

Greenhouse gas emissions and carbon reduction programme



Annual report for 2024



Executive summary

“The current record pace of human-induced climate change will mean that the UK’s weather and climate will continue to change over the decades ahead. The UK will experience warmer and wetter winters – raising flood risk for properties, agriculture, and infrastructure. Continued shifts towards drier and hotter summers will increase the intensity of summer heatwaves and droughts, with rising risks of surface water flooding when rainfall occurs. Sea levels around the UK will continue to rise*.” (Climate Change Committee – 2025 Report to Parliament).

Tewkesbury Borough Council declared a climate emergency in October 2019 and has committed to making its offices carbon neutral by 2030. More recently in May 2023, the Council passed a motion to expand this declaration to a Borough wide climate emergency, also declaring a nature (ecological) emergency. These declarations have been carried through into the Council Plan which has Caring for the Environment as one of its three key priorities.

The Council has been measuring its own carbon footprint since 2019 and implementing a carbon reduction programme of activities. Since 2019 some of the key headlines are:

- Overall greenhouse gas emissions for the council have reduced by 167 tonnes (10.1%)
- Electricity emissions (scope 2) across the estate have reduced by 67 tonnes (36%)
- Natural gas and fuel emissions (scope 2) have reduced by 104 tonnes (8.9%).
- Emissions from staff and councillor business travel have also reduced by 22 tonnes (75%) as a result of reduced mileage and use of electric vehicles.
- Scope 3 emissions have marginally increased, but so too has the amount of data included.
- The Public Service Centre has made huge strides towards becoming a carbon neutral building through the installation of a 230 kWp Solar Canopy and replacing gas boilers with an air source heating system.

The Public Service Centre’s air source heating system has been operating successfully for over a year and through the energy bills we have seen both a reduction in carbon and costs this year.

Hydrotreated vegetable oil started to be used as a fuel in many of the council’s waste collection vehicles this year and this is having a significant reduction to our overall emissions.

Other highlights of this year’s carbon reduction programme include further LED lighting, continued reduction in emissions from business travel. More widely public electric vehicle chargepoints have been installed in Tewkesbury, householders in the borough have been able to benefit from home energy efficiency retrofit support and funding has been available for community orchards and energy efficiency projects.

There is still further work to do to become carbon neutral and despite the uncertainties of local government reorganisation we are continuing to deliver projects that will address climate change and have a lasting impact.

In the year ahead we will continue to deliver energy efficiency work across the estate including partners such as Tewkesbury Leisure Centre, install further electric vehicle charge points, drive climate change improvements across the whole council and seek to protect and enhance the natural environment.

* [Progress in reducing emissions – 2025 report to Parliament – Climate Change Committee](#)

Introduction

Tewkesbury Borough Council declared a climate emergency on 1st October 2019 and has committed to making its offices carbon neutral by 2030.

A baselining exercise of the council's greenhouse gas emissions was undertaken (in 2020) and a Carbon Reduction programme was established soon after.

In May 2023, the council passed a motion to expand this declaration to a borough wide climate emergency, also declaring a nature (ecological) emergency.

Currently, there is no legal requirement in England for local authorities to report on their organisational carbon footprint, however, the council is committed to its carbon neutral ambition and publicising its greenhouse gas emissions annually.

Part 1 - covers the council's greenhouse gas emissions in 2024.

Part 2 - reviews the progress of the council's carbon reduction programme.

Part 3 - presents an action plan for the year ahead.

PART ONE – GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REPORTING

Organisational boundary & scope

The primary focus of this report is on the greenhouse gas emissions which can be attributed to Tewkesbury Borough Council with consideration to the climate emergency declaration of 2019 and the expanded borough wide and ecological emergency declaration of 2023.

The council has committed to doing all in its power to become carbon neutral by 2030, specifically by addressing greenhouse gas emissions from operations for which it is directly responsible. This specifically includes the council occupied areas of the Public Service Centre building.

In addition, the following organisational activities are reported on:

- Electricity, gas and water consumption from owned buildings that are used to provide a public service, therefore excluding any buildings used for commercial purposes. Therefore, the Council's estate included is as follows:
 - o Tewkesbury Borough Council offices (excluding areas occupied by tenants).
 - o Tewkesbury Leisure Centre
 - o Roses Theatre
 - o The Tourist Information Centre
 - o Tewkesbury Cemetery and Bishop's Cleeve Cemetery (added 2021)
 - o 7 x domestic properties providing housing support (increased from 5 properties in 2019)
 - o Tirley and Deerhurst pumping stations (added 2021)
 - o A depot and games area (added 2021)
- Council pool car fleet
- Waste collection and street cleansing fleet and equipment operated by UBICO

- The grey fleet (vehicles privately owned and used by employees or Councillors for council purposes)
- Office and general waste from the Public Service Centre (added from 2021)

In addition, this year the report also acknowledges the greenhouse gas impact of the councils:

- Pension investments
- Commuting
- Working from home

Borough wide emissions will be covered under the council's emerging climate change framework.

Reporting period

1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024 with comparisons to the baseline year 2019 and previous years.

Baseline year

The baseline year for the council's Greenhouse Gas reporting is from 1st January 2019 to 31st December 2019. The baseline was revised in 2022 to take into consideration more accurate transport data.

Conversion factors

The greenhouse gas emissions detailed in this report have been calculated using the 2024 UK Government Greenhouse Gas Conversion Factors:

[Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2024 - GOV.UK](#)

The Council reports on Scope 1,2 and 3 emissions in accordance with the principles of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol.

Table 1 – Definition of scope 1,2 and 3 emissions

Category	Description	Source
Scope 1	Direct emissions from activities owned or controlled by the council.	Gas usage on the council estate and fuel used by vehicles and equipment to deliver council and public services.
Scope 2	Indirect emissions from purchasing electricity for council operations.	Electricity consumption from the grid on the council estate.
Scope 3	All other indirect emissions produced in relation to the organisational activity	The transmission and distribution of electricity Well to tank electricity and gas. Staff & councillor business travel Water usage Waste management. Working from home, commuting and pension investments are also acknowledged within this report.

Data accuracy

Every year we strive to improve the accuracy of our greenhouse gas reporting by ensuring our data collection encompasses all known information and our internal management systems are robust.

This year we have been able to make further improvements to the completeness of Scope 3 emissions reporting by considering how commuting, working from home and the local authority's pension scheme impacts greenhouse gas emissions.

Total emissions

Compared with the council's greenhouse gas tonnage baseline (revised), there is a reduction of 167 tonnes (10.1%)*. The key factors behind this reduction are:

- Development of a carbon reduction programme of activities
- Installation of 230 kWp Solar Canopy at the Public Service Centre in 2022, supplying electricity to the council offices and the leisure centre
- Replacing gas boilers with air source heating at the Public Service Centre during the winter of 2023-24.
- Introduction of hydrotreated vegetable oil used by the waste collection fleet from November 2024.
- Full electrification of the council pool car fleet.
- Contributions from a range of other carbon reduction activities.

This reduction has been achieved despite a number of challenging factors: such as the council having:

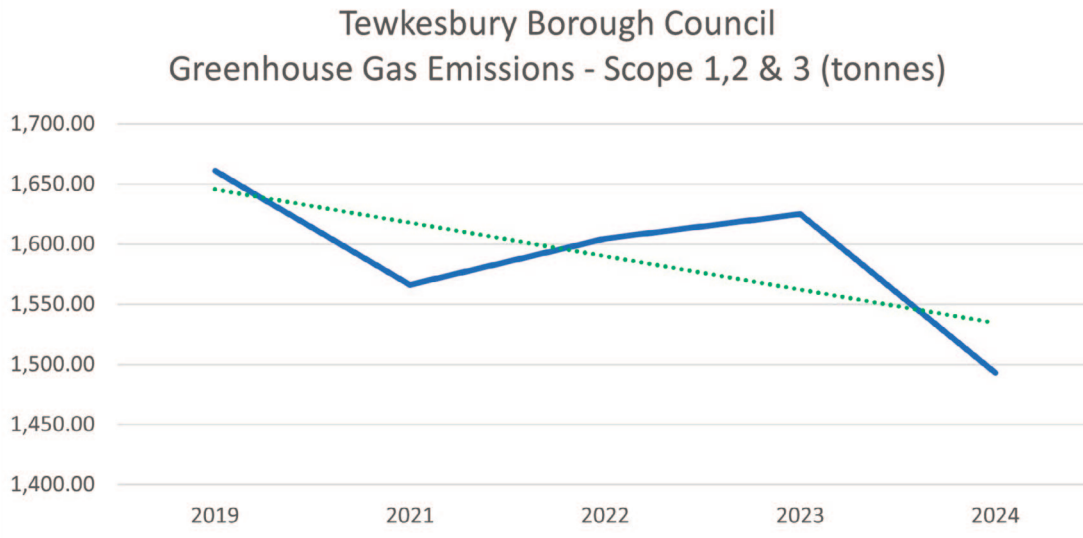
- A larger occupancy of the public service centre building to consider within its carbon footprint (areas of the building occupied by other tenants are excluded). Increased from approximately 42% in 2019 to 60% in 2024.
- A growth in council services, which have for example led to an extra waste collection round, increased leisure centre usage and additional elements captured in our reporting.
- The population of Tewkesbury Borough has increased from 92,703 in 2019 to 98,896 in 2023**.
- Improved and expanded data collection which captures more council activities.

