



Warwickshire County Council

Cllr Heather Timms

**Portfolio Holder for
Environment, Climate
and Culture**



North Warwickshire
Borough Council



Our Commitments



Net Zero Carbon



A Top Priority in our Council Plan



Sustainable futures and climate change

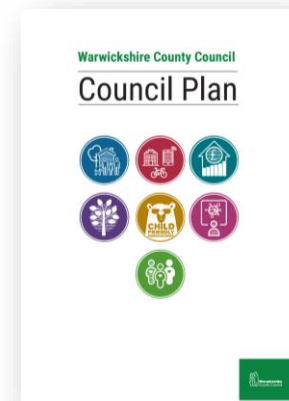
- climate risks will disproportionately impact the poorest and most vulnerable, so our Countywide climate change strategy must ensure our descendants can live in a sustainable County with good opportunities and quality of life. We will manage the transition to net zero in a way that widens opportunities through the growth of high value, green-related business sectors and jobs. We will mitigate risks to people's quality of life from climate change, for example flooding and extreme weather. We will provide active travel options, support people to make behavioural changes, and invest in our biodiversity.

(A Net Zero Council): *Continuing to Implement our Climate Emergency declaration and become a net zero Council by 2030*

(A Net Zero County): *Enabling a community powered approach to work with and support our stakeholders to decarbonise and change behaviour towards becoming a net zero county by 2050.*

(Biodiversity): *Promoting Biodiversity and the safeguarding of natural species, habitats and areas in our County including implementing our commitment to tree planting.*

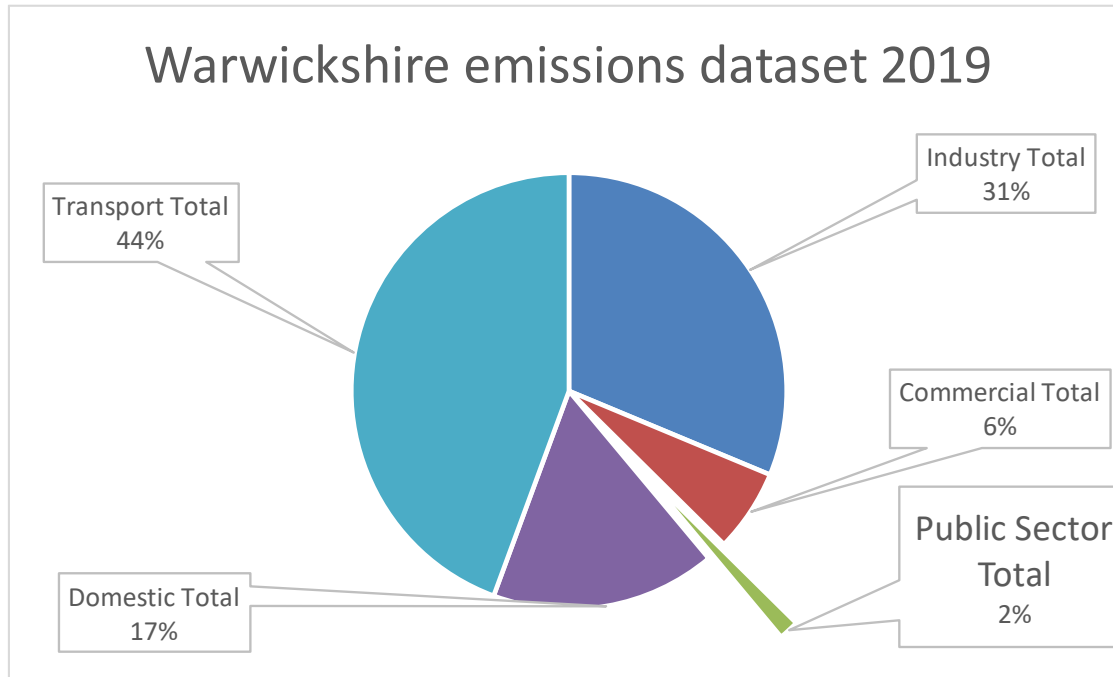
(Sustainability): *Supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals by embedding those areas relevant to us in our Climate Action Plan and how we track our progress.*



