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Foreword

by the Leader of the Council

Gateshead Council has made significant progress in recent years in reducing the carbon emissions from its own activities. Investment in new technologies has helped us reduce reliance on fossil fuels for providing heat and power to our buildings, and improving the efficiency of street lighting and the vehicles we use has also had a significant impact. Since 2010 we have reduced the carbon emissions associated with the Council's activities by 55%. In February 2021 we published a Climate Emergency Action Plan that will deliver on the council's commitment to make its own activities carbon neutral by 2030.



However, the Council's own activities account for only around 2.5% of Gateshead's total emissions. Clearly, achieving a significant reduction in total emissions from Gateshead requires action from everybody – from our communities, from Gateshead businesses and from our partners.

The activities that help reduce carbon emissions also help to address the very real cost of living crisis and poverty facing our communities, challenges to health and wellbeing, the need to improve air quality in some locations, reducing fuel poverty, ensuring access to good quality and affordable food, and supporting Gateshead's economic recovery from the devastating effects of Covid-19. We can help Gateshead Thrive whilst also protecting our planet, saving money and ensuring our future residents can also thrive without the devastating effects of climate change.

This Strategy aims to deliver on our commitment of making the whole of Gateshead carbon neutral by 2030. It sets out how communities, businesses and other agencies can reduce their carbon footprint, and the steps that the Council can take in enabling this. It is vital that we act collectively to deliver change. It is everyone's responsibility to take the action necessary to reduce the negative impact we have on our planet and every small step makes a difference. From residents to businesses, public services to charities to government. Climate Change is happening. Countries and businesses are responding, and Gateshead needs to be part of that movement if it is to succeed in grasping the many opportunities arising from a green economy and thriving neighbourhoods.

We look forward to working with Gateshead residents and business so we can all play our part in the vital action to deliver a zero carbon future.

Cllr Martin Gannon Leader, Gateshead Council

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The need for change

Earth's climate change has changed throughout history but the current warming trend is of particular significance because the evidence shows it is the result of human activity since the mid-20th century and the speed of change is unprecedented over thousands of years.

The evidence for rapid climate change is compelling:

- The planet's average surface temperature has risen about 1.18 degrees celsius since the late 19th century, a change driven largely by increased carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere and other human activity.
- Most of the warming occurred in the past 40 years, with the seven most recent years being the warmest. The years 2016 and 2020 are tied for the warmest year on record.



- The Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets have shrunk. Data from NASA shows Greenland lost an average of 279 billion tons of ice per year between 1993 and 2019, while Antarctica lost about 148 billion tons of ice per year.
- Global sea level rose about 20 centimetres in the last century. The rate in the last two decades is nearly double that of the last century and accelerating year by year.

The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 countries at COP 21 in Paris, on 12 December 2015 and entered into force on 4 November 2016. COP26 was held in 2021 with a goal to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels during COP26 The Glasgow Climate Pact and the Paris Rulebook were agreed which included tighter deadlines for updating strategies to reduce emissions.

To achieve this long-term temperature goal, countries need to start reducing greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible to achieve a climate neutral world by mid-century.

Climate change is happening and it is everyone's responsibility to take action.

Cost of living crisis

Rising costs are affecting us all and making things difficult for many people Gateshead. There are many ways that tackling climate change can also help with the cost of living, such as making sure our homes are draft free, walking instead of taking the car or making sure no food goes to waste. It is important that we ensure that we maximise opportunities to help people thrive whilst also tackling climate change and to acknowledge that some changes will be unaffordable to many at this current time.

The impact on Gateshead

UK winters are projected to become warmer and wetter on average, although cold and/ordry winterswill still occur sometimes. Summers are projected to be come hotter and are more likely to be drier, although wetter summers are also possible. By 2050, heatwaves like that seen in 2019 are expected to happen every other year.

By 2070 we project:

- Winter will be between 1 and 4.5°C warmer and up to 30% wetter
- · Summer will be between 1 and 6°C warmer and up to 60% drier



Heavy rainfall is also more likely. Since 1998, the UK has seen seven of the ten wettest years on record. Winter storms like we saw in 2015 are at least 40% more likely because of climate change.

Climate Change is already impacting on Gateshead with more regular flooding incidents and poor air quality.

