes for 2023/24
ISO14001	<p>ISO14001 certification is the external accreditation of SDDC’s Environmental Management System, which is the way by which the Council manages all of its environmental impacts, including the use/dispose of natural resources and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>External auditors carried out a three-day surveillance audit in December 2022. The audit did not identify any non-conformities or observations relevant to the Climate and Environment Action Plan. This outcome verifies the governance and project management processes behind the monitoring and delivery of the Climate and Environment Action Plan which will continue without change into 2023/24.</p>

1.3 Progress of the individual C&E actions in 2022/23

A major part of the review is to gain feedback from all HoS and track the progress of all the 57 actions by evaluating them in terms of what stage they are at; completed, in-progress or not started. The results of this delivery progress evaluation for 2022/23 is illustrated below:



The above pie chart illustrates that the Council has started or completed 88% of the C&E actions in 2022/23. The 12% of actions that have not been started, include in the main the transformation actions that tackle the largest carbon emission sources and locations.

As part of this Review, each individual action is rag rated (red: not started, orange: in-progress and green: completed) with the progress made and the next steps required for 2023/24, as shown below. For the purposes of this report the actions have been separated into different emissions sectors such as transport, buildings, etc.

1. Transport

Ref	Action	Progress 2022/23	2023/24
T4A	Transition of Operational Vehicle Fleet from diesel to low or zero carbon fuel.	Hydrogen innovation project for refuse trucks & EV charge point installation project for vans etc at the Boardman Depot.	Ongoing action
T4B & 4C	Transition of other Vehicle Fleet to low or zero carbon fuel	Replacement plan to transition under 3.5t vehicles to electric as part of the above.	Ongoing action
SP4	Delivery of the Sustainable Travel Plan and the annual Employee Travel Survey	Complete - Sustainable Travel Plan in place and 2022 Employee Travel Survey completed.	Ongoing action
ISP5	Review fleet procurement to transition to low or zero carbon vehicles	Replacement plan to transition under 3.5t vehicles to electric. Refuse truck replacement plan subject to outcome of Hydrogen pilot.	Ongoing action
ISP7	Appropriate route optimisation software for SDDC fleet vehicles in Housing and Env Health	Housing Service has installed Dynamic Scheduling that will optimise journeys & Env Health only have 2 x vans, so no requirement	Remove
ISP8	Transition to electric grounds maintenance machinery from petrol	All strimmer's & hedge cutters are now electric, and transition of grass mowers has commenced	Ongoing action
DSP5	Public EV charge points infrastructure expansion across the district using OZEV & DCC LEVI funding partnership	Successful OZEV funding rounds across 6 public car parks providing 41 EV charge points in partnership with BP Pulse	Ongoing action
DSP6	Develop a feasibility study to support the transition of South Derbyshire private taxi service to low carbon emission vehicles	Collaboration with Licensing to develop a consultation plan with private hire companies across South Derbyshire.	Ongoing action

DSP7	Review of hydrogen fuel production and infrastructure across South Derbyshire	Innovation project funding sourced for reviewing hydrogen supply, storage & refuelling infrastructure at the Boardman Depot.	Ongoing action
DSP13	Promote sustainable travel to work plans for job creation in growth development areas	Bus route subsidy for Swadlincote /East Midlands business park, Swadlincote to Mercia Park & Uttoxeter to Dove Valley connections established.	Ongoing action