* In order to make like for like comparisons, the emission figures from the newly considered scope 3 areas of commuting, home working and pension investments are not included in this reference.

** gloucestershire.gov.uk/inform/population/population-figures/county-and-district-data

Figure 1

Tewkesbury Borough Council greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes)



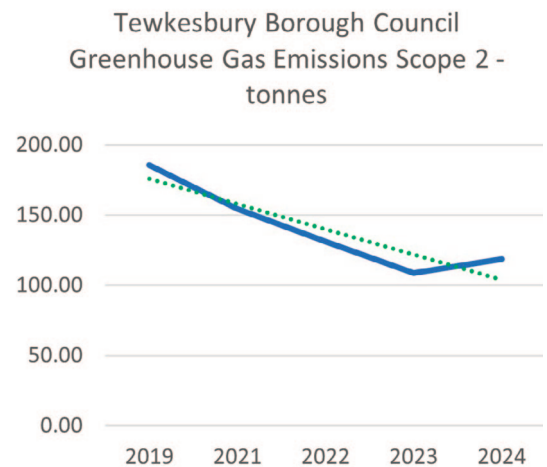
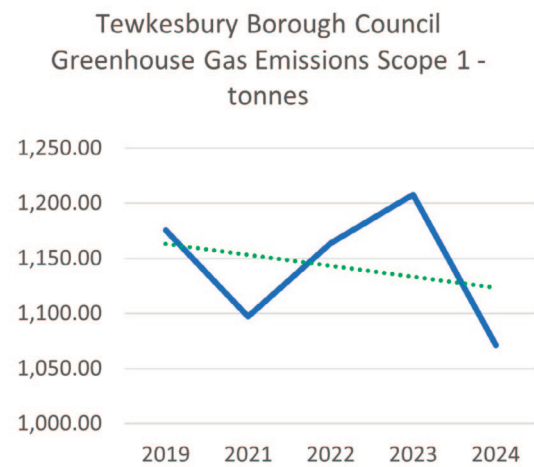
Following Covid there was a reduction in the amount of greenhouse gases reported in 2021, which rebounded in 2022 and 2023, which can be partially attributed to services reopening. This is particularly evident at the Leisure Centre and the Roses Theatre.

However in 2024 good progress has been made in re-establishing the downward trend.

This can also be seen in scope 1 & 2 emissions which relate primarily to gas, fuel and electricity consumed.

Figure 2 and 3

Tewkesbury Borough Council Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions



Blue line = emissions Green line = trend over time

Emissions by use

The Council’s emissions (scope 1,2 & 3) can be categorised as per the table below, which show an 10.1% decrease from the 2019 baseline in building emissions, and a smaller decrease overall.

Table 2 – emissions by use

Category	2019 emissions (T/CO2e)	2024 emissions (T/CO2e)	% Emissions Change (-/+)	Share of emissions in 2024
Buildings	701.0	636.9	-9.2%	42.6%
Transport	960.2	855.6	-10.9%	57.2%
Waste	0.0	1.7	N/A	0.1%
Total	1,661	1,494	-10.1%	

The largest contributors to the Council’s footprint in 2024 were, as per previous years, from the fuel consumption (transport) and the operation of its buildings (specifically gas and electricity).

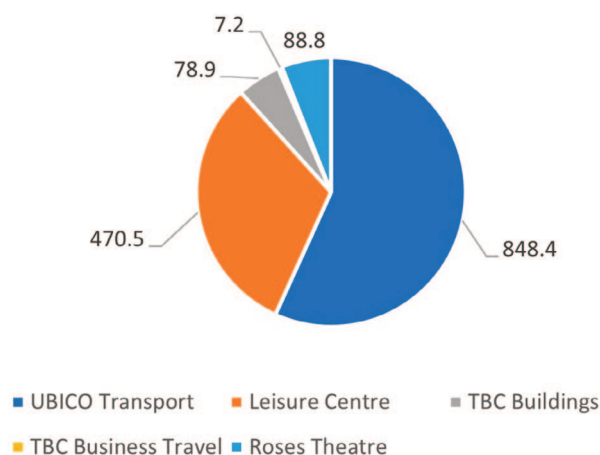
This can be further broken down by organisation and source; as the next graphic demonstrates over 88% of the emissions within the estate are generated firstly through transport as a direct result of the waste collection service (848 tonnes), and secondly from the gas and grid electricity used at the leisure centre (470 tonnes).

The Public Service Centre (the main council offices) and the Roses Theatre are smaller but not insignificant contributors as are the combined contributions of the council’s small domestic housing stock (18.1 tonnes).

Figure 4

Tewkesbury Borough Council greenhouse gases by organisation source

Emissions by organisational source (tonnes)



Buildings

The table below shows the total building energy consumption for relevant estate buildings (those considered to be used for the provision of core council services).

Table 3 – Greenhouse gas emissions from all buildings

Building	Greenhouse Gases Tonnes (Scope 1,2,3)							
	Electricity		Gas		Water		Total	
	2019	2024	2019	2024	2019	2024	2019	2024
Leisure Centre	128.5	68.9	339.1	400.0	4.2	1.6	471.9	470.5
Roses Theatre	3.8**	31.0	48.6	57.5	0.0	0.3	52.4**	88.8
Public Service Centre	84.6	47.7*	58.7	0.3	1.0	1.6	144.3	49.6*
Domestic	12.3	5.2	14.8	12.6	0.0	0.3	27.1	18.1
Tourist Info Centre	2.5	2.0	2.5	3.4	0.0	0.0	5.0	5.4
Deerhurst & Tirley Pump Rooms	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8
Lower Lode Depot	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8
Games Area	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Cemetery (Tewkesbury)	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2
Cemetery (Bishops Cleeve)	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Total	232.0	159.8	463.7	473.8	5.3	3.9	701.0	636.5

* Includes a reduction provided by the solar exported to the grid.

** Error in collection of electricity data in 2019

The headline results show that in 2024 there was an 9.2% reduction in total building emissions against the 2019 baseline, which can be attributed to energy efficiency activities.

Electricity consumption and related emissions have reduced since the baseline, partially from energy efficiency and renewable measures implemented across the council's estate, but also helped by the trend over the last few years of the national electricity grid decarbonising, benefiting from an increase in renewable energy (although the combined scope 2&3 conversion factors used for calculating electricity emissions actually increased by 5.1% in 2023 from 2022* and also to a lesser extent in 2024).

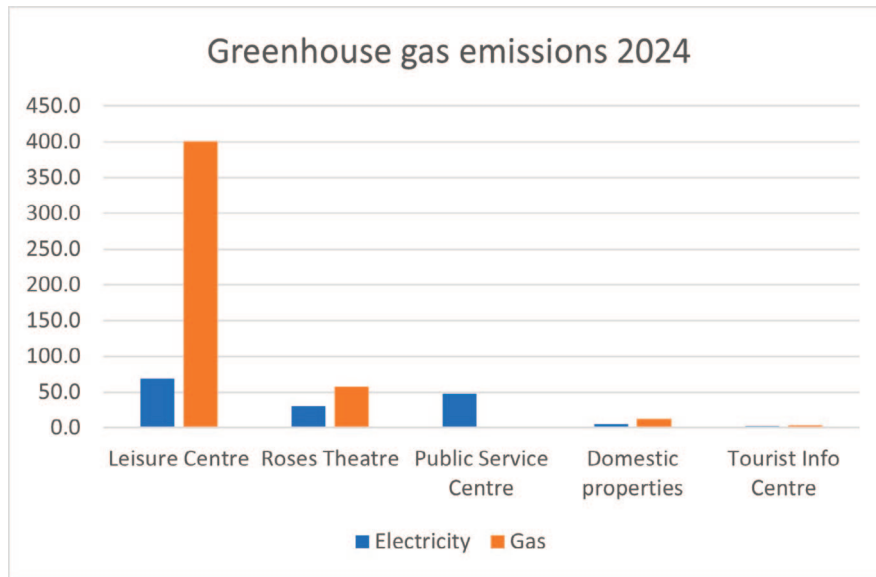
The carbon footprint from natural gas consumption accounts for a significant majority of our building energy consumption (73.6%), which has decreased from 77% last year and 75.3% in 2019.

This again confirms that from a carbon neutral aspiration, reducing emissions from natural gas should remain a priority.

* Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2023 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

The graph below illustrates the emissions (scope 1,2 & 3) from electricity and gas in the largest emitting buildings in 2024:

Figure 5 – Greenhouse gas emissions from larger buildings



Public Service Centre

The Council’s share of the Public Service Centre (PSC) carbon footprint has reduced significantly, following investment including grant funding towards a solar canopy (2022), air source heating (2023–24), further LED lighting (2024) in conjunction with other energy efficiency measures.