Next in 2022....Our Sustainable Futures strategy and action plan



Decarbonising Warwickshire



Warwickshire: 5,130 ktCO₂e

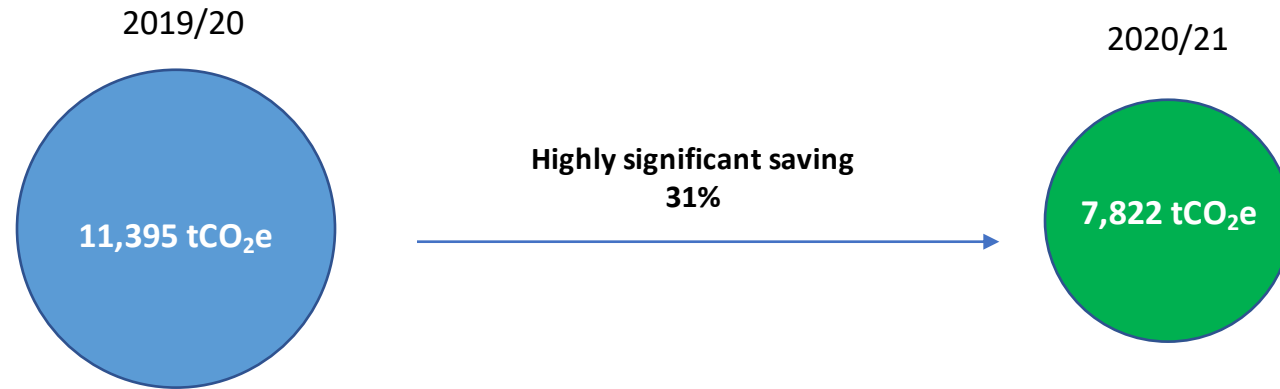
Public Sector: 2% direct emissions

Able to influence 31%
(LGA figures)

National > regional > local governments
Business > households > communities
NGO's > Volunteers



Decarbonising our own estate



Included:

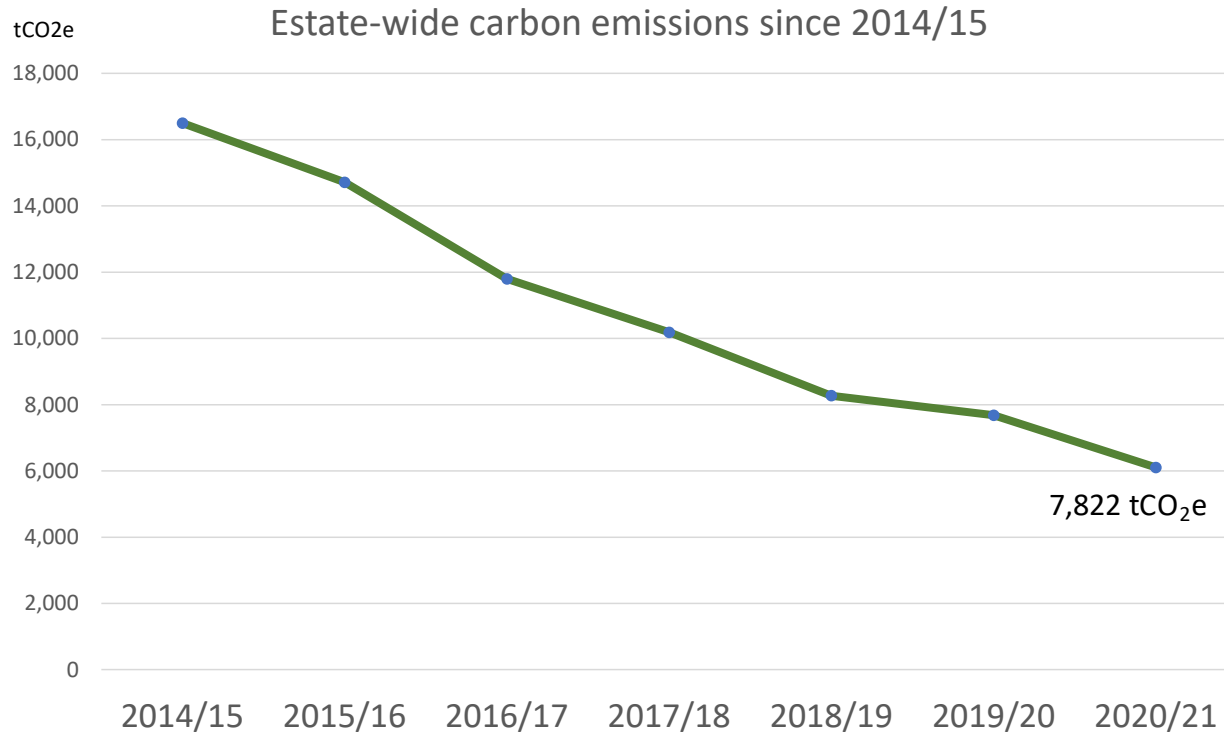
- Our buildings
- Our fleet
- Staff business travel

Not included:

- Waste generated from own operations (e.g. office materials)
- Material use (e.g. food and drink, electrical items / IT)
- Fugitive emissions (refrigerants from air conditioning)
- Out sourced scope 3: Heating, electricity and travel



