



# EASTBOURNE Carbon Neutral 2030

## Eastbourne Borough Council • Carbon Emissions Report 2023/24



December 2024



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# 1. Introduction

This annual update reports on the progress of the Eastbourne Carbon Neutral 2030 Strategy adopted in November 2020, provides an overview of how work has progressed on the action plan and how this work has evolved over the last year. It also reports on the projects that have been delivered by the Council, the community and in partnership.

The Council provides a summary emission report for the year 2023/24 along with a progress summary against the baseline year 2018/19.

The borough emissions are reported using publicly available data published by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), formally produced by Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). DESNZ data is national and consistent over many years but only consists of scope 1 (direct emissions from fuel use) & 2 (electricity consumed) emissions within the local authority boundary.

We provide an emissions estimate for Airbourne 2023 and compare this against 2022.

The council has been carrying out, over the last few months, a review of the original strategy document. We have however, decided to postpone publication of the updated strategy until after the current council financial review is completed and a budget for 2025/26 has been set. We are doing this to ensure that the strategy reflects the challenging financial circumstances that the council finds itself in yet also acknowledges, and is working towards, the goals of Eastbourne Carbon Neutral 2030.

We present, as part of this report, a new action plan which has been completed in line with the updating of the strategy. We have updated the thematic areas to better support our work and reflect what is actually being delivered by both ourselves and our community partners. When published, the strategy will elaborate on these updated thematic areas, providing narrative as to what we include within each area and new targets.

You will find numerous fabulous examples of the work going on within the town in the 'case studies' section. We have ordered this to reflect what the council itself has completed, where the council has enabled work and where work is going on independently within the community, but we are all working to our goal of being carbon neutral by 2030.

## 2. Greenhouse gas report for council operations

### Introduction

To date we have calculated carbon emissions using the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol methodology and the appropriate annual conversion factors for each year issued by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial (BEIS), now Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ). By using this method and these figures we have ensured that the organisational emissions we measure can be reported accurately every year to 2030 using a robust and reliable process.

Please review the [GHG Protocol guidance](#) for more information.

Our data and report here is set out using best practice from this document- [Environmental Reporting Guidelines: Including streamlined energy and carbon reporting guidance \(2019\)](#)

Eastbourne Borough Council has used the 'operational control' approach to define the organisational boundary and to inform the emissions inventory boundary described in the table below.

Category	Description of emissions boundary	Data used in this analysis
Scope 1	Direct emissions from sources owned or controlled by Eastbourne Borough Council and Eastbourne Homes Limited	Metered gas data (for buildings where the Council has operational control). Litres of fuel consumed for fleet vehicles
Scope 2	Indirect emissions from the generation of energy purchased by Eastbourne Borough Council and Eastbourne Homes Limited	Metered electricity data (for buildings where the Council has operational control)
Scope 3	Indirect emissions that result from other activities that occur in the value chain, either upstream or downstream.	Data has varied but includes: staff mileage, water consumption, fuel consumed by some contractors (housing and parks)

The council is deemed to have operational control if it has full authority to introduce and implement its operating policies at the operation. This approach does not require the council to own the asset.

It should be noted that with regards to metered gas and electricity, all sites, regardless of who operates the site, have been considered to be in scope 1 or 2 if the council is responsible for paying the bills (even if these costs are re-charged) AND for maintaining the premises. Where these conditions are not met the sites were reported within scope 3, for example Wave Leisure facilities.

Scope 1 and 2 emissions within the organisational boundary are considered to be directly controllable by the Council.

### 2024 lease review

During 2024 staff carried out a lease review to ensure building assets were appropriately designated a scope under the recalculation policy above. Eastbourne BC has a complicated and diverse portfolio of assets. Over the last few years some assets have entered, and some have left the operational control boundary of the council.

Assets to have moved scope include: all buildings now managed by Wave Leisure, Eastbourne Downs Golf Club, the Royal Hippodrome theatre, the old tourist information centre, Cornish Farm and 1 Grove Road.

It has been estimated that, for the 2023/24 recalculation 19% of electricity emissions and 4% of gas emissions have been moved from scope 1 & 2 into scope 3. Although this meets the threshold for a baseline recalculation the cause for this scope change is due to outsourcing of activities previously reported in scope 1 & 2 and efficiency measures regarding office accommodation that can be described as 'organic decline'. As such the baseline has not been recalculated.

## Eastbourne Borough Council Scope 1 & 2 emissions

Based on the Council's directly controllable consumption of gas, electricity and fuel the baseline emissions for 2023/24 financial year are approximately **3006 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)**. See graph 1 and table 1 below.

The CO<sub>2</sub> portion of this figure is included within the Borough wide emissions of 279 ktCO<sub>2</sub>. As such the Council's Scope 1 and 2 emissions accounts for around 1% of the overall footprint for the borough. Table 1 shows the breakdown of emissions for 2023/24.

**Table 1. Eastbourne Borough Council emissions table**

<i>Emissions</i>						
<i>source</i>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
<b>Gas</b>	2941	3094	2194	2484	2447	1981
<b>Liquid Fuel</b>	815	752	779	690.5	633	563
<b>Electricity</b>	902.5	880	613	772	629	461
<b>Total gross emissions</b>	<b>4659</b>	<b>4726</b>	<b>3586</b>	<b>3947</b>	<b>3709</b>	<b>3006</b>
<b>Total Net Emissions</b>				<b>3175</b>	<b>3080</b>	<b>2545</b>

**From 2018/19 to 2023/24 the Council's scope 1 & 2 emissions have reduced by 35.5% in total.**

- **There has been a 33% reduction in gas emissions**
- **There has been a reduction in electricity emissions of 49%**
- **There has been a reduction in fleet fuel emissions of 31%.**

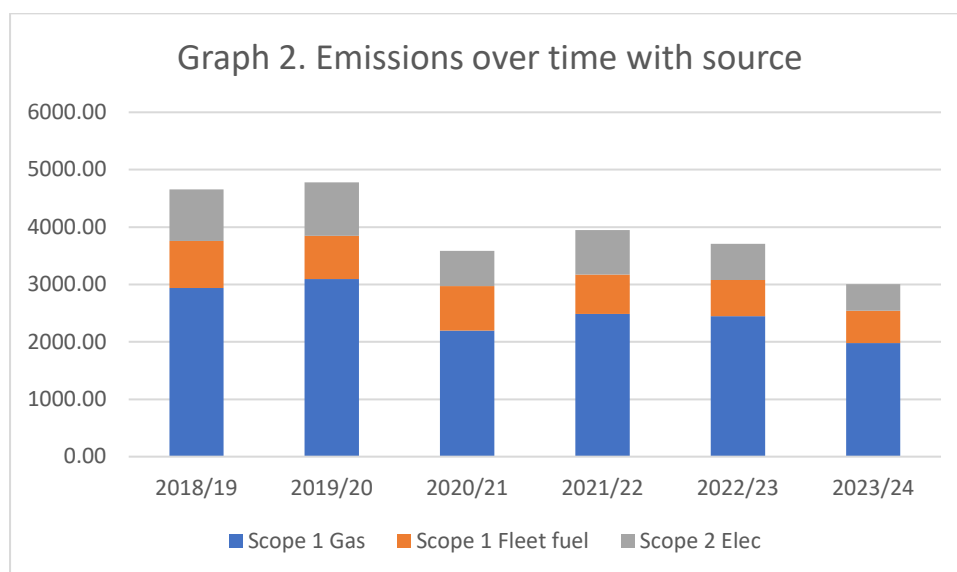
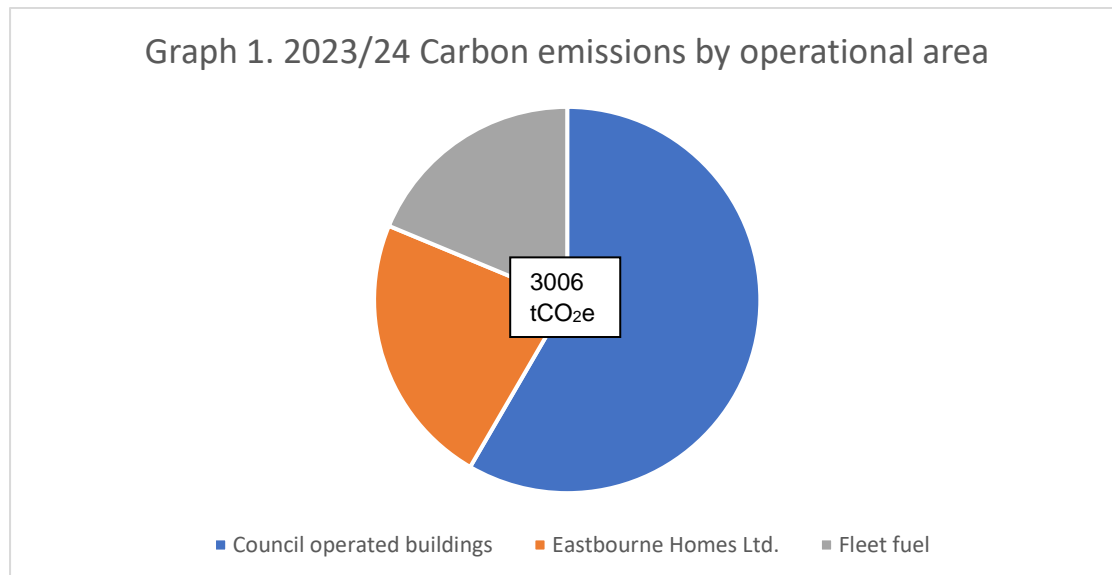
Graph 1 visually describes the main sources of emissions since 2018/19. Despite emissions initially increasing after the pandemic, emissions have reduced due to asset rationalisation and the lease review as mentioned above has resulted in

approximately 19% of 22/23's electricity emissions and 4% of gas emissions being moved into scope 3.

