



# CLIMATE CHANGE & SUSTAINABILITY Service Delivery Plan 2026 – 2029

**Service Area**

**Climate Change and  
Sustainability**

**Directorate**

**Environment**

## **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' themes detailed in the Council Plan. 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 Indicators are reviewed by the Corporate Management Team on a quarterly and annual basis
- Mid-year review of service plans alongside Professional Conversations

# SERVICE OVERVIEW

- Strategic Co-ordination of the councils Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, its delivery and monitoring of progress.
- Supporting communities to identify and implement sustainable actions and become more resilient to a changing climate.
- Facilitating the delivery of home energy efficiency programmes with district partners.
- Delivering net zero projects for council buildings.
- Establishing a District Energy Plan, working with UK Power Networks and Regional Energy Strategic Plans to accelerate the district decarbonisation.
- Encouraging the uptake of community energy projects to expand the renewable energy production in the district.
- Actively seeking external funding to support the work identified above.
- Feasibility study for a heat network to utilise the waste heat from the Abbots Langley data centre
- Encouraging the expansion of renewable energy in the business sector

## BUDGET

(Table to give topline financials. This will be added post the Service Plans and Budget being agreed at Full Council before being published.)

# SERVICE PURPOSE AND CORE FUNCTIONS

Council Plan Theme	Service's contribution to the Council Plan Theme
Healthy, safe and thriving communities	<p>We create healthier homes through the delivery of grant funding to residents to enable installation of home energy efficiency measures.</p> <p>We improve well being through the facilitation of community gardens to provide greater access and engagement with nature and food production.</p>
A green and sustainable future	<p>We inspire residents and businesses to install renewable energy, and energy saving measures to reduce district emissions, and contribute towards net zero by 2050.</p> <p>We work with the Local Plan Team to develop and implement energy efficiency and sustainable policies in the emerging Local Plan.</p> <p>We are planning the energy requirement to enable district decarbonisation, and support the development of heat networks where feasible.</p> <p>We educate and inspire residents and businesses to adopt sustainable behaviors and energy reduction measures through a comprehensive engagement programme.</p> <p>We facilitate and support the delivery of net zero projects on council owned buildings.</p>
A prosperous and vibrant district	<p>We inspire businesses to adopt renewable energy and EV infrastructure through encouragement and grant offers, thus improving business resilience through reduced energy costs.</p>

# PROJECTS

Council Plan Theme	Project Title	Project Description & Proposed Outcome(s)	Project Start Date (Month/Year)	Projected End Date (Month/Year)	Internal/External Partners	Additional Capital or Revenue cost and/or saving
Healthy, safe and thriving communities	Warmer Homes Local Grant	Deliver grant funding to eligible residents to retrofit their homes	May 2025	March 2028	National Energy Foundation and Watford Borough Council	Over grant period: Ext. Admin funding £129,700 Capital Funding £159,763
A Green and sustainable future	Hertfordshire Retrofit Strategy	Support the delivery of the Hertfordshire Retrofit Strategy as a member of the Hertfordshire Retrofit Partnership	May 2025	March 2029	HCCSP, National Energy Foundation	In Climate Change Budgets
A Green and sustainable future	Three Rivers Energy Plan	Create an Energy Plan with associated targets and actions and support the development of Regional Energy Strategic Plans and informing infrastructure upgrades	January 2025	Actions will continue to deliver through to March 2029	UK Power Networks Greater Southeast Net Zero Hub, R	In Climate Change Budgets
A Green and sustainable future	Net Zero Projects on council buildings and car parks	Install solar panel on SOLC and TRH and investigate other viable net zero projects for council buildings and car parks	January 2026	March 2029	Geo Green, Chiltern Solar, Phil Whiting, Grand Union Community Energy	Viable projects will utilise the ringfenced capital sustainability fund
A Green and sustainable future	Encourage households to reduce energy consumption and adopt sustainable lifestyles	Encourage and support self funding homeowners to retrofit their property, through projects such as the Solar Together, Sustainable Streets, communications, and engagement events	January 2026	Actions will continue to deliver through to March 2029	Grand Union Community Energy, Solar Together	In Climate Change Budgets

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A Green and sustainable future	Three Rivers and Watford Heat Network	Undertake a feasibility study to determine the viability of heat network using the waste heat from the Abbots Langley data centre	March 2026	March 2027	DESNZ Heat Network Development Unit, WBC, Appointed consultant, NHS England, Watford Community Housing, HCC	In Climate Change Budgets from multiple years £100,000
A Green and sustainable future	Support business sustainability and growth	Encourage uptake of solar panels and battery storage in SME's to reduce energy bills, improve energy security and minimise grid infrastructure upgrades.	January 2026	March 2028		In Climate Change Budgets
A Green and sustainable future	Encourage households to reduce energy consumption and adopt sustainable lifestyles	Encourage and support self funding homeowners to retrofit their property, through projects such as the Solar Together, Sustainable Streets, communications, and engagement events	January 2026	Actions will continue to deliver through to March 2029	Grand Union Community Energy, Solar Together	In Climate Change Budgets

# POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

These policies and strategies are scheduled to commence or undergo renewal in the 2026/27 financial year

Policy or Strategy	Name of Policy or Strategy	New or existing Policy or Strategy	Renewal date	Additional comments
TBC	Energy Offsetting Principles	New	October 2028	N/A
Strategy	Climate Emergency and Sustainability Strategy	Existing	October 2028	N/A

# KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS TO SUPPORT THE COUNCIL PLAN

Key Performance Indicators enable us to track how we are performing against our targets and over time. They are reviewed quarterly and/or annually to ensure accountability and to drive continuous improvement.

KPI Ref	KPI Title	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Ambition	2025 Ambition	2026 Ambition
CCS01  Ambition shows trajectory needed to achieve legislated UK government 2050 target	District carbon emissions reported as tCO <sub>2e</sub> equivalent, under Local authority control, % decline from base year 2018  ONS report this data 2 years in arrears	333,244 tCO <sub>2e</sub> 17% decline on 2018	311,555 tCO <sub>2e</sub> 22% decline on 2018	290,000 tCO <sub>2e</sub> 27% decline on 2018	270,000 tCO <sub>2e</sub> 33% decline on 2018	250,000 tCO <sub>2e</sub> 38% decline on 2018
CCS02	Carbon emissions from council operations reported as tCO <sub>2e</sub> equivalent	2044	1972	1911	1850	1703

# RISK MANAGEMENT

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