The Public Service Centre no longer has a gas supply and the surplus solar exported to the grid (and available for other users) is now included and helped reduce the impact of the Public Service Centre.

Electricity consumption has reduced by 28% despite having more area under the Council’s responsibility than in 2019 (42% of PSC in 2019 to 60% in 2024) and a new electricity demand from the air source heating.

As a result of the installation of the air source heating system and the confidence in its operation, the gas supply has been disconnected and natural gas was eliminated in 2023.

The improvements to the Public Service Centre have been reflected in the buildings display energy certificate (DEC) rated as 56 C in 2024* and significant improvement from 91 D in 2019.

We have also been able to positively account for the small amount of surplus renewable electricity provided to the national electricity grid, estimated at 32,236 kWh equivalent to 6.7 tonnes of renewable offset**.

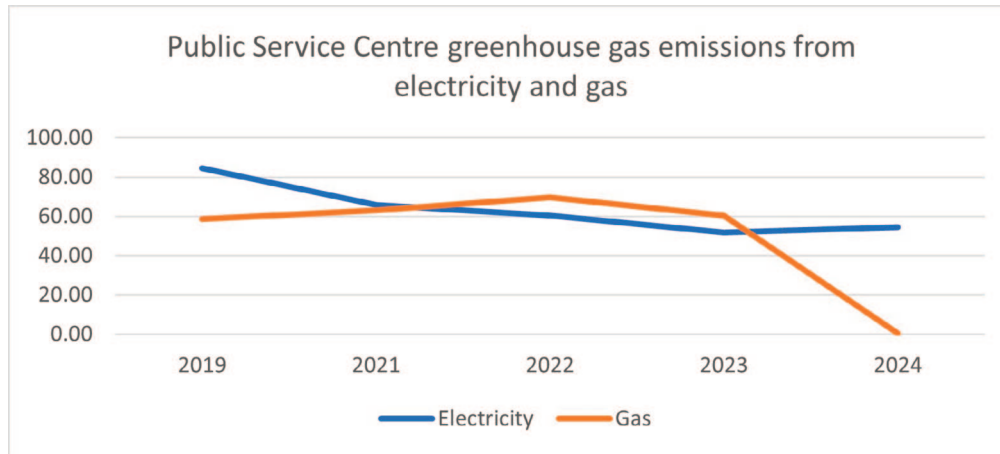
The successful generation of electricity from solar (car park canopy and service centre roof arrays) comes despite 2024 being one of the lowest average daily hours of sunshine recorded over the last 20 years in the UK. Provisional data supplied by the meteorological office shows only 3.8 hours of average daily sunshine in 2024 against an average of 4.4 hours in the last 20 years. During key months of April–June this was 5.6 hours against an average of 6.4.***

* DEC assessment covers period July 2023 to June 2024.

** Based on generation figures applied to total export to grid reading between November 2023 – March 2025.

*** GOV.UK; Department for Energy Security and Net-Zero (UK)

Figure 6 – Greenhouse gas emissions from the council’s share of electricity and gas consumption at the Public Service Centre



The electric vehicle chargepoints at the Public Service Centre are now providing annually around 22,000 kWh of electricity to the council’s pool cars and as well as public users**. Some of this will be “clean” electricity from the solar generation, but a considerable portion will be from the grid and included in the council’s carbon footprint.

It should be acknowledged that during September 2024 the council experienced a cyber incident which may have had an impact on energy usage during that month.

Tewkesbury Leisure Centre:

Rising electricity costs have adversely impacted on the financial sustainability of the leisure sector across the UK. Despite these challenges (which is also an opportunity to prioritise in this area), Tewkesbury Leisure Centre has seen a slight reduction in its carbon footprint since the 2019 baseline as well as benefitting from electricity generated from the Solar Canopy.

Some of the many energy saving actions undertaken by the leisure centre include:

- Better control and management of temperatures in the pool, sauna and reception
- Less and better use of air conditioning
- Equipment turned off earlier when not in use or in eco mode.

** Based on 2024 data

Despite these positive initiatives, the leisure centre has the largest carbon footprint of any of the council buildings, with gas powering the combined heat and power plant a key reason, but it also provides a cheaper power source.

When comparing the carbon reporting for this year with previous years, it is important to note that there was partial closing in early 2022 when some covid restrictions were still in place, as well as a subsequent increase in leisure centre usage, following the end of covid restrictions and new initiatives put in place in 2023.

As a result the leisure centre is now experiencing higher customer visits, more junior gym visits, aqua classes, soft play customers and both increases in swim and fitness membership.

Electricity usage has almost halved since the 2019 baseline, but gas usage has increased.

The leisure centre are investigating building energy management systems, which will optimise the electricity from the solar canopy and combined heat and power system.

The Roses Theatre

The Roses Theatre has seen a small increase in gas consumption since the 2019 baseline and has been limited by an ageing building. This is further exacerbated by the need for a cool auditorium during the summer months.

Electricity usage is noticeably higher than recorded in the baseline due to a data collection error in 2019*. If we assume electricity in 2019 was at similar levels to 2024, then the overall greenhouse gases at the Roses will be broadly similar.

In 2024 there was a small reduction in electrical consumption (1,734 kWh) from the previous year.

Residential properties

The Council's small directly managed housing stock of 7 domestic properties account for 18.1 tonnes of greenhouse gases. They have all had improvements over recent years including loft and wall insulation, double glazing, LED lighting and other measures.

This has been rewarded by the properties all now being rated Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rated as C or above and also commended at the Southwest Energy Efficiency Awards in 2023 and 2025 for the energy efficiency work around housing.

Other properties

The Council has several other properties with relatively small carbon footprints such as the Tourist Information Centre in Tewkesbury, a depot, a games area, two pumping stations and two cemeteries

Transport emissions

Transport emissions continue to account for the largest proportion of the Council's footprint (57.3%). This is made up the fuel used by UBICO to deliver the waste collection and street cleansing services (848.8 tonnes) and business travel by staff and councillors.

Business Travel

There has been a combined reduction in staff and councillor* mileage using own vehicles, (grey fleet) from 32,174 miles (2019) to 17,869 miles (2024). This could be attributed to an increase in online meetings as well as staff utilising pool cars wherever possible.

The mileage covered by pool cars has also reduced significantly from 55,819 (2019) to 33,142 (2024) which reflects more flexible and efficient working practices and on-line meetings being utilised to reduce the need for travel.

The greenhouse gas emission reduction in business travel since the baseline is 75%. In addition to the overall reduced mileage, there has also been a conversion firstly to two electric pool cars and then more recently in December 2023 when all four pool cars became fully electric. The council now operates five electric pool cars and has purchased two electric bicycles to meet its staff business travel requirements.

Table 4 – Tewkesbury Borough Council greenhouse gas emissions from business travel in 2024

Business travel – staff & councillors	Greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes)		
	Scope 1	Scope 3	total
Pool cars	0.53	0.15	0.68
Grey fleet – staff	-	3.41	3.41
Grey fleet – councillors	-	3.11	3.11
Total	0.53	6.67	7.20

Transport emissions from waste collection vehicles

The waste collection service provided by the council for residents is delivered by UBICO. This service is considered within both Scope 1 and Scope 3 emissions.

The fuels used by UBICO contributes to approximately 56.8% of the Council's total emissions and therefore represents a hugely significant factor in the Council meeting its carbon neutral commitment.

This is a reduction from 60% in 2023 and set to reduce further next year.

*Up until 2023 only the data from journeys which have been claimed by councillors are accounted for, some councillors had not submitted expense claims. For the past two years work has been undertaken to capture these journeys but we are aware that it is possible that this still may not capture all councillor journeys and have information from 85% of councillors.

In November 2024 UBICO replaced diesel with hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) in vehicles which were suitable. Because HVO originates from certified sources such as used cooking oil or regenerative crops (which absorb an equivalent amount of carbon of that which is being used) it can significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions (using BEIS greenhouse gas conversion factors).

The overall greenhouse gas emissions from UBICO reduced to 848.8 tonnes in 2024 from 967.3 tonnes in 2023 and 930.9 tonnes (2019 baseline)*.

Table 5 – 2024 Greenhouse gas emissions from fuel used by UBICO waste collection and street cleansing (scope 1 and scope 3)

Fuel type	Fuel (litres)	Greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes)
Diesel	260,012	812.2
Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil	41,223	24.5
Petrol	4,386	11.7
Total	305,621	848.8

Since the baseline there has been additional mileage incurred by vehicles travelling further to the Gloucestershire Energy from Waste Facility at Javelin Park (opened October 2019), as opposed to the transfer station more geographically central near Bishop’s Cleeve. Added to this the overall population and number households in the Borough has grown by around 6.2% (between 2019 and 2023), increasing the demand for the waste collection service.

A purchase of two electric 3.5 tonne caged vehicles is scheduled in 2025 alongside eco driver training to further reduce fuel consumption.

Using HVO fuel can reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Diesel by over 80% and combined with electric vehicles it is a strategy that can significantly reduce emissions.

