

Climate Change: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Section 1: Buildings and Heating

1. Has the council completed extensive retrofit work on any of its significant buildings to make them low carbon?

Yes.

The Beeston Council Offices have an array of solar photo voltaic installed on the roof generating electricity since 2014 and the building is all electric.

Boilers have been replaced at Bramcote Crematorium and Kimberley Depot and are less than 10 years old.

Bramcote Leisure Centre has a Combined Heat and Power (CHP) system which was replaced during 2018/19 as part of the [Capital Budget Variations 2018/19](#) (opens new window).

A programme of extensive retrofit work is under development for all three buildings. The retrofit works will be considered following the completion of Decarbonisation Plans currently being completed.

More information can be found within the Cabinet Report: [Decarbonisation Plans for Public Buildings](#) (opens in a new window).

2. Does the council have a target to retrofit all significant council buildings (excluding homes) and has this been costed?

No.

Whilst there is no target currently this will be determined following the completion of the Decarbonisation Plans for Public Buildings work as detailed above in question one.

3. Are the council's operations powered by renewable energy?

Yes.

A screenshot of the certificate confirming this is provided below.



Pure Green Supply Certificate

This is to certify that

BROXTOWE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Uses electricity that is **100%** generated from **wind, solar and hydro** sources

Supply Period: 01/10/2024– 30/09/2025

Signed: *Mark Rose*

Mark Rose, Director, Sales & Marketing on behalf of
TotalEnergies Gas & Power

business.totalenergies.uk

Date: 01/11/2024



Our independent assurance report was created by Deloitte and assures whether the renewable electricity supplied by TotalEnergies under our Pure Green product is backed by relevant Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin (REGO) certifies from solar, wind, tidal and hydroelectric generation sources. This means that your electricity usage can be reported as zero carbon under a market-based emissions reporting approach in accordance with Greenhouse Gas Protocol Scope 2 Reporting Guidance.

4. Are the homes owned and managed by the council energy efficient?

This varies across the property portfolio and a large piece of work is underway to obtain Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) for the entire estate of homes owned and managed by the council.

Up to 30 June 2024, 3,540 of 4,369 properties have a valid EPC. Of these 2,088 have an EPC rating of C or above, meaning 59% of properties with an EPC are above a C. Works have already been carried out to a few hundred properties that are recorded as below a C to improve the EPC rating, and over this financial year will be re-assessed with many now being C or above.

Works are ongoing to obtain EPC data for the remaining housing stock. The Council currently fall within the first tier of the energy efficiency rating system, however, once further EPC data is obtained we expect to move into the second tier within this financial year.

5. Does the council have a target to retrofit all council-owned and managed homes and has this been costed?

No.

Whilst there is currently no target in place, work is underway to create a Retrofit Roadmap for both Council owned houses and private housing across the Borough.

This piece of work will enable targets to be set. More information can be found within the Cabinet report: [Appointment of University Consultants to support Housing Decarbonisation](#) (opens new window).

The EPC data is being used to develop programmes of works to improve the EPC ratings of all properties below an EPC C. Work is ongoing to develop these work programmes.

6. Is the council part of a programme or partnership to support home retrofitting, through providing the skills and training needed or in other ways?

Yes.

Through the [Midlands Net Zero Hub's Local Energy Advice Demonstrator Programme](#) (opens new window) in partnership with the Local Area Energy Partnership (LAEP) consisting of councils from across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

Broxtowe Borough Council are working in partnership with Nottingham Energy Partnership's HEAT Hub (Home Energy Advice Team) to support home retrofitting through skills, training and in person workshops. To date over 50 residents have attended two workshops to meet the HEAT Hub team and learn more about what information, grants and support are out there for them. Further information can be found via NEP's website here: <https://www.homeenergyadviceteamhub.uk/>

7. Does the council have a staff member employed to work on retrofitting across the council area?

Yes.

- 1 x full time Project Manager within Asset Management and Development.
- 1 x full time Energy Improvements and Grants Officer within Asset Management and Development.

8. Are the homes and buildings in the council area energy efficient?

Varies.

The work being undertaken by the University of Nottingham mentioned above in question five, will be establishing the energy efficiency of homes in the council area.

