



# The Suffolk Climate

## Emergency Plan

### Our journey to Net Zero

Suffolk's public sector leaders have all set out and committed to pursue net zero strategies in our own organisations that respond to local, national, and international evidence. Furthermore, we will all work together to support and guide our residents, communities, and businesses to make the changes required to best set Suffolk on the path to net zero by 2030.

# Foreword

When the Suffolk Climate Emergency Plan was first published in 2021, we were emerging from a global pandemic. The plan was developed against a backdrop of economic and social recovery. We needed to 'build back better', while facing the obligation to be proactive in the face of climate change. The Suffolk Climate Emergency Plan set out a vision for a greener Suffolk with ambitious goals and helped to energise the county following two challenging years.

Now, amid a cost-of-living crisis, the emphasis on the co-benefits of a greener county is more pertinent than ever. Our journey to net zero should not just acclaim carbon reduction as an outcome, when the financial, health, economic and social benefits are boundless.

The public sector began this journey in 2007 with the creation of the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership, but other individuals and initiatives have been working far longer. We are fortunate to be building on their knowledge and commitment. Suffolk's ability to work together to tackle serious issues has been recognised by the Government's offer of a County Deal, which will further support our environmental ambitions.

As explored in this updated version of the Suffolk Climate Emergency Plan, the actions set out here address climate change side-by-side with its complex, interconnected issues. This plan provides a framework from which we can come together to imagine a sustainable, healthy, and resilient future for Suffolk.

**Signed by West Suffolk Councillor Gerald Kelly, Chair, Environment Portfolio Holders Group.**



# SPSL members

- Tracey Bleakley, Chief Executive of NHS Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board
- Councillor David Busby, Leader of Babergh District Council
- Dr. Ed Garratt, Chief Executive of NHS Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board
- C-J Green, Chair of New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership
- Councillor Matthew Hicks, Leader of Suffolk County Council
- Councillor Neil MacDonald (Chair), Leader of Ipswich Borough Council
- Councillor Andy Mellen, Leader of Mid Suffolk District Council
- Tim Passmore, Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner
- Councillor Caroline Topping, Leader of East Suffolk Council
- Councillor Cliff Waterman, Leader of West Suffolk Council

# Introduction

This plan is for use by everyone living, working, and visiting Suffolk. The leaders of Suffolk's public sector have put climate emergency plans in place for their own organisations - including health, local government, and other public bodies. They are now committing to work together to support, advise and encourage residents, communities, and businesses to make the changes required to best set Suffolk on the path to net zero by 2030. For this journey to be successful it will also need positive support from Government, and for us all to work together.

It is a living plan and publishing it in 2021 was the first step in the journey of making climate action part of our daily lives. This update in 2023 recognises the progress we have achieved and updates the actions considering changing technology, legislation, and policy. We have also considered the capabilities, opportunities, and motivations relevant to people in Suffolk, to make it as easy as possible for them to make low carbon choices.

It is ambitious, because the actions we take now will fundamentally affect the lives of young people and coming generations. It also offers another important way to improve our health and wellbeing now and in the long term. This plan will not just address carbon emissions but will provide a range of wider benefits including energy cost savings for both residents and businesses to help with the cost of living, improved air quality and improved health and wellbeing now and in the long term.

The plan focuses on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and clean power generation and interacts with action being taken in other areas, shown in Figure 1.