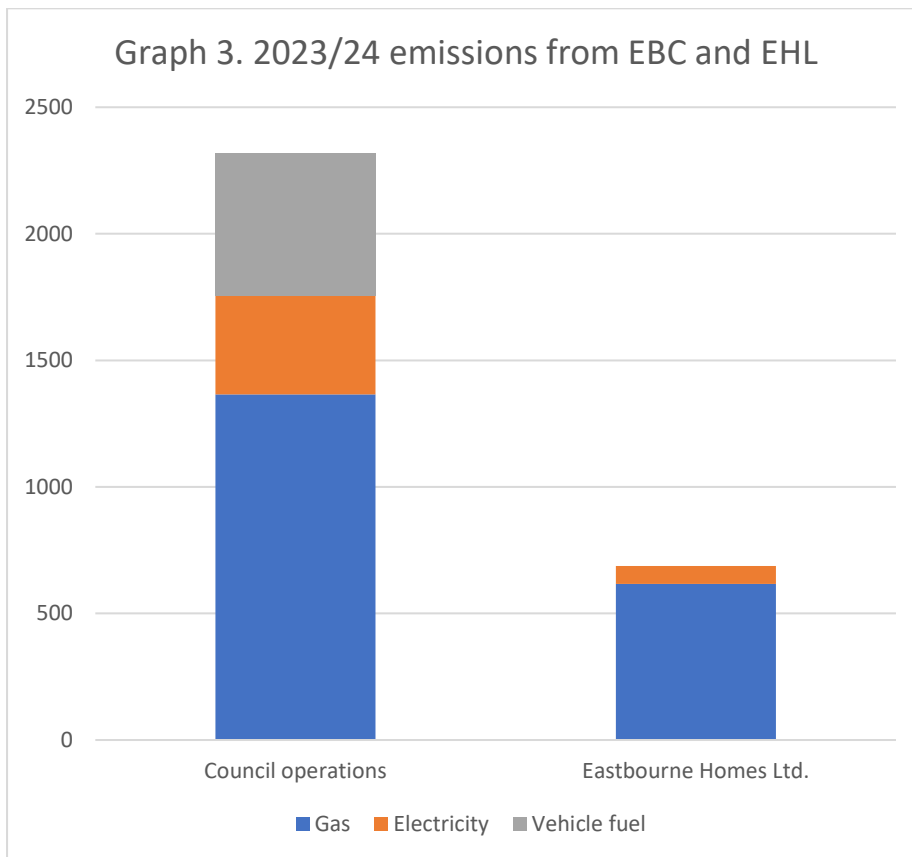
The council purchased all its electricity from npower. We use their UK Business Renewable tariff. This tariff is REGO backed and fully compliant with WRI GHG Protocol Scope 2 Guidance and has an Eco-Act assurance stamp.

**This tariff enables us to reduce our emissions from the consumption of purchased electricity by 100%. This equates to a saving of 461 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e for the year 2023/24.**

*Note: We have used the following data set for our 2023/24 carbon factors: [UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting June 2023](#)*



Operationally, we can still split our scope 1 and scope 2 emissions by council operations and those attributable to Eastbourne homes Limited and this is shown by graph 3 below.

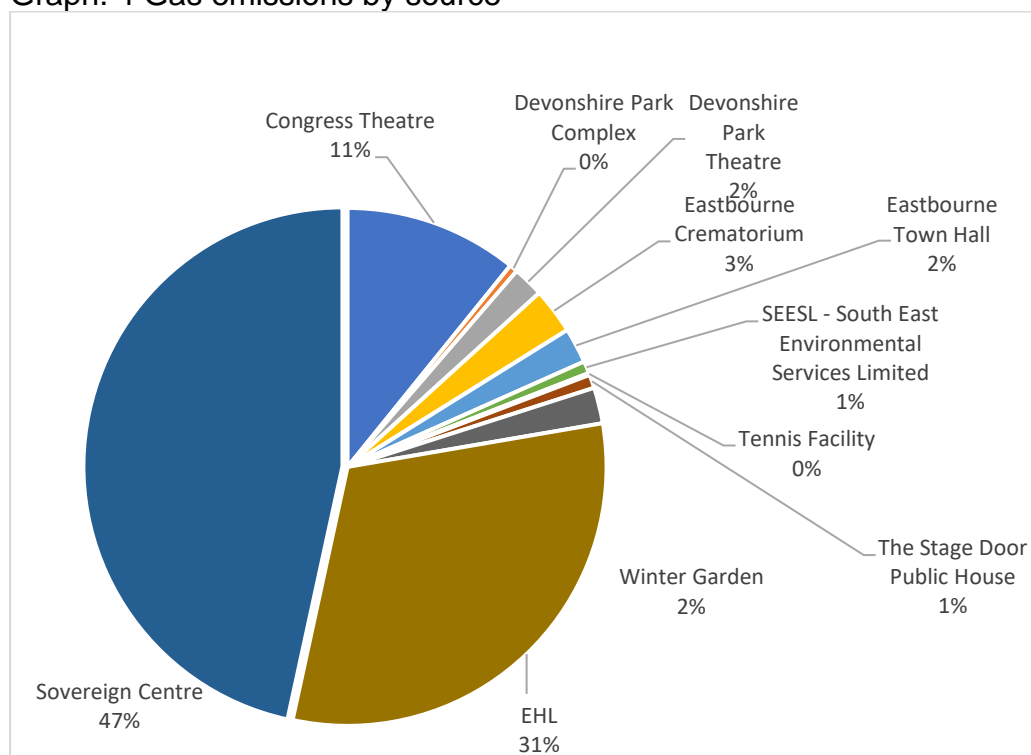


The majority of emissions are from gas heating our large public buildings such as the Sovereign Centre and the Congress Theatre. Eastbourne Homes communal heating supplies forms 31% of gas emissions. Graph 4 illustrates this.

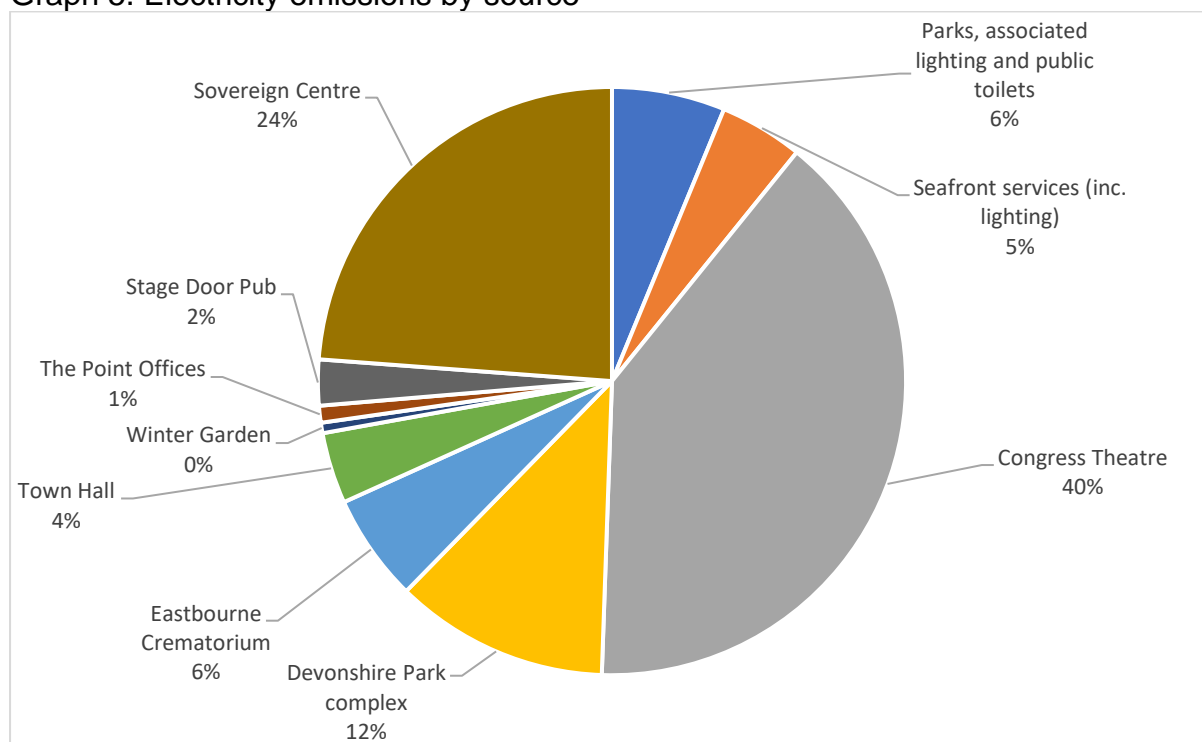
Vehicle fuel is mainly used for the waste vehicle fleet with Neighbourhood First vehicles and a range of smaller vans for tourism purposes also contributing. Service efficiencies and round route optimisation is the main reason fuel consumption (and as such emissions) has reduced.

Graph 5 shows the source of our electricity emissions, with the bulk (40%) coming from the Congress theatre, followed by the Sovereign Centre with 24%.

Graph. 4 Gas emissions by source



Graph 5. Electricity emissions by source



The 2019 government reporting guidelines ([Environmental Reporting Guidelines: Including streamlined energy and carbon reporting guidance \(2019\)](#) ) recommend organisations provide an ‘intensity’ ratio within their carbon reporting. Essentially this is an amount of carbon emissions assigned to a unit relevant to the organisation, this may be a unit of product, per member of staff or, as we and other local authorities have chosen to use, a per head of population figure. Our intensity ratio is below:

	Current year 2023/24	Comparison reporting (base) year 2018/19
<b>Intensity ratio:</b> tCO <sub>2</sub> e (gross scope 1 & 2) per head of population of Eastbourne borough	0.03 tonnes per resident <sup>1</sup>	0.05 tonnes per resident <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>[https://www.eastsussexinfigures.org.uk/population-estimates-inbrief/?mtm\\_campaign=postsept24](https://www.eastsussexinfigures.org.uk/population-estimates-inbrief/?mtm_campaign=postsept24)  
(population estimate = 103,796)

<sup>2</sup> <https://democracy.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/documents/s20969/2018-19%20Report%20-%20Appendix%20B%20-%20EBC%20Statement%20of%20Accounts%202018-19.pdf>  
(population estimate = 103,745)



## Scope 3

Our scope 3 (indirect) emissions are reported in the table below. We will look to review our methodology for reporting scope 3 over the next 12 months, including the potential to include emissions from our housing stock (currently this sits within the domestic emissions reported as part of borough wide data). It will however continue to be an evolving area of reporting as we develop and introduce new methods to capture more data, implementation of the new sustainable procurement policy will further enable this as new contracts are procured and required to disclose carbon information.