If the predicted temperature rise occurs, the frequency, pattern and severity of flooding are all expected to increase and become more damaging. The risk of flooding in the borough will increase given rising sea levels, an increase in extreme rainfall and storm surge events and higher ground water levels.

In November 2018 Defra released a new set of UK Climate Projections (UKCP18): for the North East, sea levels are expected to increase by up to 50cm under the low emissions scenario and up to 90cm under the high emissions scenario by 2100.

Whilst it is not possible to predict or prevent all flooding, the Council's <u>Strategic Flood Risk Assessment</u> provides a range of flood risk data (river, tidal, surface water, groundwater, mine water, sewer, historic events) which can help to identify parts of the borough which may be vulnerable to flooding in the future and where steps can be taken to reduce the risk and the impact of flooding. The risk of flooding from the River Tyne, River Derwent and River Teamis greatest in parts of Dunston, Teams, Team Valley Trading Estate, Lamesley, Blackhall Mill, Lintzford, Derwenthaugh, Blaydon and Swalwell. Surface water flooding also affects hilly areas of the borough such as Kibblesworth, Chopwell, Rowlands Gill, Leam Lane, Sunniside, Clara Vale, the upper Team Valley, High Fell, Felling and Heworth.



Climate change will impact on our ability to develop areas for jobs and homes due to potential flooding.

ThunderThursday

On Thursday 28th June 2012, 50mm of rain fell across the North East in just two hours, the amount we would normally see for the whole month of June. Inaddition, 40mm fell in ninety minutes on Sunday 5th August 2012.

As a result of these two storms alone, the following happened:

- Our flood risk management team investigated over 300 reports of flooding, drainage and surface water problems.
- Detailed investigations were completed in 10 areas where 10 or more properties were flooded.

More than 250 properties had to be vacated through flooding and storm damage.

- Over 80 locations on Gateshead's roads were closed due to surface water flooding.
- 75 locations were added to the council's flood register
- Over 50 flood risk management or drainage improvement schemes were completed following the incidents
- While each floodinglocation was different, the level of rainfall was clearly the cause of the flooding.

The summer floods in 2012 demonstrated the risks fromover land surface water to both rural and urban communities where existing drainage systems could not cope. Flooding can have a devastating impact: damage to property and critical infrastructure; costs to the economy;; disruption to businesses, the transport network and community life; the health and wellbeing Of Residents.

STORMS

Storm Arwen brought wind gusts of up to 98mph, and was described as one of "the most powerful and damaging winter storms of the latest decade". This wind gust was the highest recorded in north-east England since 1984. The aftermath was devastating: three people died; thousands of trees were blown over; and more than a million homes lost power as lines were brought down. Scientists say climate emergency will make extreme weather events more likely. It is known that much of Earth's trapped heat goes into the sea – and rising sea temperatures produce more energy for hurricanes and typhoons. Only a few months after Storm Arwen, storm Eunice and Franklin hit in the same week which resulted in 177,000 claims made for damaged homes, businesses and vehicles,

Co-benefits

A co-benefit is an additional or extra benefit we receive when addressing an issue such as climate change. Considering co-benefits allows multiple priorities, such as inequality to be addressed at the same time. An example might be an initiative to increase cycling, with a primary objective of reducing carbon emissions however, cycling will improve health (physical and mental) for residents via increased physical activity and improved air quality in addition to saving money on fuel or bus tickets.

Tackling climate change can help make us healthier, happier and save us money so enable everyone in Gateshead Thrive.

THREATS

- Poor air quality contribute to around 40,000 air pollution-related deaths per year in the UK.
- Physical inactivity is responsible for 1 in 6 deaths in the UK and costs the UK £7.4bn annually, including £0.9bn to the NHS alone. Active travel can help promote better health by increasing levels of physical activity
- Poor quality housing costs the NHS £1.4bn a year, £857m of which is caused by excess cold.

INEQUALITY

The impacts of climate change are often greatest for groups of people including the elderly and those living on low incomes, increasing inequality. So we need climate action to address inequality, as much as for the good of our environment.

Examples;

- Low-income households are **eight times more likely to live in tidal floodplains** than more affluent households.
- 13.4% of households in England (3.8 million people) live in fuel poverty. Single parent households are most likely (28%) to be fuel poor. However, following the energy crisis and a rise in the energy price cap, charity National Energy Action predicts that the number of households living in fuel poverty could rise to 6.5 million.
- In England, if you are Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic you are **more than twice as likely** (40%) to live in areas most deprived of green space than white people (14%).