2. Buildings and Heating

Ref	Action	Progress 2022/23	2023/24
T1	Decarbonisation of the Civic Offices	Decision to be made on retrofitting energy efficiency measures on existing offices or development of new build	Ongoing action
T2	Decarbonisation of Greenbank Leisure Centre	Decision to be made on installation of future renewable energy source or vision/decision on a new build carbon neutral leisure centre	Ongoing action
T3	Decarbonisation of Etwall Leisure Centre	Partnership Board to decide on renewable energy source future.	Ongoing action
T5	Decarbonisation of Boardman Depot	Future low carbon transport infrastructure plan aligned to fleet vehicle transition/replacement plan.	Ongoing action
T6	Rosliston Environmental Exemplar	Interim short-term decarbonisation action (replacement of biomass boiler) & longer-term vision/decision on Rosliston becoming an Environmental Exemplar.	Ongoing action
T7	SDDC Housing Stock Decarbonisation	Completion of both SHDF 1 & 2 programmes Exploit the opportunity for potential further bid submissions.	Ongoing action
T8	Develop a programme to decarbonise worst performing housing stock	This action should be taken out & replaced with a 2-part action around the feasibility of building carbon neutral social houses and dealing with the climate change impact (e.g. drying clay soil affecting foundations) to certain identified social houses.	Complete, take out & replace with 2 actions.
ISP1	Improving the data content of the Social Housing Stock condition survey data	Procuring an ongoing stock condition survey that focuses on energy efficiency & decarbonisation	Ongoing action
ISP2	Decarbonisation of all public buildings as part of the Corporate Asset Management strategy to future proof all public buildings	Continue this action & establish a funding/budget programme to pay for this.	Ongoing action
ISP6	Creating and developing a Low Carbon Homes Team that supports home decarbonisation across the district	Ongoing delivery of household decarbonisation funding	Ongoing action
ISP13	To create and develop a programme to educate and inform residents/public on using low carbon heating sources	Guidance information developed to support residents & public on low carbon heating	Complete, take out.
ISP9	Install Smart metering at all Council buildings	Awaiting suppliers' collaboration	Ongoing
ISP10	Leisure Centre energy reduction	Act Results to be monitored	Ongoing action
ISP11	Align ongoing Leisure Centre maintenance plan for energy and carbon reduction	Continue to grow this action	Ongoing action
ISP12	F gas replacement/efficiency across Council buildings	Continue this action	Ongoing action
DSP1	SDDC Healthy homes assistance funding programme for private domestic housing energy efficiency and supporting fuel poverty reduction	Continue this action	Ongoing action
DSP2	Energy efficiency regulations – effective enforcement programme across private rented housing.	This action should be taken out for 2023/24	Complete, take out

DSP4	Green Home Grant/LAD funding delivery of retrofit measures to private and tenanted houses.	Ongoing continued funding applications	Ongoing action
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3. Planning and Land use

Ref	Action	Progress 2022/23	2023/24
ISP3	Embed carbon neutral in new SDDC Local Plan	Issues and options for Local Plan review drafted for feedback	Ongoing action
DSP3	Develop a database of renewable energy sources across South Derbyshire and track renewable energy production to support planning policy	Data collation completed on existing renewable energy sites across South Derbyshire. DCC have produced a Spatial Renewable Energy Study that will be used in conjunction with this data.	Ongoing action
DSP14	Freeport Plan influencing, promoting, and partnering with local business to deliver green innovation and technology	South Derbyshire District Council has representation on the Freeport development	Ongoing action
DSP18	Embed Active Travel in Swadlincote town centre access plan.	Included in the Levelling Up Funding Bid to install E-bike hub & active travel infographics in the town centre	Ongoing action

4. Food and Waste

Ref	Action	Progress	
ISP30	Ongoing waste collection service review to support reduction in waste and increase in recycling and composting delivery rates.	Current review complete, but ongoing government changes to waste collection through 2023/24	Ongoing

5. Biodiversity

Ref	Action	Progress 2022/23	2023/24
ISP21	Alteration to grounds maintenance practices to increase biodiversity net gain	Completed – wildflower verges and extended mow schedules have been implemented	Ongoing action
ISP26	Monitoring biodiversity net gain – mapping all green spaces owned by SDDC	Categorisation and mapping completed. Incorporated into GIS.	Ongoing action
ISP28	Create and develop a methodology to estimate the carbon sequestration of council owned green areas across the district	Methodology completed and carbon sequestration estimate as part of the Annual Carbon Report	Ongoing action
DSP8	Utilise Free Tree Schemes across this District.	Completed – free tree schemes are being implemented with public engagement program	Ongoing action
DSP9	Review and detail the climate adaption actions (tree planting and flood resilience) that SDDC are taking across the district	Tree planting and flood adaptations across South Derbyshire is being monitored.	Ongoing action