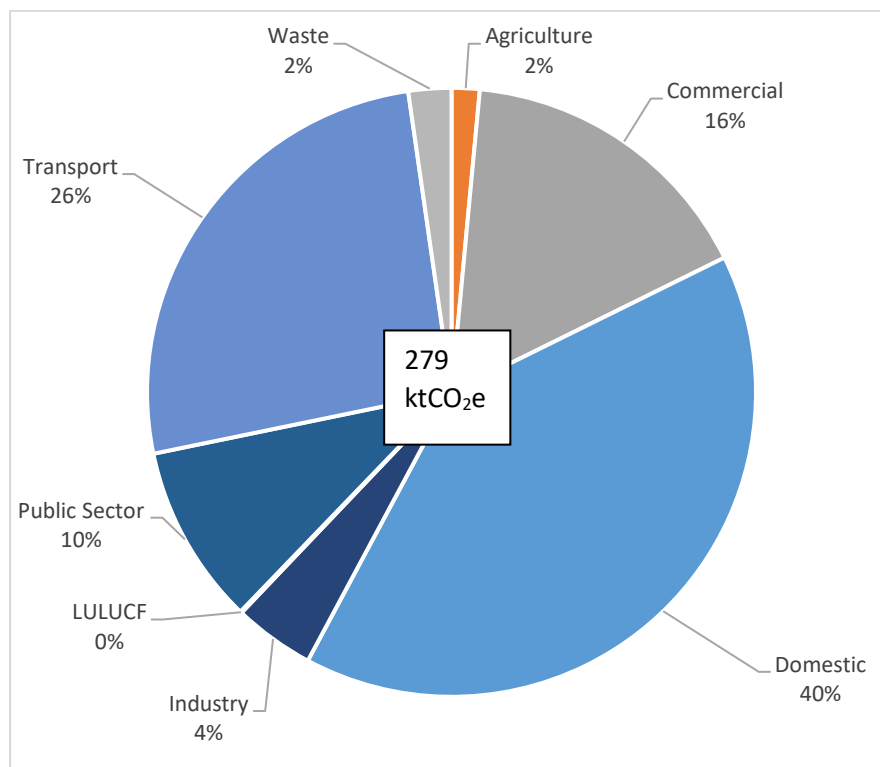
Source	Data source and conversion	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Homeworking	HR supplied Hybrid staff figure						146
Airbourne	Tourism team data records					6281	5479
Leased out buildings and outsourced facilities (inc. Wave leisure sites)	Gas (kWh) from consumption information						86.6
Leased out buildings and outsourced facilities (inc. Wave leisure sites)	Electricity (kWh) from consumption information						109.1
Elec transmission & distribution losses from scope 2 & scope 3 sources	Elec Transmission & Distribution losses (from consumption information)	79	64	53	68	32.3	43.2
Water supply & treatment	Direct from utility company		39	35	32	No data	23.7
Water supply & treatment- Sovereign Centre	Direct from meter reads- NB. Substantial change/improvement to GHG conversion factors for 2021)	15	15	6	5	No data	6.5
Towner Art Gallery- energy use only	Direct from consumption information (gas & elec)		232	125	153	No data	No data
Staff- Public transport	Revised method 21/22- Estimated km based on spend (rail assumed at 54p/mile)			0.3	0.8	6.6	0.24
Staff- Mileage	Calculated using miles claimed and an average petrol car			28	19	22.1	20.6
Grounds Maintenance contract (vehicle and machinery fuel)	IdVerde records				84	69.7	59.5
Housing Maintenance contract (vehicle fuel) 2021	From Mears records				80	92.5	77.7
<b>Well to tank figures for EBC &amp; EHL consumption- all scopes</b>							
Well to tank (WTT) diesel (litres)			178	213	167	150.2	137
WTT unleaded (litres)			1.4	1.1	0.5	0.7	0.3
WTT gas (kWh gross CV)			268	236	276	253.5	347.1
WTT gas (m3)			134	50	337	165.7	converted to kWh and inc. above
WTT elec generated			104	68	201	105.2	110.6
WTT elec T&D			9	6	18	9.6	9.6
<b>Total (tonnes CO2e)</b>						<b>7189.2</b>	<b>5894.1</b>

### 3. Greenhouse Gas Emissions attributable to the borough of Eastbourne as of 2022

The borough has emitted 279 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e of greenhouse gases in 2022, the most recent data set published by the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (DESNZ)<sup>1</sup>.

These greenhouse gas emissions are from a range of sectors as illustrated in the pie chart (graph 6) below, showing the top 3 sources are from the Domestic sector (40%) followed by Transport (26%), and the Commercial sector (16%). These sectors highlight the urban nature of the borough, and the reliance residents and visitors have on carbon based travel. Overall, buildings account for 70% of emissions.

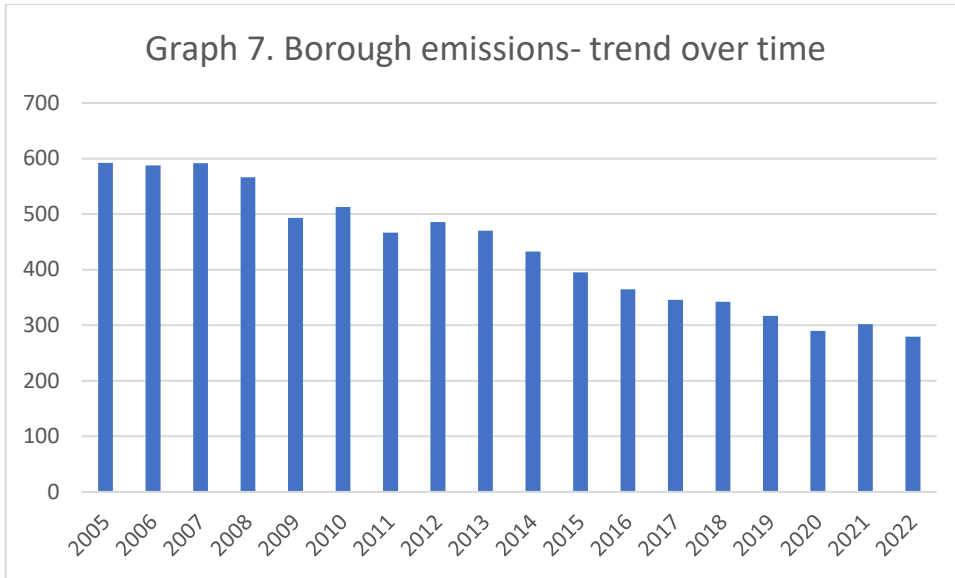
Graph 6. Borough Carbon Emissions 2022



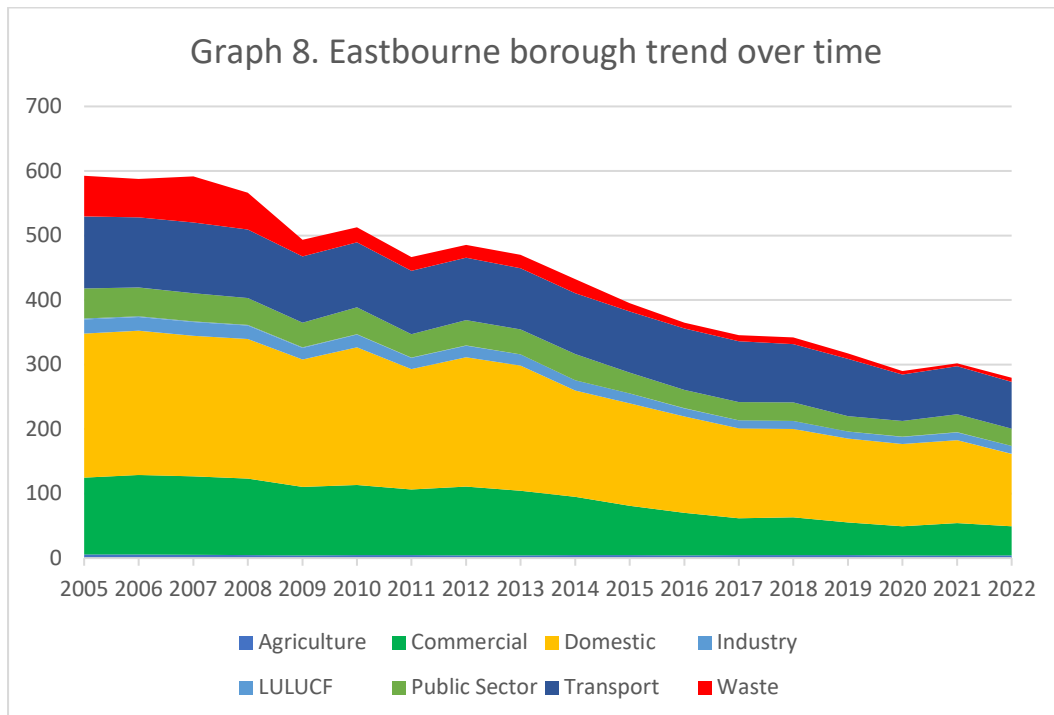
Emissions can be tracked back to 2005, the first national data set for district wide emissions. The graph 7 below shows the reduction trend in overall greenhouse gas emissions attributable to the borough up until 2022, the most recent data available.

**From the Strategy baseline year of 2018, the borough of Eastbourne has reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 18.3%, a total reduction of 62. ktCO<sub>2</sub>e over 4 years.**

<sup>1</sup> [UK greenhouse gas emissions: local authority and regional - data.gov.uk](https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/723c243d-2f1a-4d27-8b61-cdb93e5b10ff/uk-greenhouse-gas-emissions-local-authority-and-regional)  
<https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/723c243d-2f1a-4d27-8b61-cdb93e5b10ff/uk-greenhouse-gas-emissions-local-authority-and-regional> (link from 28/08/2024)



Exploring the data in detail and by sector (graph 8 below) shows that the emissions change year-on-year since 2018 has not been steady. There was a sharp decrease of total emissions by 8.5% from 2019 to 2020, coinciding with the start of the COVID pandemic. The most prominent sector specific reductions from 2019 to 2020 came from emissions reduction in the transport sector (over 19% reduction), followed by the commercial sector (over 11%), equivalent to a reduction of almost 23 ktCO<sub>2e</sub>. Public sector emissions increased between 2019 and the end of 2020, albeit slightly (0.6 ktCO<sub>2e</sub>).



In 2021 emissions increased overall though the total is still lower than pre-pandemic. This is a likely mirroring of personal behaviours as lock down ceased and socialising/travel returned, after the peak of the lock down periods. Total emissions increased by nearly 12ktCO<sub>2e</sub>, primarily from the commercial sector (5.4 ktCO<sub>2e</sub>)

and public sector (3.9 ktCO<sub>2e</sub>) followed by transport (2.2 ktCO<sub>2e</sub>). By 2021 people were starting to return to workplaces which may account for some of the increase in emissions from these related sectors and the economy was starting to move again.