Opportunities examples:

Green Economy:

• Low carbon and renewable energy activities generated £43 billion turnover in 2019, directly employing 209,500 people (full-time equivalents).

Health

- If the average dietary intake in the UK complied with the recommendations of the World Health Organisation, a **reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 17%** could be achieved.
- Planting woodland can include edible edges to help feed local communities with healthy low carbon food.
- Cycling in Tyneside prevents 294 serious long term health conditions each year and saves 7,500 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions

Inequality

• Diverting electrical equipment from landfill for repairing and testing can allow this to be distributed to those most in need in the community.

Consultation and partnership

In February 2020 the Council hosted a stakeholder workshop at BALTIC, with the aim of beginning a dialogue with our communities, and creating networks between individuals, groups and organisations.

A residents' survey was also carried out between January and May 2020, to gain a better understanding of our communities' attitudes towards the climate emergency, and what action they would be willing to take.

The survey received a strong response, with 942 respondents. 86% were concerned about the impact of climate change, while a large majority (81%) supported the Council taking action on climate change.

86% of respondents were concerned about the impadiant glimate

When asked who should do more to tackle climate change, the majority (90%) of respondents identified large businesses, followed by national government (87%), and Gateshead Council (82%).

On actions to reduce their own carbon footprint, people indicated they would be willing to reduce the amount of energy they used, would plant or retain trees or shrubs, or would switch to 'green' energy tariffs. However, respondents were more resistant to the suggestion of avoiding air travel, with 35% unwilling to do this.

Draft Climate Strategy consultation 2022 – what people said

Nearly 70% of respondents said they agreed with the climate strategy vision. Nearly 70% said they would be willing to make a personal climate pledge – you can do this here XX

Over 200 pins were dropped on the interactive map to suggest actions that are needed to take place for climate change or showing us where best practice existed already in Gateshead. These suggestions will feed into the Ward Level Action Plans which will be subject to ongoing community and stakeholder engagement.

Health and Wellbeing Board

The Health and Wellbeing Board, which included many of our key partners that will help deliver the Climate Strategy, endorsed the Climate Strategy in April 2022. Other partners are able to sign up to endorse the strategy and pledge to help deliver it here XX

Commitments

In response to the climate emergency declared in 2019, we are committed to:

- Making the council's activities carbon neutral by 2030.
- Achieving 100% clean energy across the council's full range of functions by 2030.
- Ensuring that all strategic decisions, budgets and approaches to planning decisions are in line with a shift to zero carbon by 2030.
- Ensuring that political and chief officers embed this work in all areas and take responsibility for reducing, as rapidly as possible, the carbon emissions resulting from the council's activities, ensuring that any recommendations are fully costed.
- Supporting and working with all other relevant agencies towards making the entire area carbon neutral within the same timescale.
- Working with, influencing and inspiring partners across the borough to help deliver this goal through all relevant strategies, plans and shared resources by developing a series of meetings, events and partner workshops.
- The council and its partners taking steps to proactively include young people in the process, ensuring that they have a voice in shaping the future.
- Calling on the UK Government to provide the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible, and asking local MPs to do likewise.

Your commitments

Delivering the Climate Change Strategy is not just the responsibility of the Council. You can make your personal or organisational pledges here xx

Business example – pledge to begin monitoring carbon emissions

Organisation example – pledge to embed climate and environmental action into all activities Individuals – pledge to reduce waste going into the green waste bin by buying less, reusing more, recycling more, composting and wasting less or swapping one regular journey currently completed by car to walk, cycle or use public transport instead

We recognise that not every action will be popular with everyone, but to ensure that we still have a planet that is liveable, some sacrifices will need to be made. Fortunately many changes have additional benefits to saving the planet, like saving money or improving your health which helps encourage change.

What we have achieved so far

Gateshead Council has made significant progress in recent years in reducing the carbon emissions associated with our own activities. Investment in new technologies has helped us reduce reliance on fossil fuels for providing heat and power to our buildings. Improving the efficiency of street lighting and the vehicles we use has also had a significant impact.