It is a factor that there are technology restrictions and forecasted higher financial costs to incur to undertake a full electrical (or other technological) transformation. While the authority is striving for a zero emissions fleet of waste collection vehicles, the current limitations and costs are prohibitive, but it is hoped that the actions undertaken and planned will act as a stepping stone for when the technology advance further and is commercially more viable.

The council seeks assurances from UBICO that the feedstock in the HVO fuel comes from sustainable and ethical sources.

* In order to use actual quantity (litres) of fuel to calculate emissions and compare against the baseline on a like for like basis, the 2019 baseline was adjusted in 2022 using historic fuel figures providing a more accurate method of reporting.

UBICO and its suppliers work within the guidelines set by the Department for Transport within the Renewable Transport Fuels Obligation (RTFO). All lower carbon fuels supported under the RTFO must first meet robust carbon and sustainability standards including independent verification before they can receive certificates from government to meet the obligation.

Water

Water is a hugely valuable and vital resource, which as the local (and global) population increases, becomes even more important in our daily lives and scarce in an increasing number of locations.

The footprint for the supply and treatment of water to the whole of the council's estate accounted for 3.3 tonnes in 2024, not surprisingly the leisure centre and the public service centre have the largest demand.

This has decreased from 7.21 tonnes in 2019. Since then, there has been some water saving measures introduced on the council's estate, but this reduction is primarily due to the conversion factors for the external water supply and treatment processes, becoming less carbon intensive.

Office waste at the Public Service Centre

From 2022, the council has collected a full year of data including non-recycling. With the addition of skips it is unsurprising that the waste reported increased from the 2021 figure, when there was limited information available. Before this there was no baseline data available for comparison. Office waste and recycling is carried out by Suez who provide more detailed reporting.

The cyber incident in September 2024 provided staff with the opportunity to have clear out which resulted in more waste, in particular waste going in skips.

This has resulted in greenhouse emissions from waste being higher in 2024; primarily due to a proportion of waste skips going to landfill which make up under 13% of total waste by weight, but 92% of the greenhouse gas emissions.

Table 6 – Waste from the Public Service Centre

Overall PSC waste (tonnes)	2024
By weight	22.5
Greenhouse gases	1.66

To further explain this, the way emissions are calculated for waste going to landfill is much higher than some other forms of material treatment, because landfill waste takes into account the end of life landfill emissions, whereas for example in recycling, the emissions from electricity and water used in the paper recycling process are captured by the consumption of recycled paper in the "material use" area of reporting, not the "recycling" activity itself.

The recycling rate for the Public Service Centre building was 67.4%, with an avoiding landfill rate of 86.9% in 2024. The council's Green Champions (staff) help communicate key recycling messages.

Carbon neutral council offices

Item 2 of Tewkesbury Borough Council's climate emergency declaration in 2019, stated a commitment to doing all in its power to make the council offices carbon neutral by 2030.

This can be further clarified as taking into consideration the council occupied sections of the Tewkesbury Public Service Centre building, measuring scope 1&2 greenhouse gas emissions.

Since the carbon reduction programme was introduced, there has been 92% reduction in the net emission's "balance", through various energy efficiency measures and renewable energy generation.

Table 7 – Carbon neutral position (absolute) at the Public Service Centre

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (tonnes) at the public services centre scope 1 and 2	2019 Baseline	2023	2024
Electricity	68.5	39.1	40.9
Gas	51.9	51.9	0.04
Total	120.4	91.0	41.0
Off-Setting			
Solar export to Leisure Centre		-25.9	-24.7
Solar export to the grid			-6.7
Net emissions balance	120.4	65.1	9.6

The air source heating installation has now eliminated the need for gas (51.9 tonnes in 2023). Together with the solar canopy these are huge strides in making the offices carbon neutral.

An electricity supply meter upgrade allows us to now measure the amount of surplus electricity being added to the grid and include this as a renewable offset.

This leaves a remaining 9.6 tonnes to reduce or offset to have a fully carbon neutral emissions balance.

Further energy efficiency measures will be necessary to achieve the additional 23% electricity reduction to meet the carbon neutral goal.

REGO – backed renewable energy generated in the UK.

The council purchases its electricity from West Mercia Energy on the UK Renewable Pure Plus scheme.

This provides Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) certificates for a specific amount of energy generated from renewable sources such as wind, hydro and solar.

These certificates are fully compliant with the greenhouse gas protocol scope 2 guidance and organisations can choose to treat these as zero emissions.

Applying this to the 40.9 tonnes REGO figure from the Public Service Centre in the previous carbon neutral “absolute” emissions balance would give a negative “net” greenhouse gas combined scope 1 and 2 emissions for the Public Service Centre.

The council is mindful not to overstate this, publishing full electricity consumption information and does not include reductions from REGO’s in its overall organisational emissions or scope 2 totals.

The purchase of REGO certificates does however allow the council to support the development of cleaner electricity in the UK with full transparency and traceability.

Emissions by scope

The table on the following page shows a direct illustration of emissions by scope based on formal greenhouse gas protocol reporting structure. This is further broken down on the following page.

The greatest change in scope emissions is a reduction in scope 2, indirect emissions from purchased electricity of 36%, 67 tonnes and scope 1 direct emissions from gas and fuel of 8.9%, 104.4 tonnes.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Summary	Revised Baseline 2019 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Tonnes	2024 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Tonnes
Scope 1		
Gas – Council Offices & Buildings	54.09	3.18
Gas – Leisure Centre	300.11	343.30
Gas – Roses	43.00	49.33
Gas – Domestic Properties	13.13	10.79
UBICO Diesel/Petrol/HVO	752.03	663.97
Pool Cars Petrol	13.13	0.53
Total Scope 1	1,175.50	1071.09
Scope 2		
Electricity – Council Offices & Buildings	68.69	45.96
Electricity Export to grid – Council Offices	0.00	-6.67
Electricity – Leisure Centre	103.93	51.80
Electricity – Roses	3.06	23.31
Electricity – Domestic Properties	9.92	3.91
Total Scope 2	185.60	118.30
Scope 3		
Gas (well to tank) – Council Offices & Buildings	7.03	0.52
Gas (well to tank) – Leisure Centre	39.03	56.70
Gas (well to tank) – Roses	5.59	8.15
Gas (well to tank) – Domestic Properties	1.71	1.78
Diesel/Petrol/HVO (well to tank) – UBICO	178.89	184.46
Petrol (well to tank) – Pool Cars	3.53	0.15
Electricity (T&D & WTT) – Council Offices & Buildings	16.65	15.13
Electricity (T&D & WTT) – Leisure Centre	24.55	17.05
Electricity (T&D & WTT) – Roses	0.72	7.67
Electricity (T&D & WTT) – Domestic Properties	2.34	1.29
Water Supply & Treatment	7.21	3.34
Business Travel – Staff	7.02	3.41
Business Travel – Councillors	5.64	3.11
Waste Disposal (Council Building)		1.66
Total Scope 3	299.93	304.44
Total Scope 1,2 and 3 emissions	1,661.03	1,493.83

As per the table on page 4 of this report and under the Greenhouse Gas Protocol's scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions can be defined as:

Scope 1: Direct emissions from activities owned or controlled by your organisation: Gas & Owned Transport.

Scope 2: Indirect energy emissions released into the atmosphere that are associated with your consumption of purchased electricity.

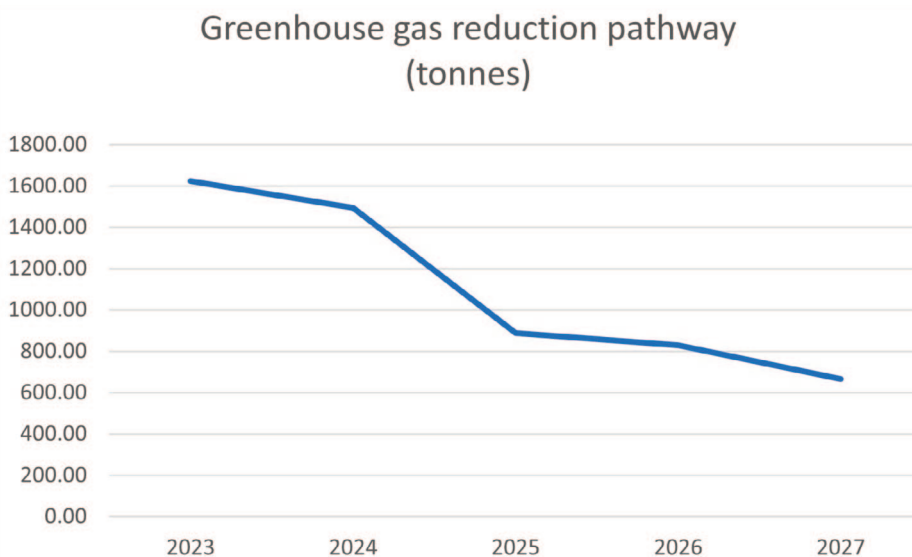
Scope 3: Other indirect emissions that are a consequence of your actions occurring at sources you do not own or control and are not classed as Scope 2 emissions. For example: business travel (staff vehicles or public transport), waste disposal, materials or fuels (water) purchased.