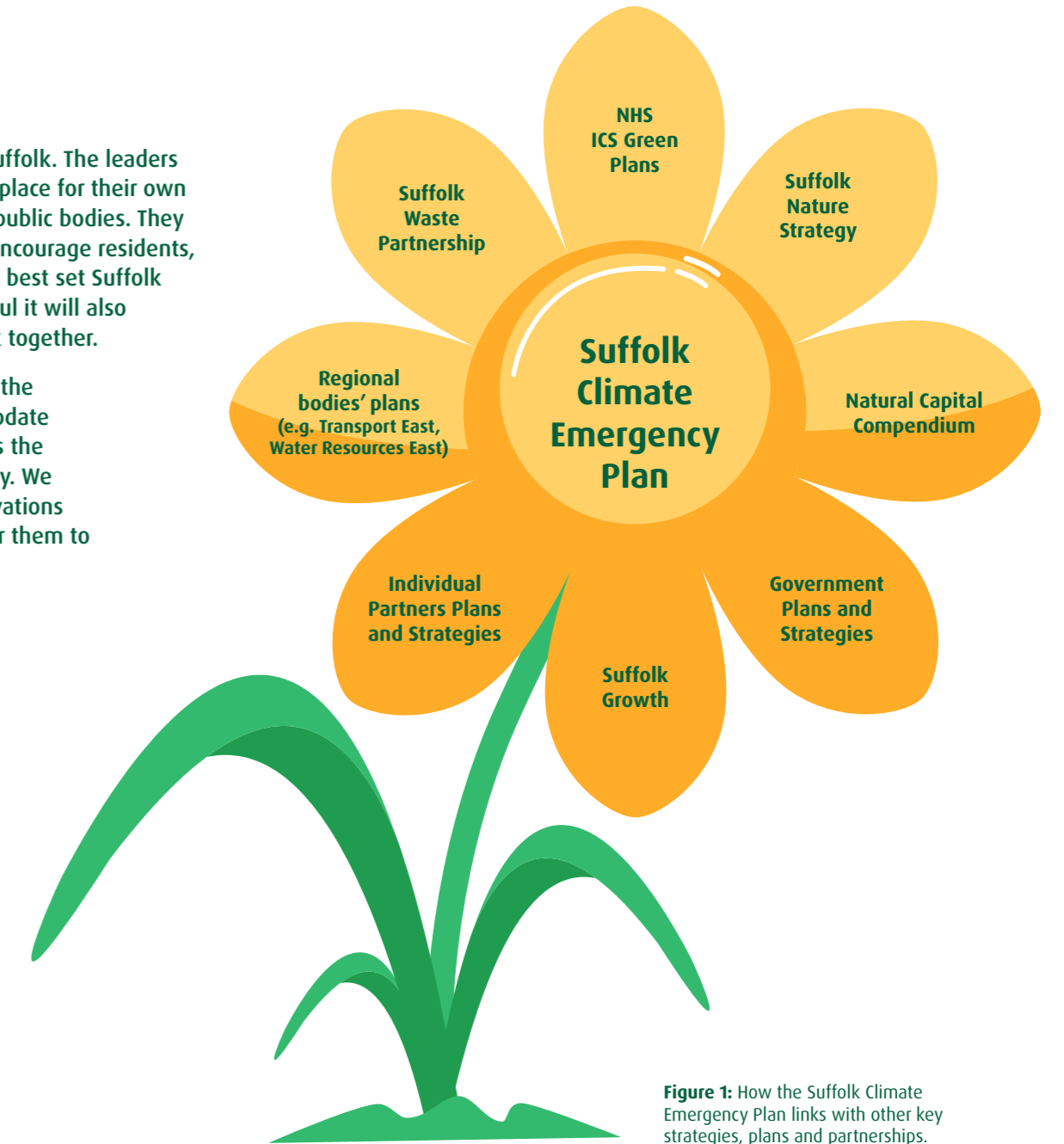


Figure 1: How the Suffolk Climate Emergency Plan links with other strategies, plans and partnerships.

## High level picture

Achieving net zero emissions means attaining a balance between GHG emissions into and removals from the earth's atmosphere. In Suffolk, we are emitting far greater quantities than we are removing, which this Plan seeks to address.

GHG emissions removal technologies (such as carbon capture and storage or direct air capture of carbon) can take carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) out of the atmosphere. However, they are not likely to be implemented at scale by 2030, so won't be a big part of our journey in the coming years. Other options for removals, such as the land-use solutions offered by forests and soils, currently remove less than 5% of Suffolk's total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. While there is some scope for increasing this, along with work to stop emissions from degraded peatlands such as those on the south bank of the River Waveney between Beccles and Lowestoft, the scale of the challenge means considerable cuts in GHG emissions are needed to deliver net zero.

Furthermore, those GHG emissions removals are likely to be needed to offset any that remain in harder to tackle sectors, such as agriculture. This means that the energy sector – buildings, transport, industry, and power – needs to reduce emissions to almost zero. In brief, this means that:

- 1 Homes and other buildings need to become more energy efficient, so they need less energy to power them, and the supply of heat needs to be fully decarbonised, for example, by scaling up efforts to insulate Suffolk's existing building stock, replacing gas boilers with heat pumps or low carbon heat networks.

