Cheshire West & Chester Council

Climate Emergency

Response Plan

2025-2030

Visit: cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Cheshire West and Chester

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The purpose of the Cheshire West and Chester Climate Emergency Response Plan 2025-2030

This is Cheshire West and Chester Council's Climate Emergency Response Plan. It is designed to influence action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions throughout the borough, and to shape how the area adapts to the impacts of climate change that affect our communities.

It is designed to support the achievement of two key goals, that the borough achieves carbon neutrality by 2045, faster than the national 2050 target, and that the Council as an organisation achieves carbon neutrality in its own scoped operations by 2030.

It contains a series of actions which set out how the Council will set out to achieve its goals, including both the direct actions that the Council will take within its services, and the areas where the Council will seek to work with residents, businesses, stakeholders and government to influence the wider state of the borough.

The audience for this plan is diverse; it is intended to be accessible to residents, to ensure the Council can be held to account for its climate commitments. It is intended to be of use to community groups and organisations to see how they can direct their efforts in a way that matches the borough's strategic direction. It will be of use to businesses and planners proposing developments or retrofits which are in-line with the Council's climate aspirations. The Plan will also be used by decision-makers within the Council, both political and administrative, to ensure that the Council maintains compliance with the vision and values that have shaped the plan.

Councillor Louise Gittins, Leader of Cheshire West and Chester Council

Each year, we are reminded of the consequences of climate change and the need to take urgent action to prevent them. West Cheshire is a unique borough; we have a globally significant heritage city, historic market towns, a proud tradition of agriculture, and a world-leading industrial past, present and future. To safeguard these assets for future generations, we have a responsibility to play our part in tackling this global challenge in a way that is fair, achievable and equitable for all our communities.

We should fully understand the scale of this challenge; government figures show that west Cheshire generated over three million tonnes of greenhouse gases in 2022, one of the top-10 highest-emitting local authorities in the UK.

The answer to this challenge is not in de-industrialisation, or in reducing our economic and social growth. Quite the opposite; we have an unparalleled opportunity to be a centre of green industry that will create high-quality, accessible jobs at all skill levels for decades to come.

In response to the challenge of the Climate Emergency, we have set an emissions target for the borough to become net zero by 2045 and engaged our partners, communities, and residents to better understand the changes required to meet it.

In presenting this second version of our Climate Emergency Response Plan, I hope we can build on our framework for collective action on climate change across west Cheshire that is fair, forward thinking, addresses inequalities, and which creates the urgency that we need to act. Building on our existing plan, we have re-developed a set of comprehensive actions, which will drive forward our carbon reduction progress across a borough working in partnership.

We will continually refine the approach as we work with you, our residents, stakeholders and businesses to learn what works, and where we can improve. We are fully committed to collaborating with everyone to achieve this goal and will play our part by becoming a net-zero council by 2030.

Introduction

In 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a special report warning that urgent action was needed to cut greenhouse gas emissions and limit global warming to 1.5 °C to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of climate change.

This built on the momentum of the 2015 Paris Agreement, adopted by 195 Parties, which set the long-term global goal of reaching net zero, a balance between emissions and removals, in the second half of the century. Many countries, including the UK, have since committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 as part of their national climate strategies.

In May 2019, Cheshire West and Chester Council declared a Climate Emergency, setting a target for the borough to achieve net zero emissions by 2045.

In 2021, the Council ratified its first Climate Emergency Response Plan, running to 2025. This Plan fully refreshes and replaces the first Climate Plan.

In August 2021, the IPCC's latest assessment report confirmed that without immediate, rapid, and large-scale reductions in emissions, limiting warming to 1.5°C or even 2°C will be beyond reach.

Our most recent winter, 2023/24 was the second warmest on record (Met Office[1]) and the estimated rise of global carbon dioxide concentrations far exceeds the IPCC's scenarios in which temperature rise is limited to 1.5 Celsius[2].

This Climate Emergency Response Plan sets out the scale of the net zero 2045 challenge for west Cheshire and proposes a framework for collective action to deliver this, structured around three pillars.

[1] Seasonal Assessment - Winter24.docx (metoffice.gov.uk) - hyperlink out to: https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/binaries/content/assets/metofficegovuk/pdf/weather/learn-about/uk-past-events/summaries/uk_climate_summary_winter_2024.pdf

[2] www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/news-and-media/media-centre/weather-and-climate-news/2024/met-office-carbon-dioxide-forecast-on-the-limits-of-compatibility-for-achieving-1.5c

The Three Pillars of Our Response		
West Cheshire's opportunities and challenges	How we work together	Delivering on our plans

Pillar 1: West Cheshire's opportunities and challenges

Challenges

We now know that the levels of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere are higher than at any point in recent history, and that this increase is directly linked to human activity, mainly the burning of fossil fuels.

Human-induced climate change is already affecting every region of the world – and its effects, including extreme heat and more frequent, intense storms, have been felt here in west Cheshire. Towns such as Northwich have felt the devastating effects of flooding; however all parts of our borough feel the impacts of climate change. Delivering the rapid cuts in greenhouse gases needed to avoid more severe impacts of climate change will be the biggest challenge of our generation.

Key facts

Flooding – Events such as Storm Christoph caused £0.5m in direct damages and 244 homes were affected.

Excessive CO_2 - In 2019 atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations were higher than at any time in at least two million years.

We've experienced the second warmest winter on record (2023).

Heatwaves – heatwave declared across the UK in Sept 23 as temperatures exceed 30c for seven days.

New pests and disease migrating from lower latitudes.

Opportunities

Summary of co-benefits of acting on climate change		
Economic	**Social**	**Environmental**
Clean and inclusive growth in the local economy	Improved air quality	Reduced flood risk (coastal, pluvial and fluvial)
Low carbon technologies	Lower living costs	Improved access to green space and nature
High quality employment	More active, outdoor lifestyles	Improved biodiversity and habitats
Improved productivity	More diverse and healthier food	Improved land management
Diversification to more sustainable markets	Fuel poverty reduction	Cleaner air
Reduced heat and energy costs	Less demand on health services	Cleaner water
Increased energy security	Improved mental health	Greater water security
Reduced imported fuels	Fewer work and school days missed	Carbon sequestration in habitats
Reduced congestions	Fewer premature deaths	Less risk of heatwaves and extreme weather events
Reduced costs from flood and extreme weather events	Warmer, healthier homes	Reduced pests and disease from lower latitudes
Reduced waste	Quieter, safer streets	Reduced / reversed species decline

Key facts

Green economy – more than £5bn planned investment in green industries.

Jobs – more than 10,000 new jobs projected by 2040 in green industrial clusters.

Implementing climate actions like better insulation and renewable energy use in homes could lead to cheaper energy bills over time.

The UK's net-zero emissions plan includes changes in land use and farming that are expected to improve air and water quality, benefiting biodiversity.

Investment in adaptation measures like coastal defences and flood management can significantly reduce the risk and economic impacts of climate-related damages.

Our scope

We have included different types of emissions sources in our baseline assessment for this plan. Some are associated with our own (direct) activities and others relate to the actions of others (indirect).

The Response Plan covers west Cheshire's emissions across Scope one, two and limited Scope three. Borough wide emissions are for Scope one and Scope two emissions only.

Scope one: Emissions directly owned or controlled by an organisation or consumer. This is typically the combustion of gas for heating or fuel use by vehicles in west Cheshire.

Scope two: Emissions linked to the consumption of electricity by an organisation or consumer. The electricity (and associated emissions) is generated outside of west Cheshire, but the user is in the borough, so the indirect emissions are attributed here.

Scope three: Indirect emissions relating to an organisation or consumer's activities, but that are outside of their control. This can include purchased goods, services, food, waste and travel outside of the borough. Measuring and calculating Scope three emissions is an extensive and complex process.

Examples of high impact planned outcomes across the next 5 years include:

Outcome 1

Development of a Local Area Energy Plan for Cheshire West and Chester – as part of wider subregional roadmap to decarbonising the energy system in west Cheshire.

Who is responsible

- Local Authorities
- Delivery Partners
- Businesses, Industry
- Agriculture, SPEN and Partner Authorities

Wider benefits

Growth and prosperity, energy security, influence energy infrastructure developments, Stimulate the market, green economy

Outcome 2

Cheshire West and the ORIGIN area provide a world leading example on industrial decarbonisation

Who is responsible

- Local Authorities
- Delivery Partners
- Businesses, Industry, ESO, SPEN and Partner Authorities

Wider benefits

Growth and prosperity, energy security, influence energy infrastructure developments, Stimulate the market, green economy

Outcome 3

Establish a commercial partnership to deliver a major expansion in the borough's public electric vehicle charging infrastructure network, and explore opportunities for enhancing access to domestic charging facilities, focused on improving opportunities for communities without access to off-street parking and creating an EV charging network to suit all user needs.

Who is responsible

- Local Authorities

Wider benefits

Flexible transport, broadening access to EVs, green economy

Outcome 4

All homes in the borough will be EPC band C by 2030.

Who is responsible

- Local Authorities, housing providers

Wider benefits

Health and wellbeing, energy savings, readiness for additional retrofit measures

Outcome 5

Establish, maintain, and manage woodlands and other habitats on Council farms for carbon sequestration and biodiversity net gain (BNG)

Who is responsible

- Local Authorities

Wider benefits

Local green infrastructure, access to nature, air quality, health and wellbeing, carbon sequestration

Our baseline

Cheshire West and Chester Council baseline

The last full year of emissions on an expanded scope reported by the Council was for financial year 2023-2024 with a total of 11,836.7 t/CO2e. This represents a 77.1% reduction against the baseline year 2014-15.

The table and chart represent the derivative sources of emissions in the baseline year and show the largest source of emissions as scope 1; generated from the gas burnt on site consumed across the Council estate. This accounted for 60.8% to the total emissions measured. The remaining emissions are largely emissions associated with the collection and treatment of waste (26.6%), mileage (4.8%), from electricity consumption (4.6%).

The remaining 2.7% are residual emissions split up from a variety of sources.

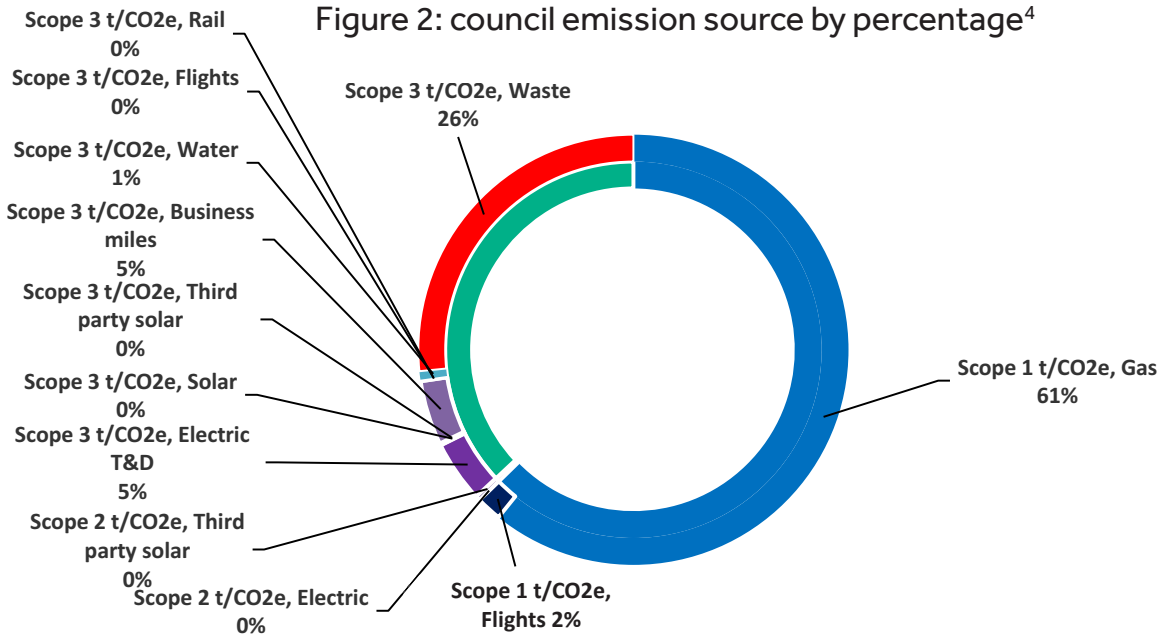
Figure 1: Table of Council emission sources[3]

Source	Scope 1 t/CO_2e	Scope 2 t/CO_2e	Scope 3 t/CO_2e	Total t/CO_2e	Percentage of Total
Gas	7,193.5			7,193.5	60.8%
Fleet			225.6	225.6	1.9%
Electric		0.0	547.5	547.5	4.6%
Owned Solar PV			14.3	14.3	0.1%
Third party Solar PV		41.4	3.6	45.0	0.4%
Mileage			572.0	572.0	4.8%
Rail			12.9	12.9	0.1%
Flights			1.2	1.2	0.0%
Water			74.7	74.7	0.6%
Waste			3,146.2	3,146.2	26.6%
Hotel			3.8	3.8	0.0%
Grand Total	**7,193.5**	**41.4**	**4,601.8**	**11,836.7**	**100%**

[3]This table provides an overview of the Council's scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions. For further information on methodology, refer to the Council's Carbon Management Plan

Reported scoped emssions from 2023-2024

Figure 2: council emission source by percentage[4]



[4]This graph shows the Council's emission sources by percentage, with gas the largest element at 61%.

Our action towards net zero

In recent years, the borough has made significant progress towards achieving our aspirations – including:

- Borough-wide emissions have reduced from 4.3 million metric tons (mt) CO_2 in 2018 to 3.2mt in 2022.
- More than £9m in grants have been secured from central Government to help deliver energy, housing retrofit and natural environment projects in Cheshire West and Chester.
- The Council has acted as the accountable body for the national trees for Climate Programme, which has delivered more trees than any other programme in the UK in recent years.
- The Council has launched the Origin cluster, creating greater collaboration between industrial businesses in the Ellesmere Port Area.
- The Council has developed its Fuel Poverty Strategy, Land Action Plan, EV Strategy and Inclusive Economy Strategy.
- Cheshire West and Chester has become a Sustainable Food Place.
- The Council has trialled the development of Low Carbon Homes.
- The Council helps local people to access a variety of grants to retrofit their homes – such as the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, Energy Company Obligation (ECO), Home Upgrade Grant and others.
- The Council has launched the Solar Together programme which has helped hundreds of people get competitively priced Solar panels and/or batteries on their homes.
- Setting up warm, welcoming spaces throughout the borough over recent winters, to help ensure everyone has access to a warm place outside their homes.
- Supporting community, crowd-funded projects via Climate Emergency Fund and Spacehive.

Our progress to net zero

So far, the Council has achieved a 77.1% reduction in emissions across its estate and operations since 2014-15. We now need to continue progressing against our goals to meet our 2030 net zero target.

Carbon budget analysis

The graph below demonstrates the Council's progress against its net zero targets.

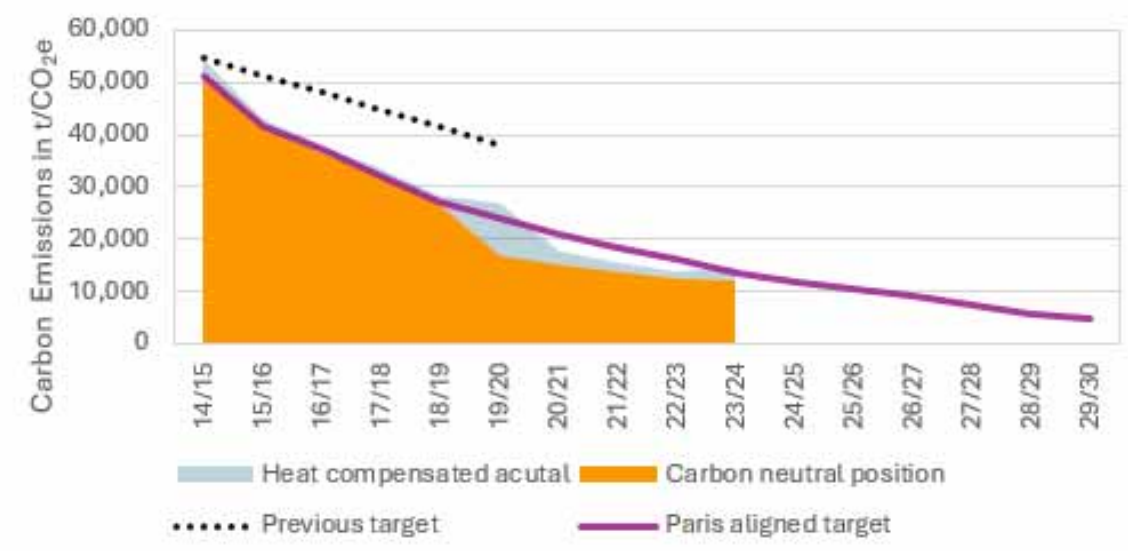


Figure 3: Council carbon budget analysis[5]

[5]This graph demonstrates the Council's progress against its net zero targets.

Borough wide emissions

Emissions within west Cheshire have significantly decreased, falling from 4.3 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gases in 2019 to 3.2 million tons in 2022 following the declaration of a Climate Emergency. Industry remains the largest contributor, followed by transport, housing, and agriculture.

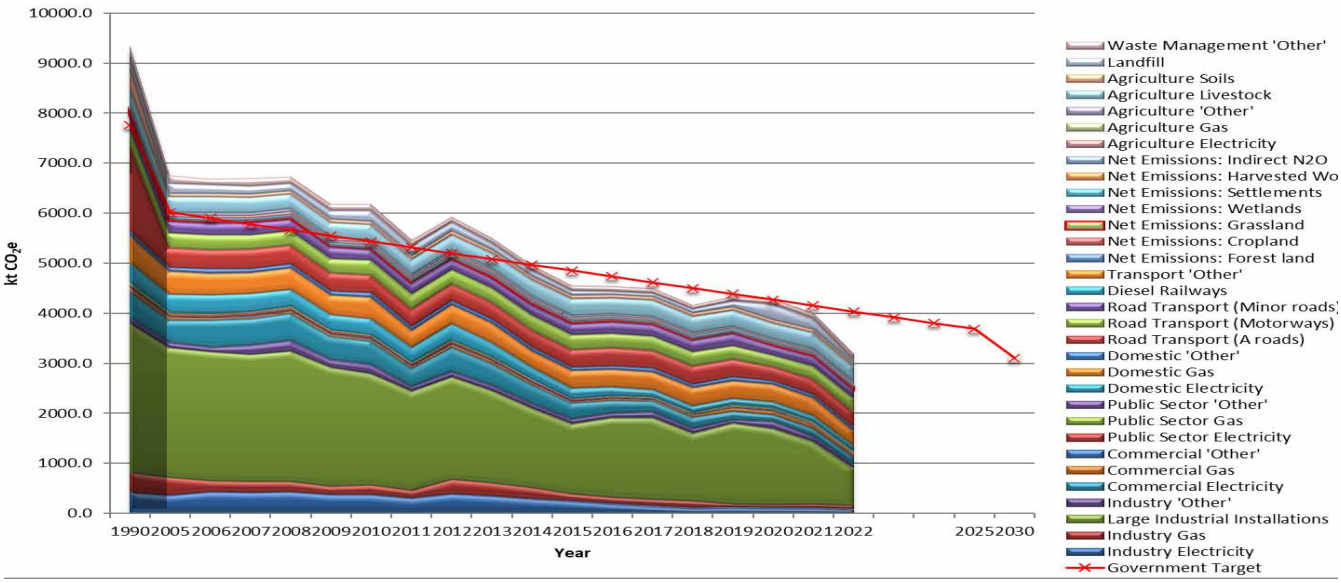


Figure 4: Cheshire West CO_2e emissions[6]

Borough baseline continued

The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, and the Environmental Consultancy Anthesis, have jointly produced the Setting City Area Targets and Trajectories for Emission Reduction (SCATTER) tool. This produces realistic and localised emissions pathway. Given west Cheshire's exceptionally high emissions, even in the most ambitious pathway (Level 4) the borough does not achieve net zero by 2045. Therefore further support is required from government to bring about the radical scale of change that is required.

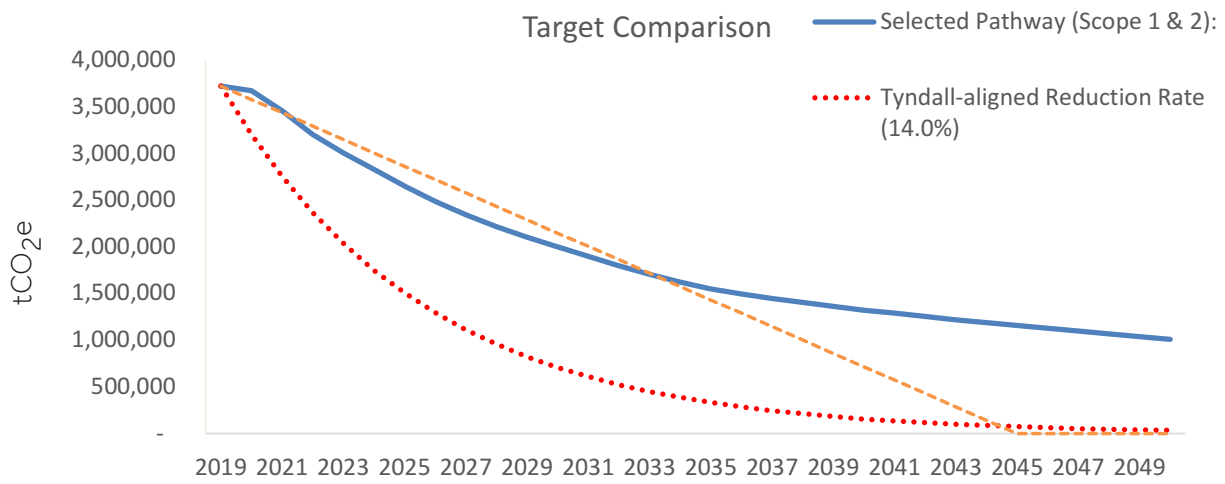
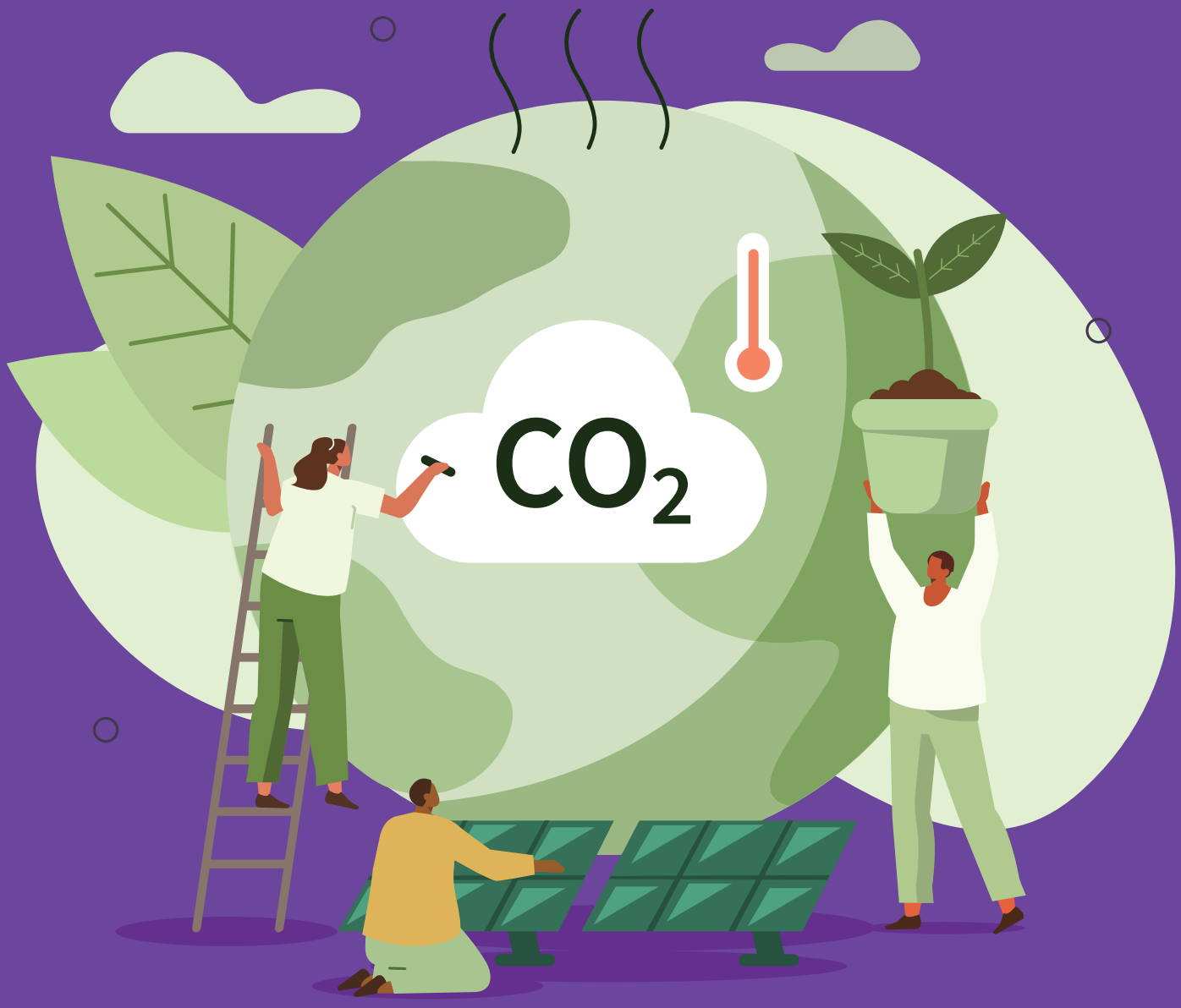


Figure 5: The borough's SCATTER pathway[7]

[6]This graph demonstarates the key sources of emissions with west Cheshire since 1990 and how these have changed over time.
[7]This graph demonstrates the borough's SCATTER pathway and progress against this trajectory.