Organisational carbon neutral pathway

Viewing the total organisation emissions as per the council's organisational boundary and scope described in page 3 of this report, the trajectory for the next three years should reduce the organisational footprint with adoption of alternative fuels and electrification of the vehicle fleet.

Adopting energy efficiency measures at Tewkesbury Leisure Centre, the Roses Theatre in addition to further action within the Public Service Centre will continue this progress.

Figure 8 – Tewkesbury Borough Council greenhouse gas emissions reduction projection



The forecast projection is in the region of over 50% reduction over the next three years.

Despite this trajectory, a significant amount of carbon emissions will still remain and more work is needed for this to be further reduced before 2030.

Any remaining emissions will need to be offset, which will require financing in order to meet the carbon neutral target.

Other Wider Scope 3 Emissions

Councils across Gloucestershire and other organisation are looking at implementing the greenhouse gas protocol beyond traditional reporting.

The categories below recognise the indirect impacts the Council has:

- 1) Working from home
- 2) Commuting to and from work
- 3) The investments from the council's share of the Gloucestershire pension fund .

Discussions with other councils has also taken place around how to value the goods and services the council buys.

Working from home

Emissions related to staff working from home have been considered in previous years but not incorporated in emissions totals.

It was previously recognised that working from home had an energy related emissions impact, but without the full picture of being able to look at reduction in emissions from less commuting, it was impossible to make any meaningful conclusions.

There will be an increase in estimated levels of greenhouse gases due to the lighting, heating and power required for equipment to deliver council services from staff's homes. Correlation factors are now available, while they were not available at the time of producing the 2019 Baseline.

This year, following the introduction of a staff travel to work survey, we have been able to estimate commuting emissions and include both commuting and work from home emissions within our wider scope 3 reporting of indirect emissions and also can consider their impact.

We can deduce that by working from home, despite producing emissions there is an overall reduction in emissions from less commuting (treating the workforce as a whole).

Based on 214 Staff (FTE) working an average 2 days a week from home, an additional 46.5 tonnes of greenhouse gas can be attributed to the energy required to facilitate home working.

Table 11 – Home working

Green House Gas Emissions	Total Homeworking Hours	Total GHG Emissions (tonnes)	Per employee (kg)
Emissions – homeworking			
Office Equipment & Heating	139,357	46.5	223.6

To put this into context 46.5 tonnes is similar to the emissions from the public service centre.
(excluding renewables export).

It is important to reflect, that working from home emissions are only an estimate based on averages which will not take into account individual circumstances such as home size and other occupancy usage.

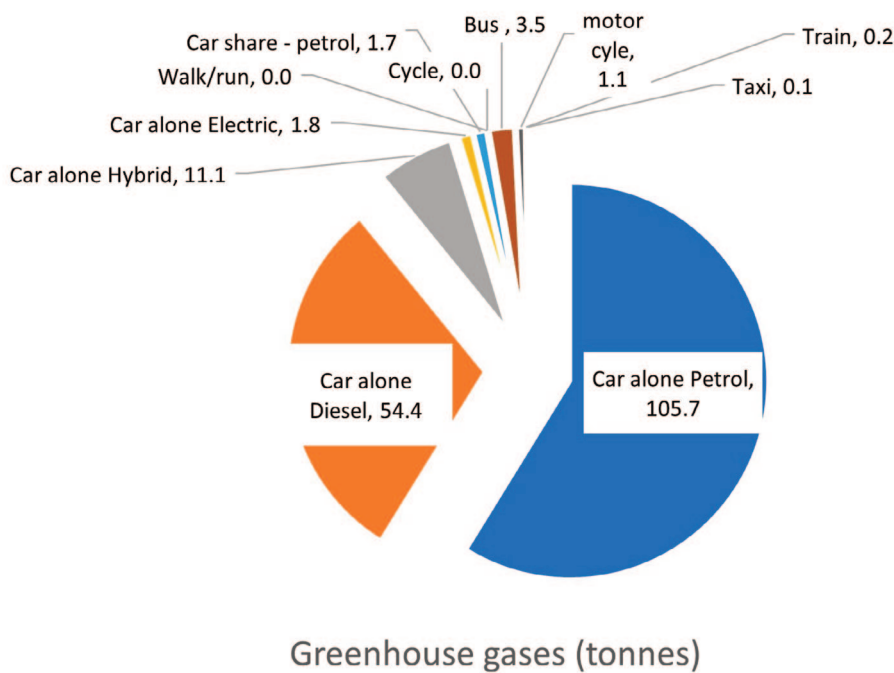
Commuting

This year we have undertaken a staff travel survey to understand how council employees travel to work and the reasons for travelling this way.

Although as an organisation the council is not directly responsible for the emissions produced by commuting, this has allowed us to consider this within the council's wider scope 3 emissions.

101 employees completed the survey and the responses were scaled up to represent the full workforce. The results of the survey are illustrated in the chart below:

Figure 9 – Estimated annual greenhouse gas emissions from staff travel to work (tonnes)



The total greenhouse gas emissions from commuting are estimated to be 182.4 tonnes, which equates to 0.76 tonnes per employee.

This is greater than the emissions from working from home, which at first glance suggests that working from home can play a role in reducing emissions, alongside a switch to more sustainable modes of travel.

Pensions

The council's pension scheme has an indirect carbon impact through the emissions of the business activities that the funds support.

Gloucestershire County Council acts as the administering authority for the Gloucestershire Pension Fund, on behalf of employers including Tewkesbury Borough Council.

Most of the fund's investments are managed through the Brunel Pension Partnership, which is a collaboration of 10 Local Government Pension Funds. The Fund is fully committed to providing transparent disclosures on investments including carbon performance, where possible.

A net zero carbon target of 2045 has been set, as well as interim milestones on carbon reduction along the pathway to net zero. The Fund's carbon performance is compared to the average investment and for the year ending December 2024, showed a relative carbon efficiency of +30%.

The analysis is based on the position as of 31 December 2024 and is used as the reported position for 2023-24. The total value of the Pension Fund at the end of Dec 2024 totalled £3.64bn, of which Tewkesbury Borough Council's value totalled £0.083bn, which equates to a 2.3% share of the Fund.

The value of equities and Bond Investment holdings held by the Fund, where carbon data was available for analysis totalled £2.401bn. Therefore, the Council's share of this totalled £0.055bn are 2,684 tCO₂e down from 2,868 tCO₂e in 2023.

The listed equity portfolio in the pension fund is more carbon efficient by 35% than the wider market (MSCI ACWI benchmark), as at 31 December 2023.

Information provided by Gloucestershire County Council.

PART TWO

CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAMME YEAR 4 (2024/25) HIGHLIGHTS

Following the 2019 baseline reporting, a carbon reduction programme was established, which is updated annually.

Some of the key highlights of this year's delivery of the Carbon Reduction Programme have been included as case studies of achievements, which also includes previous recent years work.

Performance against the objectives in the Year 5 Carbon Reduction Programme can be read in the table which follows the case studies.

Upgraded office lighting

Background

This project builds on previous energy efficiency projects such as the installation of a solar canopy in the staff car park during the summer of 2022 and more recently the installation of an air source heating system at the council's Public Service Centre.

Challenge

Despite the recent energy projects the council still uses grid electricity and to become carbon neutral this needs to be reduced even further.

Solution

There were still areas within the building that had inefficient fluorescent tube lighting and an modernisation was planned.

Completed in January 2025, the older lighting on the first floor, several of the ground floor rooms and external buildings were improved, so that all the parts of the building used by the council were upgraded with energy efficient lighting.

The council was delighted to be able to work with Gloucester installer Redbridge and Sons Property Services, who delivered the works to a high standard of workmanship with minimum fuss and inconvenience to staff and other users of the building.

Results

We are now seeing reductions in electricity consumption from the new lighting compared to the old fluorescent tubes, which will lead to both financial and carbon savings.

Redbridge and Sons Property Services have incorporated energy saving opportunities such as additional lighting sensors into the design. One of the first things staff noticed was the superior light quality, the LED's offered creating a better working environment.

LED lighting is another step forward in the journey to reach our carbon neutral goal



LED Lighting on 1st Floor

Energy used

Before: 131 kWh per day

After: 56 kWh per day

55-60 % reduction.

Annual Savings

Greenhouse gases:

8 tonnes

Electricity costs:

£6,800*

*Plus replacing lights less frequently.

Payback = 2 – 2.5 years

Air source heating

Air source heating installed

Background

The council declared a Climate Change Emergency in 2019 and has committed to having Carbon Neutral offices by 2030. However gas heating made up 74% of the footprint of all buildings.

Challenge

The current gas fired boiler dated back to the early 1990's and was both expensive to maintain and also reaching the end of life - a low carbon solution was greatly needed.

Solution

During the autumn and winter months of 2023-4, the aging gas fired heating system at the Council's Public Service Centre, was replaced with an air source heating system. The project benefitted from a grant from the Salix Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund.

Air source heat pumps transfer heat from the air outside and use it to provide heat within the building.