*Addressing energy efficiency of domestic properties will also deliver cost savings and health benefits, making this change a pivotal opportunity to impact the quality of life for Suffolk residents.*

- 2 Businesses and industry need to reduce their energy use and switch to zero carbon sources. *This transition, alongside reducing carbon emissions, can lead to long term financial savings and provide value in the face of growing consumer pressure in favour of more sustainable purchasing habits.*

- 3 Transport needs to be decarbonised by encouraging people to reduce their travel, choose to walk, cycle, or use public transport, or car share where possible and replace petrol and diesel fuelled vehicles with zero carbon ones.

*An increase in low carbon transport methods will see an improvement in air quality across the county, particularly in urban areas. With cleaner air comes a healthier population and, if empowered by active travel methods, provides an opportunity to improve both physical and mental health.*

- 4 Electricity supply needs to become zero carbon, switching generation from fossil fuels to renewable energy technologies such as solar and wind.

## The approach

## Sectors, goals and priority actions

We have refined the actions in the plan to make them more focused. We have identified 48 actions to help us work toward achieving net zero, spread across five themes:

- 1 Collaborative action
- 2 Sustainable homes
- 3 Low carbon transport
- 4 Industrial and commercial energy use
- 5 Cleaner power

These actions have been grouped into outcomes, then have been further grouped into high level goals for each of the themes:

**Goals** – what needs to happen in each sector to deliver net zero.

**Outcomes** – what we expect to result from achieving the goals.

**Actions** – what needs to happen to deliver the outcomes and goals.

This Climate Emergency Plan lists the intended outcomes in each sector to help provide focus. In essence, what is needed is for net zero to become embedded in everything we all do, with a new mindset to ensure Suffolk is as low carbon as possible.

Of the 48 actions we've identified as part of this plan, designing the outcome gives us an indication of where we can accelerate and add to what we are already doing. The goals will keep us focussed on the direction we need to go in and allow us to work towards them in a way that provides flexibility.

### The challenge



#### 4.75 million tonnes

The CO<sub>2</sub>(e) emissions across the county of Suffolk in 2021, according to the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.



#### 1.5°C

The limit of global temperature rise beyond which we risk triggering dangerous climate change.



#### Timeline

It is now more likely than not that we will pass the critical 1.5C global warming threshold within the next few years.



#### Net zero 2030

Aspiration to make the county of Suffolk net zero by 2030.

### Sector goals and actions



Collaborative Action



Sustainable Homes



Low Carbon Transport



Industrial and Commercial Energy Use



Cleaner Power

Figure 2: Towards a carbon neutral Suffolk – The challenge, our sector goals and actions

## Tracking progress

Decarbonisation progress against the four sector themes above can be tracked via the [Climate Emergency Dashboard](#), hosted on the Suffolk Observatory.

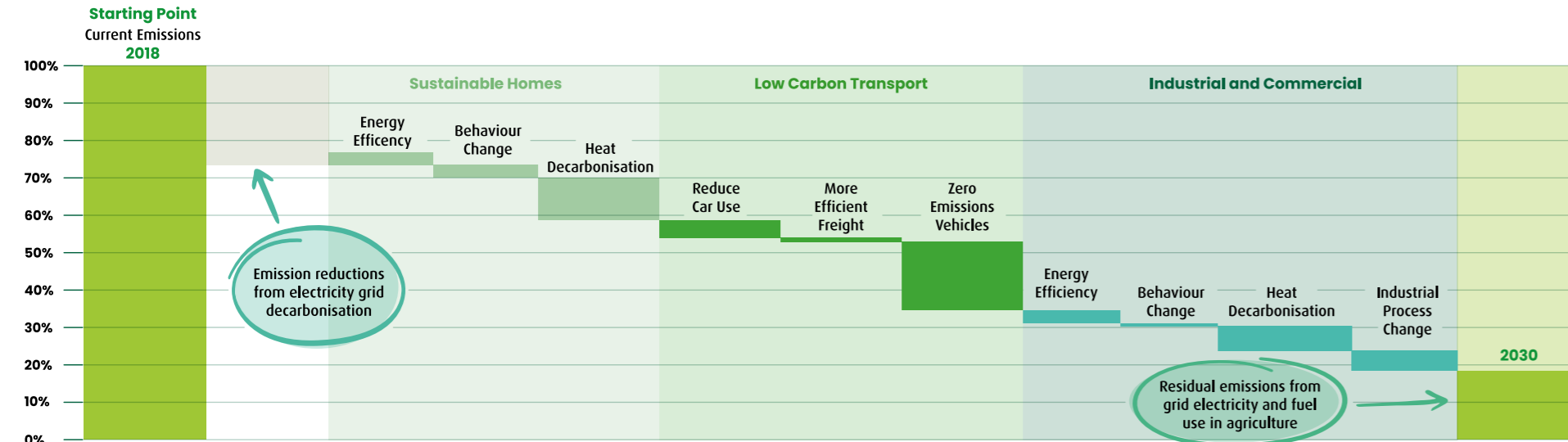
## Cumulative carbon emissions reduction potential