CO_2

Carbon management hierarchy

The Council's carbon management hierarchy is as follows:

Avoid	We will strive to make good decisions that do not lock in additional energy use or carbon emissions in the first instance, exploring alternatives that avoid these.
Reduce	We will strive to reduce our existing carbon emissions and energy use.
Substitute	We will strive to substitute carbon intensive processes or technologies with renewable or low carbon technologies, products or modes of behaviour.
Insetting	Where emissions have been avoided, reduced and substituted as far as feasibly possible, we will prioritise in-setting, whereby carbon is sequestered within the borough's boundaries via sustainable, evidence based solutions.
Offsetting	Where insetting opportunities have been maximised, if further carbon sequestration is required, we will review opportunities to off-set these emissions outside the borough's boundaries via sustainable, evidence based solutions.

Pillar 2: How we work together

Climate targets and policies

Paris Climate Agreement (2015) - International treaty to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees and preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre industrial levels		
UK Climate Change Act (amended 2019) - Set legal targets for the UK to achieve net zero emissions by 2050	Cheshire West and Chester Climate Emergency Declaration (2019) - Set targets for the Council to achieve net zero by 2030, and for the wider borough to achieve net zero by 2045	UN Human Rights Council (2021) - Recognised in 2021 that having a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is a human right.

The Council's role

An enabler of climate action

At the national level, local authorities bear direct responsibility for approximately 2% of total UK emissions. However, their influence extends much further, potentially impacting up to 40% of emissions through their activities and powers. In west Cheshire, the Council's emissions account for 0.6% of the broader borough's emissions.

In recent years, our operational approach has evolved: we now seek to integrate climate considerations into every decision, explore opportunities to reduce emissions from our buildings and activities, and invest in low-carbon technologies and practices. Additionally, we keep the powers and levers at our disposal under constant review to drive climate action both within and beyond the borough.

This ongoing evaluation of our activities, functions, and services informs the proposed actions outlined in our Climate Emergency Response Plan for the borough. Through a network of interconnected council policies, we collectively promote environmental enhancements, aligning with the Greener Communities objectives of the borough plan.

Our principles:

Principle 1: A democratically led process

The Council is a democratically led organisation where Councillors work together to represent the views of people throughout the borough. This plan will be shaped by our Climate Taskforce, a cross-party, politically led committee.

We encourage residents to share their views on the Plan, and what they want to see within it, with their local Councillor, and with the Council during the engagement and consultation periods.

Principle 2: An evidence based process

The Council will use the best available data and evidence to inform the development of the borough's Climate Emergency Response Plan.

This will involve datasets published by national government, primarily by DESNZ (the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) and DEFRA (The Department for Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs).

In developing its first Climate Emergency Response Plan, the Council engaged Anthesis, and environmental consultancy, to produce a model for the borough's journey to net zero. This model, SCATTER (Setting City Area Targets and Trajectories for Emissions Reduction) has now been open-sourced, via a partnership between Anthesis, Nottingham City Council and DESNZ. The Council will use this open source model to inform the development of its second Climate Plan[8].

In addition to national and local datasets, the Council recognises the immense value of data gathered from our residents and local stakeholders. The Council will consistently engage and co-produce this plan with our communities, ensuring it is a plan that all of west Cheshire can jointly own and buy into.

[8]Except where otherwise stated, the information contained in the original 2019 Anthesis work remains a relevant reference point for this document.

Principle 3: A co-produced plan

We launched an engagement process in Summer 2024.

The engagement was open from 26 July to 1 September 2024. Residents and stakeholders were invited to take part by visiting the online Climate Emergency Response Plan webpage where they could complete a survey, submit ideas on how to tackle climate and nature emergencies, and pin where climate action is currently taking place on a map.

People could also attend one of the five in-person drop-in sessions which were held in Northwich, Winsford, Ellesmere Port, Malpas and Chester. People were also able to respond to the engagement by email, letter or telephone. We also held three focus groups, two with members of the Council's Citizens Panel, and one with young people who attend Cheshire College South and West.

Communication methods to ensure that key stakeholders were made aware of the engagement and given the opportunity to have their say included emails to key stakeholder organisations, a Member Briefing, focus groups, communications via the Climate Newsletter which has more than 5,000 subscribers, social media, a meeting with the Youth Senate and attendance at community meetings.

The engagement received a total of **474 responses**, comprising of **421 survey responses**, **18 ideas board contributions**, **33 people attending focus groups and drop-in sessions**, and **2 emails received**.

Across all comments received in response to the engagement the following were identified by respondents as the most important:

- **The importance** of a rapid transition to renewable energy for all forms of energy use.
- **That businesses should be supported** to become more environmentally sustainable, such as via using renewable energy, suggestions on how to do this included monitoring their supply chains to use lower-carbon products and services, insulating their premises, and by improving the efficiency of their processes.
- **That the Council should promote** energy efficiency in new build homes by reviewing the elements of the local planning framework relating to this, by lobbying government, and by setting a positive example.
- **The importance of conserving nature**, by ensuring that nature is a factor in all decision making, by promoting biodiversity, and by planting and preserving trees (and other forms of natural carbon sinks).
- **The importance of planning, infrastructure and transport** working together to create an environment where people can move around easily using low-carbon modes of travel, such as walking, cycling and public transport.

The results of these have been included in the specific sectoral plans, and informed the actions within the Plan. A summary report on the engagement phase has been included as Appendix 1.

A consultation was launched in Winter 2024; the results of this consultation on the Draft Plan have further informed the Plan.

The multi-method consultation approach encouraged 269 people to take part in the consultation. These responses were made up of 250 completed surveys, 11 people attending a drop-in session, and 8 email responses. Below are the overarching key messages from the consultation.

Overarching key messages

- Overall, around one third of respondents:
  - Strongly agreed or agreed (63% - 70%) with reducing emissions from all the sector areas in the plan
  - Answered that the outcomes for all the sector areas were very important or important (66% - 74%)
- Strongly agreed or agreed (61% - 68%) with the actions to help reduce emissions from all the sector areas. There was some climate scepticism expressed among respondents. Comments included, that the UK represents a small proportion of global emissions; that the costs of net-zero will outweigh the benefits, and that achieving net zero will impede on personal freedom.

Key messages specific to sector areas:

Energy - Some respondents felt retrofit initiatives to reduce demand for energy within the older housing stock across the borough should be a key priority – related to this, a few respondents suggested expanding the remit of the Solar Together to cover insulation, heat pumps.

Industry and commercial businesses - Some felt that action needs to happen and be inclusive of small business as well as large industry. Improved communication and publicity of actions and impacts to encourage others to get involved and attract new businesses that support the strategy. Many also felt that the Council had limited influence on large businesses, and that a focus on net zero could affect businesses' long term viability.

Transport - Many respondents felt the Council's approach to transport should prioritise development of an affordable, reliable and integrated public transport system, particularly in relation to new development sites.

Housing - Some respondents felt that new build homes should be sustainable by default. Some respondents expressed that achieving high standards of insulation and energy efficiency can be too expensive.

Land use and adaptation - Some respondents said farmers must be incentivised to use greener methods which are environmentally and nature friendly.

Waste and the circular economy - Many respondents felt that availability and ease of access to HWRCs was important and a few felt by providing local sites it reduces the emissions relating to the length of journey.

We commit to continuing to co-produce our climate emergency response in partnership with our communities over the lifetime of the plan, engaging regularly and meaningfully with communities, providing advice and support to ensure we can decarbonise together.

Principle 4: Creating a deliverable plan, using our finance and influence

The Council has set challenging targets – the difficulty of achieving net zero by 2045 in the context of an area which is in the top 10 emitters in the UK should not be underestimated. It is therefore essential that actions are deliverable to ensure that the strategies we propose can translate into real-world outcomes.

Deliverable actions are those that are realistic, achievable, and backed by the necessary resources, including funding, technology, and community support. In doing so, we want to set realistic expectations and avoid overpromising, which can undermine public confidence and delay progress. Focusing on deliverability ensures that our initiatives lead to tangible environmental, social, and economic benefits, helping us meet our climate targets in a timely manner while building trust and accountability with stakeholders.

We cannot tackle climate change in isolation; we will work collaboratively with a wide range of partners to drive meaningful change. Climate change is a complex, global issue that requires coordinated efforts at all levels of society. By partnering with the residents, Government, businesses, community organisations, and academic institutions, we intend to leverage additional expertise, resources, and innovation.

We recognise that we do not have the direct financial resources to tackle this challenge alone. We have made significant climate investment in recent years, committing more than £10m of the Council's capital resources to a dedicated Climate Emergency fund; however this is a small fraction of what is required. In order to bridge the gap between what is available and what is required, we will explore sources of additional investment, such as via pension funds, new models of green finance, and via new Government funding sources.

Alignment with wider strategies

The Climate Emergency Response Plan sits within a wider range of strategies, all of which have interdependencies, inform and are informed by the Plan. A selection of these are represented below:

Pillar 3: Delivering on our plans

Delivering in Partnership

We recognise that tackling the climate emergency requires collaboration with a wide range of partners, stakeholders, and communities. These include organisations like Net Zero North West, Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington, health partners, community leaders and organisations, and all of our residents and communities. By working in partnership, we can develop more comprehensive strategies, share resources, and engage the wider community in efforts to reduce carbon emissions, protect biodiversity, and build a sustainable future for West Cheshire.

Examples of our key partners include:

- **Net Zero North West** is an initiative dedicated to driving the transition to a low-carbon economy in the North West, supporting the UK's goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. It fosters collaboration among businesses, local authorities, and academic institutions to decarbonise key industries, such as energy, chemicals, and manufacturing. Through large-scale energy projects focusing on renewable energy, hydrogen production, and carbon capture and storage (CCS), the initiative aims to significantly reduce emissions while supporting innovation and industrial growth.
- The initiative also plays a vital role in promoting economic development by attracting investment and creating green jobs, positioning the region as a leader in the green economy. By working closely with government bodies, Net Zero North West helps shape policies that support the transition to net zero. Its efforts contribute not only to regional prosperity but also to environmental sustainability, improving air quality and protecting natural ecosystems as part of the global fight against climate change
- **Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington** is a key partner organisation focused on promoting economic growth and development in the Cheshire and Warrington area. Its primary role is to support businesses, attract investment, and drive innovation across various sectors in the region. It has made delivering the transition to net zero by 2045 part of its core mission, with recent activity such as the development of a Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Plan.

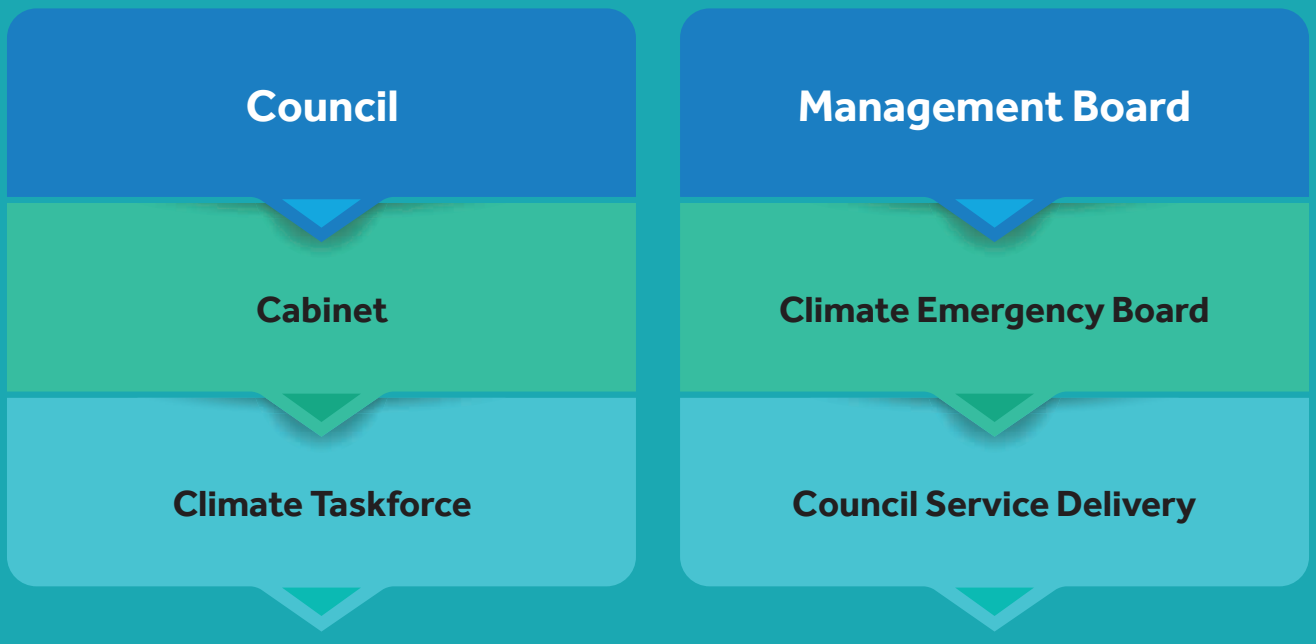
Governance and Performance

The implementation of the Climate Emergency Response Plan is a Council-wide responsibility. Within this context, the senior accountable officer for the programme is the Executive Director for Place and Growth. The Director of Transport, Highways and Climate is the lead Director for this priority. The Climate Change Strategy Manager is responsible for the co-ordination and monitoring of the plan, with Heads of Service throughout the Council responsible for the implementation of actions within their service areas.

The Leader of the Council, in her capacity as Cabinet Member for the Climate Emergency, and the Climate Emergency Taskforce provide political direction and oversight to the Plan, shape the Plan's ongoing development and bring in expert knowledge as required to influence delivery.

The Plan will be monitored annually at Council, in-line with the first Climate Emergency Response Plan. Actions will be tracked on an annual basis, with performance metrics in the Council's Corporate Performance Management Framework used to track progress on decarbonisation across the borough.

The Council's governance process for the climate emergency response is outlined below, with political governance on the left, and officer governance on the right.



Decision Making Processes

The Council is reviewing options for implementing a decision-making aid, inspired by Kate Raworth's 'donut economics'. The decision wheel is represented below, and this has been adopted as an assessment method within the Council's capital governance process. Inclusion of these wide-ranging criteria, relating to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors, is intended to ensure that the Council takes account of these in decision making.

Figure 6: An environmental, social and governance decision wheel

[9]This is an example of an environmental, social and governance decision wheel; a system which can be implemented with the intention of improving the quality of decision making within an organisation.

Embedding climate change awareness

The Council is committed to integrating training policies and systems for Climate Change policies to:

- our staff
- members
- communities

The strategy for climate change education within the Council includes the following:

Make messages clear and accessible through regular communications and training activities	Embed a behaviour within the Council of thinking sustainably, asking questions and challenging our current practices	Clearly communicate what the Council's aims are	Make it clear how staff and Members can support this individually and collectively

The Council has developed specific carbon and climate literacy training that is available to all. Alongside training and metrics, it is also important that we bring about behavioural change for how we view, plan and act on our current and up-coming challenges. This ethos is centred on empowering our staff to make positive and innovative contributions and decisions.

There will be further carbon literacy training which will further equip participants with skills and knowledge to understand the climate costs and impacts of everyday activities and the ability to reduce emissions on an individual and organisational basis.

Equality and diversity

The Council will ensure that it:

- identifies specific support required to support individuals relating to the effects of climate change, recognising that these often disproportionately affect vulnerable individuals and groups, exacerbating existing inequalities.
- recognises potential climate-linked inequalities linked to individual characteristics, including but not limited to age, race, religion, class, economic circumstances, gender, disability and sexual orientation.
- understands the mental and physical health effects of the climate crisis on our staff and communities.
- recognises that inclusion is the practice of providing everyone with equal access to opportunities and resource. Policies must be designed to be inclusive of different groups.
- continues to ensure that the Climate Taskforce includes representation from a diverse range of stakeholders, including community organisations, and promote ongoing engagement with groups such as the Poverty inspirers to engage with people from a diverse range of perspectives.

The Council will be mindful of the equality and diversity impacts in its response to issues such as:

- Energy and fuel poverty
- Food insecurity
- Improving job skills, education and retraining
- Clean air and reducing pollution
- Flood risk and recovery
- Educational risks and social risks
- Quality of public space, green space and assets
- Infrastructure
- Accessibility to key services/houses
- Affordability of public transport and access to active travel

Training and Skills

The Council has made a number of commitments with regards to Climate Change that have an impact not only on the required skills within the Council, but more broadly within the borough and wider industry. The Council is developing – in conjunction with the education providers and industry – training plans and policies to address the following:

- Engagement with industry and education providers to deliver an approach to support the workforce in transitioning to green skills;
- Recognising a specific challenge around retrofit, the Council is working with our local employer base (and education providers) to address retrofit services;
- Supporting Higher Education on innovation and developing new net zero products;
- Ongoing digital skills development with residents and businesses, and addressing the skills gap with regards to digital infrastructure;
- Training for business in readiness to adopt new, low carbon approaches to operations and delivery – including areas such as whether there are sufficient drivers/mechanics available to support that supply chain;
- Potential skills opportunities with regards to forestry, horticulture and conservation. This could include such mitigation activities such as flood management, peat restoration etc.

The Council is actively pursuing opportunities and funding to develop green skills in conjunction with academic institutions.

As part of the Council's response to the cost of living crisis, we have developed our own internal training on fuel poverty and signposting for support which has been rolled out across the Council. This is being further developed to extend to partners such as the NHS. We have also engaged with National Energy Action to deliver specific training to front line Council staff, NHS and voluntary sector on fuel poverty.

Tracking the borough's progress

In-line with the 2020-2024 Plan, the 2025 Plan will report annually to Council, with the first presentation of the 2025-2030 Plan including an update on the Council's progress on decarbonisation in 2024. To enable sufficient time to progress the delivery of actions in the plan prior to the first Annual Report, this will be developed for Winter 2026. This will be integrated with the annual refresh of the Plan, to streamline the reporting process and reduce duplication.

The Annual Report will monitor the delivery of the actions within the Plan. This framework will be supplemented by a range of measures within the Council's existing corporate performance management framework which relate to climate change, including:

- Domestic retrofit installations;
- New homes delivered;
- Recycling performance;
- Tree Planting;
- Greenhouse gas emissions from Council properties;
- EV charging infrastructure installations.

In recent years, new measures have been integrated into the existing "State of the Borough" annual reporting framework, tracking borough-wide carbon emission statistics aligned to the themes of the Plan, alongside a range of other factors[10].

This comprehensive performance framework will enable members and residents to hold the Council to account for under-performance, and enable us to celebrate good performance. Where a need to improve performance is identified, the Climate Change team work with the relevant service to seek to understand and resolve barriers to delivering better outcomes. Responsibility for the production of an annual report sits with the Climate Change Strategy Manager, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for the Climate Emergency and the Climate Emergency Taskforce.

[10]View the State of the Borough dashboard on the Council website

Sector Action Plans

5 Energy

5.1 Sector Analysis:

The electricity grid in Cheshire West is currently highly constrained. Ageing infrastructure is inflexible and unable to cope with significant additional demand and increased levels of variable localised energy generation from renewables.

It is recognised the investment plans of the National Grid and the Local Distribution System Operator (DSO) have been focused on energy security rather than Net Zero and have been recommended to be brought forward by 7 years to address the gap with the Net Zero plans. Even with this, it is currently preventing the quick, large scale roll out of renewable generation connections at the scale required to decarbonise the grid. Significant investment will continue to be required to upgrade the network within the Network Energy Systems Operator (NESO) and Ofgem plans. This will be required to cope with the capacity and flexibility required to decarbonise the grid and the increase in electric production to support the shift from using fossil fuels at source to electrification of transport, heating and cooking. In the intervening period, “behind the meter” (direct from generator to consumer) generation and storage systems are being recommended.

To become carbon neutral, we must transition by optimising the energy system to a ‘smart’ grid network. A ‘smart’ grid is the vision for a modern, secure, reliable electricity system. This requires a ‘whole system’ approach to transforming the energy system including the electrification of transport, heating and cooking, reducing electricity demand in buildings through energy conservation measures, the use of energy efficient appliances, increasing renewable energy generation, using hydrogen and storage technologies effectively (from Solar PV, wind etc) and embracing smart grid technologies. NESO are working to develop a total of 11 Regional Energy Strategic Plans across Great Britain, covering electricity, gas and future hydrogen networks as part of one integrated energy system. The plans will be underpinned by the local area’s needs ensuring that our communities and businesses get the energy infrastructure they need, where and when they need it to support decarbonisation and growth.

In addition, we must eliminate the use of fossil fuels, where possible, and to centralise, capture and store the related emissions where avoidance is not possible during the transition to a predominantly electric and electrolytic ‘green’ hydrogen, ‘Net Zero’ energy system.