6. Governance and Finance

Ref	Action	Progress 2022/23	2023/24
ISP14	Environmental review of tendering/procurement process	Reviewing program in place, linking with supply chain scope 3 estimations, and adding social value content to procurement and tender evaluations	Ongoing action

ISP15	Investment review to embed decarbonisation	Ongoing review by Finance. Derbyshire County Council have completed a pension review	Ongoing action
ISP16	Review of costings and financing of decarbonisation actions & funding awarded	Updated indicative costings completed for all transformation actions.	Ongoing action
ISP22	Continuous Review of climate change funding and grants	All decarbonisation bids applied for; OZEV, SHDF1&2, LADs, GHG, HUGs, PSDS3b & D2N2	Ongoing action
ISP23	Annual carbon review of SDDC suppliers (Scope 3) and develop a supply chain reduction guidance	Annual Scope 3 (supply chain) estimation complete, based on spend.	Ongoing action
ISP24	Ongoing monitoring and reporting of carbon emissions and delivery of an annual carbon report	Annual carbon report completed and published	Ongoing action
ISP25	Review of all Council policies/strategies to embed carbon neutral	Reviewing of policies and strategies has been completed.	Complete, take out
ISP27	Annual review of SDDC Climate and Environment Action Plan (2021/30)	Annual Climate & Environment Review completed and published	Ongoing action
ISP17	Develop a full equality, diversity, and inclusion impact assessment of SDDC's Climate and Environment Action Plan	Initial EDI impact assessment has been completed. Full EDI impact needs to be assessed with HR.	Ongoing action

7. Partnership and Communication

Ref	Action	Progress 2022/23	2023/24
ISP18	Ongoing Environmental/Carbon Literacy training	Online delivery of carbon literacy training for parish councils and residents. Ongoing Climate and Environmental induction for all new employees to the Council	Ongoing action
ISP19	Embed carbon emission reduction into the new Economic Development Plan for SDDC	Decarbonisation, environmental sustainability & biodiversity net gain included in the draft plan	Ongoing action
ISP20	Promotion of the Rosliston Forestry Education Centre as an environmental exemplar	Existing environmental training, workshops, infographics complete. External outdoor corporate training sessions being developed	Ongoing action
ISP29	Develop an annual Climate and Environment Communication Plan	Completed – annual communication plan with focus on social media channels, press releases, internal & external communication updates.	Ongoing action
DSP19	Creating and developing a forum for energy consumption reduction advice for South Derbyshire residents	Completed – specific designated external web page for easy access. Marches Energy Agency commissioned for roadshows & outdoor events across the district	Ongoing action
DSP10	Supporting the promotion of green tourism throughout South Derbyshire	Collaboration has commenced with the National Forest Company to develop a joint programme to support Green Tourism across South Derbyshire	Ongoing action
DSP11	Work in partnership with Derbyshire CC to create a collaborative pathway to carbon zero across Derbyshire	Completed – working with Derbyshire County Council on buildings & transport decarbonisation, fuel poverty & energy reduction, climate change strategy, action plan delivery & engagement.	Ongoing action
DSP12	Partner with Derbyshire CC to engage with UK Government for resource, funding, and relevant powers to deliver Climate and Environment Plans.	Completed - Engaged with Derbyshire CC feedback to government organisations (BEIS, Salix, OZEV) & local government associations to further	Ongoing action

		the cause of decarbonisation, funding & relevant powers	
DSP15	Develop a business engagement programme to support decarbonisation projects.	Completed – process has been developed to promote decarbonisation, renewable energy, energy reduction, suitable green funding and showcasing of green technology operations across South Derbyshire	Ongoing action
DSP16	Create a community engagement programme around Climate Change	Programme of communication, events and engagement of specific community groups has been established for residents and organisations across South Derbyshire.	Ongoing action
DSP17	Support the implementation of the community engagement programme (SD18)	Delivery of the community engagement program is in progress	Ongoing action

From this rag rated table, the actions can be divided into actions completed that should be taken out or kept as ongoing actions for 2023/24 and successful actions that showcase the success of individual service teams in 2022/23.