The chart below shows the overall reduction in carbon emissions that could be achieved via implementation of all the goals outlined above, as of 2021. It shows, firstly, that a decrease of circa 24% can be achieved through electricity grid decarbonisation, without any other interventions. Then, it shows the relative impacts from goals in domestic buildings (c.16%), transport (c.25%) and the industrial and commercial sectors (c.16%).

Taken individually, the impacts of energy efficiency and behavioural change appear smaller than the impacts of heat decarbonisation or uptake of zero

emission vehicles. However, it is important to understand that these are prerequisites for successfully switching from fossil fuels to renewable energy.

By 2030, the chart shows an overall reduction of roughly 81%. Most of the residual emissions would be associated with grid electricity which is not expected to be fully decarbonised by 2030. This emphasises the importance of maximising demand reduction measures and promoting local renewable energy uptake, to mitigate against this risk and ensure that Suffolk reaches its target.



## Working together to achieve change

Typically, the GHG emissions that public sector partners have direct control over – from the buildings we own and the vehicles we run – represent 2-5% of Suffolk’s territorial emissions. Working together in committing to net zero, we aim to provide leadership for the county to move forwards together.

Local authorities have influence over other local emissions through their place-making powers and duties. But even then, this only influences around a third of total emissions in the area. Our journey to net zero in Suffolk therefore requires action from businesses, individuals, skills and training providers and the wider community. It is also affected by national issues, such as the carbon intensity of grid electricity. Suffolk’s public sector organisations are working collaboratively with others who have a role in our journey and can lobby national Government to put in place the appropriate legislative, policy, and financial framework to support this transition.

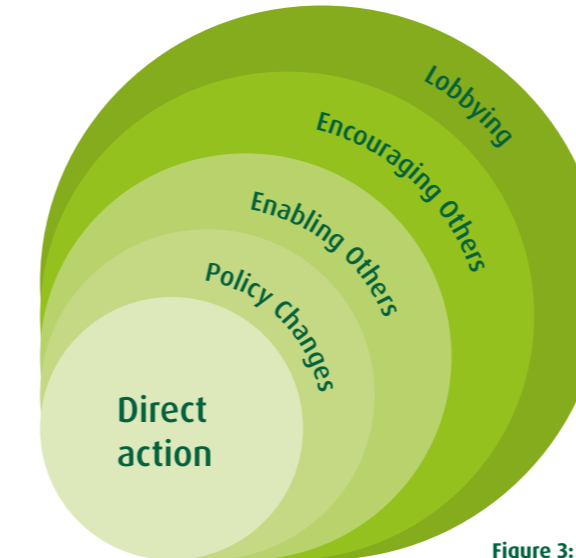


Figure 3: Public sector spheres of influence.



## Accountability and review

Each of us is accountable for ensuring a sustainable future for Suffolk. This plan has the commitment of the public sector, who will guide it, work to remove barriers and enable action. However, the plan will need to foster extensive, fluid collaborations to share learning, problem-solve and challenge us all to take action.

A measurement dashboard has been developed and is available [HERE](#) and a regular newsletter is available to subscribe to [HERE](#). More about our progress can be found at [greensuffolk.org](https://greensuffolk.org).

## Collaborative action

The task ahead of us is enormous. Achieving it will require every part of society to contribute, enabled through new forms of collaboration. This is fundamental to the plan, creating a foundation for delivery across all sectors and giving a platform for partners to showcase what is being done. It builds on the energy that was created in developing the plan, and leverages what is already happening on the ground.

All parts of society – public sector, businesses, and communities (individuals, community and the voluntary and charity groups) – will need to be engaged and informed through an education, engagement and behaviour change programme in order to play their part.