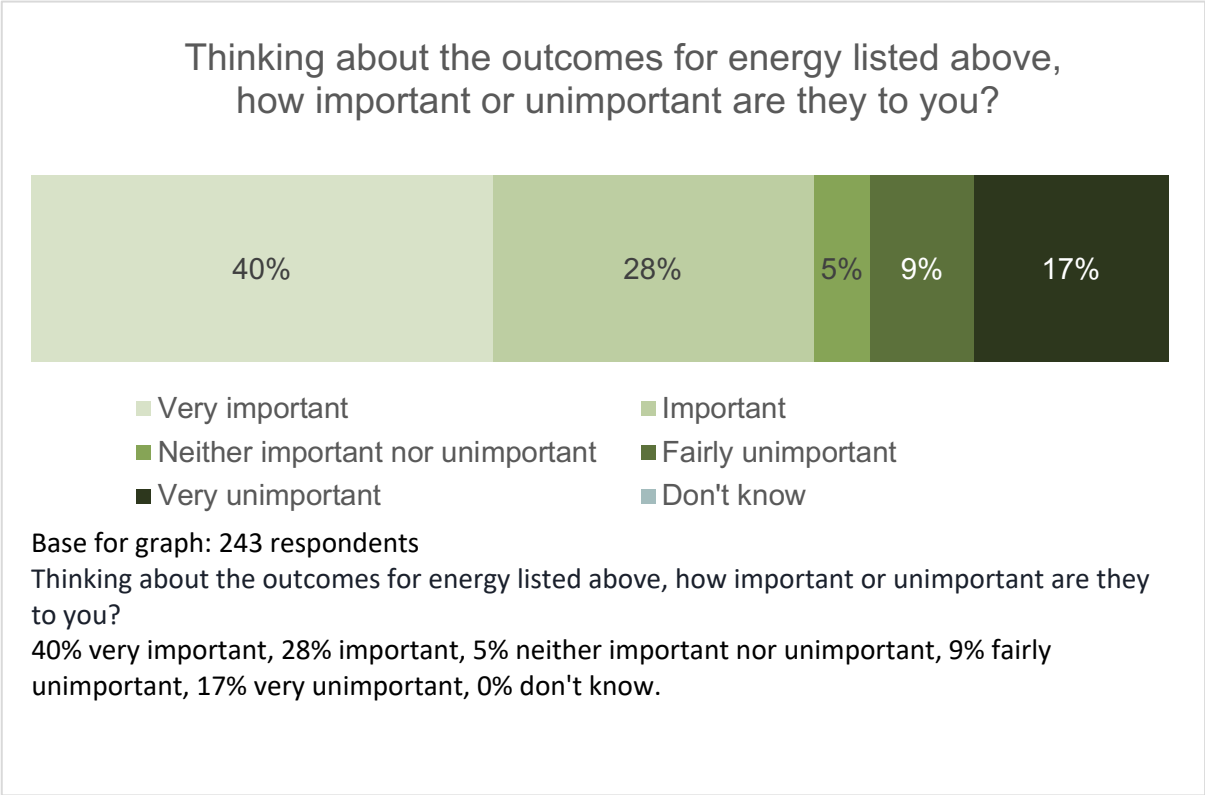
Change is also needed in the heating sector with a move away from traditional boilers emitting carbon dioxide at point of burning fossil fuels in homes and businesses. Moves towards alternative forms of heat and the development of heat networks where appropriate, are needed, along with the large scale roll out of heat pumps where appropriate. The workforce and skills for this sector will also need to be developed at pace to meet the demand for the scale of change required.

5.2 Consultation

The Council ran a consultation exercise to enable the Council to understand the issues affecting the borough's residents, businesses and visitors through online and in person surveys. The outputs of residents' views on the proposed outcomes and actions for this sector are presented below. Further analysis from this consultation process is available in the full report on the consultation process.

Respondents were asked how important or unimportant the outcomes for energy were to them.

Importance of the outcomes for energy



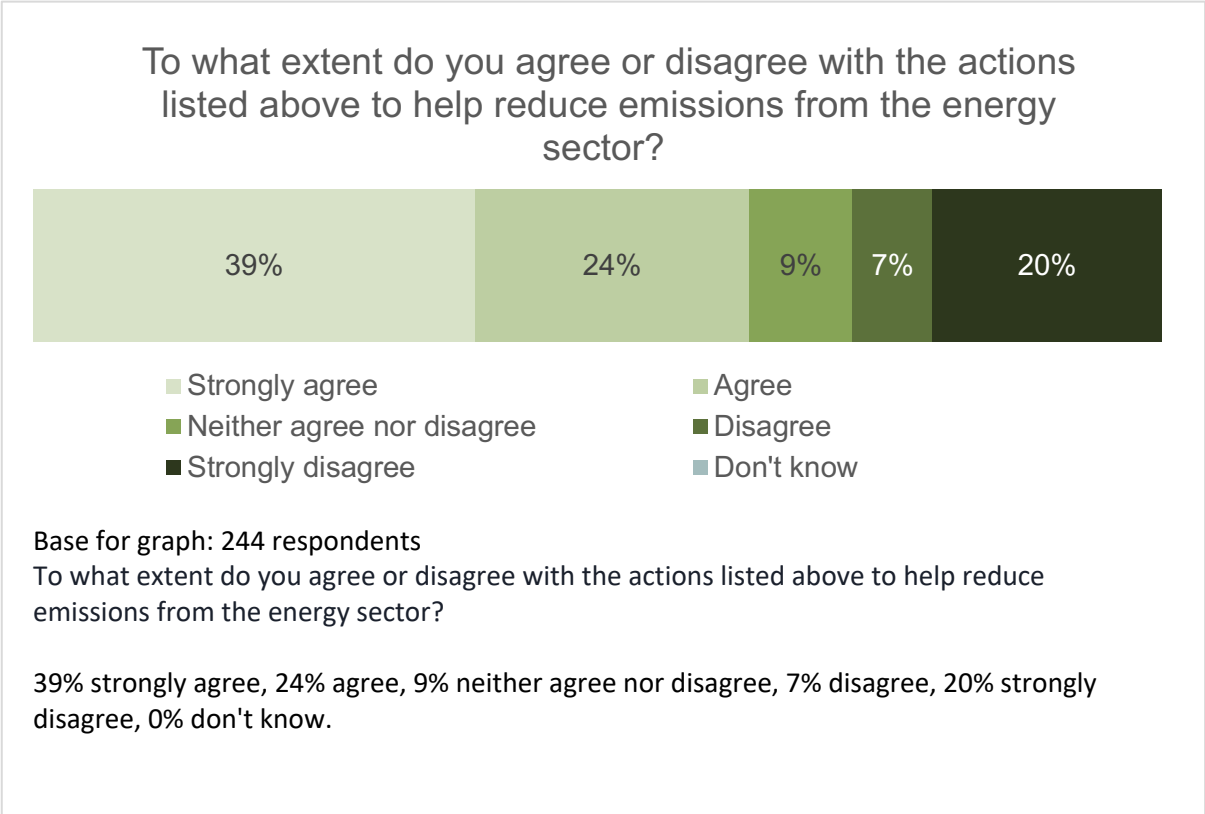
Base for graph: 243 respondents
Thinking about the outcomes for energy listed above, how important or unimportant are they to you?
40% very important, 28% important, 5% neither important nor unimportant, 9% fairly unimportant, 17% very unimportant, 0% don't know.

Figure 7: Importance of outcomes for the energy sector

The chart above shows that just over two thirds (68%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the outcomes for energy were important, and just over one quarter (26%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with this.

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the actions to reduce emissions from the energy sector.

Level of agreement with actions to help reduce emissions from the energy sector



Base for graph: 244 respondents
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the actions listed above to help reduce emissions from the energy sector?

39% strongly agree, 24% agree, 9% neither agree nor disagree, 7% disagree, 20% strongly disagree, 0% don't know.

Figure 8: Importance of outcomes for the energy sector

The chart above shows that just under two thirds (63%) either strongly agreed or agreed with the actions to help reduce emissions from the energy sector, and just over one quarter (27%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with them.

Respondents had the option to provide comments on the proposed approach for reducing emissions from the energy sector. Feedback was collected through the survey, drop-in sessions and emails. In total, 123 comments were received, below is a summary of the key messages from these comments.

- Many respondents commented that they did not believe there was a climate emergency and thought that carbon reduction of energy production and infrastructure (such as via switching from fossil fuelled to renewably produced energy) is not a priority locally as they did not think it would have a meaningful contribution to global climate impacts.
- Some respondents felt retrofit initiatives to reduce demand for energy within the older housing stock across the borough should be a key priority – related to this, a few respondents thought that there should be an expansion of the remit of the Solar Together scheme to cover insulation, heat pumps.
- A few felt there needs to be more information for households to understand what options and support are available to make houses more efficient and reduce energy demand whilst maintaining comfort.
- Some felt that there is a need to maximise micro-renewable generation and heat recovery, on all council assets including car parks.
- A few felt that there needs to be a balance between demand for energy generation with biodiversity and nature gains.

Consultation Feedback: Key messages and responses

You said...	**We did...**
Many respondents had strong concerns that there is no climate emergency and energy and carbon reduction is not a priority locally which will have any meaningful contribution to global climate impacts and is a risk to local businesses and the local economy.	The Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) commits the UK to achieve net zero emission by 2050; Cheshire West and Chester council is one of the top 10 highest-emitting local authorities in the UK and has already experienced effects of climate change in the Borough. Therefore, the council is committed to prioritising action locally and supporting residents and businesses to do the same. Many large industries, other public sector organisations as well as smaller businesses across the Borough also recognise the risks posed by climate change and have committed to reduce their emissions and collaborate to create access to cleaner and reliable energy sources. The council is supporting this action in numerous ways, including financial support and signposting to other resources locally. Working with other local authorities and organisations at a sub-regional level, and via the planning process, the council can influence and inform the development of energy infrastructure planning.

Some respondents felt retrofit initiatives to reduce demand for energy within the older housing stock across the Borough should be a key priority – expand the remit of the Solar Together to cover insulation, heat pumps.	The council recognises that with an aging housing stock, carbon emission savings need to be achieved by improving insulation levels.
A few felt there needs to be reference to education/awareness for households to understand what options and support are available to make houses more efficient and reduce energy demand and maintain comfort	The focus of the actions does take a higher level perspective, where actions reference reducing heating demand, this will include providing support and information to residents about how houses can be made more efficient. This could be achieved via A4 (Support and develop partnerships with community energy initiatives and explore how to support these organisations to succeed.) This does not need to be limited to energy generation and will need to include energy efficiency education. Energy demand needs to be reduced to a baseline prior to installing energy generation.
Some felt that there is a need to maximise micro-renewable generation and heat recovery, on all council assets including car parks e.g. solar canopies more support than for solar farms, using agricultural land for large solar farms.	The Council is working to review its assets and assess the opportunities for maximising renewable energy generation. It is also working with local community energy groups to install solar PV on community assets and providing financial support via Spacehive.
A few felt that there needs to be a balance between demand for energy generation with biodiversity and nature gains.	The Council is responsible for coordinating the Cheshire wide Local Nature Recovery Strategy, proposals for energy generation will be made in balance against the requirements of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

5.3 Outcomes for the Borough by 2030, Informed By Engagement:

Ref.	ENERGY SECTOR Outcome	OUTCOME Delivered by	TIMESCALE Short, Medium or Long Term	CO-BENEFITS
O1	Development of a Local Area Energy Plan for Cheshire West and Chester – as part of wider subregional roadmap to decarbonising the energy system in west Cheshire. Adopting a whole systems approach (buildings, heat, transport, power generation and storage) including future state where known.	Local Authorities, Delivery Partners, Businesses, Industry, Agriculture, SPEN and Partner Authorities	Short, Medium & Long Term	Stimulate the market, green economy, growth and prosperity, energy security, influence energy infrastructure developments
O2	Local Authority Energy Performance is smarter, more efficient and minimises and offsets the remaining use of fossil fuels for heating and transport by 2030 (Estate and Operations)	Local Authorities	Short, Medium & Long Term	Minimised running costs, stimulate market and supply chain, demonstrate real world examples, leading by example
O3	Local Authority energy demand is met through renewable energy by 2030. (Estate & Operations) Locally owned and operated energy is maximised where possible.	Local Authorities	Short, Medium & Long Term	Stimulate the market, green economy, growth and prosperity, energy security

O4	Low carbon and renewable energy generation, storage, heat recovery and schemes supporting smarter grid flexibility are delivered and maximised across Local Authority land and assets.	Local Authorities, Distribution System Operator (DSO)	Short, Medium & Long Term	Stimulate the market, green economy, growth and prosperity, energy security, leading by example
O5	A significant proportion of electricity demand across Cheshire West and Chester is met by locally generated and locally owned low carbon and renewable energy by 2030, moving towards 100% and then becoming a net exporter by 2050.	UK Government, Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), DSOs, partners, Energy Hub, community energy groups, individuals, businesses	Medium & Long Term	Energy security, affordable energy for all, money spent on electricity stays within the Borough, community investment, green economy, growth and prosperity
O6	The local electricity grid is smarter, more flexible and peak demand is met through low carbon and renewable energy, energy storage and improved demand side response.	UK Government, Ofgem, LEP, National Energy Systems Operator (NESO), DSOs, Local Authorities, Energy Generators, Businesses, Individuals	Medium & Long Term	Unlocks huge economic potential. Local energy markets, affordable energy for all
O7	Heat demand within west Cheshire is reduced and decarbonised as far as possible.	UK Government, Local Authorities, Community Energy, Businesses, Individuals	Medium & Long Term	Stimulate the market, green economy, growth and prosperity, energy security

O8	Energy infrastructure in west Cheshire is adapted and resilient to the projected impacts of Climate Change.	UK Government, LEP, Mersey Dee Alliance (MDA), National Grid, DSOs, Local Authorities.	Short, Medium & Long Term	Energy security/Reliability
O9	Where energy is generated from combustion processes, emissions are captured and stored	UK Government, Business, regulators	Short, Medium & Long Term	Green economy, Health and improved air quality

5.4 The Council's Commitments:

Ref	Action	Influence	Outcomes	Cost	Carbon
A1	Contribute to the development of a Local Area Energy Plan for Cheshire West in partnership with the network operators, neighbouring authorities and key stakeholders.	Influence	1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	Medium	Low
A2	Support mapping and analysis of low carbon and renewable energy demand and resources and identify opportunities across the borough to an appropriate level of detail, to support allocation of sites and identification of suitable areas through Local Plans.	Influence	1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	Low	Low
A3	Support the enactment of planning policies and strategies to create a positive and proactive environment to enable renewable energy generation which supports the transition to a smart, flexible energy system.	Influence	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	Low	High
A4	Support and develop partnerships with community energy initiatives and explore how to support these organisations to succeed.	Influence	1,3,4,5,8	Low	Low

A5	Continue to purchase 100% certified traceable renewable energy tariffs with a medium to long term aim to purchase energy from local community energy schemes and renewable energy generators within the Borough.	Direct	2,3,4,5,8	Medium	High
A6	Design Local Authority new buildings and developments to maximise opportunities for renewables including potential for micro-grids and heat networks.	Direct	1,2,3,4,6,7,8	High	High
A7	Explore and implement opportunities for generating renewable energy and battery storage initiatives on Local Authority owned land.	Direct	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8	High	High

5.5 Opportunities and benefits

1. Energy security.
2. Reduce the Borough's dependency on imported fossil fuels.
3. Money spent on energy stays within the Borough.
4. Community energy investment.
5. Community energy groups could be a vehicle for energy conservation and efficiency initiatives.
6. Green economy, growth and prosperity.
7. Develop skills and training.
8. Stimulating the market and supply chain.
9. Promote existing schemes such as Solar Together exploring opportunities to expand the scope of collaborative purchasing power.
10. Transition to a smart, flexible grid network.
11. Create local energy markets.

5.6 Barriers and challenges

1. Grid capacity is a significant issue for west Cheshire.
2. Grid issues may be a barrier to connection in certain areas, e.g. high connection costs, costly grid reinforcements and long waiting times.
3. Engaging landowners.
4. Changing public perception and misconception.
5. Skills gap.

6. Suitable funding mechanisms to support and enable development of proposals.

5.7 What the Government needs to do:

1. Deliver on the Outcomes of the Energy White Paper.
2. Ensure Ofgem are regulating the NESO and DSO's and promoting early action in business plans.
3. Engage muti-stakeholders at the local level to ensure two-way communication over Local Area Energy Plans are set out and kept up to date.
4. Fund appropriate development to transition to a low carbon economy.

5.8 What our Partners can do:

1. Engage in the mapping of current and future energy need.
2. Follow advice in the Industry and Commercial section.
3. Engage and seek innovation towards low carbon development.
4. Promote best practice.
5. Engage with the ORIGIN or BID groups to keep up to date with and prompt action on transitioning to a carbon neutral borough.

5.9 What Residents can do:

Ensure your home is healthy, efficient, and more affordable by:

1. Following advice in the Housing Sector section to insulate homes effectively.
2. Turning off lights and appliances at the wall when not use and use energy efficient bulbs, like LEDs, around your home.
3. Heating only the space you need to a comfortable level.
4. Utilising smart technology to (e.g. Hive, Google Home etc) to reduce energy consumption.
5. Switch your electricity to a renewable generated energy tariff or renewably generated energy Smart tariff if you have a solar PV system, battery storage system or electric vehicle.
6. When you are buying electrical appliances, look to buy AA+ rated, energy efficient models.
7. Install solar panels and battery and/or a solar hot water system on your home to cut energy costs and carbon emissions.
8. Replace your gas cooker with an electric oven and/or induction hob.
9. Consider replacing your conventional fuel (gas, oil, coal or wood) heating system with electric heating such as an air source heat pump.
10. Cut down on washing and drying by only washing clothes, towels and bedding when it needs it.
11. Dry clothes outside where and when possible.

5.10 Case study

Community Energy - West Cheshire is becoming a vibrant hub for community-led energy projects – initiated, owned and run by locals. From rooftop solar to the UK's largest community-owned solar farm, discover how residents are driving real climate action. Read the full case study on our website.

6 Industry and Commercial

6.1 Sector analysis:

Industry and businesses are crucial to the economy of west Cheshire but are responsible for over a third of the greenhouse gases and related carbon dioxide emission releases from west Cheshire.

Consumer pressure, legislation and economic factors are increasingly encouraging businesses and the industrial sector to reduce their environmental impact. There is an important role for the Local Authority, under its Greener Communities mission along with economic development and business support partners to play in supporting the shift to a low carbon economy across the Borough.

Under government backed plans, west Cheshire is a leading area for industrial decarbonisation within the UK. Clean growth is at the core of west Cheshire's plan to create opportunity for residents and businesses in a fair local economy across the borough.

Locally, we have significant strengths in professional, scientific and technical fields with a large industrial sector, presenting clear business opportunities in the transition to a clean growth, low carbon economy.

Low and zero carbon Hydrogen production are considered by the Government, informed by the independent Climate Change Committee[11] as being key to achieving ambitious carbon emissions reduction targets at a county, regional and national level. This support extends to carbon capture and storage technology, with the Climate Change Committee further noting in its 2024 Annual Report to Parliament[12] that "Rapid initial deployment and scale-up of novel technologies including carbon capture and storage will also need to occur this decade".

[11] Hydrogen in a low-carbon economy - Climate Change Committee (theccc.org.uk)
[12] Progress in reducing emissions: 2024 Report to Parliament (theccc.org.uk)

The investment leveraged by this process is likely to continue to act as catalyst for employment growth in construction and new technologies. A number of other key projects are also emerging, including the continued development of the Protos site in the ORIGIN area and the decarbonisation of the Winsford Industrial estate, providing space for green innovation.

2022 data from DESNZ shows that emissions from business and industry make up 25.6% of the annual carbon emissions for the UK (96.2 Mt CO_2e). Since the mid-2000s, the volume of emissions has declined by over 50% with steep falls in emissions from large industrial installations and commercial electricity generation. Within west Cheshire, emissions from Industry were 30.5% (965.3 kt CO_2e) and Commercial 7.2% (226.2 kt CO_2e), combined sector were 37.7% (1191.5 kt CO_2e) of total emissions [(13)].

