

Appendix A – An example of the range of things the Council was and is already doing to reduce carbon, increase carbon sequestration and improve ecology

- Energy reduction programme in Council buildings
- On-going rationalisation of the corporate estate
- Council housing energy efficiency work and new build Council Housing being constructed to 'A' or 'Passivhaus' standards
- Tree planting and natural flood management
- New fleet strategy (electric first) being rolled out along with electric charging points
- Using Council land and verges as green space for biodiversity
- Staff flexible, home and remote working policies and practices
- New buildings to BREAM excellent standards
- All electricity we use is purchased from renewable sources
- Renewable energy generation in or on our buildings has doubled and is growing
- Invested in – and now open – 2 energy-from-waste plants

Appendix B – Climate and Ecological Emergency Council Motion

A Notice of Motion put forward by Councillors Graham Timms, Mabon ap Gwynfor and Joseph Welch for consideration by Council:

“We are facing a Climate and Ecological Emergency

The global consensus is that climate change is causing a significant risk to our health, economy, and environment and is threatening the well-being of future generations.

Scientific evidence clearly tells us that we have fewer than 11 years to prevent catastrophic climate change. Furthermore, this year we have the clearest evidence ever that biodiversity loss is increasing and that this threatens the planet’s life-support systems upon which we all depend.

Nature is in serious decline, our biodiversity and soils are in decline or are being degraded. We are sustaining our own lives, whilst reducing the ability of future generations to sustain theirs. This is not an acceptable legacy to leave our children and grandchildren.

The future of humankind depends on today’s brave and enterprising leaders to make the necessary changes to secure the environment, for our own future and the future of generations yet to come.

Denbighshire County Council will

- Immediately declare a Climate and Ecological Emergency.
- Commit to making the authority net carbon zero by 2030 at the latest.
- Set up a task and finish group to draw up a clear plan within 6 months to achieve the above, including ways to enhance biodiversity in Denbighshire.
- Call on the Welsh Government and UK Government to provide assistance and resources to enable us to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance biodiversity.
- Work with partners across the public, private and third sector to help solve this climate and ecological emergency.”

Appendix C- The sources of emissions DCC is likely to need to baseline, monitor and report progress in reducing as part of the Welsh Government greenhouse gas reporting regime

Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burning (use) of gas, LPG and oil used to heat the Councils owned assets • The burning of biofuels in Council owned assets • Petrol, diesel, etc. used to run the Councils owned vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity used in the Councils owned assets • Refrigerants used in the Councils owned assets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The goods and services the Council buys with revenue funding including upstream and downstream transportation and distribution • The capital goods the Council buys including upstream and downstream transportation and distribution • The waste generated by the Council from the Council's own operations • The petrol diesel etc. used by staff when travelling on business within business hours • The petrol diesel etc. used by staff when commuting from their homes to work

Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The energy, water and waste produced by assets the Council leases from others • The energy, water and waste produced by assets the Council leases to others minus the proportion assigned to other lessees
Carbon emissions removals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of carbon by trees and other habitats across the Council's estate. 	

Appendix D- Membership of Climate and Ecological Emergency cross party political working group

Councillor representation:

Arwel Roberts

Barry Mellor

Bobby Feeley

Brian Jones

Graham Timms (Chair)

Gwyneth Kensler

Joe Welch (Vice Chair)

Tony Thomas

Officer representatives:

Joel Walley (Ecology Officer)

Judith Greenhalgh (Chief Executive)

Helen Vaughan-Evans (Project Manager)

Martyn Smith (Energy Projects Officer)

Nicola Kneale (Strategic Planning Team Manager)

Tom Booty (Lead Officer – Strategic Asset Management)

Tony Ward (Head of Highways & Environmental Services)

Appendix E- Brief description of DCC's Climate and Ecological Emergency priorities

For the Council to become a net carbon zero organisation at the latest by 2030

By which we mean the total carbon emitted as a Council from scope 1, 2 and 3 sources is equal or less than the total carbon sequestered (absorbed) by trees, habitat and land management regimes on Council owned land.

