

Chesterfield Borough Council Climate Change Delivery Plan 2026-2028

PRIORITY 1

Decarbonise the Council's operational assets and improve energy efficiency and energy generation.				
	Action	Key activities	Information required	Outputs and outcomes
1.	Complete the heat decarbonisation project for the Healthy Living Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver the heat decarbonisation plan for the Healthy Living Centre (HLC) Installation of air source heat pumps, ventilation and building management systems upgrades commencing September 2026. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline gas usage and costs Baseline electric usage and costs Baseline carbon emissions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low carbon heating and carbon saving measures installed (by 31 March 2028) Reduction in annual carbon emissions (estimated to total 250 tCO₂e).
2.	Deliver the elements of the annual £1m Capital Maintenance Programme that reduce carbon emissions across operational buildings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver the Capital Maintenance Programme 2026/27 including: HLC chiller unit and mechanical control panel, Town Hall boiler replacement, Venture House heat pump upgrades. Development and delivery of the Capital Maintenance Programme 2027/28. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decarbonisation roadmap reports Baseline gas usage and costs for each building Baseline electric usage and costs for each building Baseline carbon emissions for each building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon saving measures installed Reduction in energy consumption Reduction in energy costs Reduction in annual carbon emissions
3.	Deliver targeted measures to expand decarbonisation and energy efficiency with additional £400,000 investment over two years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and deliver additional targeted measures to expand decarbonisation impact of the Capital Maintenance Programme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decarbonisation roadmap reports Energy efficiency audit information Baseline gas usage and costs for each building Baseline electric usage and costs for each building Baseline carbon emissions for each building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in energy consumption Reduction in energy costs Reduction in annual carbon emissions
4.	Develop and facilitate premise managers working group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embed energy efficiency awareness and good practice across operational buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline gas usage and costs for each building Baseline electric usage and costs for each building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved energy efficiency awareness across premise managers Increased suggestions and recommendations for further energy efficiency improvements for operational buildings

Decarbonise the Council's operational assets and improve energy efficiency and energy generation.

	Action	Key activities	Information required	Outputs and outcomes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore further energy efficiency suggestions and recommendations. • Develop water efficiency awareness and practice • Monitor existing solar PV performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline carbon emissions for each building • Solar PV performance information • Decarbonisation roadmap reports • Energy efficiency audit information • Water efficiency information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practice and knowledge • Reduction in energy consumption • Reduction in energy costs • Reduction in water usage • Improved solar PV performance • Reduction in annual carbon emissions
5.	Conduct energy efficiency audits for priority buildings and develop recommendations for improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the energy efficiency audit for Queen's Park Sports Centre (2026/27) • Develop pipeline of priority audits for other operational buildings (2026/27) • Deliver prioritised list of audits (2026/27 and 2027/28) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline gas usage and costs for each building • Baseline electric usage and costs for each building • Baseline carbon emissions for each building • Solar PV performance information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option paper and recommendations for future energy efficiency improvements at Queen's Park Sport Centre • Options paper and recommendations for energy efficiency improvements at prioritised buildings
6.	Explore heat decarbonisation or lower carbon alternatives for the cremators at Chesterfield Crematorium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare fully costed decarbonisation / lower-carbon options paper with recommendations for cremator replacement and any wider decarbonisation • Continue to liaise with Distribution Network Operator (DNO) regarding required upgrades. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cremator replacement feasibility study • Crematorium decarbonisation roadmap report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires Crematorium Committee consideration and decision • If approved, delivery plan developed
7.	Develop business cases for additional energy generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a business case to increase solar PV capacity at Queens Park Sports Centre • Develop a business case for solar PV at Healthy Living Centre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current and proposed system capacity • Capital costs and payback • Estimated annual generation and savings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business case completed for both sites • If approved, additional installed capacity delivered (kWp) • Annual renewable generation and carbon savings reported

Decarbonise the Council's operational assets and improve energy efficiency and energy generation.

	Action	Key activities	Information required	Outputs and outcomes
8.	Ensure Low carbon energy supply for the Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGOs) for 2027/28 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> REGO procurement options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> REGOs secured for electricity supplied for 2027/28

PRIORITY 2

Decarbonise and adapt homes to a changing climate.

	Action	Key activities	Information required	Outputs and outcomes
1.	Continue to meet the Decent Homes Standard for council homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work towards Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) Increase capacity to deliver EPC assessments Complete Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) assessments across housing stock prioritised through modelling Deliver efficiency measures to prioritised properties to achieve EPC C or above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPC ratings Mapping of stock by EPC band Record of upgrades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPC assessments completed on priority housing (1200 homes) by March 2027 Increase the number of homes at EPC C by March 2028
2.	Prepare for implementation of Decent Homes Standard in the private sector (including renters rights and Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to inspect private residential properties and enforce any with Category 1 Hazards Monitor guidance when released to consider detail of DHS requirements. Specific focus on damp, mould and condensation cases under Awaab's law. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPC ratings Database of damp, mould and condensation (DMC) cases and severity level Number of enforcement notices served. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of measures/improvements installed following service of notice. Improvement in EPC rating on affected properties
3.	Deliver Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund (Wave 3) to improve energy efficiency of council homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and deliver Wave 3 implementation plan Apply for possible additional Warm Homes funding during 2026/27 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retrofit assessments Solutions / upgrades installed Continue to map properties by EPC band 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 220 homes improved between September 2025 and September 2028 Number of homes to EPC C Energy savings (kWh) Number of homes with installations completed

Decarbonise and adapt homes to a changing climate.