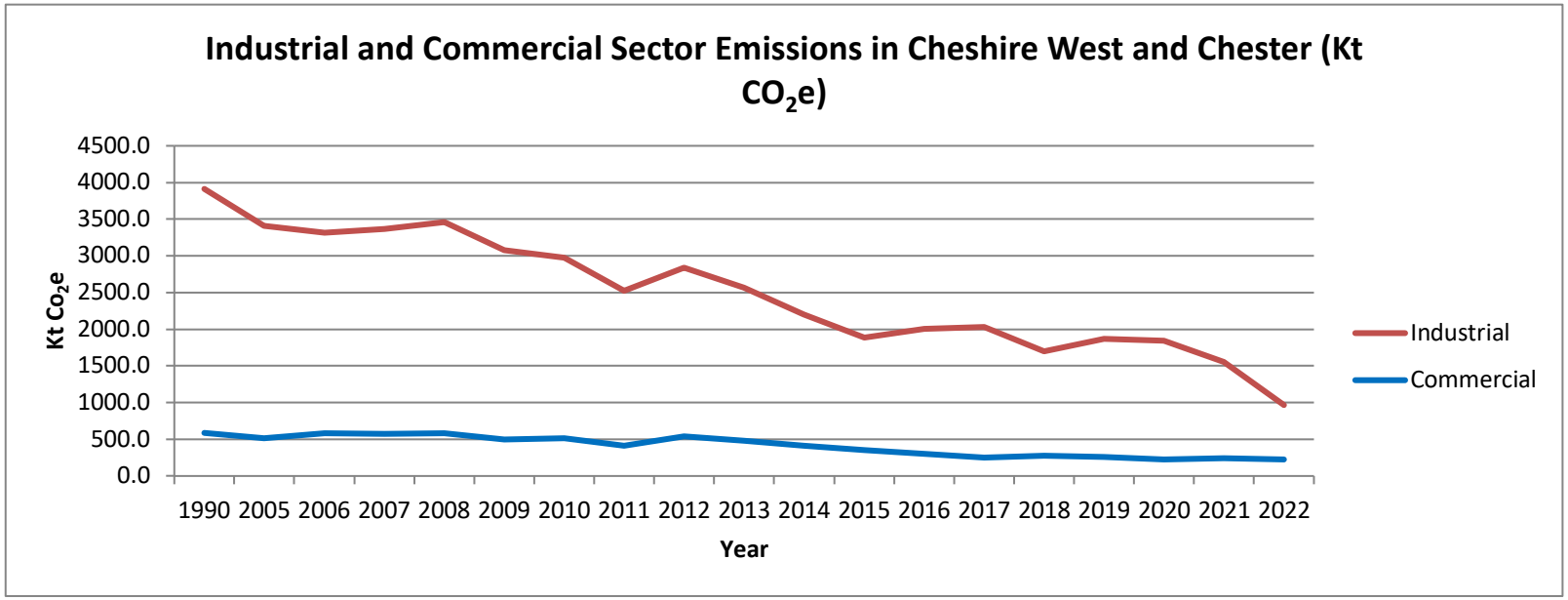


Figure 9: Cheshire West and Chester (kt CO_2e) Source: UK local authority & regional CO2 emissions 2005-2022[13]

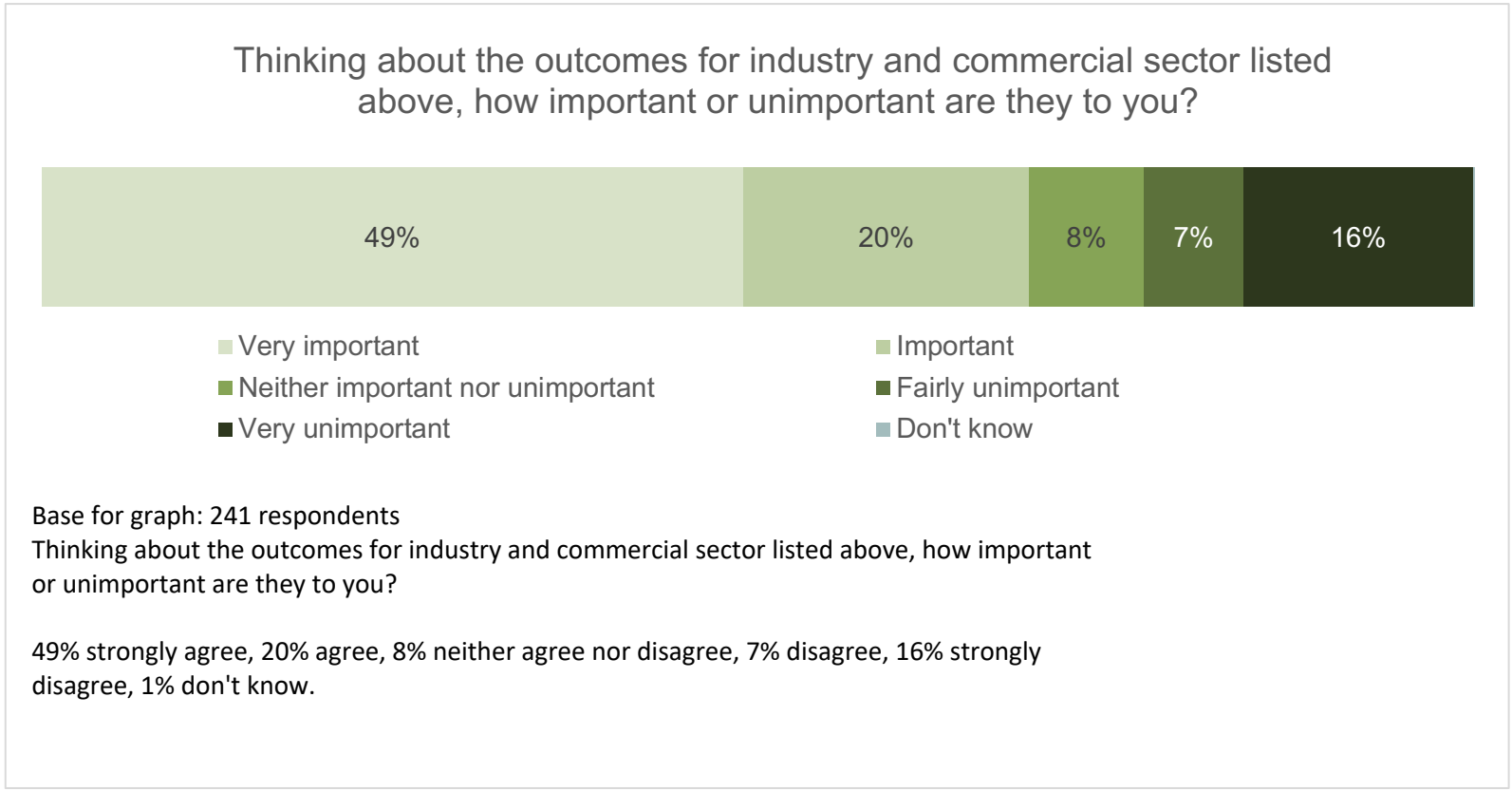
6.2 Consultation

[13] Figure 9 relates to industrial and commercial sector emissions within Cheshire West and Chester since 1990, and how these have changed over time. Source: UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions statistics - GOV.UK

The Council ran a consultation exercise to enable the Council to understand the issues affecting the borough's residents, businesses and visitors through online and in person surveys. The outputs of residents' views on the proposed outcomes and actions for this sector are presented below. Further analysis from this consultation process is available in the full report on the consultation process.

Respondents were asked how important or unimportant the outcomes for the industry and commercial sector were to them.

Importance of outcomes for the industry and commercial sector



Base for graph: 241 respondents
Thinking about the outcomes for industry and commercial sector listed above, how important or unimportant are they to you?

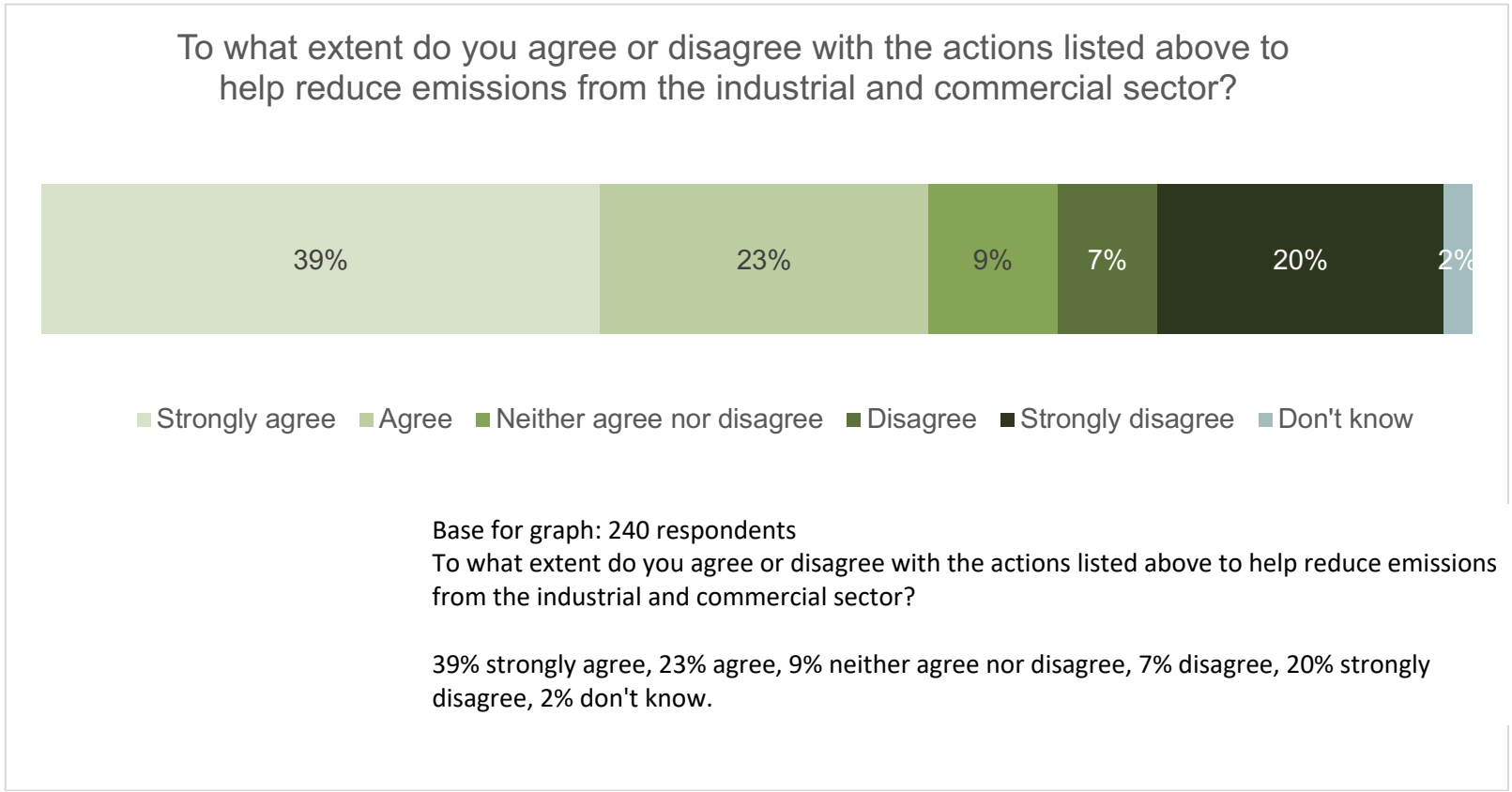
49% strongly agree, 20% agree, 8% neither agree nor disagree, 7% disagree, 16% strongly disagree, 1% don't know.

Figure 10: Importance of outcomes for the industry and commercial sector

The chart above shows that just over two thirds (69%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the outcomes for the industrial and commercial sector were important, and less than one quarter (23%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with this.

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the actions to reduce emissions from the industrial and commercial sector.

Level of agreement with actions to help reduce emissions from the industrial and commercial sector.



Base for graph: 240 respondents
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the actions listed above to help reduce emissions from the industrial and commercial sector?

39% strongly agree, 23% agree, 9% neither agree nor disagree, 7% disagree, 20% strongly disagree, 2% don't know.

Figure 11: Importance of actions for the industry and commercial sector

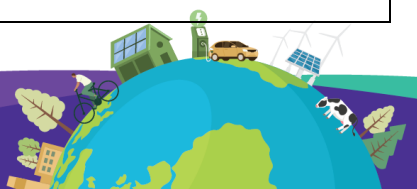
The chart above shows that just under two thirds (62%) either strongly agreed or agreed with the actions to help reduce emissions from the industrial and commercial sector, and just over one quarter (27%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with this.

Respondents had the option to provide comments on the proposed approach for reducing emissions from the industrial and commercial sector. Feedback was collected through the survey, drop-in sessions and emails. In total, 90 comments were received, below is a summary of the key messages from these comments.

- Many expressed concerns the Council had limited influence on large businesses, and felt that a focus on net zero could affect businesses' long-term viability and profitability.
- Some felt that action needs to happen and should be inclusive of small businesses as well as large industries. Some respondents suggested that there should be improved communication and publicity of actions and impacts to encourage others to get involved and attract new businesses that support the strategy.
- Some respondents felt there needs to be less talk and more action; moving beyond engaging and advocating, towards greater collaboration between organisations to deliver tangible outcomes and incentives to encourage businesses to invest in solutions.
- A few felt that there needs to be more quantification of savings related to the policies/actions proposed in the plan.
- A few felt that there should be training, investment and support for local young people entering the workforce to incentivise people into these industries, as well as a plan to support the transition of the workforce from carbon intensive industries.

Consultation Feedback: Key messages and response

You said...	**We did...**
Most respondents agree, action needs to happen and be inclusive of small business as well as large industry. Improved communication and publicity of actions and impacts to encourage others to get involved and attract new businesses that support the strategy.	The council works closely with the Net Zero Hub and Groundwork, to signpost business to resources, support and to access expertise and funding to support the transition to net zero. This includes engagement with federation of small businesses having representation on the Climate Emergency Taskforce.
Some felt there needs to be less talk and more action that moves beyond engaging, advocating - towards greater collaboration between organisations to deliver tangible outcomes and incentives to encourage businesses to invest in solutions.	The actions have been revised, to include greater reference to collaboration to deliver tangible outcomes in partnership. Via the UK Shared Prosperity Fund 33 companies have participated in the training and mentoring support – training employees to carry out net zero assessment and developing measurable action plans. A reduction of over 200 tonnes of CO_2 has been achieved across 57,000 square meters of commercial floor space.
A few felt there should be more quantification of carbon savings related to the policies/actions proposed	Detailed project plans will be developed for the proposed actions including a detailed analysis of the anticipated carbon savings. This will be reviewed and shared as and when they are available.



Some were concerned that it is a waste of council money and will make little impact on the national/international agenda, whilst affecting businesses' long-term viability, profitability and contributing to local unemployment.	A range of businesses recognise opportunities resulting from the net zero transition which has come together through North West Net Zero and largely funded in led by industry. There is significant Government investment across the Borough including Carbon Capture and Storage as well as nature based solutions e.g. Trees for Climate. This all contributes to increasing energy security, climate resilience and creating employment opportunities.
Some felt that training, investment support for local young people entering the workforce and a plan to support the transition of the workforce from carbon intensive industries. Understanding what would attract and incentivise young people into these sectors.	The Office for Clean Energy Jobs (OCEJ) is funding a regional skills pilot, identifying Ellesmere Port as an important site for clean energy and decarbonisation. Working with employers it will identify a potential skills pilot for the region. Opergy are delivering Skills Mapping Plan looking at future workforce demands and training provision, whilst Cogent are working on company-specific Training Needs Analysis at twenty organisations. This builds further on the research as part of the investment in decarbonisation throughout the sub-region to understand the skills and job demand required. Skills Bootcamps have been delivered on topics including heat pump installations, retrofit wall insulation and sustainability strategies.

6.3 Outcomes for the Borough by 2030, Informed By Engagement:

Ref.	Industry and Commercial SECTOR Outcome	OUTCOME Delivered by	TIMESCALE Short, Medium or Long Term	CO-BENEFITS
O10	Cheshire West and the ORIGIN area provide a world leading example on industrial decarbonisation.	Local Authorities, Delivery Partners, Businesses, Industry, ESO, SP Energy Networks (SPEN) and Partner Authorities	Short, Medium & Long Term	Stimulate the market, green economy, growth and prosperity, energy security, investment opportunities
O11	Businesses are energy efficient maximising green economy growth, local social value and GDP.	Local Authorities	Short, Medium & Long Term	Minimised running costs, stimulate market and supply chain, demonstrate real world examples, leading by example
O12	Industrial emissions are avoided, reduced, and mitigated to the fullest extent possible, and residual emissions captured.	Local Authorities	Short, Medium & Long Term	Stimulate the market, green economy, growth and prosperity, energy security
O13	Cheshire West develops a local green skilled work force with Net Zero awareness embedded in organisations' culture.	Local Authorities, DSO	Short, Medium & Long Term	Stimulate the market, green economy, growth and prosperity, energy security, good employment opportunities
O14	The electricity grid is fit for purpose through information provided by Industry and Commercial future plans.	UK Government, Ofgem,	Medium & Long Term	Unlocks huge economic potential.

		LEP, ESO, DSOs, Local Authorities, Energy Generators, Businesses, Individuals		Local energy markets, affordable energy for all
O15	Heat demand within west Cheshire is reduced and decarbonised as far as possible.	UK Government, Local Authorities, Community Energy, Businesses, Individuals	Medium & Long Term	Stimulate the market, green economy, growth and prosperity, energy security
O16	Where energy generated from combustion processes, emissions are minimised and any residual emissions are captured and stored.	UK Government, Local Authority	Short, Medium & Long Term	Green economy, improved health and air quality

6.4 The Council's Commitments:

Ref	Action	Influence	Outcomes	Cost[14]	Carbon
A8	Support and provide a local governance role to major industrial decarbonisation programmes ensuring they take account of a just transition and a sense of place for local communities.	Influence & Direct[15]	10, 11,12, 13,14,15,16,	Low	High
A9	Support the ORIGIN business forum ensuring Transition to Net Zero forms a core focus of the group.	Influence	10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16	Low	High
A10	Support the BID business forums ensuring Transition to Net Zero forms a core focus of the groups.	Influence	10, 11, 12,13, 14,15, 16	Low	High
A11	Support wider Industry and Businesses not currently engaged, via funding mechanisms such as UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Innovate UK funding streams.	Influence	10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16	Low	High
A12	Collaborate with Public Sector Partners to ensure the efficient use of key energy/heat infrastructure.	Direct	11, 12,14, 15,16	Medium	Medium

[14] The proposed scale to determine L/M/H for cost and carbon are as follows. These are approximations and will be further refined as actions translate into specific projects:

- **Cost Scale (all partners and stakeholders)**: Low - £0-£1m, Medium £1-10m, High - £10m+
- **Carbon Impact (borough-wide)**: Low - 0-1000 TCO2e/annum, Medium 1000-10,000 TCO2e /annum, High - 10000+ TCO2e /annum

[15] This represents the extent of the local authority's ability to deliver the action in question, and will differ for each action based on specific circumstances. In general terms, actions classified as "direct" influence fall more within the remit of the Council, though they may still be highly dependent upon Government funding, or wider national policy. Actions classed as "influence" typically fall to the other end of the spectrum, wherein the Council may have the ability to affect matters through engagement and joint working, but is not the lead agency for delivery.

A13	Advocate with political representatives the key strengths of the borough and its opportunities in the green growth and low carbon economy.	Influence	10, 12, 13, 14	Low	High
A14	Engage with Industry and education providers to provide a viable workforce for the current skills gap.	Influence	10,12, 13, 14, 15	Low	High
A15	Support the role out of fast efficient Digital infrastructure to all areas of the borough.	Influence & Direct	14	Medium	High
A16	Continue to lead by example in decarbonisation of the Council's estates and services.	Influence & Direct	11, 15, 16	Medium	High

6.5 Opportunities and Benefits

1. Clean growth, jobs and skills.
2. Regional collaboration, aligned to Net Zero North West.
3. Carbon reduction.
4. Business benefits aligned to low carbon products or services.
5. Sustainable tourism.

6.6 Barriers and Challenges

1. Grid capacity and infrastructure: The existing energy grid and distribution infrastructure requires considerable investment to adapt to future energy demands and emerging technologies.
2. Funding mechanisms: Adequate funding to support and incentivise businesses to reduce emissions and their environmental impacts is essential.
3. Legislation: To meet the UK Government's carbon reduction commitments, new legislation and requirements will be placed upon businesses and residents. It is essential that they are supported to respond and adapt and report transparently, to ensure continued growth and resilience.

6.7 What can the Government do?

1. Deliver on the outcomes of the Energy White Paper.
2. Ensure regulation and legislation are ambitious and updated to support the transition to a low carbon economy.
3. Engage at the local level to ensure two-way communication over Local Area Energy Plans are set out and kept up to date via stakeholder engagement.
4. Fund appropriate development to transition to a low carbon economy.
5. Ensure skills funding and programmes are appropriate, timely and fit to provide the required workforce.

6.8 What can our partners do?

1. Understand and report on your business emissions and environmental impact, including the supply chain.
2. Introduce energy efficiency measures to cut carbon and save money for your business. Install renewable energy generation at the business premises.
3. Switch to a renewable energy supplier.
4. Engage with the businesses landlords/tenants to switch to a renewable energy supply if your company does not buy direct.
5. Access support available for Net Zero pathways.
6. Plan to switch the premises heating system to a renewable alternative.
7. Switch the companies' fleet to electric or low carbon vehicles.
8. Develop a travel plan for your company and its staff based on a modal hierarchy, which reduces the need to travel as the highest priority and includes supporting your employees to work from home and use public transport.
9. Ensure your business has considered how it packages and disposes of waste.
10. Include carbon management and sustainability in the companies' procurement policy.
11. Ensure any land you own or manage promotes biodiversity.
12. Buy products and services from companies that have good 'green' credentials and a low carbon footprint.
13. Promote best practice.
14. Engage with the ORIGIN or BID groups to keep up to date with and prompt action on transitioning to a carbon neutral borough.

6.9 What can Residents do?

1. Support local businesses.
2. Support business with plans for transitioning to Net Zero.
3. Buy products and services from companies that have good 'green' credentials and a low carbon footprint.
4. Set up community energy companies.

6.10 Case study

Decarbonisation grant for Neston business - International Pheromone Systems (IPS), based in Neston, is a leading provider of sustainable pest management solutions, specialising in pheromone-based insect monitoring and control. With support from Groundwork and a decarbonisation grant, IPS installed a 93 kWp solar PV system helping them to save money on energy bills and take a step towards reaching their net zero goals. Read the full case study on our website.

7 Transport

7.1 Sector Analysis

Emissions from transport represent a significant and growing proportion of west Cheshire's emissions profile (26%), with road transport contributing to over 90% of these emissions[16]. While the Council has varying levels of influence on different transport modes and networks within the borough, tackling transport emissions will be a priority in achieving our emissions goals. This section assesses our climate goals and ambitions for transport, including increased use of active and sustainable modes, reducing dependency on private cars, increasing uptake of EV and reducing emissions from domestic freight transport.

It will be important to prioritise a shift towards active and public transport and away from private car use over electrification of vehicles to make the most of the co-benefits associated with reduced car use including congestion, road safety and equity for all road users. However, this must be done in a way that is fair, choice-based and does not restrict access to opportunities and services. It is also important to recognise the inherent unfairness in aspects of our current transport system, along with the opportunities decarbonisation offers to address these issues.

Figure 12: The percentage of trips taken by different modes of transport in west Cheshire. (Department for Transport National Travel Survey 2007 to 2019)

The Council's approach to planning and influencing local transport is set out in our Local Transport Plan (currently under review). To become carbon neutral, we must transition to zero and low carbon modes of transport in a way that is fair to all our residents.

[16] UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions statistics, 2005 to 2022 - GOV.UK

7.2 National Policy:

National transport policy has developed rapidly in recent years, with significant advancements across public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling, and road policy. This has been accompanied by new investment strategies across road and rail, and a drive to support transition to zero emission cars through the rapid expansions of local vehicle charging networks.

7.3 Local Context

Locally, transport is the second-largest contributor to climate change in the borough, accounting for over 25% of total domestic emissions in 2022[17]. The transport sector has not matched the substantial emissions reductions seen in other parts of society, with a 79% increase in the contribution transport has made to overall emissions since 2005 (from 14.4% to 25.8%). The vast majority of emissions are directly generated by road-based trips, and over half (53%) are generated by cars and taxis[18]

The transport needs of the borough are multiple and varied, and it is important to reflect urban and rural connectivity challenges. The emerging Local Transport Plan will adopt a tailored approach to these diverse needs.

7.4 Aspiration:

Our approach to the future of transport will prioritise investment in quality walking, wheeling and cycling networks, for personal transport and deliveries. This includes reallocation of road space where necessary and appropriate to create a coherent, direct, safe, comfortable and attractive network for local trips.

Government has committed to end the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2030, and has recently consulted on options and pathways to achieving this. It is already a legal requirement that 80% of new car sales and 70% of new vans sold must be zero emission at the tailpipe by 2030. However, refuelling infrastructure for zero emission vehicles across north-west England is currently limited and patchy. We will enable a comprehensive public electric vehicle charging network across the borough to support this transition, particularly focusing on providing access to competitively-priced recharging for residents without access to off-street parking. We will work with partners and government to support the transition for bus, rail and freight vehicles (including hydrogen transport where relevant). We will transition the Council's fleet to zero emission vehicles.

[17] UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions statistics, 2005 to 2022 - GOV.UK
[18] Transport energy and environment: data tables (ENV) - GOV.UK (Table ENV02)

While forecasts of zero emission vehicle adoption are impressive, decarbonisation of vehicles alone will not be enough to achieve our target of a net zero borough by 2045. Equally, electric vehicles still generate particulate pollution, contribute to traffic queues and are involved in road collisions. A significant reduction in car miles driven, particularly where there is only one person in the vehicle, will be essential to achieving our priorities.

Moreover, our emerging Local Transport Plan recognises that there is a need to rebuild the bus network as a mode of choice, and this is strongly reflected in engagement feedback. Quality public transport is key to a sustainable and fair transport system, providing access to jobs, learning, health and leisure for all, while supporting local businesses by making it easier to recruit staff and freeing up highway capacity for freight transport. The Council will seek to support the post-pandemic recovery of bus and rail patronage, and work with partners to develop the public transport where this meets our priorities, including improving integration with other modes. We will work in close partnership with operators and other key stakeholders as part of our Enhanced Partnership to deliver on the shared aspirations for bus set out in our Bus Service Improvement Plan.