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Our Current Position

Gateshead as a borough produces around 5.3 tonnes of CO2 (tCO2) per person per year, compared to the national average of 5.4 tCO2 per head. (source – BEIS Local Authority Greenhouse Gas Emission datasets, to 2019). This has reduced by 36% since records began in 2005.

Emissions are generated roughly as 30% from business + public sector, 30% from people's homes and 40% from transport.

2019 Local Authority Carbon Dioxide Emissions (publishing.service.gov.uk)

UK local authority carbon dioxide emissions estimates 2019 (publishing.service.gov.uk)

What we have done well and what we need to improve

Gateshead Council has made impressive reductions in carbon emissions and has begun to embed climate change into all areas of Council activity. In addition the Council has led and participated in a variety of projects that will benefit the planet as well as the people of Gateshead.

The Council, with partners, has been exemplary in the delivery of low carbon heat and power schemes, including the extensive solar panel installation, District Energy Scheme and innovations around mine water energy.

Another example of success is The Gateshead Community Food Network involving 45-50 local community organisations, charities, businesses and third sector partners to explore and deliver ways to both reduce food waste and make surplus food available to those households and families who need it.

Gateshead's bike donation scheme, implemented during lockdown, has been highly successful this year, redistributing more than 60 unwanted bikes to new homes with our most vulnerable residents.

Other success includes the planting of thousands of trees as part of the North East Community Forest, including those planted at Whitehills in Spring 2022 by volunteers.

The innovative Northumbria Groundwater Flooding Project will improve understanding of groundwater risk through mapping and monitoring, and investigate management solutions (flood warning, engineered solutions and community engagement) to help Gateshead become more resilient.

Find out more about the positive work that the Council and its partners are doing click here xx

The Council recognises that to meet its ambitious targets we cannot be complacent and need to continue to innovate, educate and work with communities and partners to deliver carbon reduction throughout Gateshead. Key areas the Council seek to improve include; community engagement on climate issues, monitoring and reporting on climate actions and coordination of Council and stakeholder contributions to climate change.

To address this we will be liaising with the community more, we are developing ward action plans, we have set up a new carbon monitoring tool for our operations and we are liaising with partners, business and stakeholders through our existing partnerships and new set ups. We will continue to report our progress on an annual basis.

Our vision:

By 2030 we will have achieved our commitment to making Gateshead carbon neutral Organisations will be working together in a combined effort to reduce carbon emissions. Opportunities in the green conomy will be realised, with businesses benefitting from sustainable growth.

Our communities will have been supported through this change and will have healthier and more active lifestyles, improved access to nature, cleanerair, warmer homes with lower energy bills and better access to local services, all of which have reduced inequalities across the borough to enable everyone to thrive.

Our vision will be implemented through the Climate Strategy and the measures contained in this strategy will also help deliver outcomes from the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Thrive, the Economic Strategy, the Local Plan, the Tyne and Wear Transport Plan and other strategies.

What does success look like?

To be carbon neutral – scopes 1 and 2 by 2030

To have a scope 3 carbon neutral target set by 2025

For the climate and environment to be factored into all Council decisions by 2025

For residents to be healthy, happy and thriving, whilst caring for the environment

Adaptation to Climate Change

In addition to reducing our impact on climate change, we need to adapt to the changes that we are already facing and are going to face in the future, from flooding events to wildfires.

Adaptation needs to take place to ensure that our communities are kept safe and our economy is resilient but also that our environment is protected, including animals and plants.

Identifying adaptation needs in our localities is an important first step to planning for adaptation in Gateshead.

To make Climate Change action more digestible, we have split it into themes, and each theme has its own vision:

Transport

- I Walking and cycling will become the natural choices for shorter journeys. We will make improvements to infrastructure to help people make these choices which will also improve health and save money.
- I Public transport will become a more attractive choice by making improvements to the network and working in partnership with stakeholders including the public transport operators to improve ticketing options and information.
- We'll support the migration to zero emission vehicles through the provision of electric charging infrastructure for vehicles in appropriate locations and will work with public transport operators to support them in making all buses zero emission.
- I We'll work together to address how services and goods can be delivered with zero carbon impact. We'll make

- services and facilities more accessible within communities, minimising the need to travel, and the amount of distance travelled (20 minute neighbourhoods).
- lAwareness amongst the community of greener, healthier transport will grow and its use will grow.
- I The North East Transport Plan puts climate change at its heart. The Council and partners will implement this objective in its programme of sustainable transport schemes and work with businesses including public transport operators to make sustainable travel more affordable and accessible.