Actions completed in 2022/23

From the above table, 26 actions are classed as actions completed in 2022/23 which can be divided into completed actions that should be taken out of the 2023/24 C&E Action Plan or completed action that are ongoing every year and should continue to be included for 2023/24. There are 5 completed actions which can be removed from the next version of the C&EAP.

Action	Completed and to be taken out of 2023/24
ISP7	Appropriate route optimisation software for SDDC fleet vehicles in Housing and Env Health
T8	Develop a programme to decarbonise worst performing housing stock
ISP13	To create and develop a programme to educate and inform residents/public on using low carbon heating sources
DSP2	Energy efficiency regulations – effective enforcement programme across private rented housing.
ISP25	Review of all Council policies/strategies to embed carbon neutral

Successful Actions in 2022/23

There are a further 18 actions that although not completed have shown real progress and success in 2023/23 either by showcasing the Council's ability to innovate or by delivering significant reduction in carbon emissions, as shown below:

Actions	Success
Transport	
DSP5 – Public EV Infrastructure expansion	SDDC now have installed 42 EV charge points in six car parks across South Derbyshire, displacing 51.7 tCO ₂ e per year. Funding has also been sourced to install 3 EV charge points at the Boardman Depot (D2N2 Shared charge points) and potential for additional public EV charge points at a further 6 SDDC owned car parks from the DCC LEVI scheme.

DSP7 – Review of Hydrogen supply & infrastructure for transport.	Innovation project funding sourced for reviewing hydrogen supply, storage & refuelling infrastructure at the Boardman Depot for the Council's refuse waste collection trucks.
Buildings and Heating	
T7 – Social Housing decarbonisation scheme	SHDF Wave 1 & 2 funding has been sourced to retrofit over 200 SDDC social houses to improve their EPC ratings to C or above and reduce tenants' energy bills. This programme, when complete is estimated to reduce carbon emissions by 450 tCO ₂ e per year
DSP4 – programme to improve energy efficiency of private and tenanted houses	In 2022/23 44 properties have had measures to increase their energy efficiency & is estimated to reduce carbon emissions by 92.4 tCO ₂ e per year.
DSP1 - Healthy homes assistance funding programme for private housing energy efficiency measures and supporting fuel poverty reduction	In 2022/23 SDDC have co-ordinated 56 fuel poverty interventions utilising the Healthy Homes Assistance Fund. A further £314k of funding has been allocated to private sector housing energy improvements under the ECO4 Flex eligibility routes.
Biodiversity	
ISP26 – Mapping of all the SDDC owned green spaces	In 2022/23 SDDC have GIS mapped its 862 ha of green spaces throughout the region that will support its Biodiversity Net Gain programmes and carbon sequestration estimates.
DSP8 – Utilise all tree planting schemes	In 2022/23, SDDC have co-ordinated the planting of 1,777 trees, planted by community groups, residents, and schools. Since 2018/19 over 8,500 trees have been planted, which has the potential to sequester 85 tCO ₂ e per year as they mature.
Partnership/Communication	
ISP19 – Engage with local businesses to support carbon emission reduction	In 2022/23 SDDC have engaged with 35 small businesses through South Derbyshire providing decarbonisation expertise. Through the Shared Prosperity Funding they are supporting small business to decarbonise and promote their green economy expertise.
DSP13 – Promoting sustainable travel plans to support job creation	Bus route subsidy for Swadlincote /East Midlands business park, Swadlincote to Mercia Park & Uttoxeter to Dove Valley connections established to support residents, job seekers and sustainable travel.
DSP 19 - Developing a forum for energy consumption reduction advice for South Derbyshire residents	Created a bespoke designated external web page for easy access to continually updates energy consumption reduction advice and tips.
Governance and Finance	
ISP22 – Ongoing identification of carbon reduction funding	Over the last 3 years S DDC has been successful in winning just under £8 million of decarbonisation funding for private sector housing decarbonisation, social housing stock decarbonisation, electric vehicle charge points and innovation funding to support hydrogen low carbon fuels.
Planning and Land Use	
ISP3 - Embedding climate, environment & decarbonisation in the new SDDC Local Plan.	The issues and options consultants included a significant section on climate change and decarbonisation.