Similarly, it is important that our approach to travel and transport supports our aspiration to make walking and cycling the first choice modes for local trips. Our Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan sets out our priorities for future investment in enhancing and expanding walking, wheeling and cycling networks across the borough, and we will ensure that this is kept up to date.

We will need to provide better alternatives, as set out earlier, but we also need to avoid factors which make short, solo car trips the easiest option where other travel options are convenient and readily available. Any such measures should only be employed in a targeted and well-evidenced way, and focused on giving people a real choice of travel modes. Recent engagement exercises have underlined the importance of designing sustainable places and providing quality digital infrastructure to ensure people have an alternative to travel where possible. Schools, shops and other vital services should be conveniently located close to where people live, reducing the need to travel. We will align our approach to transport and spatial planning through coordination of our emerging Local Plan and emerging Local Transport Plan. Similarly, digital connectivity is also changing the need to travel, particularly for work and shopping trips. Ensuring that everyone across the borough has the same access to digital opportunities (both in terms of infrastructure and skills) will complement our approach to transport planning.

7.5 What works?

Development of the borough's Local Transport Plan will be evidence-led, based on robust analysis of the potential impact which our plans will have in moving the borough towards our intended vision. This includes quantifying the carbon emissions from transport and the reductions which could be delivered through the Local Transport Plan programme. Development of the borough's Local Transport Plan will be evidence-led, based on robust analysis of the potential impact which our plans will have in moving the borough towards our intended vision. This includes quantifying the carbon emissions from transport and the reductions which could be delivered through the Local Transport Plan programme. Details of this programme will be set out separately, but for example, research has demonstrated that:

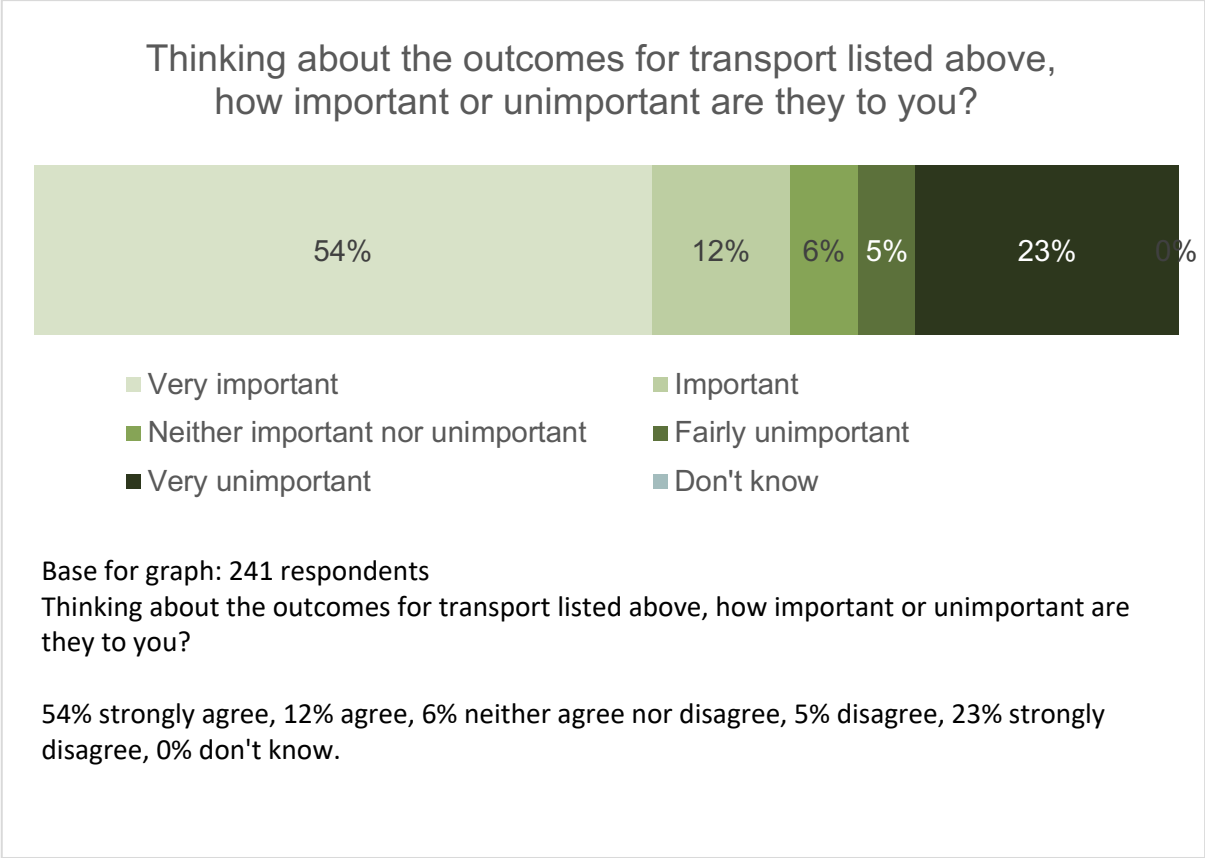
- Car sharing schemes can lead to a 6-16% reduction in car mileage among those using the service, and potential for significant reductions in levels of car ownership, reducing financial burdens on local families.
- Safe, convenient and direct routes for walking, wheeling and cycling can increase the number of people travelling by active modes, and reduce driving trips (particularly for urban commuting).
- Modern parking policies, integrated within a broader sustainable transport network, can deliver an 11-19% reduction in car use.
- If planned and delivered well, school travel planning initiatives can encourage a 5-27% shift from single occupancy car travel. These programmes are led by the school, college, or university, but often draw on support and resources from local authorities.
- A full double-decker bus can take as many as 75 car trips off the road.

Our forthcoming Local Transport Plan Four will explore the role of each of these approaches within a holistic sustainable transport system for the Borough.

7.6 Climate Emergency Response Plan consultation: Outputs of survey on Transport

The Council ran a consultation exercise to enable the Council to understand the issues affecting the borough's residents, businesses and visitors through online and in person surveys. The outputs of residents' views on the proposed outcomes and actions for this sector are presented below. Further analysis from this engagement process is available in the full report on the consultation process. Respondents were asked how important or unimportant the outcomes for transport were to them.

Importance of outcomes for transport



Base for graph: 241 respondents
Thinking about the outcomes for transport listed above, how important or unimportant are they to you?

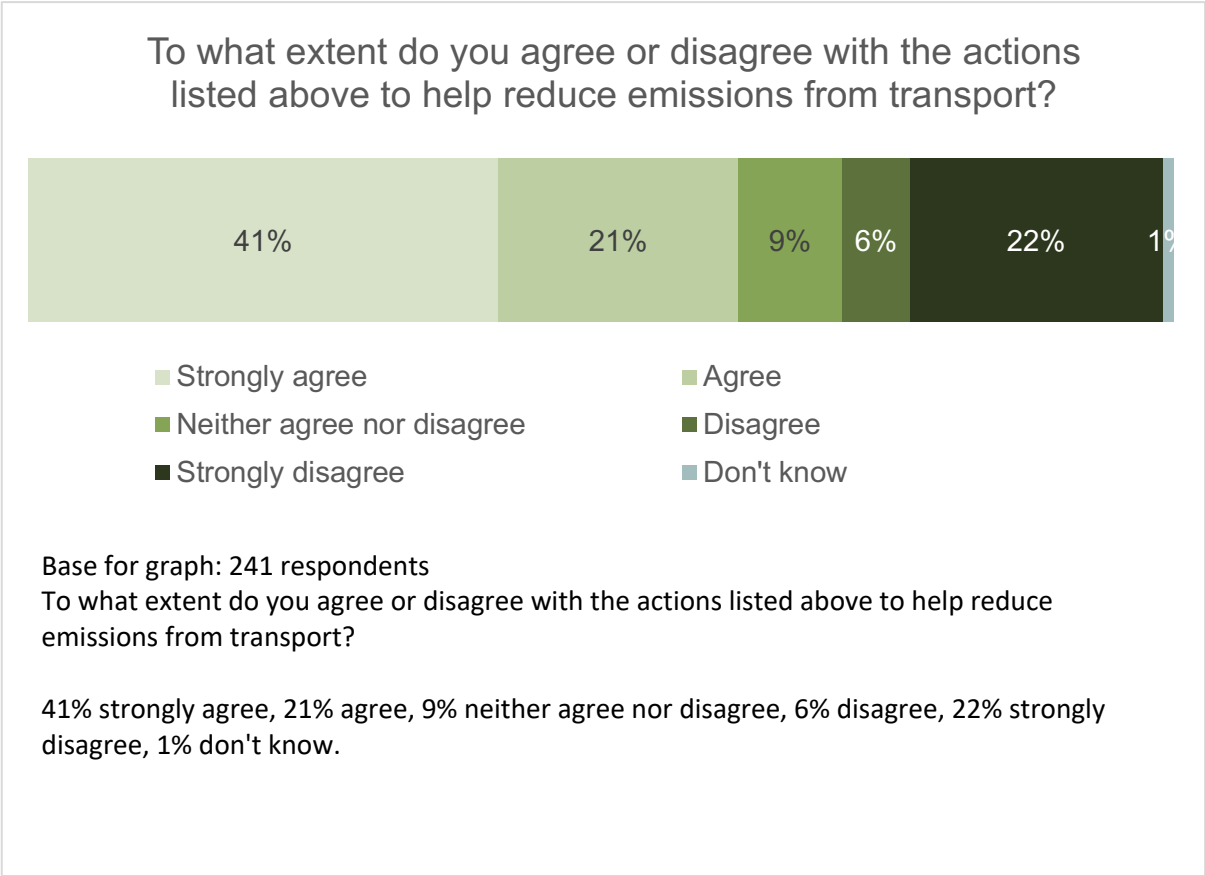
54% strongly agree, 12% agree, 6% neither agree nor disagree, 5% disagree, 23% strongly disagree, 0% don't know.

Figure 13: Importance of outcomes for the transport sector

The chart above shows that two thirds (66%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the outcomes for transport were important, and just over one quarter (28%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with this.

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the actions to reduce emissions from transport.

Level of agreement with actions to help reduce emissions from transport



Base for graph: 241 respondents
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the actions listed above to help reduce emissions from transport?

41% strongly agree, 21% agree, 9% neither agree nor disagree, 6% disagree, 22% strongly disagree, 1% don't know.

Figure 14: Importance of outcomes for the transport sector

The chart above shows that just under two thirds (62%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the actions to help reduce emissions from transport were important, and just over one quarter (28%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with this.

Respondents had the option to provide comments on the proposed approach for reducing emissions from the transport sector. Feedback was collected through the survey, drop-in sessions and emails. In total, 139 comments were received, below is a summary of the key messages from these comments.

Top 5 messages:

You said...	We did...
Many respondents felt the Council's approach to transport should prioritise development of an affordable, reliable and integrated public transport system, particularly in relation to new development sites.	Our Bus Service Improvement Plan sets out an ambitious programme of improvements to enhance and improve our public transport network as part of a broader sustainable transport system. We will continue to deliver on this approach as part of our emerging Local Transport Plan, and will embed this approach in the design of new developments through our emerging Design Code.
Many respondents felt the Council's approach to transport should prioritise expanding and enhancing safe and attractive walking, wheeling and cycling infrastructure networks, particularly in relation to new development sites.	Our Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan sets out our priorities for development of a quality, attractive active travel network for the borough. We will continue to deliver on this approach as part of our emerging Local Transport Plan, and will embed this approach in the design of new developments through our emerging Design Code.
Some respondents questioned whether electric vehicles are practical and viable as part of the Council's response to developing a sustainable transport system, particularly given concerns over cost, range and battery materials. Others felt expanding the network of EV charging points is essential, and that the current network is inadequate.	There are many myths circulating regarding electric vehicles. However, research has demonstrated the positive contribution which electric vehicles make to tackling climate change, even taking into account the impacts of manufacturing[19]. As the electric vehicle market matures, vehicle costs are reducing[20], while average range is already sufficient to accommodate most travel needs – 94% of trips driven by car are under 25 miles[21]. The Council will progress with a major expansion in the borough's public electric vehicle charging infrastructure network, and explore opportunities for enhancing access to domestic charging facilities, focused on improving opportunities for communities without access to off-street parking and creating an EV charging network to suit all user needs. Promotion of transition to electric vehicles is one part of a broader approach to developing a sustainable transport system for the borough, and will be most effective in combination with measures to increase use of public transport,

[19] Factcheck: How electric vehicles help to tackle climate change
[20] Compare electric vehicle costs – MoneySavingExpert
[21] Mode of travel - GOV.UK

	walking and cycling. This will be set out in our forthcoming Local Transport Plan.
A few respondents noted the critical role that the private car plays in current travel patterns, and expressed concerns that any plans to restrict the right to own and use a private vehicle would discriminate against disabled drivers.	The car will continue to play a core role in transport across Cheshire West and Chester borough, and the Council has no intention to restrict the right to own and use a private vehicle. Our Local Transport Plan will set out our approach to maximising choice of travel modes, and ensuring all modes play an appropriate role as part of an integrated sustainable transport system.
A few respondents wanted the Council to implement lower speed limits to reduce emissions and improve road safety	Setting appropriate speed limits is an important part of the Council's approach to highways management, but is not a 'silver bullet' in isolation. It is important that the local speed limit reflects the context and function of each street to ensure potential benefits for reduced emissions and improved road safety are achieved. Through our Local Transport Plan, we will explore the role of speed limits in delivering on our vision for a fairer, sustainable transport network.

7.7 Outcomes by 2030, Informed by Engagement

Ref.	TRANSPORT SECTOR Outcome	OUTCOME Delivered by	TIMESCALE Short, Medium or Long Term	CO-BENEFITS
O17	Develop and adopt Cheshire West and Chester Local Transport Plan 4 – an action plan for transforming transport to create a fair, sustainable future transport system	Local Authorities	Short-Term	Fairer transport network, sustainable inclusive economy, healthier lifestyles, sustainable communities
O18	Reduced dependency on private car trips	UK Government, Local Authorities, Businesses, Operators, Enhanced Partnership, Communities	Short, Medium & Long Term	Reduced financial burden in owning and operating private vehicle

O19	Increased uptake of walking, wheeling and cycling modes	UK Government, Local Authorities, Businesses, Operators, Enhanced Partnership, Communities	Short, Medium & Long Term	Improved health outcomes, improved local economy
O20	Increased public transport patronage	UK Government, Local Authorities, Operators, Communities	Short, Medium & Long Term	Reduced congestion for road freight (economy)
O21	Improve climate resilience of local transport networks	UK Government, Local Authorities, Delivery Partners	Short, Medium & Long Term	Economic resilience
O22	Maximise transition of petrol and diesel vehicles to zero-emission fuels (electric and hydrogen)	UK Government, Local Authorities, Delivery Partners, Distribution Network Operators Businesses, Individuals	Short, Medium & Long Term	Stimulate the market, green economy, growth and prosperity, energy security

7.8 The Council's Commitments

Ref	Action	Which outcome this supports	Influence	Cost	Carbon
A17	Develop the Cheshire West and Chester Local Transport Plan 4 and supporting implementation plan to set out a pathway to a fairer, safer, zero-emission transport system in the borough, in partnership with the network operators, neighbouring authorities, local communities and key stakeholders.	1,2,3,4,5,6	Direct	Low	High
A18	Establish a commercial partnership to deliver a major expansion in the borough's public electric vehicle charging infrastructure network, and explore opportunities for enhancing access to domestic charging facilities, focused on improving opportunities for communities without access to off-street parking and creating an EV charging network to suit all user needs.	1,2,4,5,6	Direct	Medium	High

A19	Continue to transition the council's fleet vehicles to zero emission technologies, and explore interoperable networks with other public sector institutions in the borough.	1,2,6	Direct	Medium	Medium
A20	Develop and adopt a west Cheshire Design Code, ensuring that new developments and street retrofit schemes are built to encourage and enable sustainable forms of transport and are resilient to future climate impacts.	1,2,3,4,5,6	Direct	Low	High
A21	Continue to deliver improved walking, wheeling and cycling networks across our urban communities, in line with the Council's adopted Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. We will keep this Plan up to date with reviews and updates as required to reflect the issues experienced on our network, including through ongoing engagement with local cycling and walking groups, relevant stakeholders and the broader public.	1,2,3,5	Direct	Medium	High
A22	Continue to work with local bus operators to deliver our joint Bus Service Improvement Plan, which seeks to make bus the mode of choice through provision of quicker, more reliable and more accessible services, improving connectivity for all.	1,2,4,5	Direct/ Influence	Low	High
A23	Support local businesses in accessing funding and advice to promote transition to zero-emission fleets and support sustainable commuting.	1,2,3,4,5,6	Influence	Low	High
A24	Support local schools and educational establishments in promoting safe and sustainable travel choices for pupils, students and staff, including exploring opportunities for expansion of the School Streets programme.	1,2,3,4,5,6	Influence	Low	Medium
A25	Work with regional partners and forums to lobby for improved rail infrastructure and services for communities across the borough, including improved services, better facilities and greater multimodal connectivity.	1,2, 3,4,5	Influence	High	High

7.9 What our partners can do:

- Switch the companies' fleet to electric or low carbon vehicles.
- Develop a travel plan for your company or school and its staff based on a modal hierarchy, which reduces the need to travel as the highest priority and includes supporting your employees to work from home and use public transport. Anonymised data from surveys supporting your travel plan can also help the Council in developing area strategies for your community.
- Work with neighbouring organisations and businesses to consider ways to reduce the need for solo car trips – such as through car sharing and co-location – and identify opportunities for consolidation of freight and deliveries.

7.10 What our residents can do

- Achieving our goals in relation to transport is ultimately reliant on the travel choices people make. Where you can, consider swapping some of the trips you would usually make by car to bus, rail, walking, wheeling or cycling. You could walk or cycle to school or work, or share a car with a colleague rather than travelling alone. As well as reducing carbon emissions, swapping just a few trips a week could also bring benefits such as better health, less pollution, and could even save you money.
- Engage with the Council through your local councillor to let them know how your community could be transformed to support more sustainable travel choices.
- Work with your local town or parish council under our Highways Volunteer Scheme to help enhance your local community and improve resilience of our network to climate challenges

7.11 Case studies

School Streets – Cheshire West and Chester Council is expanding its School Streets scheme – closing roads outside schools during drop-off and pick-up times to reduce traffic, improve air quality and encourage walking, wheeling and cycling. Read the full case study on our website.

Bikeability training – Schools across west Cheshire are embracing free bikeability training to encourage children and families to cycle safely to school. Delivered in partnership with Bike Right, the programme offers training from beginner to advance levels. Adults and families in the area can also access free Bikeability training, with sessions tailored to their needs, helping to build confidence and a love of cycling. Read the full case study on our website.

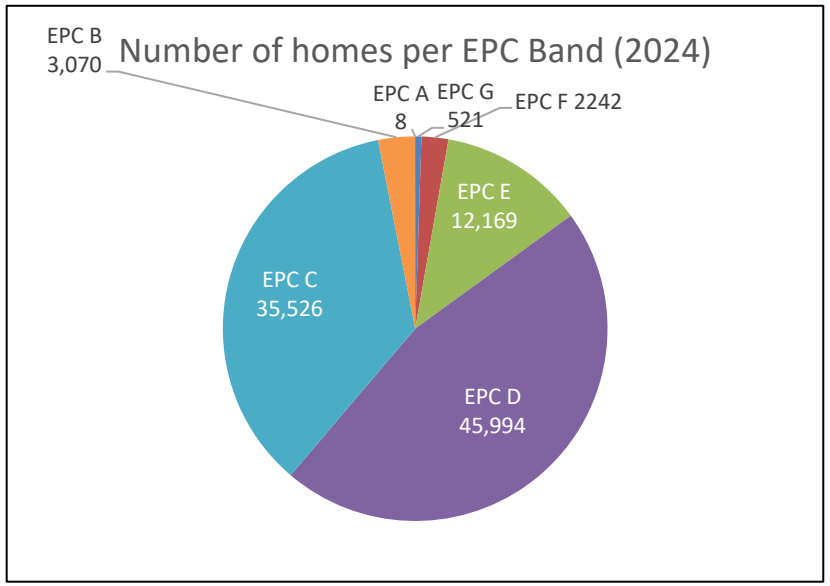
8 Housing

8.1 Sector analysis

How and where we live has a large effect on the environment and our wellbeing. Our borough has a distinct make up of rural and more metropolitan areas which bring its own unique benefits and challenges.

From rising household energy costs to bringing our communities together in Welcoming Spaces, we all have an important role to play. Housing in the borough contributes to 15% of the carbon emissions, at 476.8ktCO2e as of 2022. Approaching the challenge of how to decarbonise housing across the borough is complex.

Retrofitting houses requires substantial investment from local and national sources, upskilling of current workforce across the region to deliver housing improvements and balancing this against rising energy costs and risks of poverty.



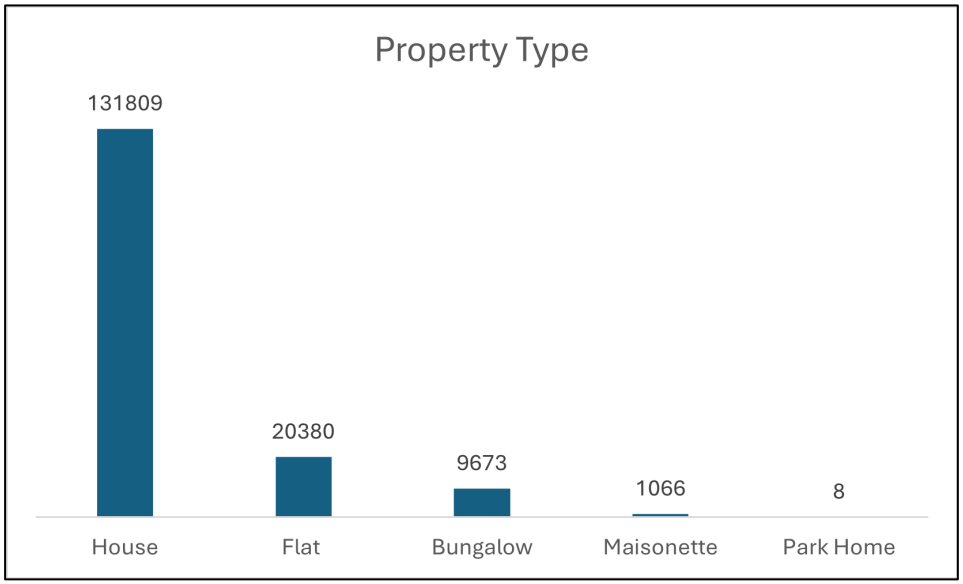


Figure 15: EPC banding of houses in Cheshire West borough (Source – Parity, 2024).
Figure 16: House types in Cheshire West borough (Source – Parity, 2024).

Decarbonising housing is directly linked to improving the physical and mental health of our communities. Energy efficient homes are an essential factor in preventing fuel poverty and tackling inequality. Excess winter deaths occur with three times the frequency in the coldest quarter of homes compared to the warmest quarter.