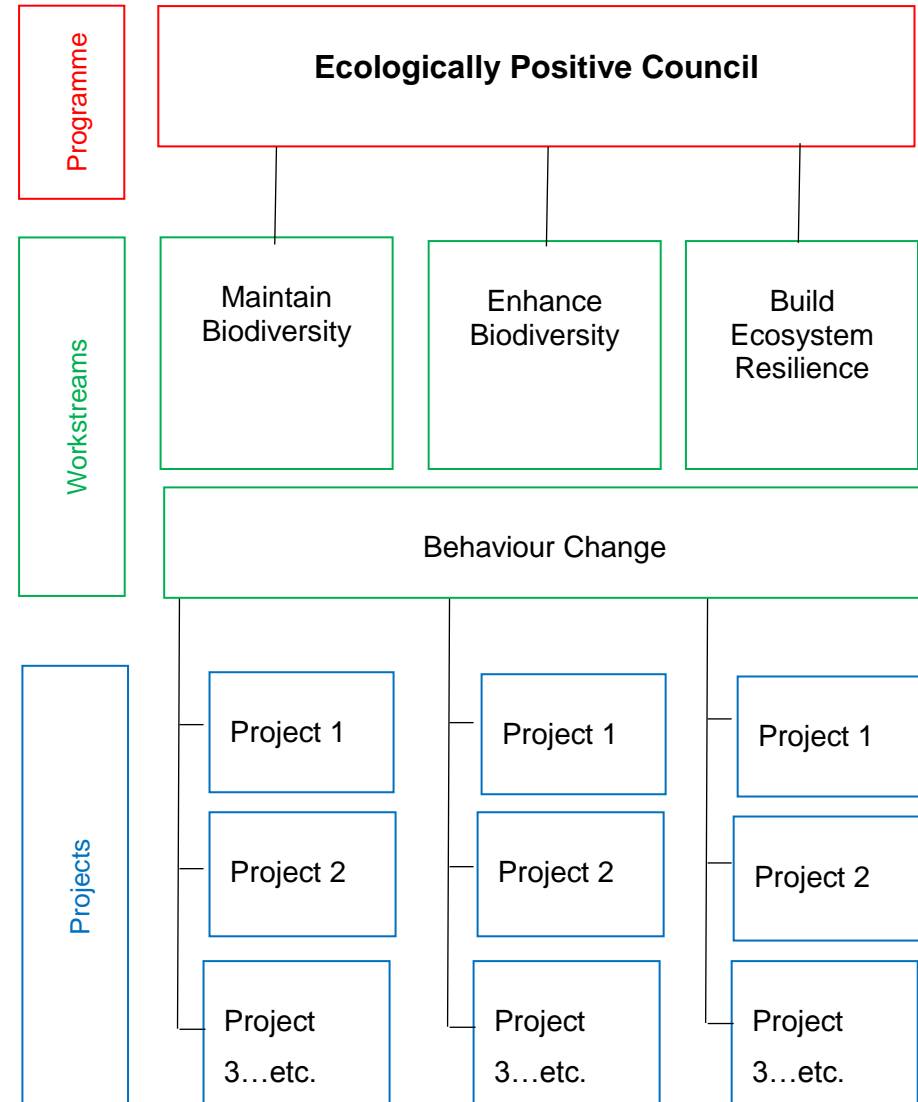
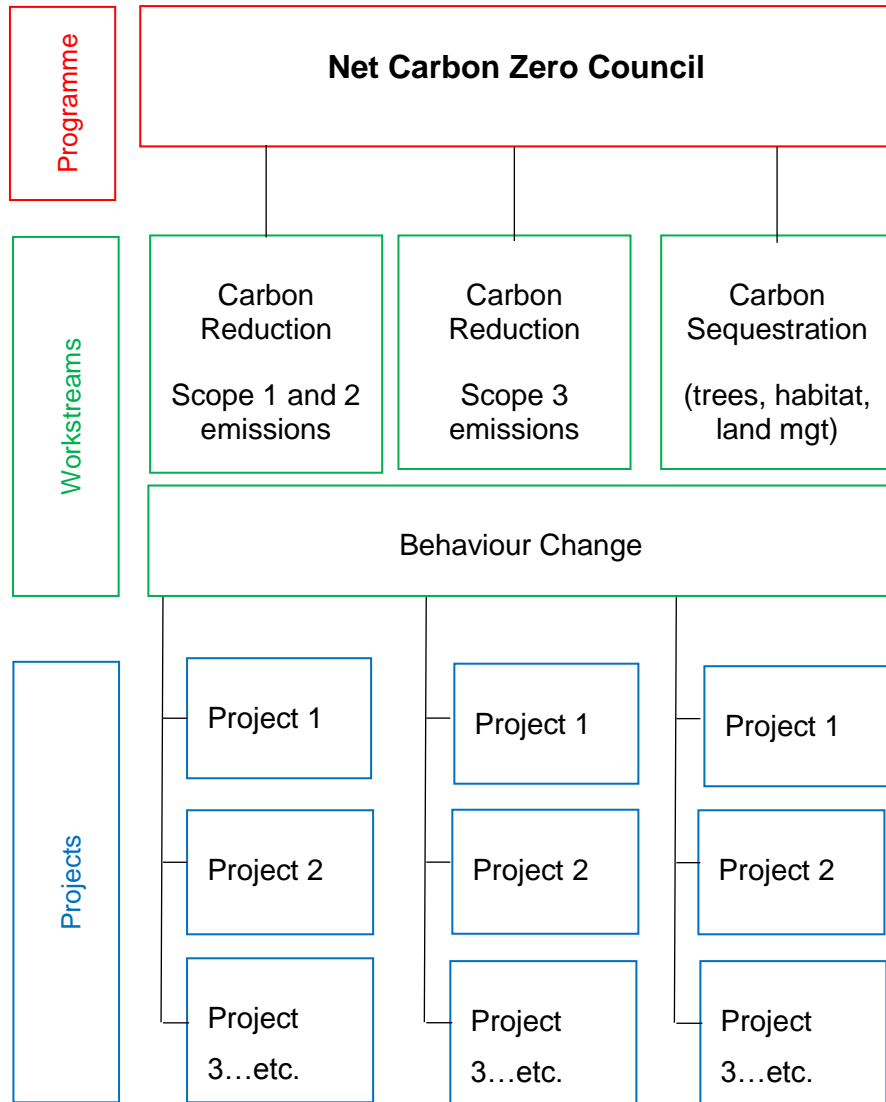
The focus will first be on reducing our carbon emissions as far and as fast as is pragmatic and practical. We will not be able to decarbonise completely and we will seek to offset our remaining carbon footprint by increasing the extent and/or concentration of trees, habitat and land management regimes which absorb carbon. Opportunities for carbon sequestration work contributing to our ecological positive ambitions and vice versa will be both taken and maximised upon.