The final year of data shows an annual fall of 8% greenhouse gas emissions from 2021 to 2022. Most of this from the domestic sector with over a 16 ktCO<sub>2e</sub> reduction in emissions which puts annual emissions in this sector at the lowest since records began in 2005.

Commercial emissions also reduced by nearly 5 ktCO<sub>2e</sub>, this puts emissions down to only marginally higher than during the pandemic.

The reductions seen across the domestic and commercial sectors may be due to economic slow down as part of the cost of living crisis which started in late 2021 and saw energy and household bills increase faster than incomes. This has resulted in many households trying to save money and may involve reducing the heating of homes, as well as businesses scaling back.

Waste sector emissions reached their lowest levels in 2021 at 4.6 ktCO<sub>2e</sub> in 2021 though there is an increase again to 6.4 ktCO<sub>2e</sub> for 2022, this is still below pre-pandemic levels.

On a regional note, the boroughs of Eastbourne and Hastings emitted 2.5ktCO<sub>2e</sub> greenhouse gas emissions per capita in 2022, nearly half the three other districts within East Sussex. Their socio-economic position is a prominent factor, as the boroughs are within the top 10% most deprived areas in the country<sup>2</sup>. It is likely that lower income has had an impact on residents using less power and heating, particularly during the COVID period from 2019 to 2020 and this has had a knock-on effect on the boroughs commercial enterprises. Their urban profile also reduces the high emission contributions from agriculture and industry and as such the commercial sector comes as the third highest contributor of greenhouse gas emissions in both the two boroughs, after the domestic and transport sectors.

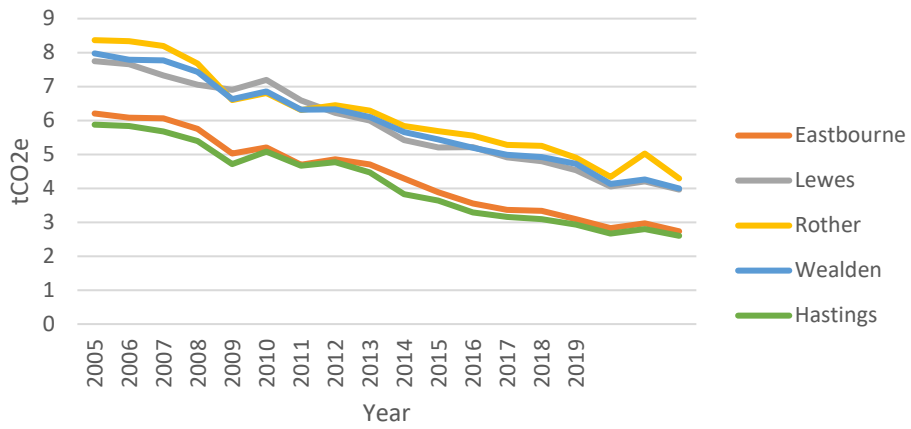
In 2022 Lewes district alongside Rother and Wealden emitted circa 4.1ktCO<sub>2e</sub> per capita in year. All three have transport, followed by the domestic sector as their top two sources of greenhouse gas emissions in 2022. The high transport emissions reflect their large rural geographical spread, compared to the urban areas of Eastbourne and Hastings, where Eastbourne is only 5% the size of the mostly rural Wealden district.

The three more rural districts of Lewes, Rother and Wealden form a trend from 2005 to 2022 having consistently higher per capita greenhouse gas emissions than Eastbourne and Hastings as seen in graph 9 below. Although agriculture is the third largest emitter in the three districts, Rother had industrial emissions 63.6ktCO<sub>2e</sub> in 2022 as its third largest source and is the greatest in East Sussex.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019>

Graph 9. Change in per capita emission 2005-2022 across East Sussex (tCO2e)



## Airbourne carbon emission estimate 2023

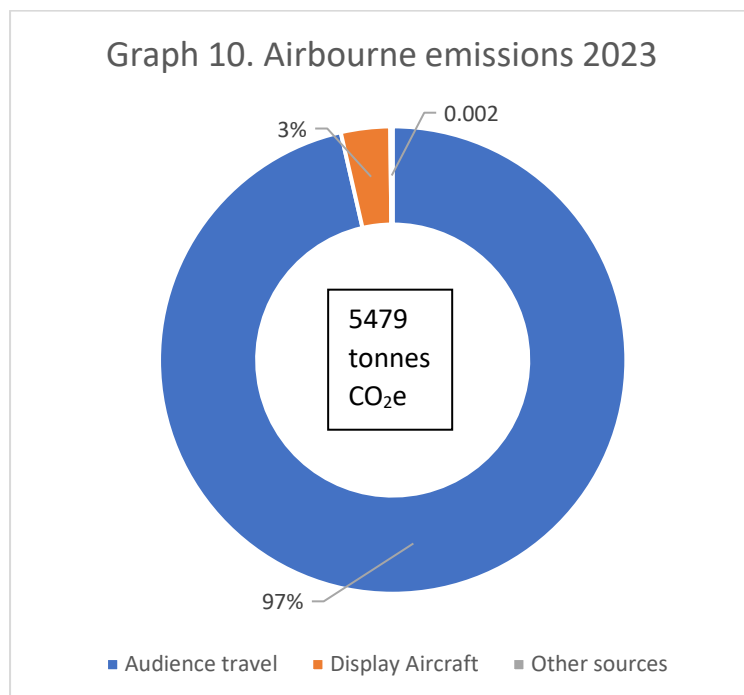
The council has now collected two years' worth of data from the Airbourne airshow which is planned for 4 days in August.

Data was collected from display personnel (mileage), on-site generated power (litres consumed), air display teams (airshow fuel consumption as well as transportation/travel fuel and smoke). 2023 data collection did not include new figures for traders (mileage), staff (mileage), waste collected (tonnes) so these figures have been assumed to be the same as 2022.

Electricity and water consumption data has not been collected but is accounted for in the scope 2 and scope 3 emissions for the council as reported in section 2 above.

The visitor survey was particularly successful this year having **1896** responses up from 710 the previous year. As we estimate audience travel based on visitor numbers of 750,000 people, the more people that complete the survey and give us actual information, the more realistic an estimate we can make.

**Total emissions this year have been calculated as 5479 tonnes. Which is a 12.8% reduction on 2022 (graph 10 below)**



The council implements considerable measures to ensure the event is as sustainable as possible, for transport these include: Park and Ride at Five Acres field is provided for people traveling by car, to reduce town centre traffic and pollution; Marketing campaigns promote cycle parks and all sustainable travel options; Premium rates are charged for car parks, which makes public transport more attractive. The council uses 5 all electric logistic vans and 4 all electric pilot transport vehicles to service the event. 100% HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil) is used in generators instead of diesel; temporary solar panels to power elements of the control marquee; increased recycling station provision which are staffed with personnel;

encouraging the use of free water stations which are specially installed; banning unavoidable single use plastic from traders (bags, food/drinks containers etc); using local suppliers where possible; using fixed, renewable power where possible; reducing printing where possible; supplying all staff with a reusable water bottle and water bowsers are distributed to all user groups; Use of electric vehicles through sponsorship.

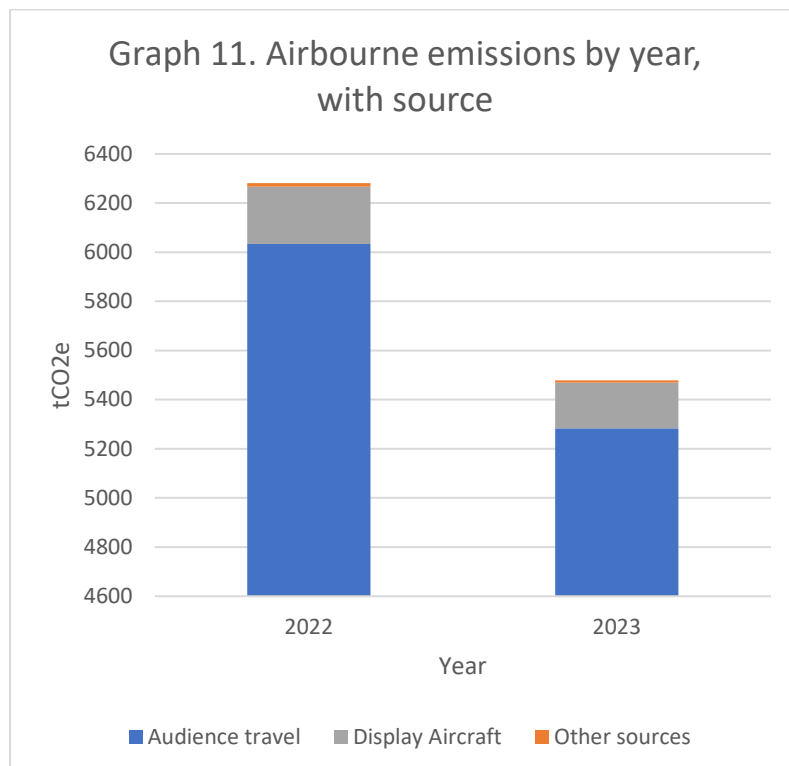
**The use of HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil) in on-site generators, instead of traditional diesel, has prevented the emissions of 12 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e.**

The council monitors and records display emissions.

Emissions from 2023 Airbourne were offset by [Eastbourne United Nations Associations carbon offsetting scheme in Uganda](#). In a scheme that has so far seen 175,418 trees planted in Uganda, a council donation of £7,000 will see another 14,000 trees helping to sequester carbon in the African country.