1.4 Progress from the 2022/23 Annual Carbon Report

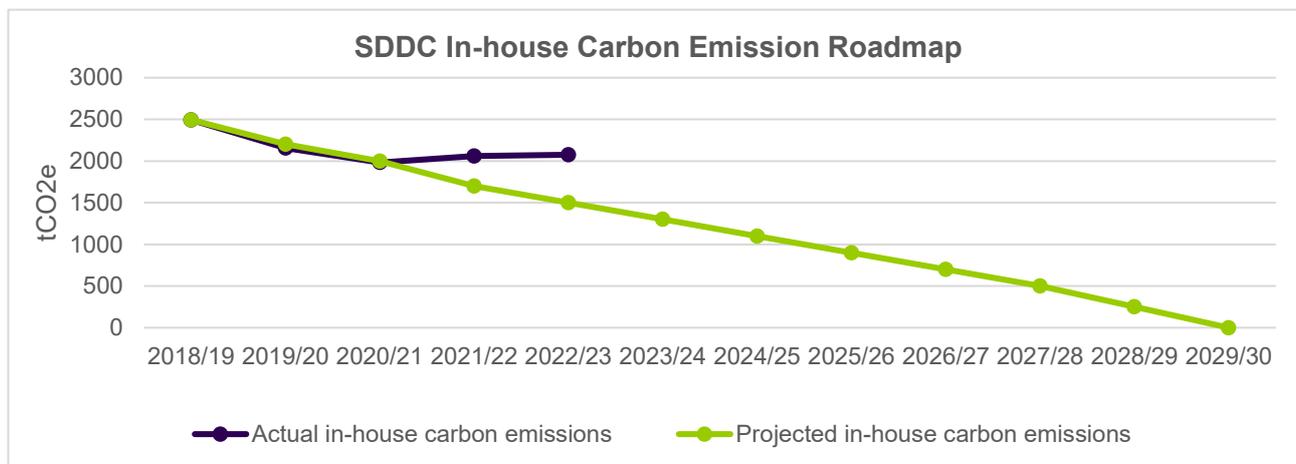
The Annual Carbon Report 2022/23 details the progress the Council has made in reducing its annual In-house and district-wide carbon emissions and the progress being made on its journey to carbon neutrality.

The amount of annual carbon emissions reduction is a significant measure of the success of delivering the C&E Action Plan. It gives an indication of the effectiveness of the individual actions and ultimately whether the Council will deliver its carbon neutral commitments. The table below shows a summary of the Council's progress in 2022/23 in reducing the carbon emissions.

Carbon emissions reduction achievements in 2022/23

Achievement	Summary
Overall in-house carbon emissions have reduced against baseline year.	Against 2018/19 benchmark, the 2022/23 in-house carbon emissions have reduced by 17%.
The last 2 years have seen in-house carbon emission reduction flat line.	Largely due to the increases in fleet vehicle emissions and increased electricity consumption.
Some individual in-house Scope 1 and 2 emissions are reducing year on year, others have seen increases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heat (gas) reduced by 4% Electricity increased by 8% Refrigerant remained static Fleet (diesel) increased by 1.2%
Most categories of in-house Scope 3 emissions are reducing year-on year, whilst the supply chain scope 3 emissions have increased.	Emissions from waste, water, employee commuting and grey fleet are showing reductions from 2018/19 baseline. Supply chain Scope 3 emissions are increasing year on year.
Specific in-house high energy consumption sources are priority areas in delivering in-house carbon neutrality.	Energy consumption of the leisure centres and specific public buildings such as Civic Offices & Rosliston as well as the vehicle fleet are critical to tackle in delivery of carbon neutrality.
District-wide emissions are reducing year-on year	District-wide emissions have reduced by 4% since the 2017/18 benchmark by 4% and by 23% per head of population
The district-wide actions are specifically focused on reducing the high energy sectors (transport, buildings) & improving biodiversity net gain across the region.	Carbon emissions resulting from Transport, Domestic/Residential and Business are making the largest reductions, which is where SDDC are focusing their climate and environment action delivery.