9. Is the council actively enforcing Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards of homes in the private rented sector?

EPC's for licensed Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO's) are checked on the application and if the Council investigates other concerns in respect of private rented properties.

In 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 a proactive project on improving Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards of homes in the private rented sector was carried out. This included employing a part time officer to carry out work in this area.

Most compliance notices were served before the end of March 2023 and the team continued to follow up those where notices had been served after this.

The Council continues to do work on these standards and in 2024/25 more stock condition modelling is taking place to identify further areas to concentrate on and may involve some further targeted work in this respect.

The Council continues to check EPC's for Licensed HMO's on the application and if other concerns are investigated in respect of private rented properties.

Information on MEES can also be found on the [Housing Conditions webpage](#) (opens new window).

Figures from the 2022.23 project found 208 properties that fell below the minimum EPC requirements that were investigated however no enforcements were made as all were resolved following notice given.

10. Does the council provide a service to support private homeowners to make their homes more energy efficient?

Yes.

There are several services available some of which have been included within the Council's ['Cost of Living' webpages](#) (opens new window) and [Warm Homes](#) (opens new window) webpages.

Others include:

- [Groundwork Five Counties Green Doctor Service](#) (opens new window).
- [Nottingham Energy Partnership HEAT Hub](#) (opens new window).
- [The Great British Insulation Scheme \(GBIS\)](#) (opens new window).
- [Sustainable Warmth Competition Home Upgrade Grant \(HUG\) and Local Authority Development Plan 3 \(LAD 3\)](#) (opens new window).
- [Notts Green Rewards](#) (opens new window).
- Energy Company Obligation (ECO4).

11. Does the council offer funding to private renters or homeowners to retrofit their homes?

Yes.

Through:

- [Sustainable Warmth Scheme](#) (opens new window).
- [Green Doctor](#) (opens new window).
- [Home Upgrade Grant 2](#) (opens new window)

12. Does the council have a scheme to allow residents to purchase renewable energy cheaply, through collective buying?

No.

13. Has the council supported local community renewable energy creation?

No.

However, this is being explored.

Section 2: Transport

1. Is the council transitioning their vehicle fleet to electric?

Yes.

There are currently nine electric vans in the fleet of a total of 94 vehicles (which included refuse trucks, JCBs, forklift trucks, street cleaners, maintenance vans) with opportunities being sought continuously for other vehicles.

The electrification of the refuse fleet has been costed and is currently cost prohibited. It is not feasible for the Council to look to invest currently.

However, in March 2024, the Council has transitioned to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) in all of the vehicles that can use it, as an interim measure. Estimated annual carbon emissions savings have been calculated at over 700 tonnes CO_{2e} per year.

Further information can be found within the Cabinet Report: [Decarbonisation of the Fleet \(Transition to Biofuel\)](#) (Opens new window).

2. Has the council set up or supported a shared transport scheme that can be used across their whole area?

Yes.

Broxtowe Borough Council promotes sustainable travel modes across the Borough with a dedicated webpage for this. [The Nottinghamshire Car Share Scheme is promoted](#) (opens new window).

3. Has the council supported the expansion of a public network of electric vehicle chargers?

Yes.

The Council has its own network of public electric vehicle chargers available across the Borough within its car parks, details of which can be found on the dedicated webpage [Electric Vehicle Charging Point](#) (opens new window).

Support will continue via the implementation of the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (EVI) Strategy with full details found within the Cabinet Report: [Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy](#) (opens new window).

4. Has the council approved, expanded or built a high carbon transport project since 2020?

No.

5. Do the NO₂ levels in a significant proportion of neighbourhoods within the council's area exceed the safe World Health Organisation (WHO) air pollution guidelines?

As stated by the World Health Organisation (WHO), the WHO guidelines are neither standards nor legally binding criteria, they are designed to offer guidance in reducing the health impacts of air pollution

However, the Air Quality Objectives in England are legally binding and are shown in the table below. Broxtowe Borough Council are not exceeding the objectives throughout the borough.