For the Council to become an ecologically positive organisation at the latest by 2030

By which we mean that how we conduct all our business - the projects, operations and interventions we undertake as a Council- delivers ecosystems that are diverse, connected, adaptable and resilient and to the scale, extent and condition that maintains and enhances biodiversity.

A project by project, intervention by intervention, activity by activity approach will be taken. Every project, intervention or activity the Council undertakes, officers will be expected to review the biodiversity value and impact and deliver the activity in a way that provides a positive impact for ecology. Opportunities for ecologically positive work contributing to our carbon sequestration requirements and vice versa will be both taken and maximised upon.

Appendix F – An example of a programme structure for the delivery of a Net Carbon Zero and Ecological Positive Denbighshire County Council



Appendix G- Example “Kick Start” Actions that the Council looks to progress in 2019/20 and 2020/21

- Receive and act upon Staff Council suggestions for the Council to become net carbon zero by 2030
- Include ‘environmental’ implications on all reports
- Re-evaluate required standards for new build properties – BREAM excellent does not necessarily equal low emissions
- Extending vehicle charging networks on Council properties to encourage staff to switch to electric
- Evaluate what emission reductions could be achieved within our estate for a modest investment and develop business cases
- Identify the top 5 ‘carbon intensive’ Council processes and re-engineer them
- Develop and implement pilot ‘off gas’ school solutions
- Assess and identify opportunities for further tree planting
- Explore solar energy generation feasibility and business case
- Consider changes to planning requirements as part of LDP process

Appendix H - Conwy and Denbighshire Public Service Board Environment Priority Overview

PSB environment priority overview – Conwy & Denbighshire PSB



Place – Supporting Environmental Resilience

What we want to achieve

- Support people and communities to understand what positive differences they can make to reduce their impact on it.
- Promote ways we can all reduce our carbon footprint.
- Understand what each of our PSB partners are doing in term of addressing their ecological footprint and how we can bring this all together.
- Focus on sustainable procurement to ensure we're not having an adverse impact on the environment when we're buying goods and services

The impact we want

- Our communities and PSB partners to do their bit and actively take steps to reduce their footprint.
- To make sure the natural environment provides a space for our residents, visitors and workers to make the most of and which benefits their health and well-being.
- Improve the consistency between PSB partner organisations, by working towards the same environmental policies, standards and targets.

What we're doing

Environment Position Statement

- We've set up a sub-group to develop the above which outlines what frameworks we'll work towards, steps we'll take & includes good practice areas

Community Green Pledges

- We've developed a scheme where communities can pledge to make green changes across 5 areas.
- This was approved by the PSB in July and we're currently working on a communication plan to launch the scheme.

Note: A North Wales PSB Environment workshop was held 18th September 2019 and proposals for more regional coordination across North Wales' PSB's is being developed.