**There was a reduction in estimated audience emissions of 750 tonnes (12% reduction) and a reduction from display aircraft of over 20% on 2022 figures (graph 11 below)**



## Estimated emissions breakdown

<b>Audience related travel emissions over 4 days</b>		<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	
Absolute value	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	6033140	5283066	
<b>Display Aircraft (transport &amp; display fuel consumed)</b>				
Absolute value	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	234433	186648.38	
<b>Other sources</b>				
<b>Staff related travel emissions over whole event</b>				
Motor vehicle (average petrol car)	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	930	930	(no new data this year so same assumed)
Walk/Cycle	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	0	0	
<b>Trader &amp; display personal related emissions (1x return journey)</b>				
Average diesel van	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	4855	4855	
Average rigid HGV 9Upp to 7.5t)	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	429	429	
Average Petrol Car	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	1765	1775	
<b>On-site generators</b>				
Diesel generators	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	4611	154	
HVO generators	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	108	170	
<b>Waste</b>				
Waste sent to energy from waste plant	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	728	728	(no new data)
<b>Total emissions</b>	<b>kgCO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	<b>6280999</b>	<b>5478755.4</b>	



## 4. Case studies

East Sussex Wide activity:



**East Sussex**  
County Council

*East Sussex County Council - Climate change & natural capital activity*

Headlines of ESCC current activity:

1. Reducing corporate carbon emissions, including from schools: [Climate Emergency Plan 2023-25 | East Sussex County Council](#)
2. Co-ordinating delivery of the county's fuel poverty programme: [Keep warm and well | East Sussex County Council](#)
3. Developing the next Local Transport Plan for the county: [Local Transport Plan 4 | East Sussex County Council](#)
4. Implementing a number of bus service improvements, including lower fares and flexible services: [Bus Service Improvement Plan | East Sussex County Council](#)
5. Helping residents to buy solar panels: [Solar Together Sussex | East Sussex County Council](#)
6. Planning the roll-out of on-street electric vehicle charge points, with £4.4m of government funding: [Funding could deliver 2,000 EV charging points | The Newsroom \(eastsussex.gov.uk\)](#)
7. Delivering energy training for school site managers: [Reducing energy use and carbon emissions in schools | East Sussex County Council](#)
8. Funding community carbon literacy training: [Climate Literacy Training - Community Energy South](#)
9. Leading on the development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, working with a wide range of stakeholders: [Sussex Nature Recovery | Sussex Nature Recovery](#).

[Home - East Sussex County Council | East Sussex County Council](#)

### Sustainable Council

#### **What we have achieved:**

##### *Sustainable Procurement Policy*

The council has approved a sustainable procurement policy to consider environmental factors in procurement for example, climate change mitigation and adaptation; sustainable resource use including travel considerations; prevention of pollution; and protection and restoration of biodiversity. These sit alongside Social Value and Economic factors.

##### *Carbon Literacy Training*

Councillors elected in 2023 and EEAN directors attended Carbon Literacy training delivered by Community Energy South. The full day Carbon Literacy Project training gave participants an awareness of the carbon costs and impacts of everyday activities, and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, on an individual,

community and organisational basis. An online carbon literacy course is available for all staff of the council.

### *Local Employment and Training and Green Initiatives in partnership with East Sussex College's Green Skills Training Hub/OHM Energy and Eastbourne Education Business Partnership*



Through funding provided by the Local Employment and Training planning policy, the council delivers engagement sessions with primary and secondary school children across the town. Primary schools are invited to participate in the Green Primary School challenge at the Green Skills Training Hub in Hampden Park, where year 6 children are introduced to careers in construction, green skill jobs and apprenticeships. The children work together on a practical project to design bee homes and a wind turbine. The council also provides information sessions to secondary schools on green career pathways and

information on green technologies such as ASHPs, Solar PV, green energy, water conservation and wind power. For more information about The Green Training Hub: [ESC Green Training Hub](https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/esc) or to find out how to get involved contact: Sara Taylor <[Sara.Taylor@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk](mailto:Sara.Taylor@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk)>



### **What the council has enabled:**



#### *Sustainability measures at the Towner*

Towner has undertaken several building improvements to improve environmental performance in recent years, alongside a programme of staff and visitor engagement, as follows:

**Lighting:** replacement of halogen spotlights to LED alternatives in all gallery spaces, replacement of florescent strip lighting to LED alternatives in all foyer and office spaces, Installation of motion sensors for lighting in main toilets to reduce usage.

**Waste reduction:** removal of single use plastics across the organisation and commitment to environmentally friendly packaging in all Towner-produced retail items, use of FSC paper in all Towner printed promotional materials, Ongoing commitment to recycling exhibition materials and equipment via community networks.

**Training:** Certified Carbon Literacy training undertaken by 5 staff and to be rolled out further, 'Think Green', a staff engagement policy outlining personal and organisational responsibilities relating to sustainability is included in induction training for all new staff.

Procurement: Ongoing commitment to working with local suppliers where possible, Inclusion of environmental performance as a priority area in any relevant Tender processes.

Energy: The Towner Gallery is also making a major investment to install 101 x 400W Mono Solar panels (with battery storage) on our roof area by end of 2024, which should generate approx. 15 – 20% of the building's energy use.



### *EEAN Carbon Neutral Symposium – April 24*

EEAN network shared the results and analysis of their public survey among households and organisations in Eastbourne. Attendees received help and advice about setting targets for reducing their own carbon emissions or those from their organisations, and about how to measure progress towards those targets. The symposium also provided an opportunity to help plan the town's strategies and targets over the coming year and future years up to 2030. To find out more:

<https://ecoactioneb.co.uk/supercharging-carbon-neutrality-through-symposia>

## Housing and Energy

### **What the council has achieved:**

#### *Decarbonisation of Social Housing – Government Funding Awards.*

In the wake of Eastbourne and Lewes Councils groundbreaking study, Social Housing Decarbonisation fund and HUG2 funds have been awarded to the council to begin the process of retrofitting homes to make them more energy efficient.

£300,000 has been secured from the SHDF to decarbonise 45 homes. With the help of this grant funding, the council will reduce the carbon footprint of local council homes by implementing affordable retrofits, subject to their eligibility. By simply upgrading windows, doors and draughtproofing to the highest standards, a 20% reduction in energy use is possible. Aside from the benefits for the climate, fuel poverty is a big issue and the work undertaken will save tenants money in reduced energy bills. [Council secures £300K to decarbonise homes - Lewes and Eastbourne Councils \(lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk\)](https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/news/council-secures-300k-to-decarbonise-homes)

#### *Lancer Court, Cavalry Crescent & The Glenn, Southfields – New homes with an array of sustainable features.*

These newly built social homes use a fabric first approach, and include sustainable features such as green roofs, solar panels that are part of a Solshare system enabling each flat to receive enough energy each day to run all 'stand-by' appliances for free. The Glenn is the first council housing scheme in the country to use this technology. The homes heating is provided by air source heat pumps.



### *Information for tenants on Solar PV on housing and flats*

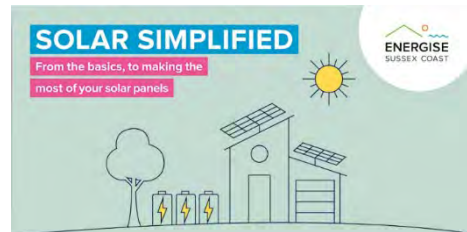
User guides for Solar PV have been published to ensure tenants with existing solar PV systems understand how to make the best use of free electricity, and how Solar PV on flats reduces energy used to power communal spaces.

### **What the council has enabled/influenced**

#### *Eastbourne Eco Action Network & Energize South Coast: Solar Information Evening.*

An event in Eastbourne Town Hall provided an information and advice covering everything Solar PV, storage and maximising their benefits. Find out more about Energize South Coast here: [Energize South Coast](#)

and EEAN Housing and Energy Group here: [Housing and Energy Group - Eastbourne ECO Action Network \(ecoactioneb.co.uk\)](#)



### **Community Action**



EASTBOURNE ECO ACTION NETWORK  
**CARBON NEUTRAL 2030**

#### *Free Sustainability Plans offered to Eastbourne Organisations*

Thanks to grant funding and support from the staff of [OnePlanet.com](#), the [Eastbourne Eco Action Network CIC](#) produced [customised sustainability plans](#) and reports based on the One Planet Eastbourne digital platform for Eastbourne businesses and community groups. This helps organisations to demonstrate their sustainability journey and compliance with net zero legislation when bidding for contracts or applying for grants. It also demonstrates to customers and the public the organisation's sustainability credentials. To find out more: <https://oneplanet.com/oneplanet-eastbourne/>

#### Free household energy help and advice from Energize South Coast

The council has continued to support and promote the free household energy help and advice service provided by Energize South Coast. The advice service is open to all and aims to reach those who are experiencing fuel poverty. As well as advice the service offers householders free energy saving equipment and visits. The council has also promoted the energy champion training scheme. Energy Champions have delivered advice sessions at food banks across the town, at the Hive and Gather at the Beacon and at community events.

## Transport & Air Quality

### What the council has achieved.

#### *Electric Vehicle Car Points:*

The council entered into a 15-year contract with Connected Kerb, one of the UK's leading providers of electric vehicle charging solutions and have installed 18 standard electric vehicle chargers in 3 of our car parks; Devonshire Park, Redoubt and Hyde Gardens. The new chargers support Eastbourne residents with no access to off-street parking by providing reliable charging infrastructure, which as well as encouraging greater EV uptake will also help improve the town's air quality. An additional charge point has been installed in Hyde Gardens for sole use of an EV Car club vehicle. The council continues to work with East Sussex County Council (ESCC) who are responsible for on street charge points

#### *Sustainable transport measures at Airbourne*

Park and Ride at Five Acres field is provided for people traveling by car. Marketing campaigns promote cycle parks and all sustainable travel options. Premium rates are charged for car parks, which makes public transport more attractive. The council uses 5 all electric logistic vans and 4 all electric pilot transport vehicles to service the event.

#### *Sustainable travel plans for tenants in newly built council homes*

Newly built council housing such as the new development at Southfields Road give residents access to sustainable travel plans. This plan includes a 12-month bus pass, a £100 bicycle voucher to spend against a new bike and membership to a new car club car that is based on the street by the new development. Residents also have access to a large bike store.

### What the council has enabled:



#### *Eastbourne Carbon Neutral 2030 - Sustainable Transport & Active Travel Summit November 2023*

A summit held at The Welcome Building explored developing sustainable transport

systems with more opportunities for active travel to achieve Eastbourne's 2030 carbon neutral target. Sustainable transport is key to promoting better physical and mental health and wellbeing for residents and visitors. The summit hosted a range of exhibitors and expert speakers. Presentations and video recordings from the summit can be found here- [Sustainable Transport & Active Travel Summit - presentation detail - Eastbourne ECO Action Network \(ecoactioneb.co.uk\)](#) For more information on EEAN transport group: [Transport Group - Eastbourne ECO Action Network \(ecoactioneb.co.uk\)](#)



## Community Action



### *The Coastal Culture Trail*

*The Coastal Culture Trail* is a marketing initiative that links Towner Art Gallery in Eastbourne, the De La Warr Pavilion in Bexhill and Hastings Contemporary. Three of the most important cultural institutions in the South-East, they are located on the lovely East Sussex coastline just beyond South Downs National Park.