The new system was installed by GSM Limited who are based locally in Newent, Gloucestershire and helped optimise the design's performance. They also produced and assembled elements of the project in-house.

The building now enjoys better temperature control across all areas, including intelligent monitoring and management of energy usage. It also has the ability to operate at different times in line with service requirements and tenants needs.

Heating efficiencies were also gained by replacing an old and inefficient ventilation system. The ventilation works in partnership with the air source heating, supporting it by recovering the heat from outgoing air and pre-heating incoming air for ventilation.

This projects use of electricity makes the most of the installation of a 230 kWp Solar Canopy in the staff car park in the Summer of 2022.

Results

The installation of an air source heating system has completely removed the need for a natural gas supply at the Council's Public Service Centre. It is estimated that changing the heating system, will cut the direct greenhouse gas emissions from natural gas by over 100 tonnes annually (including tenanted areas).

Greenhouse gas savings:

Removing gas:
over 100 tonnes

Electrical efficiencies:
5 tonnes

Financial savings:
£25,000+

This is based on 24/25, and heat demand will change dependent on seasonal temperatures.



Council goes greener with new solar structure

Background

The council declared a Climate Change Emergency in 2019 and is committed to having carbon neutral offices by 2030. Electricity use was a large part of the council's footprint.

Challenge

Significant action was needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from energy use and save money on rising energy costs.

Solution

Tewkesbury Borough Council received a grant of £284,200 from the Public Sector decarbonisation scheme to install a solar canopy at the Public Service Centre in Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury.

The canopy generates now over 200,000 kWh of renewable electricity annually which is used by the council and the leisure centre next door.

The power generated is equivalent to around 65% of the council's electricity demand. By using less energy from the grid and less fossil fuels, the council's greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by over 60 tonnes a year.

Energy savings are around £50,000 per year and the electricity generated also supports the recently installed air source heating system.

Results

Councillor Cate Cody, Lead Member for Climate and Ecology, said: "The solar canopy has been such a great project; as well as the carbon and financial benefits, it is a really good visual reminder to all our staff and visitors that we are making active strides towards reducing our emissions and hopefully it has a positive effect."

"It has also been instrumental in supporting the Leisure Centre as many similar businesses have had to close due to rising electricity costs. "

"Additionally, we have a small rain garden capturing some of the surface water from the canopy which is also beneficial for wildlife."

"The canopy has been of great interest to other organisations who are keen to implement similar positive initiatives."

The solar canopy was key in helping the council become the Energy Efficiency Association's Southwest Council of the year in 2023.



Panels: 574

System size: 230 kWp

Energy saved
500,000 kWh
(up to March 2024)

£ savings
£125,000

Greenhouse gas savings
140 tonnes

Carbon literacy training and the green champions

Background

The council first declared a Climate Change Emergency in 2019 and has committed to having Carbon Neutral offices by 2030. More recently this was extended to a borough wide and ecological emergency in 2023

Challenge

The council needs officers and councillors across the whole council to all play their part. It's estimated that despite only directly contributing to around 2% of UK greenhouse gas emissions, the Public Sector has influence over 33% emissions.*

Solution

Partnering with the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) carbon literacy training was introduced for staff.

By the end of the training participants:

- Understand and are able to explain the basic science of climate change and how climate change will affect us globally and locally.
- Can evaluate the climate change objectives in local authorities and analyse the impacts.
- Will construct strategies to take action on climate change.

Results

The Council was certified in 2023 as a Bronze Carbon Literate Organisation by The Carbon Literacy Project - a UK charity dedicated to increasing awareness of climate change and carbon footprints.

To achieve this accreditation, the council was required to demonstrate that it has a robust carbon reduction programme in place and is taking positive action, is delivering carbon literacy training and support to council officers and members.

All new staff now joining the council are provided with carbon literacy training as part of the induction process.

Many of the council's staff have gone onto become green champions meeting regularly and acting as advocates for sustainability, such as promoting the use of bicycles and electric bikes, looking after the health of trees, clothing swaps and supporting the delivery the Caring for the Environment priority in the Council Plan within their teams.



Carbon Literate
Organisation
Bronze



Organisation Status:

Bronze

Staff Trained: **129**

Staff Certified: **81**

Green Champions: **16**

* 2020 Committee on Climate Change

Electric vehicles and chargepoints

Background

Transport emissions account for 47% of the borough's greenhouse gas emissions. Alongside walking and cycling, encouraging the use of electric vehicles can help address this.

Challenge

The Council electric vehicle infrastructure strategy sets out how the growth of electric vehicles can be supported by providing fair and accessible charging points. However there were no chargepoints in any of the council's public car parks in the borough.

Solution

Spring Garden's Car Park in Tewkesbury was selected to become an electric vehicle charging hub for local shoppers and visitors to the town.

8 electric vehicle chargepoints were installed in the town centre car park, providing a significant boost to the local electric vehicle community and giving drivers confidence that there will be charging availability when visiting.

The chargepoints follow PAS1899 accessibility guidance, providing room to move around vehicles in the bays, lower connection points and chargepoints located close to amenities.

The council contracted Evolt Charging to install the chargepoints and with the experience of managing a large national network, are dedicated to providing a dependable and reliable service.

Results

The EV chargepoints will attract new customers to the town, as well as enticing tourists to stop off and visit the historic town and the charm of the nearby riverside.

Supporting residents and businesses who choose to move away from petrol and diesel vehicles is key element of the Council's aims to reduce transport related greenhouse gas emissions, as well as improving air quality for residents of the borough

The council is also working to bring forward other council sites for the chargepoint installation.

The electric vehicle chargepoint installation in Spring Gardens car park received funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.



Low carbon communities

Background

Greenhouse gas emissions from domestic properties are second only to transport across Tewkesbury borough. Many households also suffer from poorly insulated and energy inefficient housing.

Challenge

Driven by environmental and financial motivations residents were seeking to improve their homes. Barriers such as lack of technical knowledge and confidence were holding them back.

The challenge was to deliver a project to support and advice to residents who were able to pay for energy efficiency improvements.

Solution

Fifty householders in Tewkesbury Borough benefited from warmer, greener homes thanks to a multi-partnership approach with Severn Wye Energy Agency and Stroud District Council, funded by the UK Government's Levelling Up fund during 2023-24.

Households were encouraged to come forward to receive free energy surveys of their homes and a bespoke energy efficiency report and action plan. Follow-up support was provided to assess installer quotes.

Results

Simon Dix, Executive Director for Resources and S151 said: "This has been a very successful partnership and together with Severn Wye Energy Agency, we've helped a community of households to install energy efficiency measures. This will not only help with their heating and comfort level but also importantly, help them to save money on energy costs."

This project has now finished but support is available across Gloucestershire through home energy retrofit specialists [Furbnow](#).

Throughout the project the team explored factors that could help people engage with domestic retrofit to lower their carbon emissions. Findings from the [partnership report](#) found that householders valued the community support of the project and as a result of having a deeper understanding of energy efficiency retrofit, were more empowered to make informed decisions like when considering installer quotations.

Typical of the feedback received, one resident commented: "The report was extremely useful; it went into every aspect of energy saving, also considered unintended consequences such as damp and mould. I'm very glad we had it done."



Household supported:
50

Summary of
recommendations

Measures: **510**

Annual greenhouse
savings: **190 tonnes**

Annual cost savings:
£66,980

Policies supporting nature

Developing policies to support nature in the borough

Background

In 2023 Tewkesbury Borough Council declaring a nature and ecological emergency in addition to an expanded climate emergency.

Tewkesbury Borough is one of the fastest growing areas in the country, and the demand for new housing puts undeveloped land at risk of being lost. Since the 1970's, the UK has lost almost half of its biodiversity through loss of habitat and intensification of farming, as well as construction. Currently 72% of UK land is managed for agriculture, and 8% is built on.

Challenges

It's thought that only 7% of Britain's native woods and trees are in good condition, and in turn the wildlife relying on these habitats is struggling. The Council is learning about its own tree and woodland stocks, and wants to increase the canopy cover across the borough from 13.2% to the Government's target of 17%.

Solution

The Council needed to reinforce its commitment to protecting and enhancing the natural environment, and to do this it required policy to direct and steer its actions. When policy is in place, the council can then begin to fully understand what natural habitat and resources it already has. For this it needed to purchase datasets to give both visual and statistical information for the borough.

The council can also utilise some of the other policies and strategies that are being created across the county. Using this extra information will aid the council in increasing our tree canopy cover, as well as increasing the cover of hedgerow we have.

Results

In December 2024, the council voted to adopt a new Tree and Woodland Management Policy, and a Hedgerow Management Policy. Both of these policies will help the council manage existing trees, woods and hedgerows in a way that is more beneficial to nature and wildlife.

The council has purchased a dataset from Bluesky, who specialise in aerial radar photography of tree canopy cover, and we now know across the borough there is 13.16% canopy cover. We have detailed breakdowns of the canopy cover across each ward, and can begin to find areas which need help the most. It also highlights gaps in hedgerows, where we can focus time and resources to plug these gaps, and increase habitat connectivity.

