

South Hams Climate Change and Biodiversity Action Plan

Behaviour Change

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit	Timescale to implement (incl. current contract lengths)
Create new website/pages on what residents can do to help fight climate change	1	N	Med	Med	1 month
Litter, packaging and waste must be in key messages	1	N	Low	Low	3 months
Investigate use of electric car between Tavistock and Totnes plus other business routes	1	Y	Med	Low	Jan-20
Encourage residents to sign up to paperless billing and communication to reduce paper waste	4	N	Low	Low	1 month
Introduce culture of agile working, working from home & skype meeting to reduce unnecessary travel	1	Y	High	High	Ongoing
Introduce business train booking account to encourage journeys by rail	1	Y	High	High	Ongoing
Introduce a car sharing scheme publishing on the intranet the intended journey and times	1	N	Med	Med	2 months
Introduce a company scheme incentivising the purchase of electric cars	1	N	Med	Med	6 months
Explore the use of electric car between KP & FH	2	N	Med	Med	1 year
Investigate installing new electric charging points	2	N	High	High	6 months
Encourage car sharing by paying 5p per mile if sharing on a business journey	3	Y	Med	Med	Ongoing
Explore changing the criteria for essential car user allowance, remove minimum mileage requirement and don't reimburse between FH&KP	3	Y	High	High	Ongoing

Energy Supply

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit	Timescale to implement (incl. current contract lengths)
Investigate installing much more sophisticated thermostats for the heating system at Follaton House	1	N	Med	Low	2 years
Investigate alternative heating systems - Biomass boilers, Air/Ground source heat pumps, additional PV at relevant buildings	1	N	High	Med	5 years
Investigate 'fabric first approach' to reduce energy needs	1	N	Med	Med	5 years
Investigate procuring truly renewable energy	1	N	High	Med	
Explore installing low water delivery taps/plumbing to all our toilet facilities at Follaton House	1	N	Low	Low	
Divest from fossil fuels and invest in renewable energy projects	1	N	High	High	2 years
Explore forming a non-profit green energy company	1	N	High	High	5 years
Identify areas suitable for renewable energy in the local plan.	2	N	High	Med	5 years

Walking, Cycling and PT

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit	Timescale to implement (incl. current contract lengths)
Investigate electric bikes for some facility servicing. For example, toilet cleaners. This would require having supplies and cleaning kit at each locality.	1	N	Low	Low	2 years
Promote/Require all Taxis to be EV's through licencing	3	N	Med	Low	2 years
Introduce differential changes to parking permits e.g Higher carbon emission vehicles pay more.	3	N	Low	Low	2 years
Ensure new housing developments are much more walking and cycling friendly.	3	Y	Med	Med	
Promote/ Require buses to be Electric	4	N	High	Med	5 years +
Investigate electric bike hire in towns & maybe tourist areas in summer start to change culture. Great idea for council workers to use them	4	N	Low	Low	2 years

Strategic Transport Planning

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit
District and Borough Councils do not have any direct or specific responsibility for delivering or managing cycling / active transport networks but can influence	4	N	Med	Med
Electrification of the main train lines	5	N	High	High
Rail and road improvements linked to the future economic well-being of the South West.	5	N	High	High

Waste and Resources

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit	Timescale to implement (incl. current contract lengths)
SH moving to the Devon Aligned Service 2020	1	Y	Med	Med	Sep-20
Rationalise bottle banks in South Hams	1	N	Low	Low	2021
Explore the use of electric vehicles for all fleet.	1	Y	High	Low	Feasibility study underway
Promote zero to incineration by improved communications	2	N	High	High	1 year
Fleet forward plan to include a trial use of electric vehicles for GM/MLO/CEO's.	2	N	High	High	2 years
Create a new EP policy to ensure correct use of litter bins potentially reducing collection need	3	N	Low	Low	6 months
The Council should support the principles proposed through the English Waste Strategy regarding the Extended Producer Responsibility. The principles support a circular economy approach which will be funded by producers and will lead to better packaging design, improved recycling and better consumer awareness of what can be recycled.	5	N	Med	Med	

