

Folkestone & Hythe District and Parish Councils Joint Committee

Project work stream

- Carbon Action Plan Update
- Solar Together Kent
- Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF)
- Design Codes and Planning Reforms
- Net Zero Carbon Toolkit
- Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Flood Risk Assessment
- District Wide Carbon Plan
- UK 100 Local Climate Engagement

Carbon Action Plan Update

- Folkestone & Hythe District Council Carbon Action Plan was adopted on the 24th of February 2021
- Covers the council's own operations and estates
- Sets out 33 actions to continue our journey to reduce carbon emissions to zero by 2030
- Focuses on 6 key actions including energy, behaviour change, transport, water, contracts and biodiversity/green space

Carbon Action Plan Update

Progress on 33 actions to continue our journey to reduce carbon emissions to zero by 2030.

Stage	Action	Progress
Stage 1: Short-term Actions	Carbon literacy / climate change training for staff and Members	193 members of staff have completed compulsory Climate Change e-learning module About 30 people managers and members attended the climate emergency sessions Training session delivered on 18/11/21 on Report writing and Climate Impact Statement
	Measure waste produced by the Council operations	Labelled recycling bins in civic centre with accompanying signage
	Explore the use of Electric Vehicle's (EV) staff pool car(s)	A total of 94 EVCPs will be installed in car parks across the district

Carbon Action Plan Update

Stage	Action	Progress
Stage 2: Medium - term Actions	Checklist of criteria to inform decision-making	Report-writing guidance is now on the intranet, along with contact details for reports.
	Reports to cabinet to include a climate impact statement	Climate Impact Statement (CIS) are being included in all reports Cabinet Reports since July 2021
	Expand opportunities for flexible working	New Agile Working Framework in place
	Review of Green Infrastructure Strategy (GIS)	GIS has been produced

Carbon Action Plan Update

Stage	Action	Progress
Stage 3: Longer-term Actions	Develop appropriate flood mitigation measures and tree planting schemes	<p>Tendering process for Policy Senior update the council's 2015 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has been completed.</p> <p>Kent County Council (KCC) presented work on Spatial Risk Assessment for Water to a working group of member in September 2021</p>
	Ensure that the Local Plan sets developments and land use standards that reduce carbon and increase sustainability (subject to proposed Government reforms of the planning system)	<p>Waiting for Inspectors report on core strategy review</p> <p>Application submitted for the Government's Stage 2 – Design Codes Pilot which could explore how standards can be incorporated into the new planning system</p>

Solar Together Kent

- Collective-buying scheme for domestic solar energy and battery storage
- Helps households get reductions on the installation costs
- Administered by Kent County Council and run by iChoosr
- Round 1 nearing completion – about 2,000 installations



Solar Together Kent

- Estimated carbon savings of almost one tonne of emissions per household for a typical solar installation
- Round 2 about to launch – now covering all of Kent
- Mail-out and publicity starting soon
- Registration through the website:
<https://solartogether.co.uk/folkstoneandhythe/home>

How does it work?



Registration

Register before 15 March for free, and without obligation online. The more people register, the better the deal for each household.



Auction

An auction will be held on 15 March where pre-vetted installers submit bids. The most competitive package will win the auction.



Personal recommendation

From 4 April you will be emailed a personal recommendation, based on your registration details. This includes your costs and specifications of your installation.



You decide

The decision is then yours as to whether you want to accept your recommendation. There is no obligation to continue. You will have until 13 May to decide.