Decarbonising our own estate



Totals 63% reduction

Staff business travel figures not included as legacy figures not available

Reductions:

76% electricity (streetlighting)

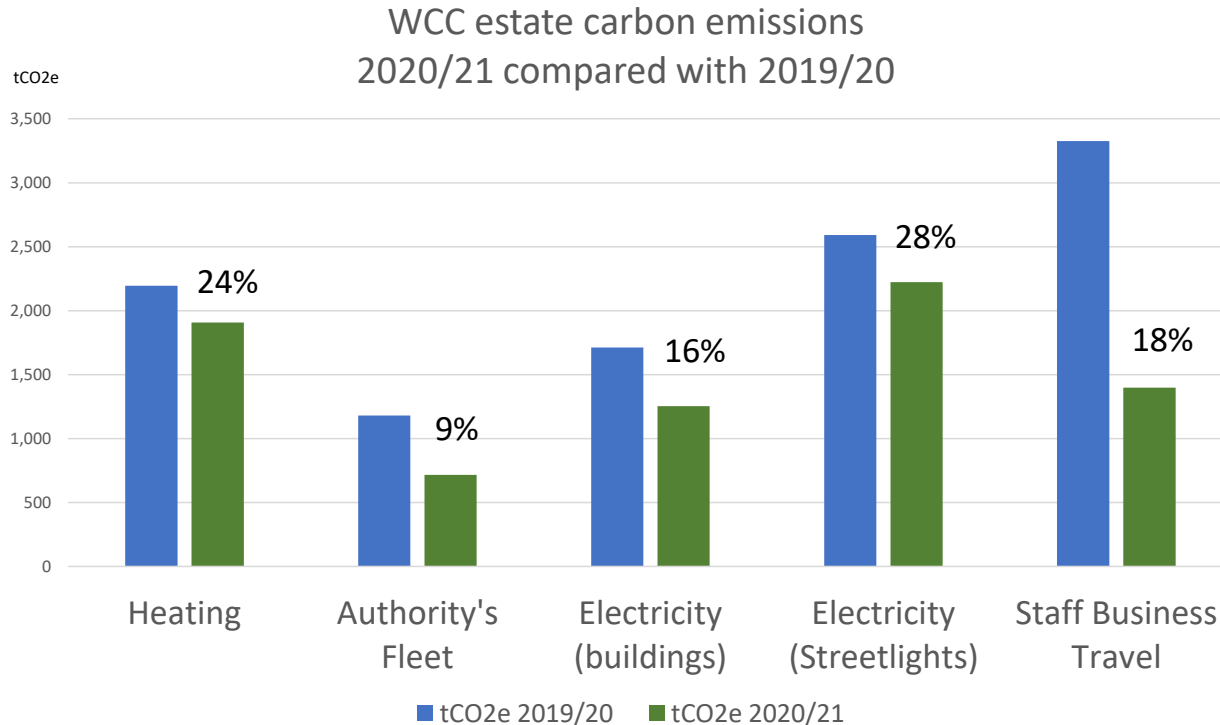
66% electricity (building)

49% fleet

5% reduction in gas for buildings



Decarbonising our own estate



31% reduction in total

58% reduction in staff business travel emissions

Now represent 18% of total emissions (was 29%)

Heavily influenced by the Covid pandemic

Working to minimise bounceback

The hard part remains



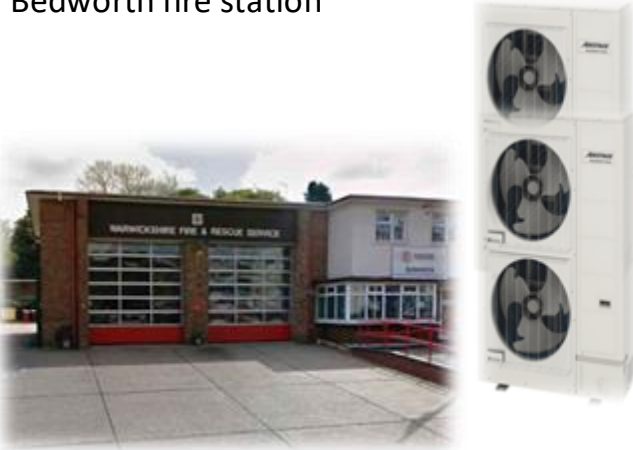
Decarbonising our own estate

- Public Sector decarbonisation scheme grant funding
- All electricity from renewable sources
- Trialling Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) in a fire appliance

But.....

- Decarbonising from gas remains an expensive and difficult challenge
- Need to innovate and broaden options e.g. hydrogen, large scale solar
- Limited and repeated rounds of grants won't deliver change quickly enough

Heat pump replacing gas boiler installed
Bedworth fire station



Solar panel array installed at Eliot Park
Innovation Centre



LED streetlights & controls. An ongoing programme now means that 86% are LED and +6% low energy.