Plans to develop a safe, family-friendly active travel route along the 18-mile Coastal Culture Trail from Eastbourne to Bexhill and Hastings are under discussion. The route, which is mostly flat, takes about two hours to cycle, although several sections are currently on busy roads that mean it is not suitable for young or less confident riders. Eastbourne Borough Council is currently consulting on a strategy for the town's seafront, which may include a traffic-free route that would form a gateway to Sovereign Harbour and Pevensey Bay in one direction and the South Downs National Park the other way. For more information, see [Coastal Culture Trail](#)

## Biodiversity

### What the Council Enables:

#### *Changing Chalk Project*

The council supports Changing Chalk which is a four-year project to create connections across the urban and rural areas of the Downs, such as Butts Lane Meadow (Little Sheepdown) and restore and reconnect the fragmented areas of remaining chalk grassland. Changing Chalk supports nature's recovery and climate resilience and creates opportunities for work, learning and leisure time for people by providing engaging activities for people to enjoy, enhancing health and wellbeing.



#### *Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs)*



New strategies for nature covering the whole of England have been designed as tools to drive more coordinated, practical, and focused action to help nature. They will support the delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and provide a focus for the strengthened duty on all public authorities to conserve and enhance biodiversity. Preparation of each LNRS is led by a "Responsible Authority" appointed by the Defra Secretary of State, which must take steps to involve all supporting authorities in the preparation of the local nature recovery strategy, and different engagement methods have been tailored to audiences and parts of the LNRS process, the following are a few key examples:

- A public survey canvased 1,834 residents' views to inform LNRS priorities for nature, while a webinar in June attracted 109 attendees /137 recording views from East Sussex. [What do 85 community groups, NGOs and local councils think is important? | Sussex Nature Recovery](#)
- Webinars to brief key audiences and what is required specifically from them e.g., landowners/managers, parish councils, community groups, while follow up surveys are being used to capture existing and planned actions for nature to inform LNRS measures.
- Workshops with 30 key organisations & partnerships for nature in Sussex; representatives from health & wellbeing sector & Sussex biodiversity experts\_
- Further engagement with landowners, farmers, organisations and groups is planned for the Autumn, while a public consultation of the draft documents will be promoted in early 2025.



### *Treebourne - Tree Care Events*

The council supported Treebourne to plant over 1000 street trees across the town. The focus for the group now is to work with the community to care and maintain the trees. The council has promoted and supported the development of a Tree Guardian App and promoted events organised by Treebourne such as tree care days at Macmillan Park where volunteers care for the trees planted with the Motcombe School children, by weeding and removing damaged tree guards. To find out more and how to get involved: [Trees for Eastbourne \(treebourne.org\)](http://treebourne.org)



# Food

## What the council has achieved:



*Food Partnership – regular feature in Tenants Open Voice*  
In each addition Eastbourne Food Partnership is invited to provide an article on a topical issue, campaign or project. Over the last three years this has included, community growing, seasonal eating and recipes, Grow a Row scheme and information on accessing emergency food support and help. This ongoing relationship helps the food partnership connect with people who may be harder to reach or digitally excluded and would not otherwise hear about their work.



*2023 Community Living Well Guide*  
This community wellbeing guide was developed with Homes First tenants, and tenant representative groups a resource to address the cost of living crisis and share tips and resources. It featured an illustrated low cost, vegan, healthy, one pot recipe, information on community larders, foodbanks, using leftovers, storing food and apps to prevent food waste.

## Partner and community action:



*Eastbourne Food Partnership*

*Sustainable Food Places Bronze award*

Eastbourne was awarded the Sustainable Food Places Bronze award in 2023 which is a national recognition of the many projects and achievements across the borough. The

Sustainable Food Places programme works across six key areas; promoting healthy and sustainable food to the public, tackling food poverty, diet-related ill health and access to affordable healthy food, building community food knowledge, skills, resources and projects, promoting a vibrant and diverse sustainable food economy; transforming catering and food procurement, and reducing waste and the ecological footprint of the food system.





## Eastbourne Food Partnership – Food Summit 2024



The 2024 summit was held at The Towner. As well as panel discussions, speakers included Philip Lymbery CEO of Compassion in World Farming, Clare Hackeny for Our Neighbourhood [Our Neighbourhood – Bringing people together with Food!](#), Andrew Forsey from

Feeding Britain, Josh Babarinde, Eastbourne MP and Robert McGowan from Eco Action Network. Short films from Compass Community Arts and Rooted Community Food were also viewed. Explore the Eastbourne Food Summit 2024 playlist here:

<https://shorturl.at/kOvam>



### Community Gardens in Eastbourne

A blog written by the director of EEAN showcase some of the distinctly different community gardens operating across the borough and how they are adapting to growing food in a changing climate. The blog features a permaculture forest garden, a community allotment and Langney Community Centre Garden which is supported and facilitated by the council. To read the blog and learn more about community growing in

Eastbourne: [growing food in a changing climate: a community centre view - Eastbourne ECO Action Network \(ecoactioneb.co.uk\)](#)

## Waste

### What the council is doing:

#### *Waste and Recycling communications and engagement*



The council sends regular communications to residents via email and social media platforms to help encourage and educate the public on how to manage and reduce, reuse and recycle waste. The council employs a recycling and engagement

officer to deliver workshops, talks, visit schools, events and organisations. The engagement officer also supports litter picking groups across the town, helping with equipment and advice. He is also able to address concerns and commonly fielded questions the public have and advice on how and where to recycle waste products.

To subscribe to email alerts: [Eastbourne Borough Council \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

## What the council enables:

### *Eastbourne Welcomes Its First GreenSeas Trust Bin: A Landmark Step in Marine Conservation*



A GreenSeas Trust bin was unveiled in August 24 and is the 20th of its kind in the UK and represents a vital addition to Eastbourne symbolising a continued commitment to combating marine plastic pollution, a mission at the heart of GreenSeas Trust's efforts.

Currently, the Trust's bins collectively prevent 9 tonnes of PET plastic bottles from polluting our oceans annually.

Mayor Candy Vaughan said: "I am proud to be part of this important step towards preserving our beautiful coastal environment. The installation of this new GreenSeas Trust bin demonstrates Eastbourne's dedication to sustainability and marine conservation. It is a privilege to support such a worthwhile cause that not only keeps our town clean but also protects marine life.



### *Eastbourne Scrap Store – Langney Community Centre.*

Opened in October 2024, this is a place where residents can donate and buy cheap recycled arts and crafts materials. Volunteers sort the materials and offer low-cost workshops to learn new skills and make friends. This project has been supported by Environment First.

## Community Action

### *Plastic Free Eastbourne monthly beach clean*



Plastic Free Eastbourne leads a monthly beach clean every 2nd Sunday of the month from 2-4pm **starting at 4 different locations in turn.** This regular Beach Clean removes waste from the Eastbourne shoreline and helps raise awareness. Equipment is provided but gloves and litter picks should be brought along if possible. [Plastic Free Eastbourne: Beach Clean](#)

## Water

### What the council is doing:



*Eastbourne Seafront Strategy 2050: Consultation launched*  
In July Eastbourne Borough Council launched a consultation into the town's seafront, asking residents, visitors and businesses to share what they think is most important for the future of the famous Sussex landmark. The council wants to create a 2050 vision for the seafront.

Eastbourne Borough Council has also been working closely with the Environment Agency on the coastal management scheme to protect property and businesses from flooding. Councillor Jenny Williams, Cabinet Member for Culture, Heritage and Seafront, will lead the seafront strategy project said. "I am thrilled to be launching the seafront 2050 strategy, and I am particularly excited to gather the views of our young people. We will be attending lots of summer events during July and August to hear people's views and then holding a series of workshops with stakeholders during the early autumn.

### What the Council enables:

## TOWNER Eastbourne

*Emma Stibbon: Melting Ice | Rising Tides*

Towner Eastbourne, 9 May – 15 September 2024

For several years, the artist Emma Stibbon RA has been observing and recording first-hand the precariousness of the polar ice sheets and glaciers and considering the profound effect that ice melt is having on global sea level rise. *Melting Ice | Rising Tides*, was a culmination of this work, making important connections between the apparent remote extremes of the planet and our local environment.

The exhibition brought together a selection of her drawings and prints made in response to her visits to Svalbard in the Arctic and the Weddell Sea in Antarctica, with a new body of work made along the Sussex coast local to Towner, particularly at Birling Gap and Eastbourne beach. Seen alongside each other the works served as a stark reminder that the seemingly remote events of polar ice sheet melt are directly connected with the changes that we are witnessing in our local, more familiar UK landscape. The centrepiece of the exhibition was *Cliff Fall, 2023*, representing the rock falls that are a common occurrence on the UK coastline. Having brought together an exhibition that responded and connected global ice melt and sea level rise it was important to bring in the voices of scientists, and to look at some of the initiatives being explored to mitigate coastal erosion locally. A film was commissioned and produced by local film makers Raquet Studios and council experts were consulted in its making.



To view the film: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q\\_IzCj4cZjo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_IzCj4cZjo)

Images ©Emma Stibbon



*Pevensy Bay to Eastbourne Coastal Management Scheme.*

The Environment Agency in partnership with Eastbourne Borough Council are developing a new, £100+ million large coastal flood and erosion risk management project for Pevensy Bay to Eastbourne. This is one of the largest coastal flood risk projects in the country, as we plan to make Pevensy Bay to Eastbourne resilient to coastal flooding in response to the current climate emergency. The scheme will reduce the risk of flooding and coastal erosion to an estimated 10,000 residential properties as well as key infrastructure, local businesses, heritage sites and nature conservation areas. Along with reducing the flood risk, we will also be looking to increase biodiversity by 20% and reduce the amount of carbon generated throughout the life of the project, by at least 45% with an aim of becoming Net Zero by 2030.