The actual annual In-house carbon emissions can be plotted against the forecasted roadmap to 2030. This plot is shown in the graph below.



The original projection for in-house carbon emissions reductions assumed a linear, steady reduction in carbon emissions from the baseyear of 2018/19 to the target year of 2030.

Emissions reduced between 2018/19 and 2020/21 as the Council made good progress with the delivery of low-cost emissions reductions actions. As these low-cost options have been completed, so the progressive reduction in carbon reductions has flatlined.

The actions which will deliver significant and sustained carbon emissions reductions are the transformation actions (Ref T1 to T8). The graph illustrates that without the completion of the transformation actions, the Council will not meet its carbon neutral commitments.

1.5 New actions to be included in the C&E Action Plan for 2022/23

After analysing the overall progress and gaining feedback from Heads of Service on all individual actions there are 10 additional new actions that should be included in the C&E Action Plan for 2022/23 that are required to support ongoing carbon emission reduction progress:

Additional New Actions	Detail
Transport	
EV Infrastructure plan for Housing	EV charging options available for housing team vans
Renewable Energy	
Mine water heating	Feasibility of developing a mine water district heating system in Swadlincote
Buildings and Heating	
Climate Mitigation/Adaption for social housing	Awareness & delivery of mitigation actions required for social housing because of climate - foundations affected by drying clay
Developing new carbon neutral social housing	Feasibility study on developing new build carbon neutral & high efficiency social housing
Governance and Finance	
Full EDI Impact Assessment	Understanding the impact of climate change & associated action on vulnerable communities across South Derbyshire
Partnership/Communication	

Climate/Environment solutions training for Councillors	To develop and create a training programme for Councillors to support awareness & decision making on climate action.
Housing energy efficiency demonstrator	Feasibility of developing the Rosliston bungalow as an energy efficiency demonstrator
Waste	
Improved internal recycling rates	Promotion within public buildings & reduction of single use plastics at Council organised events
Reduce waste & increase recycling & composting	Included in Operations Annual Service Plan
Refurbished laptops for local schools	End of life SDDC laptops to be refurbished for use in local schools.

1.6 Recommendations for updating the C&E Action Plans 2023/24

As a result of this annual review of the Climate and Environment Action Plan, the following recommendations are proposed.

	Recommendations
1	Decision around 6 of the 8 Transformation Actions (high carbon emission sources & required high investment) need to be prioritised, as the delivery of these actions is necessary for the Council to reach carbon neutral by 2030.
2	The 5 completed actions should be recorded as 'complete', removed from the C&E Action Plan, but continue to be detailed in an appendix to demonstrate the successful progress SDDC are making.
3	The success of the 12 actions detailed are showcased as demonstrating the Council's commitment and success in taking action to reduce both In-house and District-wide carbon emissions.
5	The 10 new additional actions recommended as part of this review should be incorporated into the revised C&E Action Plan for 2023/24
6	There should be a continued monitoring process and focus of the following public buildings with the highest energy consumptions, both from a carbon and operational cost perspective: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greenbank Leisure Centre 2. Etwall Leisure Centre 3. Rosliston Centre 4. Civic Offices
7	Ensure there is an ongoing awareness of the scale of SDDC's Scope 3 Supply Chain carbon emissions and how these can be potentially reduced in a measured way on the journey to 2050.