



Climate Change and Sustainability Service Delivery Plan 2025 – 2028

Introduction

The service plans are a key component of Three Rivers District Council's corporate planning process. They describe our ambitions, priorities, targets and how each service area is working towards delivering the Councils' objectives detailed in the Corporate Framework [HERE](#). They are reviewed and updated annually considering budgets, performance, internal and external factors, arising throughout the year.

Service Plans are monitored in the following ways:

- Through regular discussion between, service heads, managers and their teams.
- Key Performance Indicator are reviewed by the Corporate Management Team on a quarterly and annual basis.
- Mid-year review of service plans

Service Overview

- Strategic Co-ordination of the Councils Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy, its delivery and monitoring of progress.
- Supporting communities to identify and implement sustainable actions and become more resilient to a changing climate.
- Co-ordinating the delivery of home energy efficiency programmes with District partners.
- Encouraging the uptake of community energy projects to expand the renewable energy production in the district.
- Working in partnership through the Colne Can catchment to improve water quality

Net Revenue Budget

Service Area	Budget
Climate Change and Sustainability	£216,932

Service purpose and core functions

Corporate Framework Objective	Service's contribution to the Corporate Framework Objectives
	Climate Change and Sustainability
Provide responsive and responsible local leadership	Lead, enable and inspire the district to achieve net zero by leading by example on council decarbonisation and providing support to enable delivery of projects in the wider district
Support and enable sustainable communities	Supporting communities in implementing sustainable actions and becoming more resilient to a changing climate.
Expand our position as a great place to do business	Actively developing the local green economy enabling residents to understand the plethora of jobs in the sustainability sector. Working with SME's to raise awareness of opportunities and skills training in the retrofit sphere Utilising UKSPF to deliver grants to local SME's to encourage decarbonisation projects.
Achieve net carbon zero and be climate resilient	Strategic Co-ordination of the Councils Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy, delivery and monitoring of the Action Plan. Encouraging the uptake of community energy projects to expand the renewable energy production in the district. Establishing the route to zero for council operations

Projects, Policies and Strategies

Corporate Framework Objective	Project Title	Lead Officer	Project Description & Proposed Outcome(s)	Projected End Date (Month/Year)	Internal/External Partners	Additional Capital or Revenue cost and/or saving
<p>Achieve net carbon zero and be climate resilient</p> <p>Provide responsive and responsible local leadership</p>	Establish the route to zero for council operations	Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy Officer	Commence delivery of core building decarbonisation programme starting with William Penn. Learnings from this decarbonisation will inform the rest of the core buildings.	William Penn decarbonisation work programme to be decided and agreed by March 2026.	SLM, Grand Union Community Energy GUCE, Mitie, Scene.	Internal resource with externally funded support from Fast Followers, and Low Carbon Skills Fund, and Climate Change budget.
<p>Support and enable sustainable communities</p> <p>Achieve net carbon zero and be climate resilient</p>	Enable residents to retrofit their homes and live more sustainable lives	Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy Officer	Extend Transition Streets to more areas, and enable the continuation of the Retrofit One Stop from a pilot to Business as Usual	March 2026	(GUCE) National Energy Foundation (NEF) Innovate UK	Funded by Fast Followers programme from Innovate UK until June 2025 Continuing and extending the scheme beyond June '25 will require more funds to cover internal resource and partners.

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Achieve net carbon zero and be climate resilient Provide responsive and responsible local leadership	Solar Canopies on council car parks	Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy Officer	Exploration of the feasibility - technical and financial of installing solar canopies, and how they could be funded with a specific emphasis on community funding	Feasibility study to complete April '25. All feasibility work and agreed route for implementation 2027	Transport Parking Projects, Property, Planning, GUCE, Phil Whiting Consulting, Scene	None – project funded by Net Zero Hub Community Energy Fund, pro bono from PW consulting, and internal resource.
Achieve net carbon zero and be climate resilient	TRDC Carbon offsetting policy	Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy Officer	Approval of a Policy for the council that establishes the principles, calculations and verification of projects which can be considered suitable for carbon offsetting	October 2025	HCCSP, University of Hertfordshire	None

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Achieve net carbon zero and be climate resilient Support and enable sustainable communities	Implementation of Home Energy Efficiency schemes	Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy Officer	Optimise and assist access to Great British Insulation Scheme and ECO4 (when it restarts),and other schemes as they are made available. Solar Together programme to re-commence in 2025	'March 2026 2025	NEF, E.ON Hemel Garden City, Solar Together	Existing resource and Government schemes Existing resource, residents
Achieve net carbon zero and be climate resilient	Develop a county wide domestic retrofit strategy under the Local Area Retrofit Accelerator pilot project.	Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy Officer	TRDC's Fast Followers work, and extensive experience is being used to inform the strategy	October 2025	MCS Foundation are preparing the strategy and will be supported HCCSP, HCC and the 10 Local Authorities	Funding provided by the MCS Foundation

External Funding Opportunities to be considered

Description	Potential grant award and timing	Notes / explanation
Climate Action Fund from the National lottery	Max grant award £1.5million - 2025	Officers are exploring routes for a viable application
Innovate UK Fast Followers (Phase 2) (not published yet)	£150,000 2025/26	It has been implied by Innovate UK there will be a second phase, by this is dependent on the new Government
Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund (PSDF) 2025 (not published yet)	£500,000 Aiming for 2025/26	Low Carbon Skills Funding being used to assess the feasibility of a decarbonisation plan for William Penn. This should lead to a bid to PDSF (assuming new Government retains the scheme)
Invest Readiness Scheme managed by Greater South-East Net Zero Hub (GSENZH). It aims to support the creation of business cases to attract the investment needed to deliver net-zero projects.	£75,000 per application	Officers are making 2 applications, one for the William Penn Heat Decarbonisation Business Plan and one for Solar canopy on council Carparks. Very competitive process, hoping for 1 success.
Net Zero Go Hub – Community Energy Fund for further feasibility of community funded solar canopies on car parks. (Not published yet)	£50,000 - 2025	Dependant on the outcomes of the current CEF stage 1, GUCE can apply for CEF Stage 2 funding. TRDC will be supporting partners not recipients of the grant

Key Performance Indicators to support the Corporate Framework

KPI Ref	KPI Title	2022 Actual	2023 Ambition	2024 Ambition	2025 Ambition	2026 Ambition
CCS01 Ambition shows trajectory needed to achieve net zero by 2045	District carbon emissions reported as tCO _{2e} equivalent ONS report this data 2 years in arrears	522,962	475,494	408,925	351,675	302,441
CCS02	Carbon emissions from council operations reported as tCO _{2e} equivalent	2,159	2,106	2,084	1,667	1,650

Risk Management

Our [Risk Register Summary](#) is published on our website and updated quarterly. These include; strategic, operational and climate change risks.