Appendix I- Key risks to DCC’s ambition to become a net carbon zero and ecologically positive Council

Title	Inherent Risk	Mitigating Action	Residual Risk
<p>No annual consistent commitment of resources (capacity and money) to develop and deliver net carbon zero and ecologically positive projects meaning actions are not delivered and benefits are not realised, risk of reputational damage to the Council if don't meet carbon reduction and sequestration targets, risk of legal challenge under Civil Contingency's Act as Council failing to act sufficiently under the declared Climate and Ecological Emergency</p>	<p>1A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobbying Welsh Government to provide financial assistance on this agenda • Corporate buy in and high level leadership to adopt net zero carbon and ecologically positive programmes and implement carbon reduction, carbon sequestration and biodiversity improvement projects • Resource commitment for project management support for the programmes • Resource commitment for specialist project officers in both carbon reduction and ecological improvement spheres. • Buy-in by senior management to ear mark funds-capital and revenue to deliver projects including land acquisition. • Investigation of funding pools and development of regular funding bids to deliver projects. 	<p>3D</p>
<p>The change in climate over the different seasons (e.g. warmer, wetter) causing increases in type or/and number of invasive and non-native species putting the biosecurity of DCC land at risk</p>	<p>2B</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively monitor invasive/non-native species presence • Take deliberative action to remove invasive/non-native species and preventive work to avoid colonisation • Take proactive progressive action to building native species habitat resilience 	<p>3B</p>

Title	Inherent Risk	Mitigating Action	Residual Risk
Resistance or/and ambivalence by officers, our service providers or/and our service users to the changes required to deliver the benefits of net carbon zero and ecologically positive	1C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proactive, constructive and sensitive communication and engagement campaign to encourage positive behaviours Empowering staff, teams and service areas to contribute personally and professionally to meeting DCC's ambitions 	4D
Ash die back across our tree estate is worse than expected meaning tree cover is reduced significantly (necessarily) reducing carbon sequestration	2C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the council develops an Ash Dieback Action Plan, and that additional resources are identified to enable this. Assessment undertaken of ash trees on DCC land and adjacent to DCC land/highway and an Ash Dieback Action Plan developed That any precautionary felling is done asap to prevent spread of disease. That recovery strategy is developed with carbon sequestration and biodiversity improvement in mind with favourable replanting/habitat/land management ratio. 	3D
Extreme Weather causing diversion of resource to respond to unplanned response, accelerated biodiversity negative impact and increasing energy consumption from assets and fleet in response to out-of-ordinary cold	3B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take a 'worst first' management approach to buildings so assets are in the best shape to efficiently respond to weather Deliver projects to build ecosystem resilience addressing their Diversity, Connectivity, Scale and Extent, Condition and Adaptability. Ensure cost in relation to responding to extreme weather events in our frontline services is captured in a clear and transparent way so that a successful Belbin 	4B

Title	Inherent Risk	Mitigating Action	Residual Risk
		<p>claim can be made to government after large scale events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporately provide sufficient budget contingency to be able to respond effectively to smaller scale more frequent extreme weather events whilst continuing to deliver day to day service. • Ensure emergency planning structures and roles are properly understood, resourced and tested. 	
Continually emerging technology in the low carbon sphere which challenges our experience and/or is difficult to incorporate/install into existing energy/asset infrastructure	3B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping abreast of technological developments and attend training. • Build officer confidence to trial it and install new technologies. • Actively seek innovation funding, such as from Innovate UK, to share cost of risk with external funder. 	4B
The interaction of trees, habitat and land management regimes on DCC land with farmland across Denbighshire (82% of land area) with potential changes in agricultural practice post Brexit causing unintended negative biodiversity/ecological consequences	2D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the changes to farming industry post Brexit • Work with and collaborate with NFU Wales and our farmers • Develop and deliver joint ecologically positive projects with landowners adjacent to our own land 	3D
Change in carbon reduction and biodiversity improvement required by national Climate Change and Biodiversity targets meaning we need to accelerate or/and adjust our action plans	3D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ear mark capacity to adapt activity and re-adjust projections • Design and build in flexibility and scalability to our net carbon zero and biodiversity net positive action plans • Horizon Scan regularly to pre-empt any potential changes and adapt as a Council sooner 	4D

	A - Almost Certain					
	B - Highly Likely					
Likelihood	C - Probable					
	D - Possible					
	E - Rare					
		5 - Very Low	4 - Low	3 - Medium	2 - High	1 - Very High
		Impact				

Appendix J – Summary description of legislative context

In 2015, the Welsh Government published the national biodiversity strategy “The Nature Recovery Plan for Wales” with the ambition to “halt the decline in biodiversity by 2020 and then reverse the decline, for its intrinsic value, and to ensure lasting benefits to society”.

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 set a target of reducing carbon emissions by at least 80% by 2050 (from their pre-1990 levels) as well as within Section 6 placing a statutory duty on all public authorities to “seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity”, and in so doing “promote the resilience of ecosystems”. New targets were adopted in law by UK Government in June 2019, a move backed by Welsh Government, to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.

In 2017, the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs declared an ambition for the public sector in Wales to be carbon neutral by 2030. In 2019, the Welsh Government published Wales’ Low Carbon Delivery Plan “Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales” which contained a requirement for “public sector to baseline, monitor and report progress towards carbon neutrality” (policy 20).