	Action	Key activities	Information required	Outputs and outcomes
4.	Deliver Warm Homes: Local Grant to improve energy efficiency of private sector homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and deliver Local Grant implementation plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retrofit assessments Solutions / upgrades installed Resident uptake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of private homes improved between September 2025 and September 2028 Funding allocated by grant deadline
5.	Demonstrate impact of heat decarbonisation at Brocklehurst Court and consider future options for the other independent living schemes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review performance of outputs Gather tenant feedback Develop approach for remaining independent living schemes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on energy usage, carbon emissions and running costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project delivered in line with agreed milestones Gas and electricity consumption compared to baseline year Annual carbon emissions reduction achieved (tCO₂e) Achieve carbon neutral site Annual running costs reduction
6.	Communicate the benefits of energy efficient homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to upskill wider teams to understand benefits of energy efficient homes. Communicate to tenants to support take up of housing improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact reports Case studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in EPC assessment uptake Increase in retrofit assessments Increase in EPC uplifts Improved communication methods
7.	Develop an adaptation and resilience delivery plan for our council homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify opportunities for climate adaptation and resilience Identify and apply for funding streams including Warm Homes: Social Housing (Social Value) Continue to engage with key partners and tenants to identify and progress resilience opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best practice examples Flood risk assessment Tree Equity score Adaptation Toolkit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority areas identified by March 2027 External funding bids Number of adaptation interventions identified Number of pilot interventions delivered Number of tenants / residents / communities engaged with.
8.	Complete new build council homes rated EPC A, and acquisitions rated EPC C or above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake works (if required) on acquired homes to reach EPC C or above within 6 months. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPC data Sustainability measures in new builds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of new-build homes delivered to EPC A with a range of sustainability measures (estimated to achieve 49 during 2026-28) 100% of acquired homes to meet EPC C or above within 6 months (estimated to achieve 12 acquisitions during 2026-28)

PRIORITY 3

Decarbonisation and electrification of the Council's fleet

	Action	Key activities	Information required	Outputs and outcomes
1.	Update and implement second stage of fleet decarbonisation and electrification plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update fleet decarbonisation and electrification plan to maximise the use of electric vehicles Confirm the approach to the use of HVO as a low carbon fuel alternative Develop options and pilot charging electric vehicles at employees' homes Undertake fleet performance reviews Progress appropriate procurement strategy for new vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total Mobile (fleet deployment data) Vehicle acquisition and lifecycle cost data Fuel and electricity consumption data Carbon emissions baseline and predictions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in number of vehicles Reduction in carbon emissions (tCO₂e) Number and percent of fleet vehicles that are electric Reduction in diesel/petrol fuel consumption Increase in use of low-carbon fuels

PRIORITY 4

Climate friendly land management				
	Action	Key activities	Information required	Outputs and outcomes
1.	Implement the current Chesterfield Local Plan (2018-2035) – safeguarding the environment and adapting to climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply biodiversity net gain measures to developments where appropriate (10%) Ensure delivery of small-scale biodiversity measures Ensure all major development schemes incorporate SuDs (Sustainable Drainage Systems) Ensure sustainable, climate-resilient design standards are sought 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning application data (public access system) Biodiversity metrics submitted Biodiversity gain plans Drainage and landscaping plans Sustainability statement Water efficiency standard (all residential developments) Statement of consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of applications to which the BNG condition has been applied Number of biodiversity units set to be delivered through BNG plans Number of biodiversity net gain plans approved Proportion of applications including small-scale biodiversity measures Number of major development schemes including SuDs Number of sustainability statements submitted
2.	Prepare the revised Chesterfield Local Plan– safeguarding the environment and adapting to climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use Regulation 18 consultation feedback and evidence to inform plan review Ensure strategic flood risk assessment is updated Update all relevant policies relating to mitigation and adaptation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statement of consultation Flood Risk Assessment Biodiversity Action Plan Plan for Nature Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish a Regulation 19 local plan that reflects feedback around climate change actions Site allocations in the new local plan reflect the strategic flood risk assessment
3.	Implement Biodiversity Duty Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver the actions in the Biodiversity Duty Action Plan (pending approval) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for Nature Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) Woodland Management Plan (when developed and approved) Flood risk assessment Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity Duty embedded into council practices Number of native and sustainably sourced tree and meadows planted on council owned land. Number of existing hedgerows improved or extended Improve wetland habitat in the borough Two council owned green spaces to become flagship sites for species diversity