The investment needed to decarbonise houses – whether improving older houses, new build, rural or city centre dwellings, social housing or private – is costly. Improved construction methods and technologies are used which also requires different skills and training requirements nationally. Based on a report by Parity Projects, the cost to bring all houses within west Cheshire to Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) Band C is £473.6m, with the cost of achieving net zero on these properties standing at £3.5bn.

At a national and regional level, this is being addressed and significant progress has already been made. However, the scale of investment required is still a substantial challenge. A number of grants have been made available nationally to help address the challenge, but far more investment is required at a national level.

8.2 Local Context

Residential property makes up a substantial proportion of west Cheshire's greenhouse gas emissions, at 728,000 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent per year. This is the third largest element of the borough's emissions, following industrial and commercial emissions and transport.

The Council takes a holistic approach to improving energy efficiency in homes across the borough. Whilst reducing carbon emissions, improving energy efficiency has far wider health and societal benefits for our communities. We work collaboratively with our communities and partners to try and achieve the best outcomes possible.

In addition, the Council has been successful in applying to funding bodies for delivery of energy efficiency schemes and works closely with affordable warmth practitioners within the borough signposting eligible residents into local schemes which install measures and provide energy efficiency advice and guidance. The opportunities and funding to retrofit houses need to be for all so that we can make as many houses as possible more energy efficient. The heritage of Cheshire West provides challenges such as listed buildings and conservation areas which can present particular challenges in retrofitting.

8.3 Aspiration:

We are working with partners and communities across the region to improve energy efficiency in homes. Our plan for this is through:

- Retrofitting homes in the borough
- Building 'Net Zero' homes in the borough, in collaboration with partners
- Acting in a regulatory role to support net zero homes

8.4 Retrofit

'Retrofitting' is an important strategy in decarbonising the borough, especially due to the significant portion of carbon emissions from domestic buildings already in existence. Retrofitting refers to the process of making additions or changes to existing buildings to improve their energy efficiency. This can include actions like enhancing insulation, upgrading heating systems and installing renewable energy sources.

Our vision is that by 2045 no homes will use fossil gas for heating or cooking and all grid electricity will be generated from clean, renewable sources. Many homes will generate their own power using renewable technologies and use will be substantially reduced due to improved efficiency.

8.5 Net Zero New Build

The national and local push towards Net Zero is a strategic drive as part of the decarbonisation priorities. Net Zero in the context of new housing construction outlines an approach where buildings' greenhouses gas emissions are balanced by reducing and offsetting an equivalent amount of these emissions. This implies a state where the carbon dioxide equivalent emissions are zero.
For developers and architects, this translates into using materials and designing structures that are energy efficient and incorporating renewable energy sources as well as measures that provide adaptability to a changing climate including Sustainable Urban Drainage systems (SUDS) right from the planning phase. It also encompasses taking accountability for the building's entire life cycle, including the embodied carbon within its materials.

In Cheshire West, the vision for net zero new housing involves creating a built environment that is not only carbon neutral but also promotes a high quality of life for its residents with clean air, thermal comfort and biodiversity. Achieving this goal demands a holistic approach where building design, urban planning and innovative technologies come together to drive down emissions whilst ensuring the affordability and liveability of homes.

The environmental benefits of net zero are indisputable but one of the most significant challenges is ensuring that these homes are affordable for our residents. There is also an education and awareness challenge in working with builders and consumers of the long-term cost benefits of net zero homes.

8.6 Residents: Owner occupiers and renters

Communities play an integral part in how the borough needs to respond to housing decarbonisation. Each action contributes to the broader goal of decarbonising the housing sector. The cost of decarbonising houses brings a large challenge locally and nationally. Whilst a number of government grants are available to help support the wider challenge, these alone will not address the scale of the challenge.

We need residents to play their part in the housing decarbonisation challenge. This involves:

- Accessing information and case studies provided by the Council to see the benefits that housing decarbonisation can bring
- Engaging with the Council about potential opportunities to improve and accelerate how we address the decarbonisation challenge. This includes opportunities for the Council to better engage with our diverse range of Landlords in the community and encouraging or supporting residents to make requests to their landlords.

8.7 Industry: Developers and social housing providers

Social housing providers and housing developers play an integral part in how the borough needs to respond to housing decarbonisation. The way that we build new houses and cater to existing residents is integral to responding to the housing decarbonisation challenge. We need to work together to bring innovative solutions to create long-lasting, sustainable housing.

We need developers and social housing providers to play their part in the housing decarbonisation challenge. This involves:

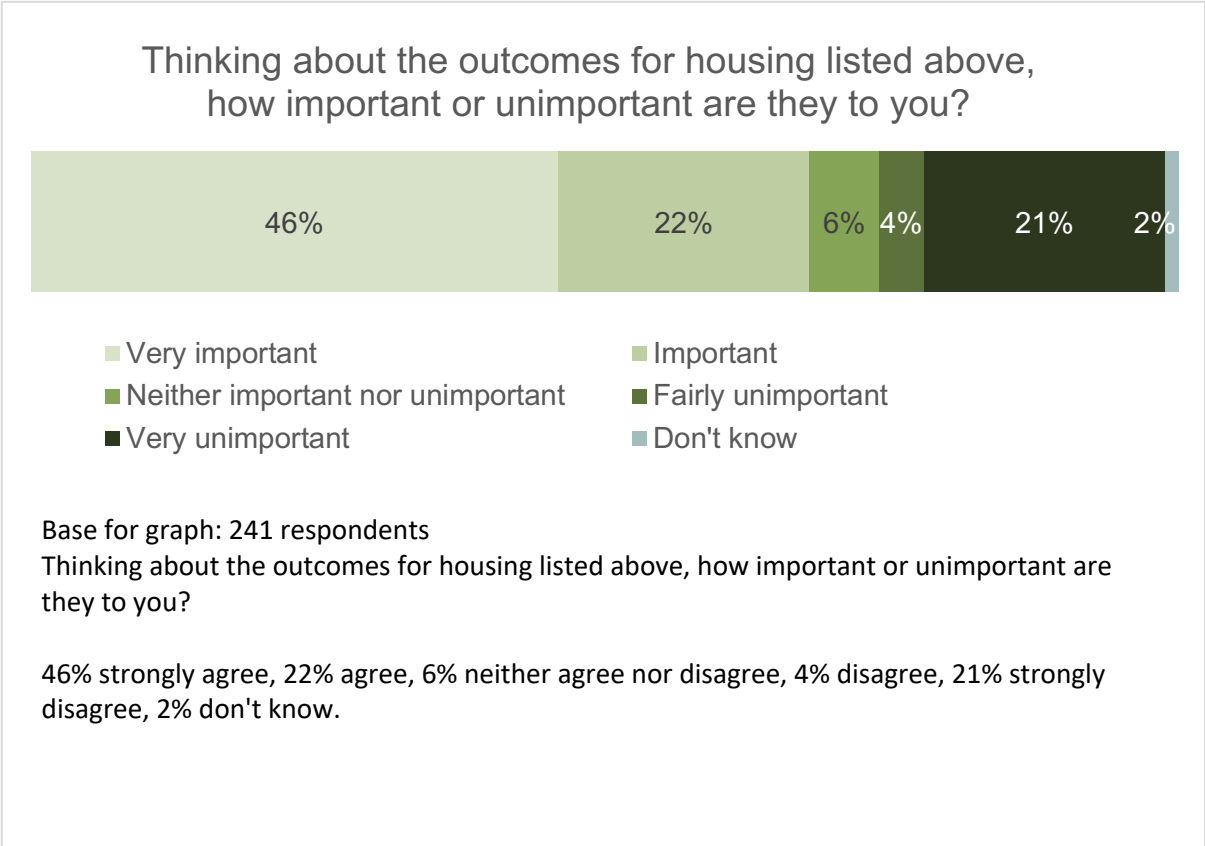
- Working with the council to find affordable and sustainable housing solutions
- Engaging with the residents and the council to respond to planning and construction challenges to provide the best possible outcomes for residents
- Supporting job creation within the decarbonisation industry
- Commit to investing in training of their staff and students in the borough
- Commit to local supply chain where reasonably possible
- Social value commitment as part of awarded contracts.

8.8 Climate Emergency Response Plan Consultation

The Council ran a consultation exercise to enable the Council to understand the issues affecting the borough's residents, businesses and visitors through online and in person surveys. The outputs of residents' views on the proposed outcomes and actions for this sector are presented below. Further analysis from this consultation process is available in the full report on the consultation process.

Respondents were asked how important or unimportant the outcomes for housing were to them.

Importance of the outcomes for housing



Base for graph: 241 respondents
Thinking about the outcomes for housing listed above, how important or unimportant are they to you?

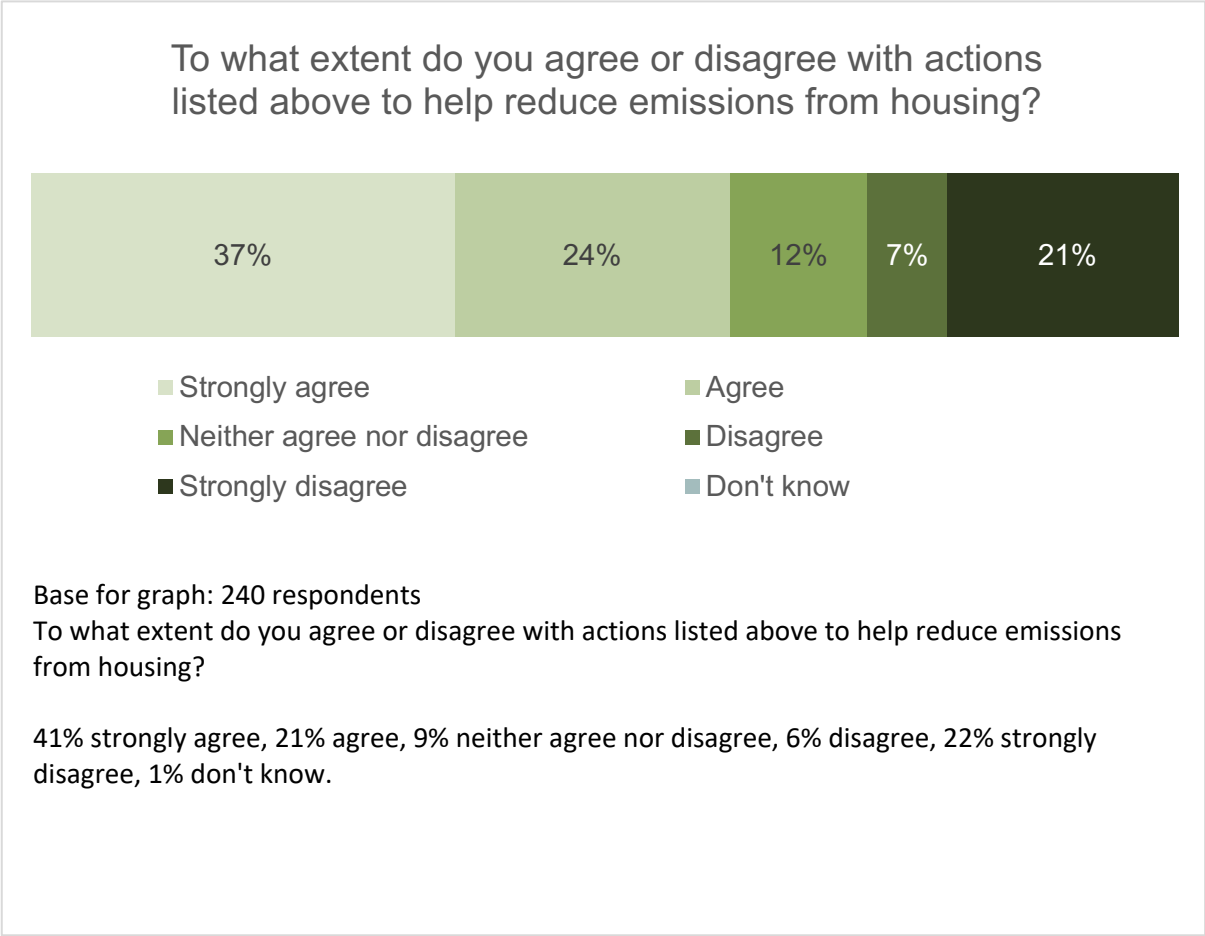
46% strongly agree, 22% agree, 6% neither agree nor disagree, 4% disagree, 21% strongly disagree, 2% don't know.

Figure 17: Importance of outcomes for the housing sector

The chart above shows that just over two thirds (68%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the outcomes for housing were important, and one quarter (25%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with this.

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the listed actions to reduce emissions from housing.

Level of agreement with actions to help reduce emissions from housing



Base for graph: 240 respondents
To what extent do you agree or disagree with actions listed above to help reduce emissions from housing?

41% strongly agree, 21% agree, 9% neither agree nor disagree, 6% disagree, 22% strongly disagree, 1% don't know.

Figure 18: Importance of outcomes for the housing sector

The chart above shows that just under two thirds (61%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the actions to help reduce emissions from housing were important, and just over one quarter (28%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with this.

Respondents had the option to provide comments on the proposed approach for reducing emissions from the housing sector. Feedback was collected through the survey, drop-in sessions and emails. In total, 121 comments were received, below is a summary of the key messages from these comments.

- Some respondents expressed that achieving high standards of insulation and energy efficiency can be too expensive.
- Some respondents felt that new build homes should be sustainable by default.
- Some respondents felt that not all homes are suitable for interventions to improve their energy efficiency, such as heat pumps.
- A few felt there needs to be education and awareness-raising information for households to understand what options and support are available to make houses more efficient and reduce energy demand whilst maintaining comfort.

You said...	**We did...**
Some respondents expressed that achieving high standards of insulation and energy efficiency can be too expensive.	Our Energy section on the Council website sets out the grants available to residents and charitable organisations that can give specific advice. The Council works with Partners to bid for national and regional funding to help reduce costs for eligible residents. The Council also recognises that some residents may not be eligible to benefit from specific housing grants, due to not meeting eligibility criteria in household income, for example. The Council works with national and regional Partners to apply for and benefit from schemes that may benefit a wider range of residents, on properties that would otherwise not be eligible for funding or reduction in capital costs.

Some respondents felt that new build homes should be sustainable by default.	The Council works with planning teams to work to Net Zero targets within the challenges of local and national planning policy and appetite of developers. The Council has specific planning guidance and policies to ensure sustainable development wherever possible, against a backdrop of challenging targets and landscapes.
Some respondents felt that not all homes are suitable for interventions to improve their energy efficiency, such as heat pumps.	The Council recognises that the nature of the Cheshire landscape and historic buildings can provide many real and specific challenges to retrofit interventions. The Council is working at a regional level to understand ways to address specific challenges and act on them. In addition, technology for retrofit is increasingly improving. We want to ensure that every resident can access retrofit housing improvements or new build sustainable technology.
A few felt there needs to be education and awareness-raising information for households to understand what options and support are available to make houses more efficient and reduce energy demand whilst maintaining comfort.	The Council recognises that information on retrofit and Net Zero needs to be widely available and accessible to all. The Council is working at a regional level to understand how we can best give information to residents

8.9 Outcomes by 2030, Informed by Engagement

Ref	Housing Sector Outcome	OUTCOME Delivered by	TIMESCALE Short, Medium or Long Term	CO-BENEFITS
O23	Effective systems and educational institutions are confident in delivering retrofit skills to meet the challenge across the region.[22]	Local Authorities, Delivery Partners, Businesses, Industry, and Partner Authorities	Short, Medium & Long Term	Stimulate the market, decrease unemployment, green economy, growth and prosperity, energy security
O24	All homes in the borough will be EPC band C by 2030.	Local Authorities, housing providers	Short, Medium & Long Term	Health and wellbeing, readiness for additional retrofit measures
O25	Houses within west Cheshire are using more sustainable technologies such as solar panels to reduce energy bills and enable wider efficiencies. This would be achieved through central government funding and collective purchasing power.	Local Authorities, Central Government, Delivery Partners, Housing Providers	Short, Medium & Long Term	Stimulate the market, green economy, growth and prosperity, energy security
O26	Fuel poverty is reduced in the borough through working with our communities, action the Council's Fuel Poverty strategy and working holistically as a Council and with our partners.	Local Authorities, Central Government, Delivery Partners, Housing Providers	Short, Medium & Long Term	Health and wellbeing, energy security, growth and prosperity

[22] Working with key partners such as Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington, through mechanisms such as Skills Bootcamps: https://cheshireandwarrington.com/growth-and-skills/skills-and-education/skills-bootcamps/skills-bootcamps-catalogue/

O27	'Welcoming Spaces' will continue to be available for our communities during colder months.	Local Authorities, Delivery Partners, Businesses, Industry, and Partners	Short, Medium & Long Term	Health and wellbeing, energy security, growth and prosperity

8.10 The Council's Commitments

Ref	Action	Outcome Linked to	Influence	Cost	Carbon
A26	Develop and contribute to communication and education programmes for our communities. This includes ensuring appropriate information is available on grants and charities which our residents can benefit from.	1,2,3,4,5	Influence	Low	TBC
A27	Help to enable smart meters to be installed in void properties for social housing.	1,2,4	Influence	Low	TBC
A28	Enact planning policies and strategies to create a positive and proactive environment to enable 'net zero' technologies in new build houses.	1	Direct	Low	High
A29	Work with local industries and suppliers to develop standard retrofitting solutions for common building archetypes including those that are 'hard to-treat' (e.g Park Homes). Homes will be built to industry standards, such as Future Homes Standard 2025. This includes ensuring that contractors the Council uses via supply chains are qualified and regulated.	1,2,3,4	Influence	Medium	Medium
A30	Work with local construction industries and business to encourage them to become accredited to environmental surveying, installation and maintenance standards such as ISO14001, Trustmark, PAS2035 etc.	1,2,3	Influence	Low	Medium
A31	Work with schools and colleges to develop education programmes around developing skills for installation of new heating technologies.	1	Influence	Low	High

A32	Work with financial partners and regional local authority to scope out mechanisms to enable affordable renewable energy and efficient products for housing.	1,2,3,4	Direct	Low	High
A33	Work within the organisation to prioritise additional areas of the property portfolio for retrofitting such as adult social care homes.	1,2,3,4	Direct	Medium	Medium
A34	Explore and act on suitable funding opportunities in relation to sustainable housing and working with the 'willing to pay' market.	1,2,3,4,5	Direct	Low	High

8.11 What our partners can do:

1. Take action within their own areas of influence.
2. Review decarbonisation opportunities for their own housing stock.
3. Provide guidance and expertise.
4. Provide the right level capital of investment.

8.12 What our residents can do

1. Co-produce the plan through the engagement and consultation processes.
2. Consider switching to electricity for cooking.
3. Switch provider to one that provides sustainable energy.
4. Ensure your home has LED lighting and draught-proofing.
5. Upgrade your home insulation – loft, cavity wall and draught.
6. Turn down your heating where you can, while remaining comfortable.
7. Think about whole-house retrofit, particularly if carrying out renovations.
8. Review government grant opportunities to improve homes.
9. Consider opportunities for community-led housebuilding

8.13 Case Study

Retrofit of Blacon homes – Thanks to a £596,000 grant from the Department for Energy, Security and Net Zero, 123 home in Blacon received energy-saving upgrades including Solar PV systems, air source heat pumps and external wall insulation. Delivered in partnership with Sanctuary Housing, the scheme improved energy efficiency, reduced carbon emissions and received praise for community engagement and professional delivery. Read the full case study on our website.

9 Land Use, Adaptation and Climate Repair

9.1 Land Use and Climate Repair

This section primarily focuses on agriculture as this makes up the bulk of emissions from land use within west Cheshire. It integrates and forms part of a network of strategies with the Land Action Plan, the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (in development), and the Council's existing flood maps and planning. Emissions within Cheshire West and Chester from agriculture stand at 448ktCO2e in 2022.

Cheshire is a county renowned for dairy production, because of its temperate climate which supports grass to grow well, and is home to some of the country's leading dairy farms and dairy industries. Across the Northwest region, Cheshire is the only county that has more cattle than sheep, the agricultural land quality is good with 77% of land being Grade 3 and above. Land quality decreases from west to east as indicated by sheep numbers which increase as one moves eastward.

In the historic county of Cheshire, more than 7,000 people are employed on 2,804 farm holdings covering nearly 160,000 hectares of land and 41% of the land mass in Cheshire West and Chester borough. Cheshire is home to 229,000 cattle, a quarter of the Northwest region's herd. The environment in Cheshire is suitable to grassland growing, and historically, dairy production has flourished.

In response to the challenges arising from agriculture and land use, Cheshire West and Chester Council adopted a Land Action Plan for climate and nature emergencies in 2022, to support the delivery of the Climate Emergency Response Plan's (CERP) land use, adaptation, and climate repair theme which addresses emissions from agriculture and land use.

Land use and land use change and forestry (LULUCF) include farming and food production, are sources of emissions and also present opportunities for sequestration through improved soil carbon management, low carbon farming practices, reduced tillage practices, anaerobic digestion, woodland creation and

habitat creation including hedgerows. The Council will continue to support land based interventions through partnerships, such as with The Mersey Forest, and is supportive of The Mersey Forest Plan and associated targets.

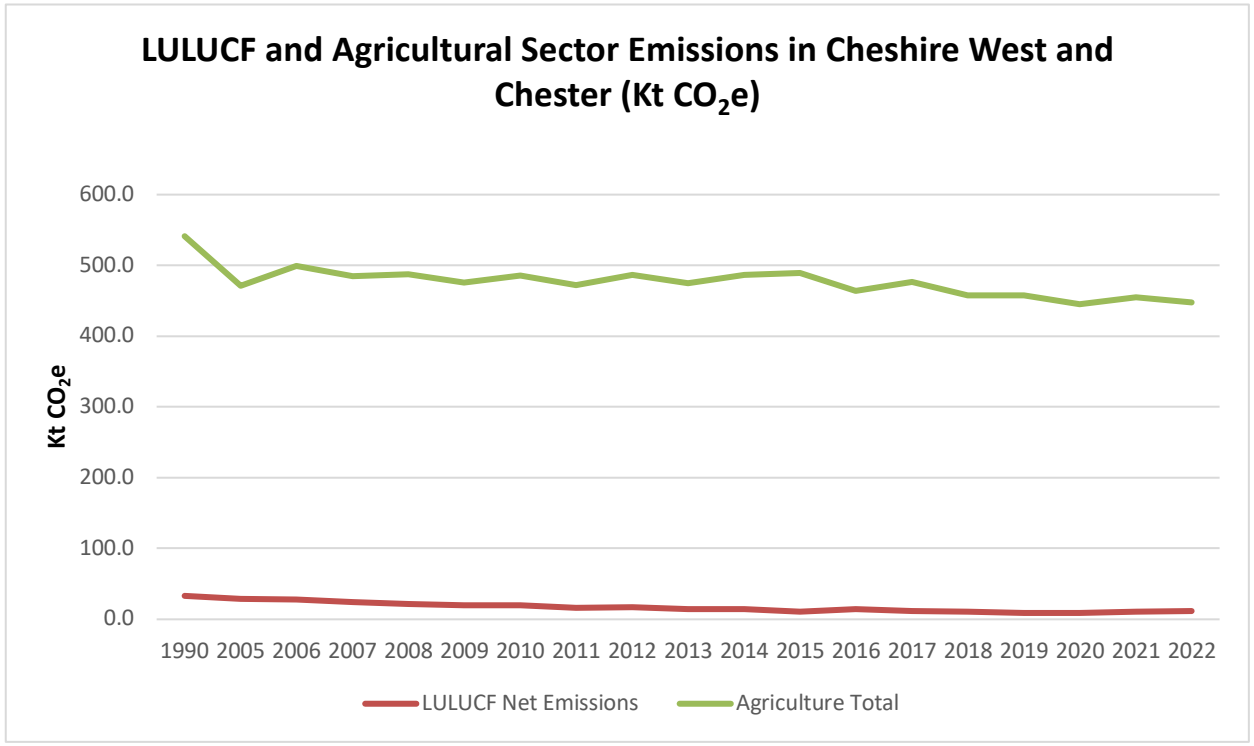


Figure 20: Emissions from Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry and Agriculture, in west Cheshire between 1990 and 2022[23]

[23] Figure 20: the emissions over time from Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry Sector, and the Agriculture sector.