In conjunction with the Bluesky tree and hedgerow dataset, the council will use the upcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), which is being written by the Local Nature Partnership (LNP), to help locate the most suitable areas to target tree and hedgerow planting.

Longford micro wood

Background

The Coronation Living Heritage Fund, £2.5m was set aside by DEFRA to fund local tree planting initiatives to commemorate the coronation of King Charles III in May 2023.

Challenges

The council applied for £18,000 to fund the creation of a 'microwood'; a small heavily planted woodland, no bigger than the size of a tennis court. One issue was finding the available land suitable to plant a woodland on. Trees should never be planted for the sake of it, and it was important to ensure the area was suitable and able to support a new growing woodland.

Newly planted trees require maintenance, and although they are usually planted over winter, during a trees dormant period, all it takes is a long dry spring and the new trees could find themselves short of water and showing signs of stress.

Solution

Using the councils GIS systems, officers were able to locate a suitable area to plant the new woodland in. Longford was chosen as the council owned a large area of land, adjacent to urban development (a requirement of the funding).

The method of planting would be important, as it follows the 'Miyawaki Forest' method; planting a small area densely to improve survival rates and create a lush, dense woodland, which will become self-sustaining sooner than a traditional woodland.

Results

In March 2025, local company Greenfields Ltd. won the contract to plant the Longford Microwood, and it was successfully completed at the end of the month. Close to the city of Gloucester, the woodland would add much needed greenery and eventual canopy cover to the area, as well as support a number of new species of fauna.

The woodland is approximately 200m² and is planted with roughly 5 trees per square meter; giving a total of around 1000 trees and shrubs. They will all compete for light, nutrients and water, and this will encourage the stronger plants to flourish, and will weed out the weaker individuals; resulting in a healthy and strong woodland.



The scheme will bring aesthetic pleasure to the local Longford community, and eventually be an excellent resource for flood management, pollution reduction, noise blocking, as well as creating somewhere pleasant to admire on the horizon. This will hopefully encourage more residents to get outside and enjoy their local green spaces, which in turn will improve people's physical and mental health.

Delivering the council plan across the organisation

The council plan (2024-2030) features **caring for our environment** as a key priority, whereby we will provide community leadership to support the borough to become carbon neutral. We will deliver policies and practices that protect and enhance our environment.

The climate and ecological emergency is included as a focus area for the council and in addition to the items already reported in the report and below is a summary of other areas of interest:

The council's **housing** team work with its housing providers with the aim of providing new housing in Tewkesbury area to a higher specification of energy performance than basic building regulations and also more of a challenge, they are retrofitting existing homes including installing heat pumps. Other examples of supporting net zero aspirations include, installing solar panels, cycle storage facilities, water butts and highly energy efficient modular units.

Within **waste management** council officers supported the work of the Gloucestershire Resources and Waste Partnership with a focus on community engagement campaigns. Specific projects included food waste, wear not waste, talking rubbish and recycle your electricals campaigns.

Within **Tewkesbury's historic town centre** regeneration zone there is a desire to seek specialist advice for energy efficiency in historic buildings and to consider whether there are opportunities for district heating, new green spaces and better transport links.

The **Planning Policy** team are working closely with Cheltenham Borough Council and Gloucester City Council to prepare a detailed evidence base for the emerging Strategic Local Plan which includes renewable energy, flood risk assessments, sustainable transport and green/blue infrastructure.

Working with the County Council and Gloucestershire districts councils, biodiversity net gain objectives are being implemented and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy is nearing completion by the Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership, which will feed into the Strategic Local Plan.

The Community development team provided **Community grants** (see next two pages) focussing on energy efficiency in community facilities, as well as supporting community groups to access funding for nature and environmental related projects. The environment was interwoven within many projects such as new play areas, community gardens and health and well-being grants which incorporated nature, as well as provision within new developments through the s106 process.

The Tewkesbury Growth Hub and Economic Development Team have been **supporting businesses** with net zero advice, one to one support and events, including annual workshops and a county wide conference delivered in partnership with Gloucestershire County Council. Business grants awarded through The Rural England Prosperity Fund have a net zero element.

The work of the council's **Environmental Health** team includes statutory air quality monitoring, fuel poverty grants, enforcing minimum energy standards in rented properties and other environmental controls which are intrinsically intertwined with climate change objectives and play an important role.

Energy consumption from the increased use of information technology and artificial intelligence will have a big impact in future years and the Council is beginning to consider this area.

Working across the council will help address some of the issues raised in the Climate Emergency UK Council Scorecards, where they are relevant to the council. councilclimatescorecards.uk

Overview of community funding streams 2024–2025 that contributed to Tewkesbury Borough Council’s climate and biodiversity goals (managed by the community development team).

UKSPF and REPF funding for Energy Efficiency in Community Buildings 2024–2025

In 2022, the UK Government announced the creation of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), as part of the Levelling Up agenda. The fund aimed to build pride in place, support high quality skills training, support pay, employment and productivity growth and increase life chances.

In September 2022, Tewkesbury Borough Council was identified by DEFRA as an area eligible for the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF). This fund is a top-up to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to support activities that specifically address the particular challenges faced by rural areas.

The council was awarded an allocation of capital funding that was available from November 2023–March 2025 and created a capital grant scheme to support initiatives which improve energy efficiency in community buildings across the borough.

In 2024–2025, the council was able to allocate £208, 949 to 17 community venues as follows:

Insulation / capital improvements for energy efficiency - £28,755

£17,210	Dumbleton Village Hall	Replacement Windows and doors
£5,923	Northway Parish Council	Northway Village Hall - refurbishment of entrance doors and windows.
£5,622	Apperley Village Hall	Cavity Wall Insulation

Battery installation (only) - £25,380

£18,320	Deer Park Archers, Shurdington	Battery Storage
£7,060	Wheatpieces Parish Council	Battery storage

Renewed heating, lighting, climate control system - £24,999

£24,999	Tewkesbury Town Council	Installation of HVAC system
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Lighting systems - £18,410

£2,701	Encounter Vineyard, Winchcombe	LED Lights
£11,964	Twyning Recreational and Amenity Complex	LED Lights Tennis Courts and MUGA
£3,745	Hatherley and Reddings Cricket Club	Lighting Upgrade

Solar panels - £111,406

£16,699	Tewkesbury Baptist Church	Solar panels
£7,259	Tewkesbury Sea Cadets	Solar panels
£11,786	Tewksbury Cricket Club	Solar panels
£17,844	Churchdown CA	Solar Panels
£11,050	Priors Park Community Church	Solar panels
£15,296	Whitcombe Village Hall	Solar panels and battery
£8,736	Hucclecote PC	Solar Panels Pineholt Village Hall
£22,735	St Andrews Church, Churchdown	Solar Panels St Andrews Church Centre

Coronation Living Heritage Fund.

Managed by the community development team.

Tewkesbury Borough Council was awarded £23,620 through the Coronation Living Heritage Fund to plant or community orchards. The funding celebrates the coronation of King Charles III and supports local tree planting projects across Tewkesbury Borough.

Eligible Coronation Community Orchard projects involved the planting of 5 or more fruit or nut trees and provided a benefit to a community. A benefit included engaging the community in setting up, planting, or maintaining the orchard, or giving the community free access to the orchard on a permanent or occasional basis for leisure & recreation, activities & events or to harvest the fruit.

A total of 130 fruit and nut trees were planted, and grants of £10,491 were given to the following organisations across the borough over the grant period March 2024- March 2025.

Some projects were simply planting trees, others involved community pruning workshops, installation of boulder and plaques, and an ongoing watering plan.

Gloucestershire Orchards Trust were available to provide expertise advice.

Highnam Parish Council	34	£1,657
Northway Parish Council	5	£1,300
Transition Cleeve	12	£1,299
Longford Parish Council (Orchard)	42	£3,350
Tewkesbury Nature Reserve	5	£339
Balcarras Academy Trust (Winchcombe School)	10	£260
Stoke Orchard Parish Council	8	£561
Gretton Village Association	8	£1,387
Alderton Parish Council	6	£338

In addition to these community orchards, the Borough Council also planted its own Microwood in Longford.

Climate Leadership Gloucestershire

Climate Leadership Gloucestershire (CLG) is a countywide public sector partnership bringing together senior representatives from all the Local Authorities in Gloucestershire, alongside the NHS, universities, the Local Nature Partnership, and the Association of Parish and Town Councils. Gloucestershire Climate Youth Group also attend meetings to provide an intergenerational voice. CLG partners are bringing this cross-sector experience to help develop solutions that tackle climate change and reach net zero as a county.

Through CLG the council has supported county wide projects within a comprehensive action plan covering 10 key themes including energy, economy, planning, waste, retrofit, transport, adaptation, food and farming, biodiversity and behaviour change.

CLG financed and began four projects from its Greener Gloucestershire Action Fund this year – a green skills coordinator role, a shared bid writer role, a Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment, and a contribution to a research study on councils' role in Food and Farming (co-funded by the UKRI).