Driving behaviour change offers scope for significant additional benefits that will improve our neighbourhoods, for example through developing community energy groups, and growing local economies through supporting low carbon businesses and shorter supply chains. Through enabling alternatives to car journeys people can improve their physical and mental health and wellbeing through walking and cycling or use car sharing as a way to connect with others. Air quality is strongly influenced by emissions from vehicles and industrial processes so reductions in fossil fuel use, and people switching to more sustainable options will contribute to improvements in the air we breathe. Lastly, improving home insulation helps conserve energy use and also supports everyone with reducing their living costs, especially those who are most vulnerable to fuel poverty.

Community groups, charities, schools and youth organisations, community businesses and local social enterprises have been working on the ground for decades on nature and climate action. We must build on this to benefit all sectors.

In creating this plan, we brought together a diverse range of business, community and professional interests and individuals to workshop the plan's themes, challenge the data and discuss the conclusions. Our collaborative journey is designed to:

**Maximise the opportunity** to build on our local expertise and companies, ensuring the economic wealth from the sector is kept within Suffolk.

**Leverage public and private sector investment** to support innovation, business growth and job creation.

**Work with central Government** to develop strategies that support our ambition for the future of low carbon energy in Suffolk.

**Create opportunities for people, organisations, and communities** to be involved and informed.

### Goals:



Increased climate awareness and action, and of the co-benefits of taking climate action for other sectors, including health.



Leveraging and financing local climate action.



Fostering further stakeholder collaboration.



Monitoring and communication of progress.

## Collaborative action

### Outcomes and actions:

#### We want to see:

Suffolk residents exposed to multi-media campaigns every year, increasing their motivation and capability to take pro-environmental actions.

Increased numbers of Suffolk residents / visitors / businesses accessing digital links to local information and support for pro-environmental behaviours.

Increased numbers of children and young people who are empowered and supported to engage in pro-environmental behaviours, and encourage these in others.

Increased numbers of communities and neighbourhoods delivering pro-environmental projects.

Increased numbers of community energy projects.

Delivery of a council backed carbon offsetting scheme.

#### We are going to:

**1** Deliver a mass public education campaign that is multi-platform and scalable, combining public and private sector resources.

**2** Create a climate change information hub for the public, detailing pro-environmental choices, initiatives, current schemes, scientific evidence, funding / support available etc.

**3** Develop an ongoing programme of collaboration opportunities for, and with, young people in order to facilitate change.

**4** Engage at a community / neighbourhood level to allow Suffolk residents to co-create and cooperatively own the solutions to the climate crisis.

**5** Make funding available to help community groups successfully deliver pro-environmental projects.

**6** Help local groups to deliver community energy projects by providing support from concept to construction & operation.

**7** Investigate and establish a council backed carbon offsetting scheme to channel funds into high-quality, certified mitigation projects.

#### We want to see:

Sources of income and funding identified to ensure the successful delivery of actions within the SCEP.

Increased numbers of organisations with carbon reduction plans and strategies for engaging in pro-environmental behaviours and encouraging these in others.

Progress towards a net zero Suffolk being monitored and communicated to target audiences, to ensure transparency and motivate others to take action.

#### We are going to:

**8** Suffolk partners will work together to ensure they leverage in as much funding as possible to deliver the SCEP and continue to identify optimum funding and financing options.

**9** Support and encourage other organisations to include low carbon targets in their own policies, strategies, and plans.

**10** Develop a suite of reporting mechanisms suitable to the data, and the target audience.



# Sustainable homes

Homes accounted for 23% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Suffolk in 2021. To reach net zero in Suffolk, the homes sector will need to reduce its GHG emissions practically to zero. Changing how homes are heated is critical. However, two other goals are important: preparing for new technology, and reducing electricity usage to help manage the increasing demands on the electricity grid. Energy efficiency measures can ease fuel poverty, contributing to a sustainable recovery and healthier residents. Other measures for homes include electric vehicle (EV) charging points and rooftop solar installations, linking into initiatives for transport and clean power.

## Goals:



Improved energy efficiency of homes.



## Outcomes and actions:

### We want to see:

Increased numbers of residential building owners taking up insulation and low carbon energy measures in existing homes.

New homes built in line with 2025 Future Homes and PAS 2035 standards.