9.2 Adaptation

Adaptation is a critical element of the Council's approach to climate preparedness. It refers to the process of making our communities and places more resilient to the effects of climate change that are already apparent. The Council has a range of mechanisms to manage these pre-existing risks, which take account of climate change, including our Local Plan, which includes climate projections, and our Flood Risk Management strategies[24]. The Council's approach to a range of land related considerations, are informed by the Land Action Plan[25], which this Plan sits alongside.

9.3 Nature

The Council is the accountable body for the production of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Cheshire and Warrington[26]. The Council has a range of inter-linked policies and priorities intended to protect nature, which are kept regularly updated on the Council's Biodiversity[27] webpage. As this Plan has been produced in advance of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, which has a primary focus on nature recovery, it would be premature to make new commitments in this Plan related to nature until the co-production, engagement and consultation process for the LNRS has been concluded.

9.4 Climate Emergency Response Plan Consultation:

The Council ran a consultation exercise to enable the Council to understand the issues affecting the borough's residents, businesses and visitors through online and in person surveys. The outputs of residents views on the proposed outcomes and actions for this sector are presented below. Further analysis from this consultation process is available in the full report on the consultation process.

Respondents were asked how important or unimportant the outcomes for land use and adaptation were to them.

[24] Flood risk management | Cheshire West and Chester Council
[25] Land Action Plan: https://participatenow.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/12608/widgets/35875/documents/24840
[26] Gathering your views for a nature-friendly Cheshire and Warrington | Cheshire West and Chester Council
[27] Biodiversity | Cheshire West and Chester Council

Importance of the outcomes for land use and adaptation

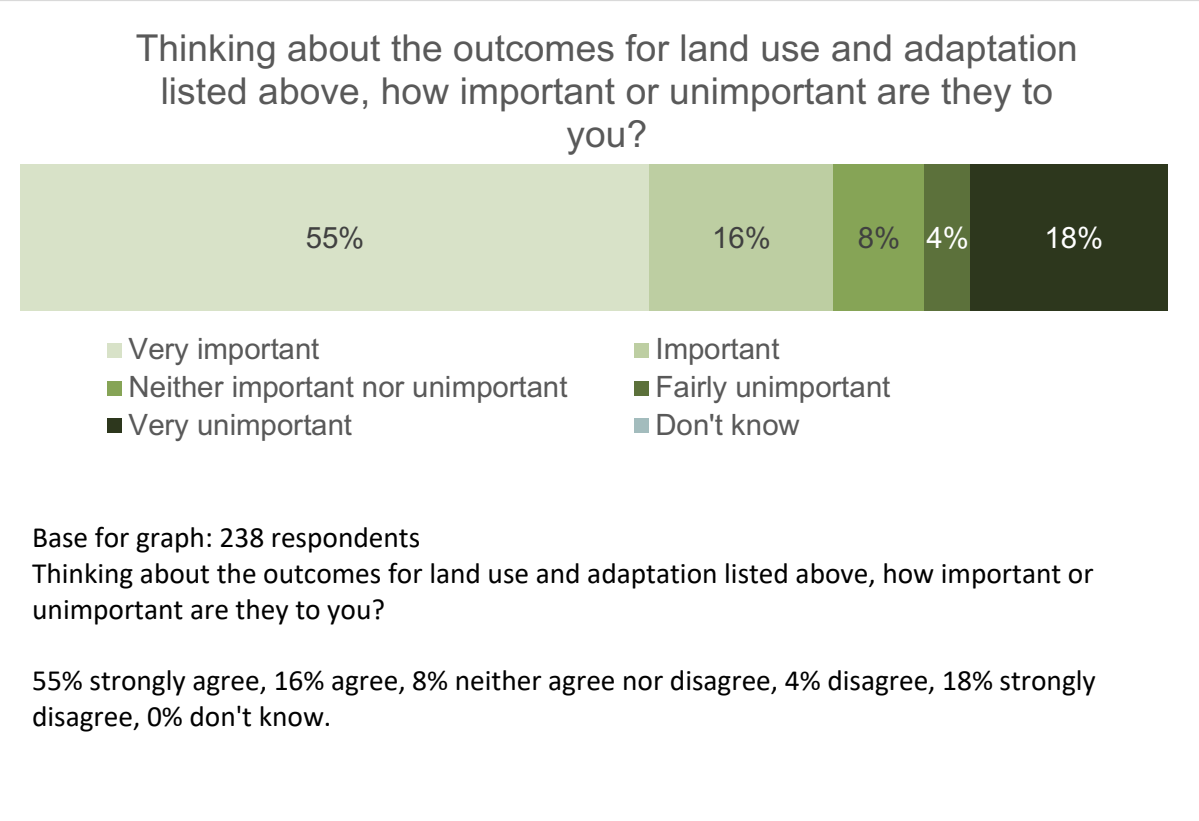
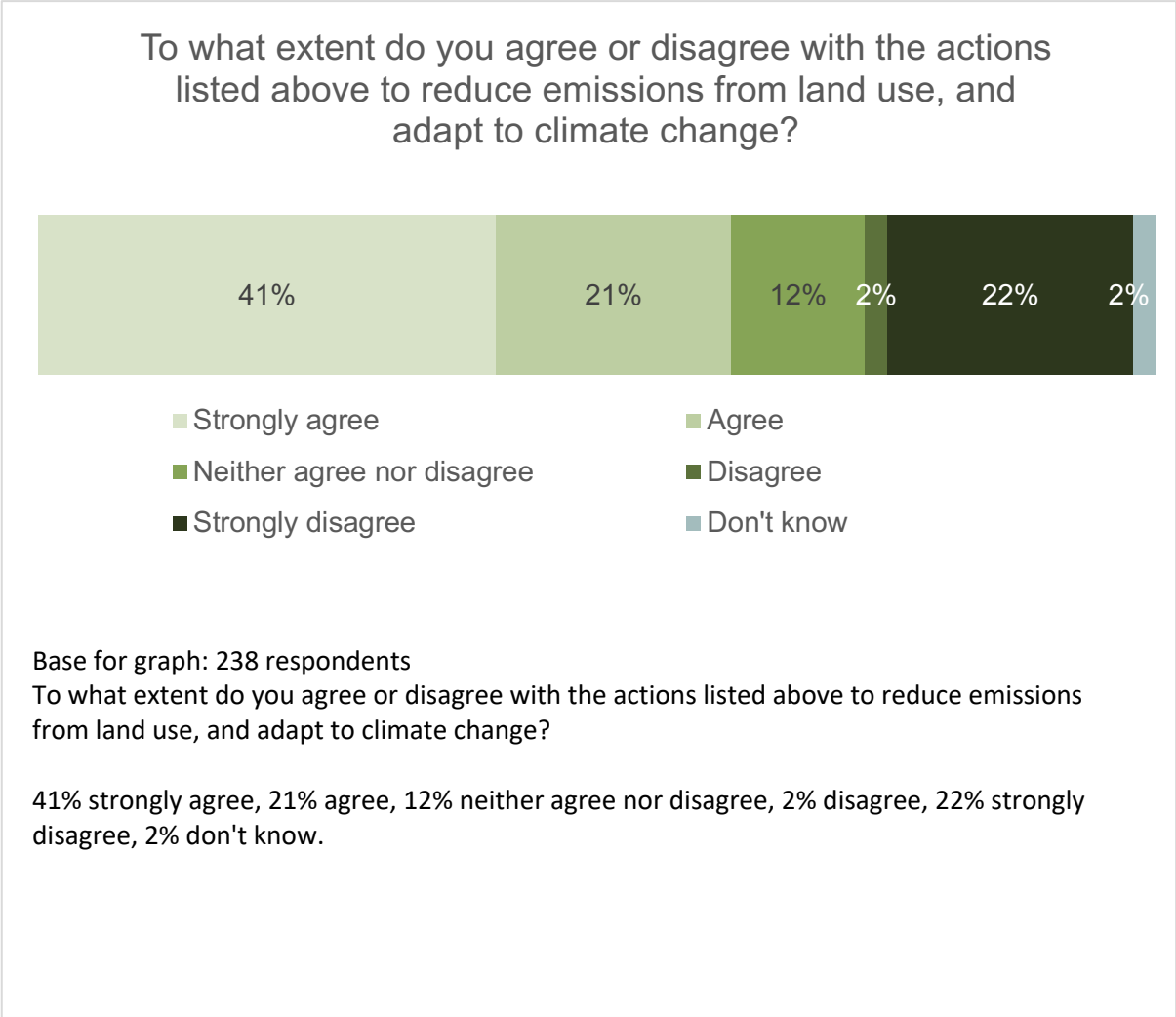


Figure 21: Importance of outcomes for the land use and adaptation sector

The chart above shows that just under three quarters (71%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the outcomes for land use and adaptation were important, and under one quarter (22%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with this.

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the listed actions to reduce emissions from land use and adapt to climate change.

Level of agreement with actions to help reduce emissions from land use and adapt to climate change



Base for graph: 238 respondents
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the actions listed above to reduce emissions from land use, and adapt to climate change?

41% strongly agree, 21% agree, 12% neither agree nor disagree, 2% disagree, 22% strongly disagree, 2% don't know.

Figure 22: Importance of outcomes for the Land Use and adaptation sector

The chart above shows that just under two thirds (62%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the actions to help reduce emissions from r land use and adapt to climate change were important, and just under one quarter (24%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with this.

Respondents had the option to provide comments on the proposed approach for reducing emissions from the land use sector and adapting to the effects of climate change. Feedback was collected through the survey, drop-in sessions and emails. In total, 106 comments were received, below is a summary of the key messages from these comments.

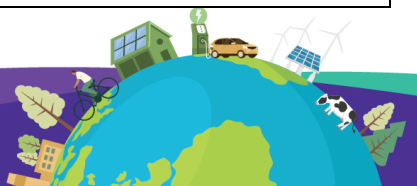
- Some respondents said farmers must be incentivised to use greener methods which are environmentally and nature friendly.
- Some respondents said prime farmland should be reserved for food production to attain food security and that farming also produces raw material for other industries.
- Some respondents said there is need to take action to prevent flooding, including effective plans for flood mitigation, and reducing run off from rural farmland. Similarly, a few respondents mentioned there is need to prevent excess runoff in urban areas and encouraging permeable paving/gardens.
- A few respondents said building developments on greenbelt/virgin land should be restricted.
- A few respondents said trees must be protected and ones which are cut down in urban areas replaced. Similarly, a few respondents said that other habitats for example hedgerows need to be protected. With increased tree planting there should be a proportionate increase in in tree maintenance budgets including for urban/street trees. Suitable tree species must be chosen for different environments. Council owned land should be used to showcase what can be achieved.

Consultation Analysis: Key messages

You said	We did
Some respondents said farmers must be incentivised to use greener methods which are environmentally and nature friendly. If food is produced in this country, it is easier to account for emissions from the sector. It is important to reduce food imports which could have higher emissions	The council promotes government's environmental land management and sustainable farming policies. The Council supports the local farming industry and especially dairy production which is most suited to the Cheshire environment, while encouraging farmers to adopt low carbon and regenerative farming with reduced emissions[28].
Some respondents said productive farmland should be reserved for food production to attain food national security and mentioned that farming also produces raw	The Council applies STRAT 1 and other Local Plan policies seek to avoid the loss of high-grade agricultural land. Planning decisions take account of Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land in decision making. The Council supports government policy on national food security and promotes sustainable

[28] Land Action Plan - final March 2022

materials for other industries. Marginal land to be used for woodland and habitat creation and industrial roof spaces for solar farms before considering farmland. Farmers must be supported to continue producing food while maintaining the countryside. Increased farming costs and extra regulation would inevitably cause farmers to go out of business	food production by local farmers, showcasing best practice where possible for example the Grosvenor Farms case study. The Council is responsible for coordinating the Cheshire wide Local Nature Recovery Strategy, which encourages farmers to farm in ways that promote nature to thrive.
Some respondents said there is need to take action to prevent flooding and this includes avoiding building developments on risk prone areas. Additionally, there is need to improve flood preparedness and resilience and plans for flood mitigation should be apparent. Action should be taken to reduce run off from rural farmland. Similarly, there is need to prevent excess runoff in urban areas and encouraging permeable paving/gardens.	The Council follows the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which sets out clear requirements that flood risk should be considered at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding and direct development away from areas at highest risk. The Local Plan requires the drainage of new development to be designed to reduce surface water run-off rates and to include the implementation of SuDS - sustainable urban drainage to reduce flooding events in vulnerable areas and during high rainfall periods. Part of the Council's role in managing flood risk is to ensure that major development does not increase the risk of flooding onsite or elsewhere. All development proposals must include a site-specific surface water drainage strategy following sustainable drainage guidelines (SuDS).
A few respondents said building developments on greenbelt/virgin land must be restricted. Green spaces used for development cease to be carbon sinks	One of our Local Plan strategic objectives is to protect the environmental quality and character of the borough through maintaining the general extent and character of the North Cheshire Green Belt and Cheshire countryside. Policy STRAT 9 of the Local Plan (Part One) acknowledges that the rural area of the borough and the high quality of its landscape is a key asset and is highly valued by residents.
A few respondents said trees must be protected and ones which are cut down in urban areas replaced. Similarly, other habitats for example hedgerows need to be protected. With increased tree planting there should be a proportionate increase in in tree maintenance budgets including for urban/street trees. Suitable tree species must be chosen for different environments. Council owned land should be used to showcase what can be achieved.	Our Local Plan supports development where it conserves, manages and, wherever possible, enhances existing trees, woodlands, traditional orchards, and hedgerows. Trees losses are replaced by planting at a ratio of at least two new trees for each tree lost. Many trees in the borough are already protected by Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) or by merit of their location in a Conservation Area. It is therefore an offence to cause wilful damage to any protected tree, or to fell, top or lop one without prior consent from the Council. The Council has embarked on a programme to create 300 hectares of woodland and other habitats on Cheshire Farms land, funded by DEFRA's Trees for Climate, Nature for Climate fund.



9.5 Outcomes by 2030, Informed by Engagement

Ref	Land use Outcomes	Outcome delivered by	Timescale	Co-benefits
O28	Creating a decarbonised local economy and Net Zero farming and land use	Cheshire West and Chester Council, farmers, businesses, partners, residents.	Short, medium, long-term	Thriving biodiversity and improved natural capital, route to NetZero
O29	Reducing nutrient and chemical pollution and thriving aquatic life and improved water quality	Businesses, farmers, utilities, Cheshire West and Chester Council, partners, residents.	Short, medium long-term	Reduced emissions and nutrient pollution. Improve circular economy, waste management & nutrient cycling, attain resilient farming system less dependence on chemical fertiliser
O30	Regenerated and improved soil health – reduced erosion	Farmers and land managers	Short, medium long-term	Positive behavioural changes and practice adoption, reduced flooding
O31	Recovering species and increasing biodiversity	Cheshire West and Chester Council, farmers, businesses, partners, residents.	Short and medium term	Nature recovery, climate resilience, health benefits, environmental justice

O32	Reduced flooding events and impacts	Cheshire West and Chester Council, communities, land managers	Short and medium term	Reduced financial impact, enhanced health and wellbeing
O33	Greener and cooler urban environments	Cheshire West and Chester Council, partners, Mersey Forest, businesses and housebuilders, residents and businesses.	Short, medium long-term	Enhanced health and wellbeing, climate resilience

9.6 The Council's Commitments

Ref	Land use Actions	Influence	Linked to goal	Cost	Carbon
A35	Establish, maintain, and manage woodlands and other habitats on Council farms for carbon sequestration and biodiversity net gain (BNG)	Direct	1,2,3,4,5,6	Medium	Medium
A36	Support the development and implementation of borough-wide of anaerobic digestion scheme, majority of dairy herds are carbon neutral and improve air quality (AD), livestock waste recycled to diffuse water pollution.	Influence	1,2,3,4,	High	High
A37	Promote low carbon/regenerative/sustainable/agroecological farming methods	Influence	1,2,3,4,5	Medium	High

A38	Support allotments and local food growing	Direct	1,2,3,4	Low	TBC
A39	Support adoption and implementation Environmental Land Management (ELM) policies including the sustainable farming incentive	Influence	1,2,3,4,5,6	High	High
A40	Develop and implement the Local Plan strategy and policies and manage development within the borough to attain Net Zero, install sustainable urban drainage (SuDS) to reduce flooding events in vulnerable areas and during high rainfall periods	Direct	1,5	Low	High
A41	Implement and coordinate the Cheshire wide local nature recovery strategy (LNRS), including peat management and restoration.	Direct	1,2,3,4,5,6	Low	High
A42	Enhance urban green infrastructure which includes parks, gardens, trees, allotments, woodlands, fields, hedges, wildlife friendly and permeable gardens in our city, towns and villages	Influence	1,2,3,4,5,6	Low	Low
A43	Manage river catchments including natural flood management and riparian woodlands, cover cropping to reduce flooding, point source pollution events and improve water quality and infiltration rates for future abstraction	Influence	1,2,3,4,5,6	Medium	Medium
A44	Enabling access to local, regional and national grants for sustainable land use	Influence	1,2,3,4,5,6	Low	Medium

9.7 Barriers and Challenges to emissions reduction - Land Use and Agriculture

1. Lack of a multifunctional national land use framework, a process that supports better, more sustainable decisions about land, by all those who need to make them, including local and national government, businesses and communities.
2. Lack of funding for and lack of viability of on-farm anaerobic digestion projects.
3. Lack of clarity of government policy on ELMs and funding.

9.8 What Government needs to do:

1. Provide clarity on number of policies areas including ELMs, UK agriculture and food security and food system, woodland and habitat creation/land sharing and land sparing; three compartment model.
2. Provide funding for on-farm anaerobic digestion which is important for decarbonising the important dairy industry in west Cheshire.
3. Promote and accelerate and fund research on technologies that enable reduction of enteric emissions in livestock including circularity of waste in agriculture and research into efficient high yielding crop varieties and livestock breeds.
4. Engage with farmers and the agricultural sector in ways that create behavioural changes which align with government policy and an economic case for farmers and landowners that enables viable land use changes.
5. Formulate policy that ensures economic/financial viability of farm businesses.
6. Review policy on biochar.

9.9 What our partners can do:

1. Act within their own areas of influence.
2. Provide guidance and expertise.
3. Provide the right level capital of investment.

9.10 What our residents can do

1. Co-produce the plan through the engagement and consultation processes.
2. Get involved in nature/environmental activities including citizen science to identify monitor species across the borough.
3. Practise sustainable agricultural practices to attain NetZero farming.

4. Identify land and work with the Council and The Mersey Forest to establish, manage community or large-scale woodlands and habitats.
5. Grow and consume local food where possible.
6. Practice wildlife friendly gardening.

9.11 Case studies

Sustainable Farming – Grosvenor Farms is one of the UK's leading dairy and arable farms, working by the principles of regenerative agriculture and circular farming, to produce high-quality foods in a commercially and environmentally sustainable way. Read the full case study on our website.

Woodland and habitat creation on Council Land - The Council has a strong background in woodland establishment, tree planting and habitat creation and continue to be a strategic partner of The Mersey Forest, Cheshire and Merseyside's Community Forest. Over the last four years, new woodlands have been created across three sites in the borough helping to boost biodiversity and contributing to Cheshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Read the full case study on our website.

10 Waste, Recycling and Circular Economy

10.1 Waste, Recycling and Circular Economy

Cheshire West and Chester Council was formed in 2009 and achieved a recycling rate of 47.95% during the first year of operations. This was an upper quartile level of performance for an English local authority. Recycling performance improved in the first decade under Cheshire West and Chester Council to 56.35% by 2019/20 with waste related emissions significantly, mainly due to a move away from landfill as the main disposal route in favour of Energy from Waste treatment for non-recyclable black bin/bag waste. The increase in recycling was primarily driven by the launch of the recycle first kerbside service in 2012.

Cheshire West and Chester Council remains one of England's leading waste and recycling authorities, consistently in the top 5% for recycling performance. The Council operates an established collection system offering a wide range of recyclables collected at the kerbside, including food waste.

A 15.5% reduction in total household waste per household has been achieved between 2009/10 and 2023/24, alongside a 33.6% reduction in non-recyclable household waste per household during the same period. Whilst this is a great achievement, the amount of non-recyclable waste generated per household is higher

than other councils with similar recycling rates (up to 25% higher than some of these councils). We know that a third of this is food waste that could have been recycled through our weekly food waste service. Encouraging greater participation in this service will be one of the best ways the Council can reduce emissions through the waste service. By April 2026, all homes in the UK must have a food recycling service by law, so there is an opportunity for everyone to play their part to reduce the impact of their waste on climate change.

Since 2021, the Council has delivered kerbside services through its own wholly owned company Cheshire West Recycling. This provides us with flexibility to respond to changes in National Waste Policy and legislation. This change gave us the opportunity to significantly change the design of the kerbside services. Larger, more convenient recycling containers were provided to the majority of homes, and a greener fleet was commissioned, able to run off HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil) fuel. The total miles travelled to empty all the containers was also reduced through a routing efficiency project. As a result of the re-design, the Council's recycling rate reached its joint highest ever level in 2023/24 of 59.1%.

The Council's wholly owned company will operate all recycling centres from April 2026, focussing on recovering unwanted items in partnership with local charities and re-use groups within our communities.

The Council's ten year Waste Management Strategy, adopted in 2021, seeks to limit the environmental impact of all waste collected by the Council, and created by homes and council services throughout the Cheshire West and Chester area[29]. The strategy aligns with the Government's National Waste Strategy, which sets out how they will preserve material resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy in England. The key objectives within the strategy are to:

- reduce overall waste
- maximise recycling
- deliver an efficient and cost-effective waste collection, recycling and processing service

The outcomes set out in this plan reflect the ambitions of the waste strategy, and build on the achievements to date.