## 5. Action Plan

Action Plan Refresh - 2024					
1. Sustainable Council					
Action reference	TARGET	MILESTONE 1 (ACTION)	MILESTONE 2	2024 update	Status
Direct Actions					
S1	Resilience to climate change	Ensuring adaptation to climate change (including flooding, overheating, erosion, food shortages) is embedded within Sussex wide emergency planning	Develop adaptation strategies for key council assets	This work will begin January 2025. East Sussex County Council have published the East Sussex Adaptation Strategy that will be used as the basis for this work. Officers fed into this work during 2024.	
S2	Increase visibility of sustainable council	Review methods for scope 3 reporting for 2025 annual update	A pathway to reduce scope 3 emissions has been determined.	To start in 2025	
S3	Increase visibility of sustainable council	Implement sustainability and climate change communications to deliver regular messaging via council channels and to maintain visibility of climate change on council website.	Supporting local events and national awareness campaigns.	Council website has been overhauled and refreshed to make the information more user friendly, increase currency and accuracy. Built upon previous years successes in supporting partner org such as Treebourne, EEAN and Plastic Free Eastbourne.	
S4	Increased sustainability considerations in decision-making	Implement new Sustainability and Social Value Procurement Strategy	Monitor impact of sustainability and social value procurement strategy (add link to strategy).	New government procurement procedures are being introduced - these are due to go live in Feb 25. Following this the strategy will be implemented.	
S5	Increased sustainability considerations in decision-making	Develop tourism sustainability & decarbonisation plan to be included in new Destination Management Plan.	Destination Management Plan (DMP) to be completed by spring 2025.	Work to create a DMP is underway.	
S6	Carbon Offsetting	A temporary solution to the emissions of Airbourne until the tourism decarbonisation plan is in place	Continue to reduce emissions as far as possible at each event and determine offsetting actions needed.	Budget has been allocated for Airbourne 2023 emissions to be offset. (Jim and EEAN to advise events team.)	
S7	Carbon Offsetting	Determine our method to enable local carbon offsetting / The residual borough emissions at 2030 are offset using local projects.	Verify methodology, size of offsetting and seek budget.	There has been no progress on this during 2024	

S8	Local Employment, Training and Green Initiatives.	Via Local Employment and Training Planning Policy deliver green themed construction skills education programmes to local primary and secondary schools	Provision of Green Primary School Challenge sessions and Green Energy Information sessions in partnership with East Sussex College and the Green Hub Eastbourne Education Business Partnership.	So far this academic year, 6 primary schools participated in the green Primary Challenge. Currently co-ordinating secondary school activities but anticipate 3 and hopefully more will participate.	
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2. Housing & Energy				
Direct Actions -to be undertaken and delivered by the council				
HE1	Ensure (council housing) new builds are built to recognisable sustainable standard	Investigate viability of attaining Home Quality Mark (BRE) accreditation: for newly built social housing. Assessment and rating of new homes includes: Energy and carbon performance, environmental impact of materials, sustainable transport, recyclable waste, ecological impact, water efficiency and air quality.	Assess impact of sustainability measures in newly built modular and traditional builds against Home Quality Mark ratings by end of 2024 financial year.	New development Lancer Court completed in October 2024. Sustainable measures included Solar share solar PV system, air source heat pump for heating and podpoint car chargers.
HE2	Retrofit housing to improve energy efficiency, reduce emissions, and lower bills.	Seek resources to implement retrofit findings from ambitious Decarbonising our Housing Stock Programme (see link below); to get all housing to EPC C by 2030 e.g., via Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund and appropriate grants when available.	Subject to resources apply to next wave of SHDF & explore fully funded options to put PVs on roofs.	Successful in securing just over £300,000 SHDF Wave 2.2 grant funding (to be matched by £300,000 EHL capital budget) to help improve the energy performance of 45 properties to an EPC 'C' by March 2026. Currently uploading property data to IRT DREAm software in preparation for further analysis ahead of the SHDF Wave 3 grant funding being released for applications. Dates to be announced but expected Summer 2025.
Enabling Actions- these actions by the council will enable others to reduce emissions				
HE3	Retrofit housing to improve energy efficiency, reduce emissions, lower bills.	Promote solar panel and battery bulk purchasing schemes for the private housing sector, or other retrofit schemes as and when they occur to support the 'able-to-pay' market.	Support West Sussex CC in procuring a new contract for domestic bulk purchase scheme.	Solar Together scheme (ichoosr) was supported & promoted in 2023. Final figures show low uptake of accepted offers. However, new 26 domestic systems were installed. - calculated as a 24,402 Co2 reduction Kg (year one).
HE4	Improving energy efficiency, reduce emissions, and lower bills.	Develop an ongoing programme of awareness raising and promotion of energy efficiency initiatives, especially in fuel poor and hard to reach communities linking with Communities Lead, Sussex Coast Energy Champions and Eco Action Network.		

HE5	Improve energy efficiency, reduce emissions, and lower bills.	Support and facilitate the Warm Home Check Service (East Sussex) scheme, (which includes Warm Homes grants and HUG2.)	ESCC to procure a refocused service starting in April 25. 3 core objectives: 1.Offer a single-point-of-contact home energy efficiency and fuel poverty reduction advice and signposting service for anyone in East Sussex who is living in a cold home; 2.Provide holistic home energy assessments (Warm Home Checks) and small measures/interventions for eligible residents. 3. Develop collaborations, partnerships and funded linked services .	Annual targets for 2024 have been achieved in the last year of the current contract. (Number of Warm and Well Helpline cases supported, number of Warm Home Check visit assessments completed & % of WHC clients receiving a major heating or insulation measure funded by ECO or grant)	
HE6	Increase power generated by renewables	Exploration of funding opportunities and feasibility of renewable energy e.g., solar PV on council assets.	Decision on viability by August 2025	Exploring commercial viability with supply chain.	
HE7	Decarbonisation of heating	Agree a zero carbon heat strategy for our buildings.	Strategy by March 25	Feasibility work ongoing	



3. Transport & Air Quality					
Action reference	TARGET	MILESTONE 1	MILESTONE 2	2024 update	
Direct Actions					
T1	Sustainable transport solutions to improve air quality	Deliver on zero carbon RCV, street cleansing and ancillary fleet by 2030.	Procurement of RCV fleet vehicles 2028/29. Moving towards an EV fleet for food waste collection and street cleansing in 2026.	Now using GTL fuel, (gas to liquid). We have moved to an electric washdown facility. Solar panels were installed on RCV fleet in 2023/24 - reducing fuel consumption by approx. 10%. Now trialling EV mechanical sweepers.	
T2	Sustainable transport solutions to improve air quality	Produce pathway to decarbonise non- RCV fleet vehicles operated by Neighbourhood First (small & medium vans, cars, other vehicles)	Decarbonisation plan to commence Jan 2025.	Consultation and review will be complete in January 2025, at which point decarbonisation programme can begin.	
T3	Sustainable transport solutions to improve air quality	Promote public transport for tourists into and around Eastbourne, e.g. Art bus linking Towner, Charleston and Black Robin Farm, and Dotto Train (seasonal land train)	Once a week we will promote sustainable travel options when promoting tourism and events.	Supported launch of art shuttle bus with marketing support and material.	
T4	Sustainable transport solutions to improve air quality	Work in partnership with the newly formed East Sussex, Brighton & Hove and West Sussex Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) to improve sustainable transport across Sussex.	Milestone to be determined following next meeting	LVEP was accredited in Feb 2024. EBC officers attend board meetings to implement this 10 year strategy for growth, which aims to collectively champion positive change for Sussex including sustainable transport with local transport providers.	
T5	Supporting active travel	Promote Cycle Friendly Eastbourne campaign for hotels and businesses.	Create Cycle Friendly logo and landing page.	New campaign launching autumn 2024	
Enabling Actions					
T6	Sustainable transport solutions to improve air quality	Encourage contractors to decarbonise fleet vehicles and tools.	Encourage contractors to decarbonise fleet vehicles and tools.	Contractors are using solar PV chargeable hand tools	
T7	Sustainable transport solutions to improve air quality	Support ESCC (transport authority) to deliver on street ev charge points.	Support ESCC to engage with the community.	ESCC awarded 4.4m LEVI funding. Tendering a supplier.	

T8	Sustainable transport solutions to improve air quality	Supporting ESCC to enable new cycling and walking initiatives as detailed in Local Transport Plan 2024-2050 (LTP4) (adopted 8th October)	Liaise with and support ESCC in the delivery of sustainable travel measures.	LTP4 published in October: <a href="https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/roads-transport/transport-planning/local-transport-plan/local-transport-plan-4">https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/roads-transport/transport-planning/local-transport-plan/local-transport-plan-4</a>	
T9	Sustainable transport solutions to improve air quality	Work with ESCC and participate in Bus Service Improvement Partnership (BSIP)	Delivery of BSIP	BSIP will be consulted on suitable milestones & will provide milestones for delivery.	
T10	Sustainable transport solutions to improve air quality	Develop a pathway to a Sussex wide low carbon taxi fleet	Liaise with licencing across county for joined up approach.	East Sussex taxi survey undertaken in 2024. Liaising with East Sussex Licencing Group to seek viable methods of supporting transition to EVs - ongoing.	
T11	Reduce particulate pollution to improve air quality	Produce Eastbourne Air Quality Strategy by spring 2025	To review and report on the EAQS annually via the Air Quality Annual Status Report <a href="https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/library/annualreport/">https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/library/annualreport/</a>	<a href="https://sussex-air.net/air-quality-near-me/air-quality-reports/eastbourne/">https://sussex-air.net/air-quality-near-me/air-quality-reports/eastbourne/</a>	
T12	Reduce particulate pollution to improve air quality	Work with NHS and Public Health partners via Sussex-air to raise awareness and provide guidance on health impacts of poor air quality and mitigation measures e.g., wood burner clean air night <a href="https://sussex-air.net/">https://sussex-air.net/</a>	Seek alternate funding for community engagement work.	Clean Air night and Clean air day promoted and supported. Continued support of community and school events delivered by Sustrans.	
<b>Community Partner Actions</b>					
T13	Sustainable transport solutions to improve air quality	Lobby on transport issues required at a county level and nationally, in partnership with County Councillors and EEAN, e.g., for a Seafront Cycle path, and implementation of 20's plenty campaign.	To work towards pedestrianising the town centre, including low traffic zones, low emission zones and reduced speed limits. A 10% improvement every year leading up to 2030. (Town centre and every school to be included only in these figures). Encourage more use of the NCP car parks, especially on the seafront, what do we need to do to make this a friendly place to use.	Eastbourne Eco Action Network have been leading on this action.	
T14	Supporting active travel	Promote improved bus travel around the town, safe cycle routes, and promoting low traffic zones.		One low traffic zone at Langney Primary school, awaiting news on bus service lanes.	