### We are going to:

- 11** Increase the proportion of council housing stock which is energy-efficient and has low carbon energy measures installed.
- 12** Increase the proportion of social housing stock which is energy-efficient and has low carbon energy measures installed.
- 13** Increase the proportion of owner-occupied properties which have energy-efficient and have low carbon energy measures installed.
- 14** Increase the proportion of private rental properties which are energy-efficient and have low carbon energy measures installed.
- 15** Ensure tradespeople are properly skilled to undertake retrofit activities, including via training and certification.
- 16** Support all Suffolk Local Planning Authorities to develop policies to require new homes to be built in line with the 2025 Future Homes and PAS 2035 standards.
- 17** Support all Suffolk Local Planning Authorities to develop policies to require new homes to be heat network connection-ready, or to connect to heat networks where these already exist.

# Low carbon transport

Transport accounted for 30% of Suffolk's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 2021. Tackling this means removing fossil fuelled vehicles from our roads. The focus is predominantly on promoting electric vehicles until other zero emission fuels are available, but this does not mean replacing all vehicles. Suffolk is reducing transport demand and supporting a shift to less carbon intensive modes, such as walking, cycling and public transport. In a rural county, it is crucial that we explore and recognise the challenges to overcome them.

Transport actions all support one another - for example, minimising car use reduces the amount of electrification needed, while interaction with the power sector is key to manage increased demand on the grid. Wider benefits include the health potential of increased active travel and improved air quality through reducing and electrifying traffic levels.

This plan is aligned with Transport East, who are developing a net zero transport pathway for the region.  
[www.transporteast.org.uk](http://www.transporteast.org.uk)

## Goals:



Increased sustainable transport readiness.



More efficient freight.



Reduced demand for car use.



Transition to a zero-emission fleet.

## Outcomes and actions:

### We want to see:

An increased number of net-zero aligned travel related plans being implemented.

### We are going to:

- 18** Refresh and implement the current Suffolk Local Transport Plan, aligned with net zero ambitions.
- 19** Co-create and refresh travel plans and demand strategies with businesses and organisations.

## Outcomes and actions:

### We want to see:

An increased proportion of journeys made by public transport or active travel.

A reduced number of cars on the road.

Reduced carbon-intensity of commercial freight.

An increased proportion of vehicles on the road that are low or zero emission.

### We are going to:

- 20** Develop Suffolk's active travel infrastructure.
- 21** Improve Suffolk's public transport provision.
- 22** Implement strategies to increase average occupancy rates of car journeys.
- 23** Dis-incentivise car use where viable alternatives exist.
- 24** Encourage alternatives to travel.
- 25** Develop neighbourhood and community facilities.
- 26** Work with businesses to increase the efficiency of road freight.
- 27** Encourage low emission freight to support the development of Freeport East Hydrogen Hub and promote partnerships between local firms and the Hub so that local carbon reduction benefits can be maximised.
- 28** Work with hauliers to increase the proportion of freight movements in and out of Felixstowe by rail.
- 29** Work with bus companies to support the transition to a zero-emission bus fleet.
- 30** Develop a range of enablers that will encourage the uptake of EVs, along with a strategy to improve the charging point network on public owned property and local business premises.





## Industrial and commercial energy use

### Goals:

26% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Suffolk in 2021 came from the industrial, commercial, and public sectors, which comprises large and small energy users, including non-domestic buildings. Many businesses have joined Suffolk in pledging to work towards net zero, and are already taking steps supported by the Carbon Charter, Suffolk's hub for business sustainability.



Carbon literacy and active carbon management.



Decarbonisation in the industrial and commercial sector.



Decarbonisation in the public sector.

## Outcomes and actions:

### We want to see:

By 2025, business owners, employees and consumers have an active understanding of decarbonisation strategies, contributing to a reduction in business energy use.

### We are going to:

- 31 Run active communications to engage broadly with business and promote best practice.
- 32 Maintain a comprehensive and engaging information hub including a range of resources to support businesses to manage their emissions.
- 33 Provide points of contact and expertise that businesses can access to support their pathways to net zero.
- 34 Help consumers to purchase from climate-conscious businesses.

## Outcomes and actions:

### We want to see:

By 2030 increased numbers of businesses investing in decarbonisation measures.

By 2025, public sector shows visible leadership through its own decarbonisation.

By 2025, public sector policy is increasingly aligned with the net zero target for the Industrial & Commercial sector.