Enabling people and communities to reduce their carbon emissions

Solar together: a group buying scheme for solar PV and battery charging. Participating households market rate pricing.



Electric vehicle charging

Fully funding

Partnership with D&B's

49 double headed points installed, 34 in progress



Safe and active travel:

1. Decrease single occupancy journeys
2. Increase active travel modes
3. Educate employees and employers of the health and environmental benefits of active sustainable travel.



Green Shoots: Phase 1



1. Support local schemes increase the adaptability and resilience of Warwickshire to the effects of climate change
2. Reduce environmental impacts
3. Benefit the wider Warwickshire community

69
Applications
funded

£625k
Funded

Phase 2: Inspire

Highly successful Phase 1

Showcased as an case study at
COP26 by the LGA

Significant support

Phase 2 not before March 2022

Formation of groups

How can successful phase 1 projects
inspire wider actions?

<https://www.warwickshireclimateemergency.org.uk/get-inspired>

Watch this space!



Engagement



Public sector webinars

- Include members with a shared mission to contribute to net zero targets
- Initially survey to help shape the group / terms of reference

Business webinars

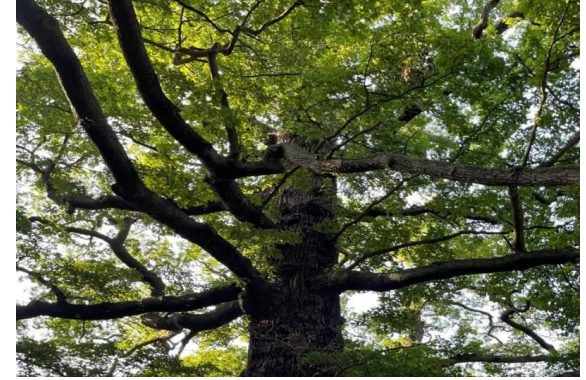
- Business engagement with Council plan, sustainable futures
- 6 events fortnightly, 20+ per webinar
- Themed e.g. energy, transport, circular economy

Coventry and Warwickshire Green Business Programme

- Coventry City Council, Coventry University, Coventry University Enterprises Ltd
- SME support (Warks and Coventry)
- Grants, free energy and resource efficiency audits, low carbon product development support



Working Together - Biodiversity



Making our region a greener, happier and healthier place to live:

- Implemented the first **Local Government Biodiversity Net Gain** in the UK further to our previous participation in a pilot initiative with Solihull and Coventry
- **DEFRA** recognised best practice that supports sustainable development
- Requires developers to deliver a wider range of environmental benefits over and above the full environmental impact of the proposed development
- The **rural tree planting scheme**: plant one tree for every resident
- To be recorded on the West Midlands Virtual Forest: <https://www.wmvirtualforest.co.uk/>
- Platform is designed to record ALL new trees planted in the region.
- **The Queen's Green Canopy** Platinum Jubilee in 2022
- National project which will encourage planting of trees
- <https://queensgreencanopy.org/> pin planted tree to a map



Transport



Local Transport Plan Consultation:

758 respondents. 95% agreed with the inclusion of environment as a theme.

New LTP4 being drafted in detail. Further formal consultation in 2022.

- An ambitious £12.2m programme of cycling infrastructure schemes is in progress
- Deliver 18km of new or upgraded cycling infrastructure
- Funding secured from a range of internal and external sources.
- Further 11 km of cycling infrastructure with a value of between £6m and £8.4m is being delivered
- Part of funded wider transport infrastructure schemes



Communications



Warwickshire
Climate Emergency

Warwickshire climate emergency website:

<https://www.warwickshireclimateemergency.org.uk>

- Report on WCC actions in progressing towards our goals
 - Raise awareness about the opportunities and threats brought about by climate change
 - Encourage residents and businesses to adopt the necessary behaviours
 - Provide effective community leadership across Warwickshire alongside other public services, the voluntary and private sector.
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- Not just for WCC news or events – a place to share Warwickshire climate content
 - Submit events or content to: climateemergency@warwickshire.gov.uk



Some Challenges

- Calculate a carbon budget to support a costed trajectory to achieve net zero – what is affordable, what is more ambitious?
- Implement a climate change adaptation plan that ensures resilience for everyone
- Prioritise sustainability-related actions in terms of cost, benefits and their ability to meet targets
- Support/implement actions to improve sustainability objectives in schools
- Ensure actions benefit all areas of society, including those more vulnerable and socially deprived
- Need to work across sectors to shape and act on climate change policy, and through collaboration a drive for innovation investment and a stronger voice to government for money and powers.