T15	Supporting active travel	A joined up cycle network around the town aiming for 5% improvements every year.	Coastal Culture trail up and running by 2027.	Work on coastal culture trail and website is underway.	
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4. Biodiversity					
Action	TARGET	MILESTONE 1 (ACTION)	MILESTONE 2	2024 update	
Direct Actions					
B1	Increase Biodiversity net gain for all development sites with a mandatory requirement by 10% over the 30 year period.	Local Plans – work closely with Planning Policy and planners to achieve biodiversity wording that is fit for purpose and ambitious to arrest declines	Recommend work on Local Plan	This will be picked up when work on the Local Plan recommences	
B2	Increase Biodiversity net gain for all development sites with a mandatory requirement by 10% over the 30 year period.	Complete the new Local Plan and ensure that planning policies and guidance reflect our carbon neutral ambition	Recommend work on Local Plan	This will be picked up when work on the Local Plan recommences	
B3	Increase Biodiversity net gain for all development sites with a mandatory requirement by 10% over the 30 year period.	Monitor and report on the Biodiversity Duty (Environment Act) via the Climate Emergency Action Plan	End of first reporting period Jan 2026 DEFRA link: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/complying-with-the-biodiversity-duty#reporting-your-biodiversity-policies-and-actions">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/complying-with-the-biodiversity-duty#reporting-your-biodiversity-policies-and-actions</a>	The range of projects and programmes within this action plan demonstrates the council's commitment to working with partners and community volunteers to restoring nature, alongside our achievements in applying BNG requirements to new developments. There has been no further update since the Gov 2023 guidance regarding the Biodiversity Duty reporting requirements.	
B4	Improved habitat for insects, pollinators and wild flowers	Feasibility into changing carpet planting to increase pollinator friendly plants, biodiversity, reducing carbon and water use.	Use feasibility and consultation to implement sustainable, and wildlife friendly carpet planting.	Consultant engaged to assess feasibility	
B5	Improved habitat for insects, pollinators and wild flowers	Implement good practice such as reduced mowing practices, Eliminating the use of pesticides to encourage pollinators in our parks, gardens and public spaces and Increase wildflower and pollinator planting where suitable.	New GM arrangements to be in place by April 2026	The grounds maintenance contract is under review and continued good practice will be underly this.	

B6	Reduce harmful chemicals	Reduce harmful chemicals used in the upkeep of the grounds at Devonshire Park Tennis Centre	Endeavor to reduce harmful chemicals whilst meeting tennis court standards.	Endeavouring to reduce harmful chemicals whilst meeting tennis court standards.	
B7	Increase Biodiversity	Provide assistance when required to tree planting and tree care projects across the town, including Tree Champion scheme to maintain 1000 street trees planted with Treebourne / Monitor the success of trees planted, adoption levels by residents and tree health with Treebourne partners.	Promote tree care events and tree guardian initiatives.	The focus is now on monitoring and maintaining the 1000 street trees planted. Treebourne continue with tree care days.	
Enabling Actions					
B8	Increase Biodiversity net gain for all development sites with a mandatory requirement by 10% over the 30 year period.	Report on Biodiversity Net Gain in all developments over 30 years, other than those exempted by the environment act.	End of first reporting period Jan 2026	<a href="http://www.gov.uk">Complying with the biodiversity duty - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	
B9	Improved habitat for insects, pollinators and wild flowers	Develop a programme of works on EBC land to increase joining up of biodiversity corridors & ecological networks	Recommence when budget allows	On hold subject to finance	
B10	Increase Biodiversity	Provide suitable land to enable tree planting and re-wilding	Continue to explore areas of suitable land	20,000 trees planted on Warren Hill.	
B11	Increase Biodiversity	Continue to work with, support and promote nature based community groups and projects e.g., Changing Chalk, Treebourne etc, including expertise, volunteer management and fund raising support .	Continue to work with, support and promote nature based community groups and projects e.g., Changing Chalk, Treebourne etc, including expertise, volunteer management and fund raising support .	Continuation of support and promotion of Changing Chalk and Treebourne.	
B12	Increase Biodiversity	Progress and support Seaford to Eastbourne Nature Recovery Project - Super National Nature Reserve (extend nature reserve to include land and chalk cliffs Seaford to Eastbourne).	Approved body status sought to allow Natural England to progress designation	A proposal is being submitted at October cabinet for EBC to become approved body to allow Natural England to progress the designation.	
B13	Increase Biodiversity	Deliver Downland -Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier award.	Development of new management plan	EBC was successful in its grant application to deliver, and is developing a new management plan.	

NEW	Nature recovery	Progress and support Seaford to Eastbourne Nature Recovery Project (Super National nature reserve (extend nature reserve to include land and chalk cliffs Seaford to Eastbourne).			
B14	Improve public access to green spaces	Increase public access into Eastbourne / Shinewater Park. To enable opportunities for: appreciation of nature; educational experiences ; and outdoor exercise	Target delivery date April 2025	£50K plus match funding has allocated for new toilet and kiosk. Target delivery date April 2025. EBC works with partners on the Maintenance of ditches and habitats.	

5. Food					
Action reference	TARGET	MILESTONE 1 (ACTION)	MILESTONE 2	2024 update	Status
Direct Actions					
F1	Support local sustainable food systems	Support local food growing initiatives and community growing projects on suitable council land when appropriate.	Progress local food growing community projects on council land where appropriate.	Applications to Community Growing on HRA land continue to be progressed.	
Enabling Actions					
F2	Support local sustainable food systems	Support the Eastbourne Food Partnership in developing and meeting their strategic aims, including food resilience, resources for growers adapting to a changing climate, supporting the Good Food movement and surplus food redistribution.	Support (via comms and promotion) Eastbourne Food Partnerships aims to develop a climate adaptation toolkit for growers, and scale up Crop Drop food redistribution network.	Eastbourne Food partnership delivered a Food Summit in October 2024 as part of Good Food East Sussex Month, and has surveyed local growers on growing in a changing climate. The council supported and endorsed the food partnership to gain a sustainable food places Bronze award, and continues to support with steering group participation.	
F3	Support local sustainable food systems	Liaise with the Eastbourne Food Partnership to embed healthy, sustainably produced food options in council policies & procedures where appropriate.	Liaise with EFP on food security in adaptation to climate change.	Officer and Cllr participation at Food Summit.	
F4	Support local sustainable food systems	Support initiatives that promote or enable low carbon and nature-friendly farming locally e.g. South East Downs Farm Cluster	Engage with tenant farmers.	New EBC downland ranger is engaging with tenant farmers in Eastbourne	
6. Waste					
Action reference	TARGET	MILESTONE 1 (ACTION)	MILESTONE 2	2024 UPDATE	Status
Direct Actions					
WR1	Reduce waste & increase recycling	Plan a new food waste collection service to begin in 2026 (on the basis that new govt funding is provided as anticipated).	Implement new food waste collection service in 2026.	Capital funding has been provided for vehicles and receptacles and procurement is planned through 24/25	

WR2	Reduce waste & increase recycling	Reduction in waste and increase in recycling at EBC and third party events supported by EBC e.g., ban of Single Use Plastic (SUP) and consorted effort to separate waste and recycling at major events. (Tennis and Airbourne).	Continue to improve access to recycling stations and enforce ban on SUPs.	Personnel overseeing waste and recycling stations at events. Continue to enforce ban on SUPs.	
WR3	Reduce waste & increase recycling	Continue with planned communications with regular emphasis on food waste reduction and general reduce, reuse, recycle messaging.	Prepare residents for new food waste collection service 2025/26	Delivery of weekly waste and recycling workshops in community venues. Summer Fetes attended e.g., West Rise and Raton. Regular email bulletins and social media posts.	
Enabling Actions					
WR4	Reduce waste & increase recycling	Help develop local reuse and repair schemes which divert waste, for example Freegle, Freecycle, repair cafes etc; e.g. Eastbourne Scrap Store.	Continued support of Eastbourne Scrap Score. Support development of Eastbourne based Repair Café.	Eastbourne Scrap Store, Langney Community Centre opened in October. EBC officer has supported the development of the project.	
WR5	Reduce litter for improved public spaces, and reduce risk of harm to wildlife	Create opportunities to reduce littering and fly tipping and improve the public realm in collaboration with local and national partners, supporting their campaigns e.g. on disposable vapes, and through our own 'Educate Remind Enforce' campaign.	Continued to promotion Educate, Remind and Enforce campaign.	Neighbourhood First continue to hold local community litter picking events, run poster campaigns around dog waste, and the recently installed litter bin next to the pier for plastic bottle recycling bin provided in partnership with the charity Green Seas.	
WR6	Reduce litter for improved public spaces, and reduce risk of harm to wildlife	Work with community groups to facilitate litter picks and when possible provision of equipment.	Continued promotion of support for litter picking groups.	Support continues with 21 sets of litter pickers given out to groups in October alone and promotion of the service continues e.g., Community hour on Seahaven FM (covers Eastbourne).	
7. Water					
Action reference	<b>TARGET</b>	<b>MILESTONE 1 (ACTION)</b>	<b>MILESTONE 2</b>	<b>2024 UPDATE</b>	
Enabling Actions					
W1	Mitigate against flooding	Ensure planning policy reflects the need to avoid substantial development on flood plain	Recommence work on local plan. AMR data submitted annually.	This will be picked up when work on Local Plan recommences.	



W2	Mitigate against flooding	Development of Seafront Strategy 2050, which will support EA to deliver priority actions to mitigate against coastal erosion and consider infrastructure and community improvements.	Direction of work determined by public consultation	Public Seafront Strategy consultation is live with more events and workshops planned for the autumn.	2050
W3	Mitigate against flooding	Pevensey to Eastbourne Coastal Management Scheme -Risk of flooding reduced to 10,000 homes as well as key infrastructure & businesses, nature & heritage sites. 20% increase in biodiversity and net zero carbon generated from project by 2030.	New beach management contract begins June 2025	Short term project to procure new beach management services completes in June 25.In October 2024 three public events were delivered by members of the Project Team who gave talks about the latest designs for Phase 1 of the Pevensey Bay to Eastbourne Coastal Management Scheme.	2050
W4	Improved water quality	Lobbying government and Southern Water to take action to improve infrastructure in Eastbourne and improve sea quality in designated bathing areas to excellent.	Attend Southern Water East Sussex Stakeholder Events	Stakeholder events established and attended by EBC and LDC.	
W5	Access to water refill stations	Support and work with for Plastic Free Eastbourne's refillable water network.	Continue to work closely with Plastic Free Eastbourne.	Continued maintenance of water fountains located on EBC buildings.	