### We are going to:

- 35 Provide businesses with information and understanding of specific measures to enhance confidence to invest, including access to specialist support.
- 36 Ensure businesses have access to the funding needed to invest in decarbonisation measures.
- 37 Support businesses to implement and access heat networks.
- 38 Work across public sector to ensure wide uptake of net zero plans and promotion of best practice.
- 39 Adopt planning policy that is consistent with net zero goals, and minimises the need for future retrofit (including requirements for efficiency levels, renewables, heat network connections, etc.).
- 40 Shift supply chain emissions across the public sector to net zero, including through accurate monitoring and the adoption of requirements that support decarbonisation in suppliers.



## Cleaner power

Since 2005, total emissions have decreased due to growing low carbon generation, the favouring of renewable energy sources and increasing energy efficiency. A zero-carbon electricity supply is a key requirement for removing generation emissions and meeting new transport and heating demand. Increasing small-scale renewable generation, such as rooftop solar, will help displace grid electricity, with capacity studies indicating that there is significant potential for new renewable energy development in Suffolk.

### Goals:



Grow Suffolk's low carbon energy production capacity.



Support the development of a smart and flexible grid.



Develop Suffolk's low carbon economy.



Public sector leads the way with renewable energy production.



## Outcomes and Actions:

### We want to see:

Improved connection to low carbon heat networks for Suffolk homes.

Improved use of network innovations to reduce grid demand.

Improved collaboration of strategic network planning.

Improved availability of skills needed in Suffolk for the low carbon transition.

Increased capacity of renewable energy installations on large civic buildings and land.

Increased proportion of local renewable energy procurement.

### We are going to:

**41** Encourage the installation of low carbon heat networks where viable.

**42** Incorporate on-site renewable energy into new development energy policies in updated Local Plans.

**43** Set ambitious and supportive renewable energy planning policies in updated Local Plans by having planners take an evidence-led approach to identifying areas where large-scale installations are most likely to be acceptable.

**44** Pilot and support the uptake of network innovations in Suffolk.

**45** Enhance strategic collaboration between the public sector and the Distribution Network Operator, integrating network, planning and climate emergency activities.

**46** Provide targeted support and skills investment towards low carbon infrastructure sectors.

**47** Host renewables installations on public / civic buildings, as well as public land holdings and brownfield land.

**48** Purchase electricity from local and community owned renewables projects through long term agreements.

# Conclusion

## The wider benefits of pursuing net zero

Working towards net zero in Suffolk is a huge challenge and a journey that we need all residents, communities, and organisations in Suffolk to join us on.

Our plan articulates working towards net zero by 2030, which is earlier than the national Government target of 2050 and demonstrates our level of ambition.

We have put transparency at the heart of our plan, including estimated assessments of the carbon emissions reduction potential of our goals, where possible. These goals get us most of the way there, but not all the way. To fully transition, we need support and engagement from the people of Suffolk, as well as action and support from national Government.

Transitioning to a net zero Suffolk brings with it a wide range of consequential benefits. Better air quality and active travel can lead to physical health improvements, an increasingly engaged and collaborative community can benefit from improvements in mental health, and improving the energy efficiency of buildings can reduce energy bills for households and businesses alike. Putting Suffolk at the forefront of the transition to net zero prepares the county's residents, communities, and organisations to seize future opportunities.

A system-wide approach can deliver benefits through partnership working, collaboration and efficiency, ensuring we tackle the challenges of the climate emergency and improve the wider determinants of health. By reducing carbon emissions, we can reduce NHS admissions.

To promote the links between climate change and health, a major objective of NHS strategy is to engage with staff, system partners and communities through the Integrated Care Systems' Green Plans. For more information on this, follow these links:

**[Environmental Sustainability - Suffolk & North East Essex Integrated Care System \(sneeics.org.uk\)](https://sneeics.org.uk)**

**[Suffolk and North East Essex ICS Green Plan](#)**

**[Norfolk and Waveney ICS Green Plan](#)**

## Financing the plan

Although there will be many financial benefits to residents and businesses from making net zero choices, some actions will involve significant upfront investment. For example, homeowners may seek to transition to solar and heat pumps, car drivers may choose to make the switch to electric vehicles, businesses may look to invest in solar pv and energy-efficient manufacturing processes. Public finance cannot meet all these costs, so we will aim to ensure the conditions are right for residents and businesses to make these investments.

This is why Suffolk is proud of its record of securing funding and the steps it has already taken. Suffolk Public Sector Leaders have already committed £1.5mn to support the implementation of this plan, which has enabled the progress we have seen to date, such as creating funds that support investment and community action.



