

Progress made to date on area's identified in the Climate and Nature Convention Report 2023

1. New Buildings

The Council has adopted Low Carbon Planning Guidance (May 2021). This complements the relevant existing and future building regulations and intends to provide:

- Practical guidance on forms of sustainable design and construction;
- Guidance to help inform planning applications for major development and the development management process;
- Sign-posting to best practice examples and guidance; and
- A checklist guide for developers to assist in the submission of major planning applications.
- The energy efficiency of new buildings is controlled through the Building Regulations.

Within Gedling Borough the first commercial development of new homes on Lambley Lane, Gedling that will produce up to 80% less carbon emissions than standard homes is underway. The development comprising of 33 new homes will deliver sustainable, energy efficient new homes to area. It is the first to be built in the UK where every home fully complies with the Future Homes Standard. The 33 feature air source pumps, solar PV panels, increased levels of insulation and EV charging points to achieve the new future homes regulations which is set out to replace traditional Building Regulations for new dwellings.

2. Community Engagement and Public Education

Gedling Borough Council have declared a climate emergency in 2019. In 2022 the Carbon Management Strategy was approved by cabinet. Many of our members have received carbon literacy training in 2023, including our Portfolio Holder Cllr Viv McCrossen.

In 2021, Gedling Borough Council employed a dedicated Climate Change Officer who coordinates and delivers the climate work across the Council.

Please refer to sections of 1.8, 1.9, 1.10, 1.12, 1.13, 1.16, 1.17 of the cabinet report.

3. Existing Buildings

Please refer to section 1.23 and 1.24 of the cabinet report.

4. Transport

Gedling Borough Council will continue to work in partnership in with Nottinghamshire Council Highways department. Refer to section 1.11 of the cabinet report to progress in this going forward.

5. Education in Schools

The Climate Change Officer engages with local schools in the borough to deliver sustainability and climate change and promotes the international Eco-Schools programme.

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Government is responsible for any changes in the curriculum.

6. Energy and Green Jobs

Through the Local Energy Area planning and devolution, it is hoped this will lead to further growth and prioritisation as well further investment in the green sector.

7. Local Accountability

Gedling Borough Council Gedling Borough Council declared a climate change emergency alongside a pledge to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030. We are committed to minimising the Council's adverse environmental impacts while enhancing the quality of life for the people of Gedling Borough Council.

We have a written Environment Policy statement that affirms the council's commitment to the climate emergency. It outlines the councils' intentions and priorities and aligns with the Carbon Management Strategy and action plan. It lays the foundation for the council projects, initiatives and future partnerships and collaborations.

Gedling Borough Council have developed and are proposing 'a climate impact assessment. To drive this forward to ensure we examine and analyse our policies, processes and decisions to determine what the impacts are on the climate and carbon reduction:

A climate impact assessment should be completed for any project, policy, decision where there are identified carbon impacts and appended to decision reports. This will be rolled out shortly.

The Gedling Borough Council website contains the latest information including 'if you want to be green' and is updated regularly [Become a greener you - Gedling Borough Council](#). Refer to section 1.20 of the cabinet report.

8. Controlling Water

Planning permission for new residential development is only approved in areas which are at a low risk of flooding. Where there is any risk, a full flood risk assessment is required including mitigation measures which are agreed by the Environment Agency and the Lead Local Flood Authority, prior to the commencement of any development. The Council ensures that the implemented measures are incorporated into the approved development.

The Low Carbon Planning Guidance (May 2021) encourages the use of water efficiency measures such as low flush toilets and grey water recycling, to be incorporated into new developments. Sustainable Urban Drainage systems (SUDs) are also encouraged for all new developments.

Gedling Borough Council would not permit artificial grass as part of landscaping proposals for new housing developments. Instead, we seek to ensure that

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landscaping schemes comprise of native planting species. If any newly planted trees become diseased within 5 years, we require their replacement.

In addition to trees planted by developers through the creation of new public open spaces, Gedling Borough Council has planted 2,388 trees in our parks.

Gedling Borough Council as a local authority support Nottinghamshire County Council as lead Flood authority as part of Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Local Resilience Forum which has been established "to maintain effective multi-agency arrangements to respond to major incidents and emergencies, such as flooding, to minimise the impact of those incidents on the public, property and environment. In a flood situation they provide a robust response.

The Council's Planning Section also works with Developers as regards water capture and control measures. All developments must now have sustainable drainage system to collect any surface water from the new development and store it for later slow release. These areas provide areas for increased Biodiversity. We are additionally planting more trees in the Borough than we ever have previously. The trees are maintained by our Parks Rangers who ensure they are correctly staked and tied and are watered using our watering vehicle.

9. Food Waste

As Lead Waste Authority Nottinghamshire County Council are responsible along with waste contractor 'Veolia', for the introduction of a new Food waste service to residents and business across Nottinghamshire. It has been decided that the delivery of a food waste service to residents will commence in October 2027. Details as regarding how the new and adapted services will be paid for have yet to be decided. Government has indicated that it will pay for freighters, and bins and food caddy containers through capital funding, but further details on the delivery of this service have yet to be worked out.

10. Recycling

The Environment Act 2021 is bringing about significant changes in the industry. As the National 'Recycle week' ended 21 October 2023, the Government and DEFRA launched new Waste reforms to make it easier for household and Businesses to recycle by introducing a simpler approach to waste collections. This 'Common sense approach' – Simpler Recycling – was formerly known as Consistency in Household and Business Recycling in England. So, for the first time, people across England will be able to recycle the same materials. This will lead to improved and consistent recycling across England, and stop the current confusion faced by residents as regards what can be recycled and what cannot. It will in the future see plastic, trays, carrier bags, plastic film, foils trays, tetra packs and other items collected in the waste stream when currently they are not.

A new Extended Producer Responsibilities scheme introduced in 2023, also sees the introduction of legislation aimed at further increasing recycling by making 'packaging producers' responsible for household packaging recycling and recovery costs.

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11. Allotments and Community Gardens and Greening

In terms of 'Allotment and Community Garden' provision three sites in the Borough are directly managed and a further 5 sites across the borough are managed by an allotment association, regulated by a lease agreement.

All sites have full tenancies for the plots at present and the Council and the Allotment Trustees promote the sites and maintain a waiting list for them.

New Allotment Sites are planned through Developer planning regulations and will be delivered at Magenta Way on Teal Close, at Top Wighay and Westhouse Farm, in Bestwood. The County Council are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of all roadside verges and street trees. Gedling Borough Council is responsible for all the parks and green spaces and uses its Section 106 Open Space supplementary planning guidance regulations, to allocated more land for green space on new Developments. The parks section regularly introduce wildflower bee friendly meadows and operate a 'no mow May' policy to increase biodiversity in areas of green space where we are able.

12. Miscellaneous

Gedling Borough Council will continue to promote health and climate benefits.

The Government are responsible for implementing and taking new approaches on agricultural subsidies.