Air Quality Objectives in England

Pollutant	Air Quality Objective: Concentration	Air Quality Objective: Measured as
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	200µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	40µg/m ³	Annual mean

6. Do the PM 2.5 levels in a significant proportion of neighbourhoods in the council's area exceed the safe World Health Organisation (WHO) air pollution guidelines?

As stated by the World Health Organisation (WHO), the WHO guidelines are neither standards nor legally binding criteria, they are designed to offer guidance in reducing the health impacts of air pollution

However, the Air Quality Target in England for PM_{2.5} are legally binding and are shown in the table below, these targets are stated in the Environment Act 2021. Broxtowe Borough Council are not exceeding the interim and legally binding target.

Environment Act 2021

Pollutant and Metric	Target	Target Year
PM _{2.5} annual mean concentration	Interim target: 12 µg/m ³	2028
PM _{2.5} annual mean concentration	Legally binding target: 10 µg/m ³	2040

Section 3: Planning and Land Use

1. Is the council's area-wide net zero target a strategic objective of the Local Plan?

No.

However, a Local Plan objective is 'Environmentally responsible development addressing climate change: to reduce the causes of climate change and to minimise its impacts'. The emerging Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan proposes to contain a policy which requires new buildings to achieve net zero regulated operational emissions this can be found via <https://www.broxtowe.gov.uk/for-you/planning/planning-policy/greater-nottingham-strategic-plan/> (opens new window) and is open for consultation until Monday 16th December 2024.

2. Has the council committed to building all future council-owned or managed housing to a high energy efficiency or operationally net zero standard?

Yes.

Details can be found within:

- *The [Housing Deliver Plan](#) (opens new window); and*
- *[Housing Strategy 2020-24](#) (opens new window).*

The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan Policy 1: Climate Change, Sustainable design, Construction, Energy and managing Flood Risk at Part 2 requires new buildings to achieve net zero regulated operational emissions, evidence through an energy statement. Note this applies to all new buildings requiring planning permission.

Please see Policy 1 on page 40 within the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan.

Policy 1 is based on a comprehensive consultant's study – Carbon Policy Support prepared by Bioregional who also prepared a separate report on offsetting available via:

<https://www.gnplan.org.uk/media/5p1mi0bt/gnsp-carbon-policy-support-evidence-base-may-2024.pdf>

3. Does the council require new homes to make an improvement on the Part L building regulations?

No.

There are no existing policies. However, the emerging Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan proposes to require all new residential development to demonstrate a minimum of 63% improvement on Part L and between 25% and 45% for non-residential development.

A direct link to Policy 1, part 2 page 40 of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan proposed can be found here:

<https://www.gnplan.org.uk/media/5p1mi0bt/gnsp-carbon-policy-support-evidence-base-may-2024.pdf>

4. Does the council require fabric first approach for new development?

Yes.

As part of the [Low Carbon Supplementary Planning Document](#) (opens new window) section 2.5 page 28 onwards. As well as Policy 1, Part 6 page 42 of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan stating:

‘When meeting these requirements, the energy and waste hierarchies should be followed except where it can be demonstrated that greater sustainability can be achieved by utilising measures further down the hierarchy. Implementing the energy hierarchy within the design of new buildings means prioritising fabric first, passive design and landscaping measures to minimise energy demand for heating, lighting and cooling.’

5. Does the council set a requirement that all new homes to be built must be operationally (regulated) net zero?

No.

[The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan Policy 1, page 40](#); (opens new window) Climate Change, Sustainable design, Construction, Energy and managing Flood Risk at Part 2 requires new buildings to achieve net zero regulated operational emissions, evidence through an energy statement. Note this applies to all new buildings requiring planning permission.

6. Does the council require developers to carry out a whole life-cycle carbon assessment of new build developments?

Please refer to section 3.4 Embodied Carbon and life cycle analysis from page 52 of the [Reduction of Carbon in New Development Supplementary Planning Document July 2024](#) (opens new window).

7. Does the council require a higher level of water efficiency for all new homes?

Yes.

Policy 1 of the [Aligned Core Strategy](#) (opens new window) requires that planned residential water use should be no more than 105 litres per person per day.

8. Has the council removed minimum parking requirements for new residential homes across their area?

No.

The current Local Plan does not contain parking requirements (minimum or otherwise).