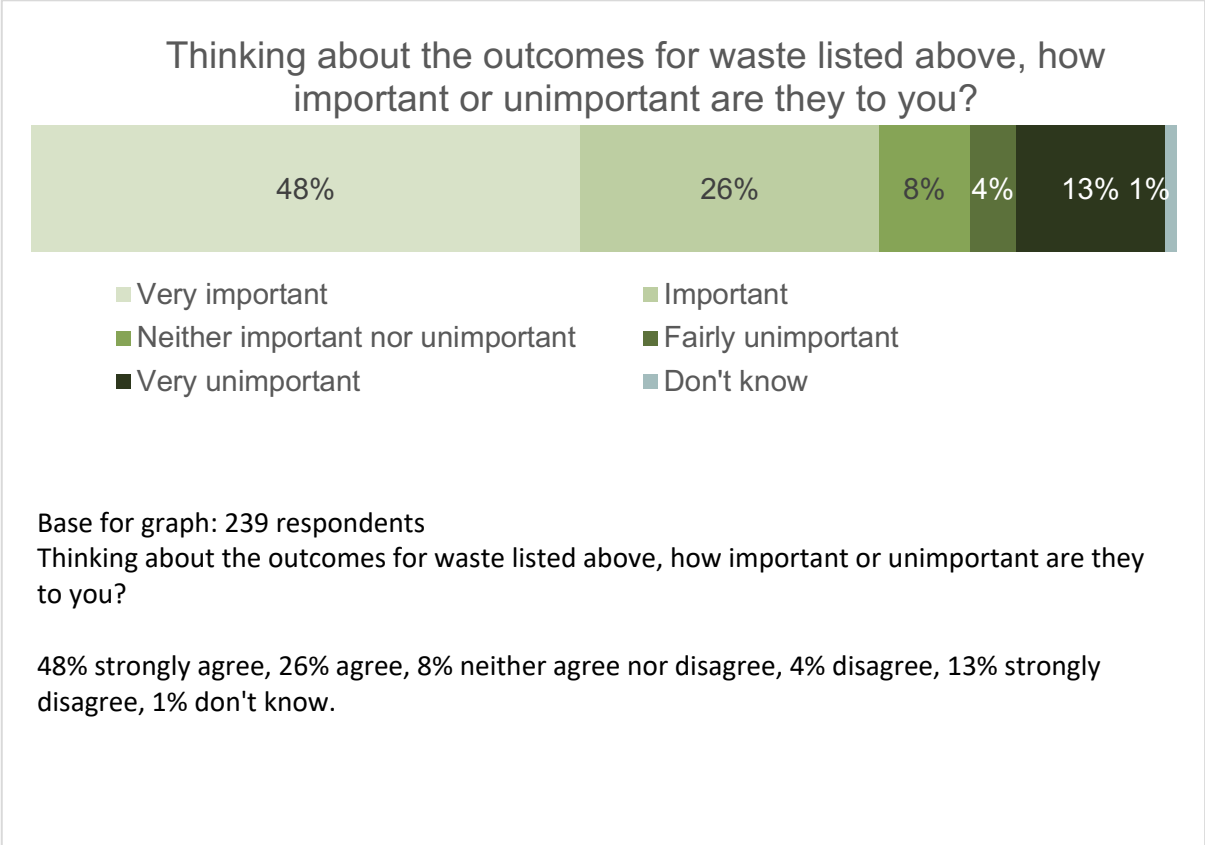
[29] Waste management strategy | Cheshire West and Chester Council

10.2 Climate Emergency Response Plan Engagement: Outputs of residents' survey on waste, recycling and circular economy

The Council ran a consultation exercise to enable the Council to understand the issues affecting the borough's residents, businesses and visitors through online and in person surveys. The outputs of residents' views on the proposed outcomes and actions for this sector are presented below. Further analysis from this consultation process is available in the full report on the consultation process.

Respondents were asked how important or unimportant the outcomes for waste and recycling were to them.

Importance of the outcomes for waste



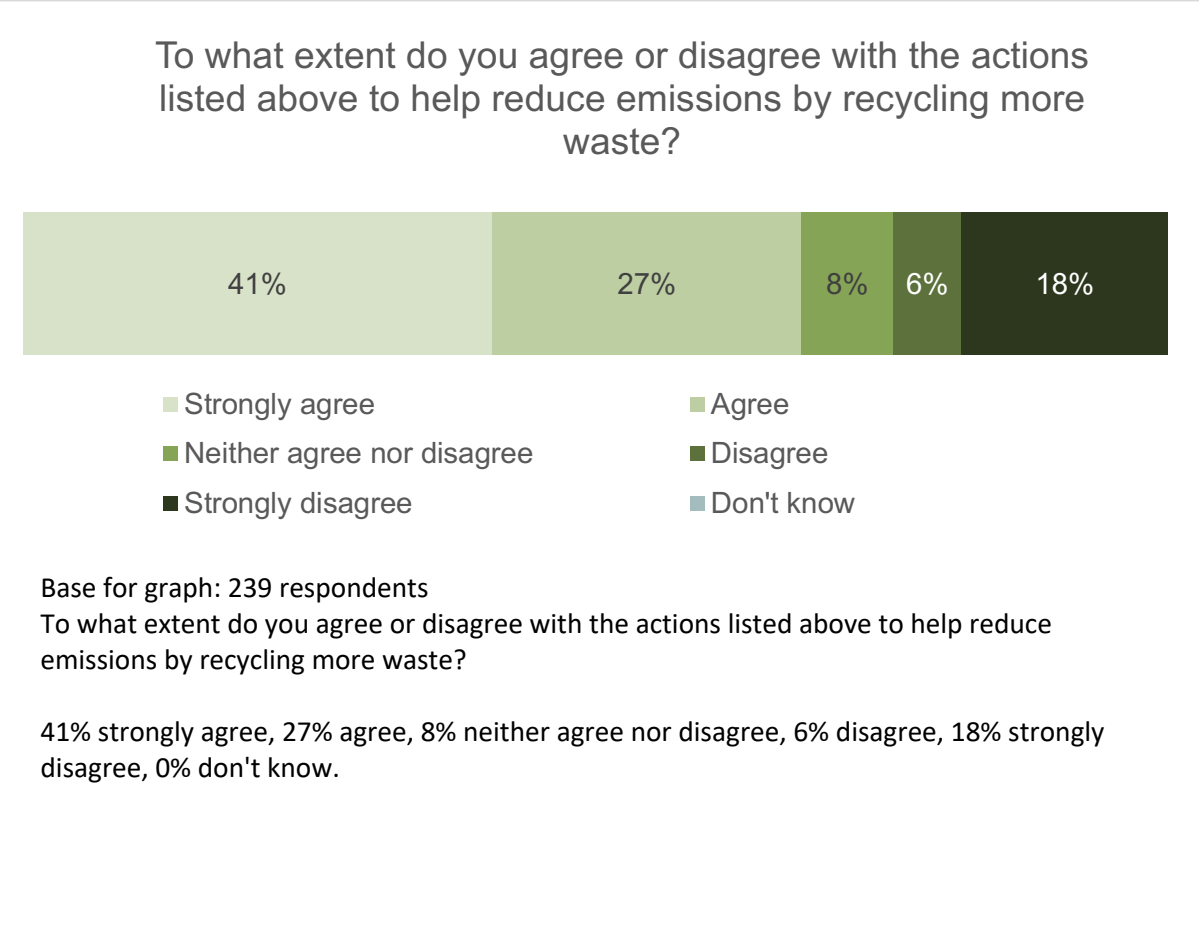
Base for graph: 239 respondents
Thinking about the outcomes for waste listed above, how important or unimportant are they to you?

48% strongly agree, 26% agree, 8% neither agree nor disagree, 4% disagree, 13% strongly disagree, 1% don't know.

Figure 23: Importance of outcomes for the waste sector

The chart above shows that almost three quarters (74%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the outcomes for waste were important, and less than one fifth (17%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with this.

Level of agreement with actions to help reduce emissions by recycling more waste



Base for graph: 239 respondents
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the actions listed above to help reduce emissions by recycling more waste?

41% strongly agree, 27% agree, 8% neither agree nor disagree, 6% disagree, 18% strongly disagree, 0% don't know.

Figure 24: Importance of outcomes for the waste sector

The chart above shows that just over two thirds (68%) either strongly agreed or agreed that the actions to help reduce emissions by recycling more waste were important, and just under one quarter (24%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with this.

Respondents had the option to provide comments on the proposed approach for reducing emissions from the waste and recycling sector. Feedback was collected through the survey, drop-in sessions and emails. In total, 102 comments were received, below is a summary of the key messages from these comments.

- Many respondents felt that availability and ease of access to HWRCs was important and a few felt by providing local sites it reduces the emissions relating to the length of journey.
- Many respondents felt the Council's kerbside recycling service should be simple to use and wanted more education on its use and what happens to the recycling. A few respondents in homes with limited outdoor space felt that storing multiple waste containers was inconvenient.
- Many respondents felt that single use plastics should be banned, or at least limited, and that producers of packaging should be obliged to ensure it can be recycled.
- Some respondents felt that re-use initiative such as repair cafes, reuse shops, refill shops, home/community composting and real nappies schemes should be encouraged and a few respondents felt that reducing overall wastage and associated emissions from manufacturing new or disposable products should be the ultimate goal.
- Several respondents felt there was a link between fly tipping and the frequency of the waste collection service and some felt that reducing frequency of collections would not encourage more people to recycle. Several other respondents called for greater enforcement to discourage irresponsible waste behaviours.
- Several respondents felt that the range of materials we accept for recycling should be expanded, especially plastic products and one respondent felt that the Council should aim to increase its recycling performance to 70%.
- Several respondents felt that households who recycled or produced less waste should pay less council tax, and several felt that the garden waste collection charge should be reduced or collections extended to enable late autumn leaf fall to be recycled.

Consultation Analysis: Key messages

You Said	We Did
Many respondents felt that availability and ease of access to HWRCs was important and a few felt by providing local sites it reduces the emissions relating to the length of journey.	A separate consultation about the HWRCs has been carried out to inform a number of changes to the service. These changes will be considered at the Council's Cabinet in June 2025 and are designed to ensure the service remains accessible to all residents whist preventing unauthorised use by tradespeople and people from outside the authority area. Some of the measures under consideration will encourage site users to plan their trips, and in some cases reduce excessive visits to the sites. This would also reduce the risk of queuing, making the service more convenient for all.
Many respondents felt the Council's kerbside recycling service should be simple to use and	The Council is committed to deliver a kerbside service in line with new legislative requirements (Simpler Recycling). This requires waste to be separated into a range of containers to protect the quality of the

wanted more education on its use and what happens to the recycling. A few respondents in homes with limited outdoor space felt that storing multiple waste containers was inconvenient.	recycling. The Council continues to provide regular information to help people use the service properly and is increasing the number of advisors on the ground to engage directly with households who have been identified as needing ore support (because they are using the wrong bin for their waste). Homes with limited storage space were reviewed (January 2026 to June 2026) and alternative container provision has been provided where needed, however, for the Council to adhere to UK law, a range of containers must be provided. The Council will continue to explore alternative and innovative ways of collecting waste to optimise convenience for residents. The Council recognise the desire of some residents to know their recycling efforts are making a difference. This year, the Council Website will be updated to provide more information about where our recycling goes and provide examples of the products that are made from it. Information will also be cascaded through boroughwide leaflets.
Many respondents felt that single use plastics should be banned, or at least limited, and that producers of packaging should be obliged to ensure it can be recycled.	The Council have taken several steps to limit the use of single use plastic under its control by: • Banning all single use plastics from events on council owned land and premises. Alternatives are available. • Requiring pop-up food and drink vendors at council events to avoid SUPs as a condition of their contract. • Working with tenants and operators in commercial properties owned by Cheshire West and Chester Council to support the phasing out of SUP cups, bottles, and food containers. • Working with festival organisers to create policy in which single-use 'disposable' plastic cups are replaced at all festivals with reusable or deposit scheme cups, ensuring this ultimately becomes a condition for obtaining a licence for large scale events. Eco Communities, a Chester based charity, now has a good supply of reusable cups, which can be loaned for events. Producers of packaging are now obligated by Central Government to cover the cost of collecting, recycling and treating post-consumer packaging. These obligations encourage manufacturers to increase the recyclability of their packaging waste, as difficult to recycle products cost them more to place on the market. Through responding to consultations and membership of relevant organisations (Such as the Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee) the Council takes every opportunity to support legislative measures that incentives producers to reduce packaging waste where possible, encourage better labelling of packaging to educate consumers, and to make their packaging from materials that can be readily recycled.
Some respondents felt that re-use initiative such as repair cafes, reuse shops, refill	The Council commits to support Reuse initiatives in order to deliver on the aims of its ten year Waste Strategy. There is an opportunity to support the circular economy by ensuring unwanted items brought to

shops, home/community composting and real nappies schemes should be encouraged and a few respondents felt that reducing overall wastage and associated emissions from manufacturing new or disposable products should be the ultimate goal.	HWRCs are recirculated at their highest value. The new HWRC contract will focus on higher reuse targets through improvements to the existing re-use shops and development of local partnerships. The Council will seek to leverage support and external funding for community initiatives that reduce waste going to landfill or incineration, and support communities to improve green spaces. For example, £30,000 of external community benefits funding will be distributed to organisations across Cheshire West and Chester over a three year period as a result of commitments made by the Council's waste treatment service provider.
Several respondents felt there was a link between fly tipping and the frequency of the waste collection service and some felt that reducing frequency of collections would not encourage more people to recycle. Several other respondents called for greater enforcement to discourage irresponsible waste behaviours.	When household waste is dumped illegally, it is often mixed waste containing items of economic value that could have been recycled or even repaired and re-used. Therefore raising awareness amongst residents about potential outlets for their unwanted items, cost effective collection services and improving access to repair services is fundamental to reducing the temptation for irresponsible waste behaviours. The Council has developed a 24 point Action Plan that aims to prevent fly tipping. This includes increased education and where necessary, enforcement and monitoring across a range of stakeholders including residents, students, businesses, tradespeople and landlords. The Action Plan is being presented to Cabinet June 2025. It is necessary to ensure that homes have adequate provision/ bin capacity to meet their needs for waste disposal and recycling. This capacity is dependant on the frequency of collections. The council offers a weekly collection service to some properties with communal bin stores as the number of containers can be restricted due to storage space. Later this year, the Council is trialling an additional collection service for recycling and waste from a high density housing area, where residents may bring their household waste to a manned collection point within their area once a week. This will enable face to face engagement with residents to increase their knowledge to encourage recycling and correct use of the service. As the range of waste types that can be collected for recycling increases (because of new laws and developments in technology and UK reprocessing), reviews of collection frequencies should be reviewed. High performing local authorities across the UK have successfully implemented restrictions on the collection frequency or capacity of the non-recyclable container and demonstrated this as the most effective measure in encouraging pro-recycling behaviours.
Several respondents felt that the range of materials we accept for recycling should be	The Council has a current recycling target of 64% by 2028/29. Recycling performance increased to its highest recorded in 2023/24 (59.1%), making it one of the highest performing local authorities in England.

expanded, especially plastic products and one respondent felt that the Council should aim to increase its recycling performance to 70%.	The provision of the red and blue lidded recycling bins provided many households with more capacity recyclables. Authorities reporting recycling performance of 70% operate less frequent service for residual (non-recyclable / black bin) collections – collecting every three or four weeks. Subject to the UK reprocessing industry being able to accept post-consumer film for recycling (UK wide trials are underway) the Council is preparing to introduce the collection of plastic film in 2027 and have earmarked new funding (Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging) to invest in the infrastructure needed to manage film once it has been collected from householders. The Council is also exploring how communities collecting "blister packs" for recycling can be supported to continue their efforts, until such time that design improvements are made to this difficult to recycle packaging which would enable it to be collected with other packaging on the kerbside.
Several respondents felt that households who recycled or produced less waste should pay less council tax, and several felt that the garden waste collection charge should be reduced or collections extended to enable late autumn leaf fall to be recycled.	All households should use the full range of kerbside recycling services available to them to ensure the waste sent to incineration is reduced. The Council will be increasing engagement with homes producing a lot of waste, or not recycling fully to ensure they are adhering to the Council's recycling and waste requirements. This includes the recruitment of three full time recycling advisors from April 2026. We know that "pay as you throw" initiatives in other European countries has been effective in reducing the amount of waste incinerated or sent to landfill but this type of system cannot be introduced in the UK without a change in law. The garden waste subscription charge is reviewed annually to ensure the council recovers its costs for this non-statutory service. Garden Waste may be taken to any of the council's HWRCs free of charge, and homes with small gardens producing less waste are encouraged to share a subscription with a neighbour to reduce their costs. Discounts are available for homes qualifying for full council tax reduction. From Subscription year 2026, the 40 week collection period will be shifted by two weeks, to enable and extra collection to take place late Autumn (Early December).

10.3 Outcomes by 2030, Informed by Engagement

Ref	Waste, Recycling and Circular Economy Outcomes	Outcome delivered by	Timescale	Co-benefits
O34	To support the use and production of green energy sources through the management of waste related resources, including our landfill sites, depots and fleet	Cheshire West and Chester Council, Cheshire West Recycling and other Service Providers	Short, medium and long-term	Positive behavioural changes and practice adoption, reduced flooding
O35	To ensure carbon avoidance, reduction and capture schemes are in place minimise the impact of residual waste treatment on emissions, and support the development of local alternative waste treatment technologies where possible by 2028.	Cheshire West and Chester Council, Waste treatment and waste technology providers, Universities, colleges and other research bodies, partners, landowners, central Government.	Medium and long-term	Nature recovery, climate resilience, health benefits, environmental justice
O36	Increasing the social value commitments through our waste contractors and partners to support community and charitable organisations involved in re-use, repair and upcycling projects to keep items in circulation for as long as possible.	Cheshire West and Chester Council, Cheshire West Recycling Central Government	Medium and long term	Increasing Social Value and delivering on the Council's co-operative principles
O37	To increase the capture rate of food waste for recycling (anaerobic digestion) by at least 20% by 2030, through a comprehensive long term behaviour change plan, including offering food waste recycling to schools and all remaining Cheshire West	Cheshire West and Chester Council, Cheshire West	Short, medium and long term	Positive behavioural changes, reduction in waste sent to Energy

	and Chester homes by March 2026, requiring residents to play their part by using the correct containers.	Recycling Central Government CWAC Schools WRAP (Waste Resource Action Programme)		from Waste treatment facilities. and keeping products/items in circulation for as long as possible, recycling them at their highest value.
O38	Provide more information and guidance to encourage home composting for garden waste– especially the benefits of loose compost heaps to local wildlife.	Cheshire West and Chester Council, Cheshire West Recycling Central Government CWAC Schools Wildlife organisations and rescue centres.	Short, medium and long-term	Nature recovery Carbon emission reductions
O39	Take steps to prevent unauthorised waste from entering the Council's household waste sites and carry out proactive enforcement and engagement to reduce waste crime.	Cheshire West and Chester Council, Environment Agency Neighbouring councils, HWRC service provider Private Landowners	Short, medium and long-term	Pollution control Improved local environmental quality Reduced cost related to clearance of illegal waste deposits
O40	The council will provide more information on our website to tell people where the recycling goes, to help people understand the importance of separating their waste and signpost people to alternative community based recycling and re-use projects.	Cheshire West and Chester Council Cheshire West Recycling Community based waste projects	Short, medium and long-term	Pro-environmental behaviour change

10.4 The Council's Commitments

Ref	Waste, Recycling and the Circular Economy Actions	Influence	Linked to outcome	Cost	Carbon
A45	Reduce the use of Single Use Plastics across the Council and delivery partners (including events held on Council land and premises) and proactively support the production of more environmentally friendly alternatives to plastic products within communities, partners, businesses and local industry.	Direct	6,7	Low	Low
A46	To reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste produced per household to 405kg/household/year by 2027/28 through waste prevention projects and encouragement of pro-recycling behaviours amongst residents. This will include a review of the frequency of waste collections and container capacity.	Direct	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	Medium	High
A47	To increase the percentage of municipal waste recycled to at least 64% by end of 2027/28.	Direct	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	High	High

10.5 What Government needs to do:

1. **Continue to provide funding for managing the recovery of packaging waste**: Ensure regular and timely payments for Producer Responsibility fees and Councils are reimbursed fairly for costs related to handling packaging waste.
2. **Hold manufacturers accountable**: Ensure that companies are responsible for the entire life of the products they sell and encourage them to make items with materials that are easy to recycle.
3. **Encourage circular economy practices**: Motivate businesses to create products that are durable, repairable, and not just single use, to help reduce waste.
4. **Invest in new technology and reprocessing infrastructure in the UK**: Support the use of new technologies like AI-based sorting systems, help develop better ways to recycle plastic film, and ensure there is enough reprocessing capacity in the UK to handle kerbside collections of plastic film.
5. **Fund national education and awareness campaigns**: Provide funding for national campaigns that teach the public how to recycle properly and separate their waste correctly.
6. **Support food waste collection**: Provide funding to all local authorities help collect food waste recycling from all households, not just those authorities who are introducing food waste for the first time.
7. **Expand Producer Responsibility**: Include more materials, like textiles, hygiene products and blister packs in the Producer Responsibility program, especially those that contain fossil fuels and are often found in general waste.
8. **Allow flexible waste collection schedules**: Continue to allow local councils to decide how often they collect general waste, with the goal of reducing fossil-fuel-based materials and cutting down emissions.
9. **Give councils time to adjust**: Allow local authorities a clear, four-year period to fully implement all the new recycling policies, so they can make the most of these changes to improve waste management.

10.6 What our partners can do:

1. **Encourage waste reduction and sustainability**: Lead by example by buying goods and services that are sustainable—choose items with less packaging, and work with suppliers to reduce waste. Promote reusing and repairing things like furniture, appliances, and clothes. Support community activities like swap shops, donation centres, or repair cafes through their social value responsibilities.
2. **Support community involvement**: Encourage local groups, volunteers, and organisations to get involved in waste and recycling efforts, such as hosting educational workshops, organizing cleanups, or running environmental programs focused on reducing waste.
3. **Develop guidance, education tools and resources:** Support the Council to signpost residents, businesses, schools and interest groups to relevant information and encourage recycling and reuse champions within their own organisations.
4. **Landlords, property managing agents and housing associations** to support the Council to encourage better waste management practices relating to communal (shared) waste provision and bin stores.

10.7 What our residents can do

We all need to change our habits and here are some suggestions to help make a difference:

1. Reduce, reuse and recycle: By reducing the amount of waste sent for disposal you can make a massive difference.
2. Reduce your use of single-use plastics
3. Buy products that use less packaging
4. Consider buying second had items, rather than new, or borrowing items you don't use that often.
5. Repair items to keep them for longer, and donate useable unwanted items through charity shops, the Household Waste Recycling Centres, or online platforms.
6. Learn how to reduce the amount of food you waste[30] and ensure unavoidable food waste is composted or recycled
7. Make sure recyclable items are not put in your black bin/bags;
8. Buy local to support local agriculture and reduce transport emissions.

10.8 Case study

Repair cafés – Local volunteers are powering a growing network of repair cafés across the borough, helping residents to fix a range of items from bikes to laptops. These community hubs reduce waste, share skills and bring people together to support a circular economy. Read the full case study on our website.

Appendix 1
Report on Climate Emergency Response Plan Engagement – November 2024

Appendix 2
Report on the Climate Emergency Response Plan Consultation

[30] Food waste | Cheshire West and Chester Council

Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services

Council information is also available in audio, Braille, large print or other formats. If you would like information in another format or language, including British Sign Language, please email us at:

equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

إذا أردت المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو بطريقة أخرى، نرجو أن تطلب ذلك متا.

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

Pokud byste požadovali informace v jiném jazyce nebo formátu, kontaktujte nás

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, prosimy dać nam znać.

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ, ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਸਾਥੋਂ ਮੰਗ ਲਓ।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

Türkçe bilgi almak istiyorsanız, bize başvurabilirsiniz.

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