New Developments

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit	Timescale to implement (incl. current contract lengths)
Achieve better EPC ratings on new Developments.	1	Y	Med	Med	Ongoing
Explore costs rainwater harvesting	1	N	Low	Low	Ongoing
Investigate the use of recycled and Sustainable construction materials	1	N	Low	Low	Ongoing
JLP policies to reduce the carbon footprint of new development DEV32, DEV33, DEV34	1	Y	Med	Med	Ongoing
Change how we invest developer contributions for carbon reduction, for example, invested directly into energy saving measures to help improve the efficiencies of our existing housing stock through EH networks	1	N	Med	Med	5 years
JLP is reviewed every 5 years and we could revise it to better reflect the heightened importance of carbon reduction. The JLP was adopted in March 2019, but a review can be undertaken at any stage within the 5 year review period. The reviews, submission and adoption process is time consuming, so at the latest a review would begin in 2021.	3	N	Med	Med	3 years - (review, submission and adoption is time consuming and a review may not be possible before 2021)
Review internal processes to create a flow of investment from developer contributions to energy saving projects. It is unclear how much will be available as this depends on to what extent developers contribute onsite renewables as part of future development proposals – but a mechanism could be established internally that is ready to invest funds when available.	3	N	Low	Low	
As part of JLP review consider an Article 4 Direction that removes permitted development rights on class Q barn conversions.	3	N	Low	Low	5 years
Allocate sites for renewable energy, in particular strategic scale solar and wind for both commercial and community energy development	3	N	Med	Low	5 years

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Location for good transport infrastructure	4	N	Med	Med	Ongoing
Encourage occupiers to factor in sustainability in work processes	4	N	Low	Low	6 months
JLP adopted a carbon reduction target and aims to reduce carbon emissions by 50% by 2034 (monitored against the 2005 baseline)	4	Y	Med	Med	Ongoing
The LPAs could look to invest more directly in community energy projects through community energy groups. In Plymouth this could be the Plymouth Energy Community, and in SHWD it could be the SWD Community Energy Partnership or similar.	4	N	Med	Med	2 years
Change building regulations, reducing energy demand in new homes towards net zero carbon. This would require the change to the Deregulation Act 2015 as it's currently outside the control of local government	5	N	High	High	2 years
Look to install rainwater harvesting on new developments where possible - will need changes to building regs/JLP	4	N	Med	Low	2 years

Existing Buildings

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit
Plant new trees on open space	1	N	Med	Med
Grow samplings (save money too)	1	N	Low	Low
Explore installing electric car charging points in car parks	1	Y	Med	Low
Explore a rolling programme of electric/manual equipment to move away from petrol/generators.	1	N	Low	Low
Investigate what energy efficient measures could be retro-fitted to Council properties	1	N	Med	Med
Energy Efficiency – light fittings changed to LED in all buildings	1	Y	Med	Med
Aim for a Higher result in the energy performance certificates	1	N	Med	Med
Explore renewable technology options – solar and air source heat pumps for example	1	N	High	High
Promote ECO grants for home insulation, efficient heating systems and sustainable energy sources for owner occupied and tenanted properties	2	Y	High	Med
Investigate installation of wind turbines in industrial estates	2	N	High	Med

Greening the Economy

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit	Timescale to implement (incl. current contract lengths)
Implement Contract Procedure Regulations which already contain Environmental Sustainability aspects when procuring via our standard selection questionnaire or through the use of frameworks or dynamic purchasing systems whereby the suppliers are already prequalified with a similar standard selection questionnaire.	1	Y	Med	Med	Ongoing
Devon Districts Procurement Strategy in place 2015-2019	1	Y	Med	Med	Ongoing
Sustainability in Commissioning Policy in place	1	Y	Med	Med	Ongoing
Responsible Procurement Strategy in place	1	Y	Med	Med	Ongoing
Introducing new Devon Districts Procurement Strategy 2019-2022.	1	N	Low	Low	Deadline Apr
The Sustainable Procurement Policy also include ideas about how we can be sustainable day to day (outside of procurement).	1	N	Med	Med	Deadline Jan
Introduction of new Sustainable Procurement Policy – however, we need to bear in mind that environmental sustainability, whilst it can be considered, can be challenging for some procurements due to increased costs.	1	N	Med	Med	Deadline JAN
See Scope 2 re Renewable Energy procurement	1	N	High	Low	
Work with top 10 suppliers to explore their approach to carbon reduction	3	N	High	Med	3 years
Draw together external organisations, who have active projects in the pipeline.	4	N	Med	Med	6 months