Climate friendly land management				
	Action	Key activities	Information required	Outputs and outcomes
4.	Influence the Pride in Place programme to consider mitigation and adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise opportunities identified in feasibility studies – green infrastructure, decarbonisation, energy efficiency and energy generation Identify wider opportunities for green infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree Equity Score UK Flood Risk Assessment Climate hazard mapping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of projects delivered supporting mitigation and adaptation (e.g. Square meters of new green / permeable surfaces., reduction in surface water / localised ponding)
5.	Influence the Chesterfield Growth Strategy to consider mitigation and adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an innovative Town Centre Framework with climate objectives included 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree Equity Score UK Flood Risk Assessment Climate change risk assessment Environmental data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of framework projects including sustainable design (e.g., shading, biodiversity, flood resilience and low-carbon materials)
6.	Develop options for and deliver a natural burial ground (subject to approval)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake site suitability works Develop delivery plan (subject to approval) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options appraisal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased capacity for burials (estimate 1500 burials or 20 years burial space) Increased choice for sustainable burials
7.	Support the development and then adopt a county wide woodland management plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop applications for external funding to enhance delivery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Woodland Inventory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County wide woodland management plan adopted. External funding secured.
8.	Map climate hazards across the borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify climate hazards across the borough Refresh strategic and service risk registers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood Risk Assessment MET Office data LNRS Anthesis Assessment 2022 Tree Equity Score 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete climate hazard mapping report Climate risks embedded in corporate risk register
9.	Identify opportunities to support adaptation and resilience when applying developer contributions e.g. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop pipeline of eligible adaptation projects Allocate funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure priority list CIL monitoring reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of projects delivered which support mitigation and adaptation

PRIORITY 5

Partnership working and influence (in preparation for Local Government Reorganisation).				
	Action	Key activities	Information required	Outputs and outcomes
1.	Deliver a community grants fund to support decarbonisation and climate adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch Community Grants fund for 26/27 • Deliver Community Grants fund for 27/28 • Ongoing monitoring of funded projects 2025 onwards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant award records • Project monitoring returns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to £200,000 allocated to community grant scheme per year (2026/27 and 2027/28) with a proportion ringfenced for climate related projects. • Number of climate related projects funded each year • Estimated carbon (tCO₂e) saved or resilience benefits delivered through funded projects
2.	Engage staff and residents using the Climate Action Now (CAN) campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal communications through Aspire • Borough wide communications through channels and publications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interaction and engagement data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behavioural change case studies • Positive engagement in campaigns
3.	Develop and sustain engagement in the climate change forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing development of forum • Regular engagement opportunities and updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forum attendance • Actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 3 forum meetings per year • Attendance from a range of partners
4.	Work with Health and Wellbeing Partnership (HWP) to reduce climate impacts on vulnerable groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete vulnerability mapping • Identify priority interventions with partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vulnerability datasets • HWP reports and action plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vulnerability mapping completed by March 2027 • Priority areas and cohorts identified • At least one pilot initiative delivered by March 2028
5.	Engage with Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) workstreams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of LGR workstream terms of reference and programme plan 2026/27 • Engagement with Shadow Authority 2027/28 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGR transformation plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximising opportunities for climate change inclusion as we transition to the new unitary authority
6.	Work with Veolia to reduce fossil fuel dependency of the waste fleet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of HVO options paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Options paper • Emissions data and forecasting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HVO options paper completed • Decision taken on preferred option • Estimated reduction in fleet emissions identified

Partnership working and influence (in preparation for Local Government Reorganisation).				
	Action	Key activities	Information required	Outputs and outcomes
7.	Engage with EMCCA to influence regional climate activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing engagement across priority themes (Investment, Energy, Transport, Land, Adaptation, Retrofit, Local Areas Energy Plan (LAEP)) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> D2 Environmental Sustainability Group Retrofit Strategy LAEP Report Warm Homes / DESNZ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment of local priorities with regional programmes
8.	Engage with local councils on countywide climate initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in existing and emerging projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project documentation Partnership records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active participation in existing networks Contributions reflected in project outputs

PRIORITY 6

Report on our climate change activity and progress.				
	Action	Key activities	Information required	Outputs and outcomes
1.	Deliver cross-service climate change workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme designed Workshops delivered across all directorates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training records Post-session feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of workshops delivered Percentage of services represented
2.	Embed climate performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KPI set agreed Quarterly reports to CLT Annual summary produced Scrutiny and cabinet reports Climate Change Impact Assessments (CCIA) embedded in council reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance dashboard CLT reports Committee papers Cabinet decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly reports submitted on time Number of actions rated green/amber/red Year-on-year improvement in key indicators Annual report Increased understanding of the climate change impact of council decisions
3.	Report waste and recycling performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste contracts monitored Staff awareness activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste contractor data External reporting processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased recycling rate Reduction in contamination penalties Reduction in residual waste (tonnes)
4.	Report energy, fuel and water usage across council services (including energy generation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse quarterly energy, fuel and water usage Compare to baseline Review energy data at premise managers group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline year data Quarterly utilities and fuel data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in carbon emissions (tCO₂e) across all council services Reduction in water consumption (m³) across all council services Increase in renewable energy generation

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