Reduce the number of children travelling to school by car



Energy

- Continue to prioritise reduction in energy use
 - for homes, including Council stock investment
 - for businesses, with services to support resource efficiency
 - for council buildings, through investto-save energy saving measures
- To deliver our Zero Carbon Heat Strategy, which will
 - continue to invest in heat networks for council homes and buildings, and their surrounding communities
 - support installation of heat pumps where viable

- With partners, support the growth of clean, green hydrogen, like InTEGRel and HyDeploy2, as an alternative heating fuel
- I Embrace national policies and infrastructure that aim to decarbonise power supplies by 80% at 2030, and totally by 2040
- I For Gateshead to lead by example in the North East's low carbon heat cluster, for clean heat provision and research

Provision of renewable energy projects through the private sector

Economy and consumption and waste

For sustainable businesses to flourish in Gateshead

For consumerism to be mindful of carbon implications with a shift towards a greener economy

l To reduce waste

IFor the re-use and re-purpose of materials and consumables to become common place (buy less, re-use, swap, buy second hand, buy local, buy ethical, sharing and borrowing culture)

To manage all waste appropriately within the waste hierarchy (reduce, re-use, recycle) including recycling and energy from waste

I To work towards a doughnut economy – looking after the needs of both society and the planet



To explore options for new technology to help reduce emissions, for example hydrogen fuel or carbon capture and storage, and for the green economy to thrive

Woodland and Nature

Woodland and habitat creation to be maximised and protected

I To leave the environment in a better state than we found it

I For our communities to be able to access and enjoy the countryside and urban

nature using sustainable methods of transport, supporting health and wellbeing

IPlant 100,000 trees by 2030 and work with partners to increase woodland cover from 15% to 17% by 2050



Adaptation to Climate Change and Building flood resilience

To adapt to climate change and build flood resilience

(being prepared, ready to respond, able to cope and recover from

- I Support the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) to deliver programme of local flood mitigation schemes and working with key stakeholders such as the Environment Agency and Northumbrian Water, to manage flooding in communities that have been affected by flooding incidents or are at high risk of flooding.
- I Support the Environment Agency with the delivery of Team Valley Flood Alleviation Scheme to reduce flood risk on Team Valley Trading Estate including daylighting culvert, upstream storage, natural flood management, embankment, Surface Water Management, SuDS and a flood warning system.

Ensure today's growth and infrastructure is resilient to tomorrow's climate.

Put in place sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) and flood mitigation measures within major new developments.

Make properties in high risk areas more flood resilient by encouraging communities and businesses to incorporate property protection measures e.g. flood gates, and to prepare flood response plans to better enable premises to be insured.

Consider England's long term water needs to ensure resilient water supplies and improve the water environment taking account of the North Water Resources
Management Plan once complete.

I Work with a range of partners through the Tyne,
Team, Tyne Estuary and
Don river catchment partnerships and the Northumbrian Integrated Drainage Partnership.

- I Sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) incorporated within property, highways and green infrastructure e.g. water butts, rain water gardens, permeable paving, basins, swales and ponds.
- I Create climate resilient places through integrated catchment management: Use nature-based solutions to reduce and slow the flows and achieve multiple environmental benefits such as restoring biodiversity.-

Ensure landowners maintain their flood management assets (e.g. watercourses, culverts, flood defences, drains, SuDS), including Council assets.

- Prepare for flooding events appropriate warnings, alerts, evacuation plans and information from multi-agency partners.
- Build community engagement and prepare local flood response plans

Ensure our communities are safe from the impacts of climate change including energy price rises

Help our businesses be resilient to climate change

For our biodiversity to be resilient to climate change

Strategy for Gateshead

This strategy starts to provide a framework for grass roots action to tackle climate change at the local level, with local actions, collaboration and behaviour change. This strategy is intended to be a 'starter for ten' allowing for a collaborative approach to set goals and actions that the whole community in Gateshead can buy into and implement through Ward Level Action Plans, Gateshead wide actions and other plans, actions and strategies.

Our strategy will be implemented through; sharing best practice, education, collaboration, hard work, commitment, funding, embedding climate into everything we do, behavioural change, taking account of carbon cost in addition to monetary cost, pledges and learning through mistakes.