Installation

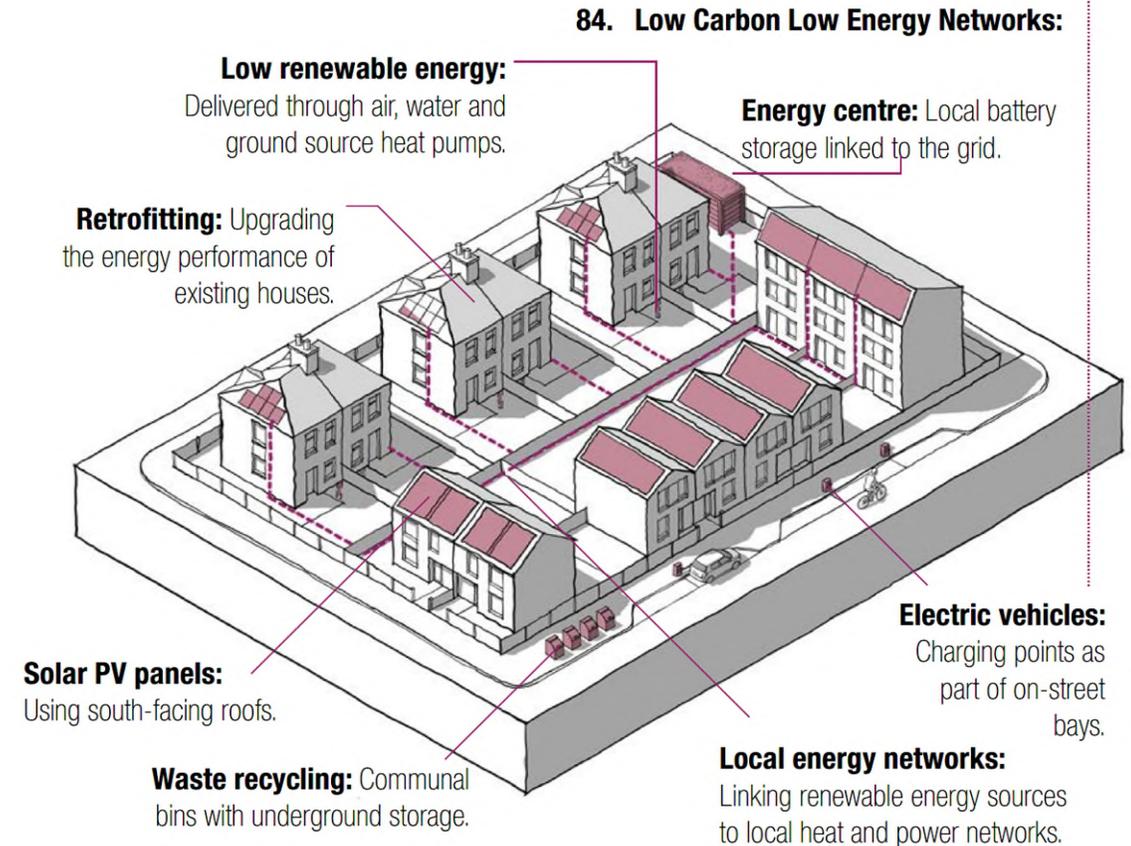
If you accept, the winning installer will contact you to survey your roof and set an installation date. All installations are planned to be completed by the end of October 2022.

Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Bid

- With approval of CLT in October 2021 an application led by Housing and Operations was made for SHDF
- Purpose of the fund is to raise the least energy efficient social homes as measured by the EPC to an EPC band of at least C
- Application was for 109 homes and Ross House where FHDC is the landlord.
- A total of £1.9m of which the Council will need to provide £0.9m
- Wave 2 is expected in April 2022, and the fund available is much larger than the Wave 1

Design Codes and Planning Reforms

- National Planning Policy Framework:
“... all local planning authorities should prepare design guides or codes ... Design guides and codes provide a local framework for creating beautiful and distinctive places with a consistent and high quality standard of design.”
- Applied to Government to be a pilot authority in September 2021
- No announcement yet from Government on bid or wider reforms



Net Zero Carbon Toolkit

- New net zero carbon toolkit commissioned, building on recent work of Oxfordshire and Cotswold local authorities
- Practical, easy-to-follow guide to help plan a net zero housing project
- For small and medium-sized house builders and homeowners retrofitting property
- From pre-planning right through to construction and maintenance
- Making net-zero carbon new build and retrofit more accessible

<https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/environment/climate-action/how-to-achieve-net-zero-carbon-homes/>