The previous (2004) Local Plan included 'a guide to the maximum level of car parking' but this was not carried forward.

The earlier (1994) Local Plan did include minimum parking standards, albeit with an allowance for 'relaxation' of standards in appropriate circumstances. There is a dedicated webpage [Part 1: Local Plan: Core Strategy](#) (opens new window) that can be referred to.

9. Does the council include a policy in the Local Plan to create 15/20 minute neighbourhoods?

No.

However, the emerging Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan will include policies that are intended to result in 'developments that are compact, including a mix of uses, and connected by sustainable modes of transport', based on the principles of 15/20 minute neighbourhoods.

In the [Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan](#) (opens new window) reference is made to the principles of the 20-minute neighbourhood approach see paragraphs 3.2.11, 3.2.12 and 3.10.7. Numerous policies seek to locate development in locations well served by public transport and to maximise opportunities for walking and cycling. See Policy 2: The Spatial Strategy on page 56. Policy 14: managing travel demand on page 133; and Transport Infrastructure priorities on page 138.

The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan takes into account evidence of accessibility to key facilities and services which has informed the settlement hierarchy and in particular the choice of key settlements and includes work based on accessing services within a 20-minute round trip. It is considered that the majority of the urban area which is the focus for growth meets the criteria for accessibility to key services within a twenty-minute round trip by either walking or by public transport.

10. Has the council committed to avoiding new building developments on the functional flood plain?

Yes.

Please refer to Policy 1 page 18 in the [Part 2 Local Plan](#) (opens new window) where it states:

Development will not be permitted in areas at risk from any form of flooding unless:

- 1. There are no suitable and reasonably available alternative locations for the proposed development in a lower-risk area outside the Green Belt; and*
- 2. In the case of fluvial flooding, the proposal is protected by the Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme or other flood defences of equivalent standard of protection; and*
- 3. Provision is made for access to watercourses (8 metres for 'main river') and flood risk management assets; and*
- 4. Measures are included to:*
 - a) mitigate any residual fluvial flood risk;*
 - b) provide flood compensation where it is appropriate; and*
 - c) ensure, including by the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), that:*
 - i. developments on greenfield sites maintain greenfield (pre-development) surface water run off rates*
 - ii. developments on brownfield sites reduce surface run off by a minimum of 30% compared with pre-development rates.*

More details in the Policy.

11. Does the council have a minimum requirement for on-site renewable energy generation for new building development?

This is required as part of the measures set out in Policy 1 part 3 to achieve net zero regulated operational emissions in Part 2 of the Policy:

For all development covered by part 2 of the Policy above:

- a) *the use of fossil fuels and connection to the gas grid is strongly discouraged and will require robust justification;*
- b) *provision of on-site annual renewable energy generation capacity is required to at least equal the predicted annual total regulated energy use, to achieve net zero regulated emissions once measures required by part 2 of the Policy have been implemented;*
- c) *where on-site net zero regulated operational emissions are not possible, it should be demonstrated that the amount of on-site renewable energy generation equates to more than 113 kWh/m² 41 building footprint / year. In the case of a multi-building development, any shortfall should be made up across the development where possible. Large scale development (50 dwellings or 5,000 square metres or more) should demonstrate that opportunities for on[1]site renewable energy infrastructure have been explored and implemented where feasible;*
- d) *only in exceptional circumstances and as a last resort where it is demonstrably unfeasible to achieve an on-site net zero regulated energy balance, any shortfall is to be offset via a S106 contribution, reflecting the cost of solar PV delivered off-site, at a cost of £1.69/ kWh in 2024, revised annually*

See Policy 1 part 3 page 40 and 41 via the following link:

<https://www.gnplan.org.uk/media/qfihjw32/gnsp-reg-19-publication-draft-digital.pdf>

12. Has the council identified suitable areas for new solar energy, wind developments and district heat networks?

No.

Broxtowe Borough Council is however having a Local Area Energy Plan developed so this information will be available in the next 12-18 months. The report to Cabinet (8.12.22) regarding the LAEP can be found [here](#) (opens new window).

13. Has the Council approved any planning applications for new or expanded solar or wind developments, battery storage, or renewable district heat networks since 2019?