Gateshead Council pledges to;

Pledge 1 – Lead by example by meeting our climate commitments and recognising that this is only 2.5% of Gateshead emissions, so ensuring the Council supports, regulates, lobbies, procures, engages, and educates to further its role and responsibility	Delivery mechanism Implementing the Council Climate Action Plan and be accountable through annual independent audits	When Carbon neutral (scope 1 and 2) by 2030 Annual reporting
2 – Support and enable local businesses and residents to drive Gateshead to be carbon neutral by 2030	Ward Level Action Plans which will be delivered by the Council and partners. Economic Strategy. Procurement Strategy. Transport Strategy. Waste Strategy. Zero Carbon Heat Strategy Neighbourhood Management. Training.	Action Plans to be complete 2023. Ongoing.
3 - Support local businesses and residents to become resilient to climate change	Business support Emergency Planning. Lead Local Flood Authority. In partnership with the Environment Agency and emergency response teams. Local Plan. Adoption of a Climate Adaptation Strategy	Ongoing.
4 – Lobby and influence national and international policy on climate action and environmental protection	Responding to consultations. Declarations. Liaising with our MPs. Working in partnership with government departments. Correspondence with leaders.	Ongoing

5- Ensure that co-benefits are fully exploited, including health, air quality and addressing inequality to enable Gateshead residents to thrive and the environment to flourish	Joint working within and outside the Council. Embedding climate change into other plans and strategies. Social prescribing Energy efficiency Reuse and recycling	Ongoing
	Mobility hubs	
6 - Embed Climate Change into Council and partner strategies taking account of any projected growth where required	Sustainability and climate implications assessments for Cabinet reports. Local Plan. Waste Strategy Transport Strategy	2021 Ongoing
7- Manage land to ensure carbon sequestration opportunities are taken up where possible	Local Plan. Corporate Asset Strategy. Working in partnership with land owners. More and Better Woodlands Action Plan	Ongoing

Governance

The Strategy will be delivered with support from all services in the Council. This will be in partnership with Gateshead businesses and organisations and the whole community, championed by all Ward Councillors.

Climate Change is everyones business and we have embedded it into everything we do. No one person is responsible and Cabinet representing everything the Council does has taken shared responsibility to reach our goals.

Carbon Budget for Gateshead

This data is provided by Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. The table below presents the Gateshead energy CO₂ only budget in the format of the 5-year carbon budget periods in the UK Climate Change Act. To align the 2020 to 2100 carbon budget with the budget periods in the Climate Change Act we have included estimated CO₂ emissions for Gateshead for 2018 and 2019, based on BEIS provisional national emissions data for 2018 and assuming the same year on year reduction rate applied to 2019.

Periodic Carbon Budgets for 2018 for Gateshead.

Period	Budget (Mt Co2)
2018 - 2022	4.4
2023 - 2027	2.2
2028 - 2032	1.1
2033 - 2037	0.5

Percentage reduction of annual emissions for the recommended CO₂-only pathway out to 2050 in relation to 2015

Year	Reduction in annual emissions
2020	23%
2025	62%
2030	81.3%
2035	90.8%
2040	95.4%
2045	97.8%
2050	98.9%

IMPLEMENTATION

Ward Action Plans

Ward Level Action Plans are being drafted and will be consulted on and implemented on an ongoing basis. We want to work with our communities on detailed plans in their area to ensure we have a blueprint for change.

We want to have local action, delivered by local communities in partnership with the Council and other organisations that people can relate to.

We want to tailor actions to each locality, recognising that Gateshead is a diverse borough with differing opportunities and barriers.

Monitoring of Ward Level Action Plans will be ongoing using targets set within the plans.

Examples of actions within the Ward Level Action Plans could include; providing a community fridge, planting a community orchard, improving signage for a cycle route, setting up a repair and re-use workspace or creating a local wetland.

Action plan for Gateshead Council

In addition to Ward Level Action Plans, there will be actions that are overarching which are relevant to more than one ward, and these will also be documented and monitored. It is intended to keep the detailed actions separate to the over-arching Climate Strategy to enable this to be updated and reviewed on a regular basis.

The action plan can include large scale infrastructure projects such as energy generation or heat capturing through to improvements to Keelman's way or a borough wide behaviour change campaign.

Monitoring of the Action Plan will be ongoing using targets set within the plan.