Individual and Collective Act

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit	Timescale to implement (incl. current contract lengths)
Reduce personal commuter mileage by more use of agile working	1	N	Low	Low	6 months
Publicise/incentivise change of residential energy provider	1	N	Med	Med	2 months
Encourage/incentivise use of electric cars	1	N	Med	Med	6 months
Encourage reduced energy consumption at home – install greater insulation, use less hot water, use less heating, turn off electrical appliances when not in use, don't use unnecessary appliances like tumble dryer etc.	1	N	Med	Med	6 months
Make sure Council finances are invested with 'green banks'	1	N	Low	Low	1 year
Commit to buying less new products and focus on reducing and reusing	1	N	Med	Med	6 months
Identify individual commute and business usage and set reduced targets	1	N	Med	Med	1 year
Provide free/subsidised home energy audit to advise employees on how to reduce carbon footprint of home	1	N	Med	Med	1 year
Provide advice/support to allow employees to calculate the impact of their lifestyles	1	N	Low	Low	6 months
Explore other channels for communicating with residents that are not in print	1	N	Low	Low	6 months
Reduce business mileage by greater use of technology to reduce need to attend meetings	1	N	Med	Med	6 months
Reduce business mileage by encouraging customer self-service and reduce need for officer/customer to travel	1	N	Med	Med	6 months
Encourage/incentivise greater use of bicycles for commuting	1	N	Low	Low	2 months

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Encouraging a culture in the teams of not printing unless they need to	3	Y	Low	Low	Ongoing
Encourage people to reduce animal protein in their diet	4	N	Low	Low	2 months
Volunteer/support collective action via community groups	4	N	Low	Low	1 year
Incentivise the use of public transport	4	N	Med	Med	6 months

Community Engagement

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit	Timescale to implement (incl. current contract lengths)
Inform residents about how they can recycle – using norming messaging	1	Y	Med	Med	Ongoing
Inform residents about what we are doing with climate change	1	Y	Low	Low	Ongoing
Encourage residents greater use of reducing, reusing and then recycling	1	N	Low	Low	2 months
Link in more with recycle Devon and all of the other efforts that people are going around the District and borough	1	N	Low	Low	2 months
Create an e newsletter and get people who are interested in supporting our emergency to sign up – begin to build an army of interested people	1	N	Low	Low	6 months

Land Use Change for CS

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit	Timescale to implement (incl. current contract lengths)
Supporting individual tree planting requests on estate	1	Y	Low	Low	Ongoing
Securing tree planting through development proposals	1	Y	Low	Low	Ongoing
Plant up our own land ourselves subsidised by grants (but unlikely to receive any/significant maintenance support)	1	N	Med	Med	2 years
Buy land to plant – within Strategic Nature Areas or to contribute to forthcoming Devon Nature Recovery Network – South Hams forest/woodland (either funded/part funded by Biodiversity Net Gain, Woodland Creation Grants - Countryside Stewardship <£6,800 per ha, possibly followed by Woodland Management Grants), Woodland Trust partnership, but likely to be significant additional cost to the LA particularly land purchase cost and ongoing maintenance costs. Possible woodland managers living on site in temporary accommodation (subject to planning) – i.e. sustainable and low cost woodland management?	1	N	Med	Med	5 years
Support more/all approaches by communities for tree planting on our land where they source free trees (and is consistent with land use and not likely to lead to conflict with neighbours) – but maintenance costs	1	N	Med	Med	2 years
Fix more carbon in vegetation cover (relaxing cutting regime)	1	N	Med	Med	6 months
Look at alternative grass/plant mixes in any new sowing, using varieties to increase soil carbon sequestration.	1	N	Med	Med	1 year
Potential use of biodiversity net gain funds to contribute to community planting schemes	1	N	Low	Low	2 years
Pushing tree planting agenda within Neighbourhood Plans (allocating spaces for woodland creation and sustainable management)	1	N	Med	Med	1 year
Tree planting, supporting resident interest in planting on Council land where they can obtain free trees	1	N	Med	Med	1 year

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EOI to Urban Tree Challenge Fund for Ph2 with bids in 2020/21	1	N	Med	Med	
Policy of replanting X number of trees for each tree felled dependant on trunk diameter at 1.5m height (using table included in JLP SPD)	1	N	Med	Med	
Ringfencing and promoting a % of Members grant schemes (SCLF/Localities Fund) towards tree planting schemes for community groups, Town and Parish Councils, or money towards a 'Tree Planting grant scheme' (we did this in 2010 for the International Year of Biodiversity)	1	N	High	High	1 year
Urban Tree Challenge Fund (Phase 2 – 2020/21)	4	N	Med	Med	2 years
Increasing approaches from residents for tree planting on Council land (spurred by National Tree Week/plant a tree campaigns)	4	N	Med	Med	1 year
Natural Environment Design Guide to support Development Management proposals – establishing importance of street trees in urban/built environment proposals, trees in new hedgelines, and tree/woodland planting as part of onsite public open space provision	5	N	Med	Med	5 years
Biodiversity Net Gain likely to be mandated – generating £s for planting		N			
Natural coastal and flood management approaches to increase carbon sequestration, reduce erosion, deliver improved catchment management		N	Med	Med	
Targeting biodiversity net gain (and offsite compensation) at tree planting where appropriate, increasing and connecting woodland SNAs		N	Low	Med	