No.

Section 4: Governance and Finance

1. Does the council's corporate plan include a net zero target and make tackling the climate emergency one of its main priorities?

Yes.

Broxtowe Borough Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2019. Subsequently a Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy with supporting Carbon Management Plan was adopted. All versions of this Strategy can be found on the dedicated webpage [Carbon Neutral by 2027](#) (opens new window).

Whilst the council is yet to declare a net zero target other than in line with the Government's target of 2050, work is taking place during 2024/25 to determine the net zero approach for the council following the completion of the Scope 3 emissions baseline calculations by the Carbon Trust.

The current corporate plan can be found on the dedicated webpage [Corporate Plan](#) (opens new window).

2. Does the council's medium term financial plan include the council's net zero target and make tackling the climate emergency one of its main priorities?

Yes.

The Council's response to Climate Change is a key consideration as part of the budget setting process. Capital schemes that are contributing the Council's climate change priority and net zero target were highlighted in the Capital Programme 2024/25 to 2026/27. These schemes can be found identified in green on the [capital programme listing approved by Cabinet on 6 February 2024](#) (opens new window).

A copy of the Council's latest Statement of Accounts can be found at <https://www.broxtowe.gov.uk/about-the-council/performance-spending/annual-accounts/>.

The next update on the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and progress with the delivery of the Business Strategy is scheduled to be reported to Cabinet in October 2024. This update will include any cost implications identified from the Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy and action plans.

3. Does the council's Corporate Risk Register accurately identify the risks of climate change to the local area?

Yes.

Although the Strategic Risk Register is not available publically, the changes to the Register are approved at the Governance, Audit and Standards Committee, with the forthcoming report being available within the [agenda pack](#) (opens new window) reference page 270.

4. Is the council reporting on its own greenhouse gas emissions?

Yes.

These are reported as a minimum annually. All available reports can be found on the dedicated webpage [Carbon Neutral by 2027](#) (opens new window).

The Council uses the Greenhouse Gas Protocol as used by the Carbon Trust in 2020 see Appendix 1 page 136 of the [Climate Change and Green Future's Programme 2020-2027](#) (opens new window).

5. According to the council's own reporting, have the council's own greenhouse gas emissions reduced since 2019?

Yes.

The Council's own emissions have reduced by 36% since 2018/19. This can be seen in the section called '[Our Carbon Footprint](#)' with individual reports from 2020-21 through to 2023-24.

6. Has the council's area wide carbon emissions decreased, according to UK Government data?

Yes.

This can be seen within the current Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy 2023-2027 available via our dedicated webpage [Carbon Neutral by 2027](#) (opens new window).

7. Has the council adopted a new governance or decision making process to put tackling the climate emergency at the heart of every council decision made?

Yes.

All Cabinet reports include a section entitled Climate Change Implications. This is for report writers to consider anything concerning climate change, carbon emissions or environmental impacts as part of the report.

Examples of a variety of Cabinet reports where this is demonstrated can be found on the [Cabinet webpage](#) (opens new window).

8. Does the council have a sustainable procurement policy that includes an area wide net zero target and makes tackling the climate emergency one of its main priorities?

No.

There is currently no sustainable procurement policy however this is something the Council will be working on as part of the Climate Change and Green Future's Strategy and Carbon Management Action Plan.

9. Does the councils' procurement policy require tenders to take action to reduce waste, carbon emissions or other environmental actions?

Yes.

In accordance with the Procurement and Commissioning Strategy 2019-2024 such actions fall under the 'Quality' criteria.

Further information and a link to the Strategy can be found within the dedicated webpage [Procurement and Contract Opportunities](#) (opens new window).

10. Does the council have a Cabinet member or Portfolio Holder that has climate change explicitly in their remit?

Yes.

Councillor Helen Skinner is Portfolio Holder for Environment and Climate Change. Information can be found via the dedicated webpage [Councillor Helen E Skinner](#) (opens new window).

11. What percentage of the council's overall staff work on implementing their Climate Action Plan or other climate change projects?