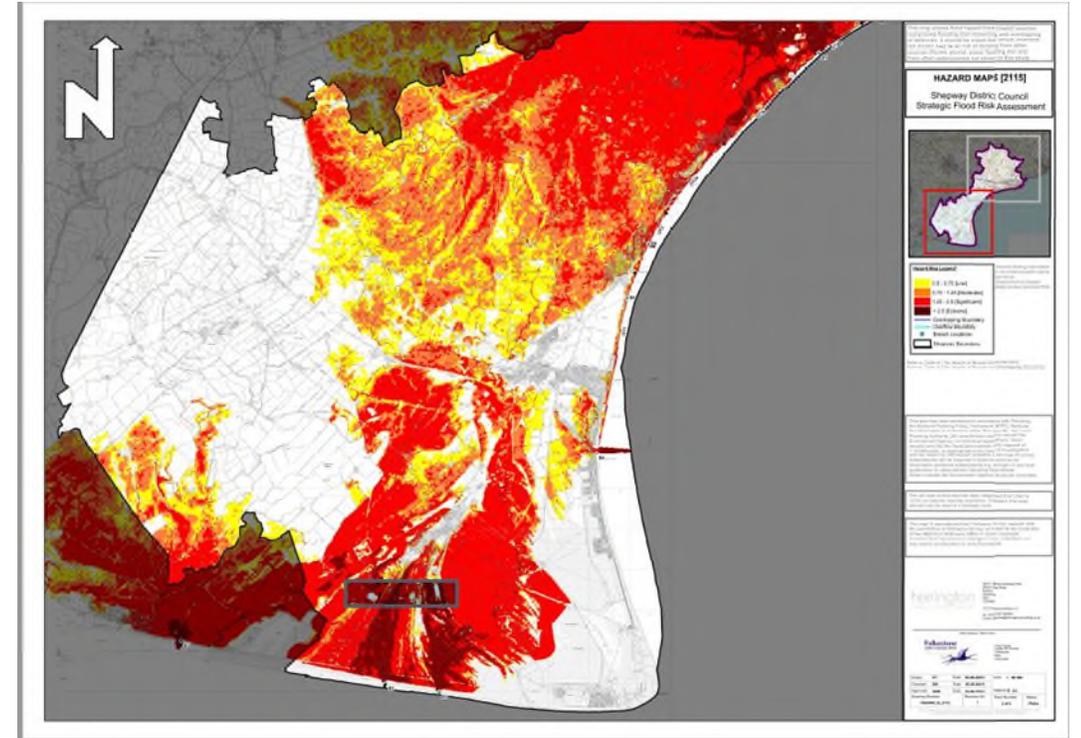


Green Infrastructure Strategy

- Consultants were commissioned to work on an update of the 2011 Green Infrastructure Plan.
- Workshops and meetings to explore green and blue infrastructure priorities with stakeholders, local councils and elected councillors were held last year
- Five evidence areas have been assessed
- Climate Change is a cross-cutting theme.
- From the strategic priorities and opportunities it is intended to produce an action plan containing more specific projects

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- Previous Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) published in 2015
- New study recently commissioned
- Assess flood risks from all sources (rivers, sea, surface water, reservoirs, sewers) taking into account impacts of climate change
- Used in planning application process, local plan, emergency planning and flood mitigation



District Wide Carbon Plan

- Proposed structure, engagement proposal, project plan propose project plan and project timeline
- 5 priority areas
- Key aim of the plan is for the council to be an influencer of change while supporting local communities, key partner organisations, businesses and the public to implement measures to reduce carbon emissions and adapt to climate change in a way that reflects local circumstances and future aspirations.

UK 100 Local Climate Engagement



- Local authorities or partnerships invited to express interest in joining the Local Climate Engagement programme
- Consists of a coaching group and a project group
- Folkestone & Hythe District Council has submitted an expression of interest to join both groups
- Would provide best practice and support for the District Wide Carbon Plan

Questions?