Biodiversity

Proposal	Level of influence	Doing now?	Annual Estimated Net potential Carbon Saving/Benefit	Annual Estimated Net potential Biodiversity Saving/Benefit	Timescale to implement (incl. current contract lengths)
Applying JLP policies (as well as other related policy and legislation) relating to development and the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity	1	Y	Med	Med	Ongoing
Do not use fertiliser, no weedkiller used on beds	1	Y	High	High	Ongoing
Produce c.50 tons of wood chip each year for use on shrub beds and under hedge lines, also have a bio shredder producing c.30 tons of compost that we also use on beds.	1	Y	High	High	Ongoing
Review own estate management in terms of Grounds Maintenance	1	N	High	High	2 years
Review GM layer and assess potential for amending to increase wildlife value balanced against amenity requirements (e.g. for short grass for dog walking/recreation, etc)	1	N	Med	Med	1 year
Relax cutting regimes – i.e. cut less often/vary leaving uncut majority, well cut margins, cut later in the year	1	N	Low	Low	1 year
Scrape sites, reseed with wildflower mix, annual cut, use mixes that increase soil carbon sequestration	1	N	Low	Low	1 year
Introduction of wildlife measures (e.g. hibernacula in appropriate sites, bird and bat boxes, bug hotels, etc)	1	N	Low	Low	2 year
PR relating to purpose of any revised approach (e.g. managing community expectations and a level of complaint about 'unkempt/untidy' sites, lazy Councils, etc)	1	N	Low	Low	6 months
Look to reduce/eliminate weedkiller use on hard surfaces	1	N	High	High	6 months
Produce Natural Environment Design Guide to sit alongside the JLP and SPD as a guide for good design for biodiversity (amongst other ecosystem services) within new development	1	N	Med	High	1 year

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Ensure the DBRC SLA is a revenue budget line (currently funded through 'new burdens money' contributing to safeguarding the Local Wildlife Sites network)	1	N	Med	Med	1 year
Put additional resource to a 'biodiversity officer' post – namely with respect to avoiding backlog of DM and consultation responses (i.e. to make sure no potential for missing responses) and ensuring policy is correctly and consistently applied, or potentially contribute to a shared DCC ecologist post for this purpose	1	N	High	High	1 year
Potential to apply a % management fee to offsite compensation/Biodiversity Net Gain payments (via s106) to part fund a new/existing role (there will be an additional pressure) in terms of findings sites to delivery this offsite habitat creation (which the LA could either buy and manage, or work in partnership with another, e.g. DWT, RSPB).	1	N	High	High	6 months
Monitor work being undertaken by the PCC Green Estates team on their natural capital accounting tool, and seek to learn from this.	1	N	Low	Low	1 year
Tweaking management of some sites within own estate likely to be quickest win – in terms of relaxing cutting regimes. (scraping/reseeding, etc, would take some more research about costs and suitability, and much more positive PR due to current level of complaints we receive about long grass!)	1	N	Med	Med	6 months
Fund forthcoming baseline mapping of the DNRN (critical in guiding future spend of £s generated from development towards offsite compensation and BNG measures)	2	N	Low	Low	1 year
Consult Town and Parish Councils over changes to their practices	3	N	Low	Med	1 year
Any new development led by SHWD to be exemplar (e.g. Building with Nature, bird and bat boxes, good design with GI, etc).	4	N	Med	Med	tbc
Funding the Ancient Woodland Inventory review		Y	Low	Low	Ongoing

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Working with other LPAs across Devon to get ahead of the curve on Biodiversity Net Gain, including pushing the new Defra Biodiversity Metric 2.0 at pre-app for new applications		Y	Low	Med	Ongoing
Increase in 'offsite compensation' and Biodiversity Net Gain measures to restore and create new habitat		N	Med	High	1 year
Devon Nature Recovery Network mapping		N	Low	Med	1 year
JLP SPD (covering approach to BNG – first in Devon)		N	Med	Med	6 months
Supporting mapping of local ecological networks/corridors within Neighbourhood Plans		N	Low	Med	1 year
Support & encourage the creation of wildlife corridors across Devon		N	Low	High	
Encourage agroforestry (+regenerate peat bog) to reduce the risk of flooding		N	Med	High	
Support the Forestry Commission in planting 20 Hectares of woodland throughout South Hams		N	High	High	ongoing