As of July 2024 the following staff work on implementing the Carbon Management Action Plan and other climate change projects:

- Executive Director
- Head of Environment (Programme Theme Lead).
- Climate Change Manager.
- Waste and Recycling Engagement Officer.
- Parks and Green Spaces Manager (Programme Theme Lead).
- 2 x Environmental Development Officer.
- Conservation and Green Spaces Development Manager.
- Waste and Recycling Manager (Programme Theme Lead).
- Project Manager – Asset Management and Development.
- Energy Improvements and Grants Officer.
- Head of Asset Management and Development (Programme Theme Lead).
- Head of Planning and Economic Development (Programme Theme Lead).
- Transport and Stores Manager (Programme Theme Lead).
- Capital Works Manager (Programme Theme Lead).
- Chief Communities Officer (Programme Theme Lead).
- Head of Finance (Programme Theme Lead).
- Communications, Cultural and Civic Services Manager (Programme Theme Lead).

12. Have all senior management and councillors in the cabinet or committee chairs received climate awareness training?

Yes.

Most recently during a Climate Fresk with Carbon Literacy Training course which took place on 8 May 2024. A small article of which can be found on [Broxtowe Borough Council's LinkedIn pages](#) (opens new window).

13. Has the council raised ring-fenced income for climate action from property development?

Yes.

This is via Section 106 funding, details of which along with annual reports can be found via the dedicated webpages [Infrastructure Funding Statement](#) (opens new window).

14. Has the council launched a Climate Bond, Community Municipal Investment or equivalent?

No.

Although the Council is considering the opportunity of accessing capital finance from the Midlands Engine Green Finance Fund.

15. Has the council raised income for climate action from any other sources?

Yes.

Through a variety of other sources including:

- *England's Community Forests – '[Trees for Climate](#) (opens new window) with Nottingham County Council and Greenwood Community Forest.*
- *[Archer's Field Recreation Ground](#) (opens new window).*
- *[Severn Trent's Boost for Biodiversity](#) (opens new window). Full details of the project can be found within the dedicated blog found on the [Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group website](#) (opens new window).*

16. Has the council passed a motion in support of divestment from all fossil fuels from the councils' pension funds?

Broxtowe Borough Council's pension funds are managed by Nottinghamshire County Council. More information available via: <https://www.nottspf.org.uk/>

17. Has the council's pensions fund committed to divesting from all fossil fuels?

Broxtowe Borough Council's pension funds are managed by Nottinghamshire County Council. More information available via: <https://www.nottspf.org.uk/>

18. Does the council have direct investments in airports or high carbon intensive energy industries?

No.

Section 5: Biodiversity

1. Does the council use peat-free compost or soil in all landscaping and horticulture?

No.

Broxtowe Borough Council uses reduced peat compost across its green spaces in the Borough.

A small trial of peat free compost is taking place during 2024/25. The results of this will be reviewed and used to determine future use of peat free compost.

2. Has the council banned the use of pesticides on all council owned and managed land?

No.

The use of pesticides is kept to a minimum. Further information about the use of pesticides by the Council can be found within the report to Cabinet: [Use of Glyphosate](#) (opens new window).

3. Has the council stated they are mowing their green spaces less for wildlife?

Yes.

Further information on this can be found via the dedicated webpage [Caring for Green Spaces](#) (opens new window) as well as within the Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy available on the webpage [Carbon Neutral by 2027](#) (opens new window).

4. Does the council have a target to increase tree cover and is a tree management plan agreed as they grow?

Yes.

The [Tree Strategy 2023-2027](#) (opens new window) was approved and adopted at the November 2023 Cabinet.

5. Have the council's parks been awarded Green Flag status?

Yes.

- *Bramcote Hills Park.*
- *Colliers Wood – Moorgreen.*
- *Alexandrina Plantation – Bramcote (Community Green Flag).*
- *Brinsley Headstocks (Community Green Flag).*

- *The Old Church Tower – Bramcote (Community Green Flag).*

6. Does the council employ a planning ecologist to scrutinise planning reports for improvements to biodiversity in new developments, such as biodiversity net gain?

No.

The Council uses specialist software to assess the Biodiversity Net Gain matrix and instructs ecology specialist advice when required.

7. Does the council require a higher biodiversity net gain commitment from developments?

No.

8. Has the council introduced a Green Space Factor to increase habitat in new development?

No.