The green skills coordinator now sits in the employment and skills hub at GCC and is working to create a countywide green employment and skills strategy.

The Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment is underway and being delivered by Atkins Realis and Sustainability West Midlands; due to complete in Autumn 2025.

In addition to the projects funded from its action fund this year, CLG has:

- Worked with the district councils to contract a countywide one-stop home energy efficiency platform for all residents, working with the organisations Furbnow and the Centre for Energy Equality, which launched in January 2025.
- Coordinated a successful bid to the South West Net Zero Hub to recruit retrofit engagement officers in three districts to supplement the efforts to engage residents on home energy efficiency.
- Facilitated a new countywide community energy forum, supporting development of these organisations.
- Contracted the development of the first stages of a countywide Local Area Energy Plan, working with Centre for Sustainable Energy and Regen, with match funding obtained from the South West Net Zero Hub. The County Council have provided the additional funding for this project.
- Secured funding from the county's Strategic Economic Development Fund for a shared Climate Change and Planning Manager role, to consistently proliferate sustainable planning best practice.
- Brought partners onboard to represent higher education, town and parish councils and young people this year. All work at a leadership level is supported by the Climate Leadership Officers Group (also facilitated by CLG) which shares information and best practices across Gloucestershire and supports the CLG objectives.
- CLG also continues to support and champion key partner services such as the Growth Hub's net zero business support service; the Greener Gloucestershire Community Fund and the work of the Local Nature Partnership.

PART 3 CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAMME ACTION PLAN 2024-2027

Member with Responsibility: Cllr Cate Cody, Lead Member for Climate and Ecology

Officer with Responsibility: Simon Dix, Executive Director: Resources

	Actions, status and timescales	Progress in 2024/2025	Further action to be undertaken
1	<p>A significant reduction in carbon across the organisation over the next three years.</p> <p>In Progress 2024 – 2027</p>	<p>An overall reduction in emissions in 2024 as a result of HVO fuel in waste collection vehicles, use of air source heating at the public service centre, electric pool cars, LED lighting etc.</p> <p>Further reductions forecasted in 2025 from increased HVO fuel use and other energy efficiency activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued carbon reduction activities across the whole estate. Decarbonisation pathway studies focussing on the leisure centre and public service centre. Energy efficiency actions to follow on from decarbonisation studies Greater understanding of the council's wider scope 3 emissions. <p><i>Resourcing: External advice for detailed zero carbon pathway work (£15,000) and funding to implement recommendations.</i></p>
2	<p>Improve external climate change communications, more actively supporting and engaging residents and other stakeholders.</p> <p>In Progress 2024 -2027</p>	<p>Updates to council webpages including policies pages and case studies.</p> <p>Press releases and social media issued around EV chargepoints, solar production, home energy retrofit, nature and council scorecards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further updates to council website. Further case study development. Work with partners to engage with residents, young people, community groups and local organisations Tree warden volunteer programme <p><i>Resourcing: Internal marketing support and communication officer time.</i></p>

3	<p>Supporting the caring for environment priority within the Council Plan (externally) by officers across all areas of the council.</p> <p>In Progress 2024 - 2027</p>	<p>Ongoing activities across the council, including planning, net zero business support, community funding and work to improve climate emergency council scorecards which has increase from 28% in 2023 (and 10% in 2021) to 44% in 2025, above the national average.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delegation of responsibility to portfolio lead members. • Internal officer framework to be established with service area climate change objectives. • Dovetail internal officer framework with the staff green champion network • Use of climate impact assessment tool in major projects. <p><i>Resourcing: Officer time across the council. Further resources maybe required to improve climate emergency scorecard rating</i></p>
4	<p>Corporate climate change improvements.</p> <p>In Progress 2024 - 2027</p>	<p>Staff travel survey undertaken 129 staff and 11 members carbon literacy trained. Procurement strategy training being delivered which considers wider social value.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Producing and delivering on a procurement strategy that is supportive of the council's climate change aspirations • Continued carbon literacy training • Support green champion network projects • Internal staff travel and recycling campaigns. • Silver Carbon literacy organisation award • Climate Change Framework being developed (2025/26) <p><i>Resourcing: Officer time, cost of training courses (£3,090) and accreditations</i></p>
5	<p>Development of strategies and policies that will support climate & ecological emergency action.</p> <p>In Progress 2024 - 2027</p>	<p>Tree and woodland management policy produced. Hedgerow management policy produced Climate change framework being developed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pesticide policy and peat free policy to be produced in 2025. • Open spaces policy to be produced in 2026. • Consideration of any further policies required. <p><i>Resourcing: Officer time.</i></p>

6	<p>Participate in partnerships & wider activity which tackle climate change.</p> <p>In Progress 2024 - 2027</p>	<p>Low carbon communities project delivering support to over 50 households. Supporting Climate Leadership Gloucestershire (CLG) activities, such as Furbnow one-stop home energy efficiency platform. Contributing to Local Area Energy Planning and Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessments. Supporting Local Nature Partnership (LNP) activities Supporting Gloucestershire Food and Farming research, green skills co-ordinator and other projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further participation and engagement in CLG activities as described in the previous box and in the full report. • Increase householders take-up of Furbnow retrofit offer. • Continued support for the Local Nature Partnership (LNP) • Develop our work alongside sustainable food and farming partnerships. • Investigate climate change funding opportunities • Assess outcome of the county wide climate risk and vulnerability assessment • Support the work which builds on the local area energy planning <p><i>Resourcing: Officer time. CLG membership (£11,000 approximately per annum) and contributions to the LNP (£5,000 per annum) and Furbnow partnership (£3,333)</i></p>
7	<p>Continue to deliver the objectives within the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy</p> <p>In Progress 2024 - 2027</p>	<p>Installation of PAS 1899 compliant public chargepoints in Spring Garden's car park Tewkesbury. Feasibility and site designs produced for Winchcombe and Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury. Gloucestershire County Council have installed further on-street charge points in the borough.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car parks in Back Lane Winchcombe and Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury to be brought forward for chargepoint installations. • Increase usage of existing chargepoints • Provide advice to community organisations • Develop action plan around active travel. <p><i>Resourcing: Officer time, funding from UK shared prosperity fund (£41,000) and climate change reserve for any additional costs.</i></p>
8	<p>Investigate opportunities for offsetting remaining emissions to enable Tewkesbury Borough</p>	<p>The electricity exported to the grid from the Public Services Building has been</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further understanding of nature and renewable opportunities in the Borough and on Council land is desirable.

	<p>Council to become Carbon Neutral in its organisational activities.</p> <p>In Progress 2025 - 2027</p>	<p>identified and is measurable, reducing the overall council footprint.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilise Local Nature Recovery Strategy (when published) to fully understand geospatial opportunities across the borough Explore offsetting projects through an organisation like Carbon Neutral Britain to identify suitable schemes. <p><i>Resourcing: Officer time.</i></p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Update and build on the Tree Safety Management Policy (2021), to provide clear action plan for the council to manage existing and new trees</p> <p>Complete 2024 – 2025</p>	<p>A new Tree and Woodland Management policy has now replaced the Tree Safety Management Policy. Tree Inspection Officer recruited Action plan for managing trees introduced. New Hedgerow management policy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions complete and the council will utilise this going forward. Using the soon-to-be published Local Nature Recovery Strategy and the National Hedgerow Map data, priority areas for hedgerow planting will be identified and planting plans and schedules devised for the 25/26 and 26/27 winter works schedules (Ubico). A new hedgerow maintenance regime will also be designed for 25/26 winter works schedule
<p>10</p>	<p>Increase understanding of current tree canopy coverage within Tewkesbury Borough.</p> <p>In Progress 2025 - 2027</p>	<p>Initial 2021 data set has been analysed and mapped and has identified geographic areas for improvement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting 2024 data to compare and contrast with 2021 to gain full understanding of tree and hedgerow gaps across the borough. Using the soon-to-be published Local Nature Recovery Strategy, and the 2024 National Tree Map data, priority areas for tree planting will be identified and will be added to Ubico's winter works schedules. <p><i>Resourcing: Officer time. Purchase of National Tree Mapping and National Hedgerow Mapping (£4,995)</i></p>

11	<p>Utilisation of flooding and nature-based solutions.</p> <p>In Progress 2025 – 2027</p>	<p>New emergency planning officer in post. Working with Gloucestershire County Council who are subject lead locally.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Parish and Town Councils to better understand local issues and plan achievable and realistic projects to mitigate/manage local flooding • Liaise with Gloucestershire County Council and collaborate with any current or planned natural flood management projects across the borough • Use flood map and tree coverage data to identify priority areas to plant trees for natural flood management. • Advertise the County Council's new flooding fund to local communities. <p><i>Resourcing: Officer time.</i></p>
12	<p>Creation of new 'Environmental Protection' suite of policies to guide Tewkesbury Borough Council on the management of their natural landholdings</p> <p>2025-2026</p>	<p>Tree and woodland management policy approved. Hedgerow management policy approved.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open spaces policy, pesticide and peat free policies to be developed and considered under item 5 of this plan.