## Conclusion

### Financing the plan (continued)

Further, Suffolk has a track record of securing grant funding from the Government. Since the publication of the plan, Suffolk has attracted:

- £1.5mn Social prescribing funding awarded to support active travel and improve physical and mental wellbeing of Suffolk residents.
- £1.36mn Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Fund award to support Suffolk charge point network improvements.
- £7.8mn Active Travel funding awarded to support the development of infrastructure and behavioural incentives in favour of low carbon methods of transport.
- £8.6mn HUG2 funding awarded to the county to improve home energy efficiency in low-income households.
- £3mn from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to extend the 0% loan service for residents wishing to upgrade the energy efficiency of their properties.

On 8 December 2022, the Leader of Suffolk County Council signed the proposed 'Suffolk Devolution Deal', signalling a 'minded to' decision to deliver the Deal and pursue devolution. It remains subject to further consultation across the Suffolk system, but if successful will create new opportunities to support the delivery of this plan having regard to the contents of the deal which include:

- Control of a £16 million per year allocation of investment funding over 30 years, 40 per cent capital and 60 per cent revenue, to be invested by Suffolk to drive growth and take forward its priorities over the long term.
- An integrated transport settlement starting in 2024/25. Government will work with Suffolk to agree an integrated multi-year transport settlement at the next Spending Review, at which point opportunities for expanding the integrated transport settlement offer will also be explored.

- A commitment to explore a local partnership with Great British Railways to shape and improve local rail services.
- A one-off investment of £3 million in 2022/23 to expand Suffolk's Green Loans Fund (Suffolk Green Loans). This is a 0% Loan Scheme to improve energy efficiency and renewable generation in households across Suffolk.

Alongside grant finance, debt finance can be secured by local authorities and partnerships from different providers and in different ways.

With the important task of accessing available Government funds for climate action, this plan proposes two additional measures to support delivery.

- Community Climate Finance**, where local authorities support community finance initiatives, for example with community municipal investments.
- A fund created by a council-backed carbon 'insetting' scheme to finance carbon reduction activity.**



### Our ask of Suffolk

Our ask of residents, communities and organisations in Suffolk is simple: be open to starting the journey in however small or decisive a way is possible for you right now.

- We urge you to understand your own GHG emissions, and how they can be changed. A tool is available for individuals at [greensuffolk.org](https://greensuffolk.org) where help and advice on lowering your personal carbon footprint is signposted.
- Think about sharing the steps you are taking with others. For example, by talking about the measures you are taking, or sharing them on social media.
- Don't leave it to others.
- And if you want to act and cannot find your way forward, put that out there so others can help.

### Our ask of national Government

Suffolk cannot deliver net zero by itself. We will continue to work collaboratively with national Government as the UK's policy landscape develops, as evidenced by our County Deal offer. Our 'ask' will evolve over time, but we ask Government to continue to:

- Invest and incentivise**, particularly to support innovation, but also to support individual homeowners and businesses;
- Regulate to drive through carbon reduction** and where needed, deploy regulatory freedoms and flexibilities to support innovation;
- Develop a coherent policy approach** across all government departments, ensuring the impacts of the low carbon transition are fair and equitable across society;
- Support and deliver communications, education and engagement** to raise awareness on the climate emergency and incentivise the necessary behaviour changes;
- Maximise the opportunities of Global Britain** and the Environment Act to encourage private sector innovation and investment in delivering net zero and demonstrate the UK's international leadership in tackling climate change.



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 Follow on Instagram [here](#).

Subscribe to the SCEP Highlights Newsletter [here](#).

Visit our website [www.greensuffolk.org](http://www.greensuffolk.org) for more information

## About this document

In 2019, Suffolk's Public Sector Leaders commissioned international consultants Ricardo Energy and Environment to produce a robust evidence base for GHG emissions in Suffolk and a technical report for how to work towards carbon neutrality by 2030. The evidence was introduced and tested in collaborative workshops whose feedback was used to produce the Evidence Report. This substantial document was summarised into this Climate Emergency Plan and a Table of Actions document, initially published Summer 2021 complete with a short and long list of actions. This document is a thorough review of the original document, along with a refreshed list of actions.

### Document hierarchy

This Climate Emergency Plan is supported by a **technical report**.

### Accessibility

This file may not be suitable for users of assistive technology. Request an accessible format [here](#).