Section 6: Collaboration and engagement

1. Do the council's climate pages include information about behaviour changes that residents can make, and are they easy to find?

Yes.

The dedicated webpage [Energy Saving Tips](#) (opens new window) provides this information as well as links to other useful resources.

2. Has the council published a Climate Action Plan with SMART targets?

Yes.

A Carbon Management Action Plan (CMAP) is included as part of the Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy 2023-27 and is updated at least annually. Copies can be found via the dedicated webpage [Carbon Neutral by 2027](#) (opens new window).

3. Has the council published an up to date and easy-to-read annual report on their Climate Action Plan?

Yes.

The latest copy of the Carbon Management Action Plan can be found via the dedicated webpage [Carbon Neutral by 2027](#) (opens new window).

4. Has the council lobbied the government for climate action?

No.

5. Is the council working with external partners or other councils to seek to influence national governments on climate action, or to learn about and share best practice on council climate action?

Yes.

This is happening through a number of external partnerships and other councils including:

- [Innovate UK's Fast Followers Accelerate towards Net Zero](#) (opens new window).
- Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Local Authorities' Energy Partnership (LAEP).
- *Environmental Strategy Working Group.*
- *Carbon Neutral Officers Group.*
- [Notts Green rewards](#) (opens new window).

6. Does the council have an ongoing way for residents to influence the implementation of the council's Climate Action Plan?

Yes.

A full public consultation on the refreshed Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy 2023-27 and supporting Carbon Management Action Plan took place during the summer of 2023. Members of the public were able to comment on the documents either via an online survey or in person through a series of focus groups.

A dedicated webpage has more information on this; [Climate Change and Green Futures Consultation 2023](#) (opens new window).

Residents are able to contact the council regarding the implementation of the council's Carbon Management Action Plan at any point via environment@broxtowe.gov.uk

7. Does the council's ongoing engagement with residents include those most affected by climate change and climate action policy?

Yes.

The council's ongoing engagement is for all residents with 'Communications' being one of the ten themes of the Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy 2023-27 and having dedicated targets within the Carbon Management Action Plan.

For example, residents across the Borough have been particularly affected by flooding over the past few years. There is a dedicated webpage on [Flooding](#) (opens new window) for all residents to refer to. The equalities impact assessment for the Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy can be found [here](#) (opens new window).

8. Does the council provide funding for community climate action, for example through an environment fund or climate action fund?

Yes.

All local Secondary schools have had the opportunity to apply for SEED funding during 2024/24 to be spent on a climate change project on site. Additional information can be found at:

- [Free Trees](#) (opens new window).
- [Communities Grants Fund](#) (opens new window).

9. Is the council working in partnership with cultural institutions and organisations to encourage decarbonisation within culture and arts locally?

Yes.

This is taking place within the [DH Lawrence Museum](#) (opens new window) where the Museum and Collections Officer has recently complete a Carbon Literacy Workshop. The training was run by the Historic Houses Association, which the

museum is a member of. One of the 'pledges' that the Officer made as part of this was to develop the garden and outdoor space at the museum into a more welcoming habitat for wildlife. In March a big step towards this was made, when the Environment Team at Broxtowe Borough Council replanted the main border in the garden, using plants that would encourage wildlife such as lavender, geranium and verbena. The border is developing beautifully, blends perfectly with the old brick wall and the historic environs and adds interest to the area for the museum's visitors.

In addition to this The Green Festival 2024 has invited all local primary schools to enter a climate change arts and writing competition. Further details can be found on the dedicated [Green Festival webpage](#) (opens new window).

10. Is the council working in partnership with schools or other education settings to deliver climate actions that young people can engage with?

Yes.

SEED funding available for all secondary schools in the Borough to enhance their eco schools or support other environmental initiatives. Information available via [Reducing Your Carbon Footprint – Schools, Businesses and communities](#) (opens a new window).

Green Festival primary school competition 2024 has invited all primary schools from across the Borough to create either a piece of artwork or a creative piece of writing to be judged at this year's Green festival. More information found on the [Broxtowe Green Festivals](#) (opens new window) webpages.

The Waste and Recycling Engagement Officer visits local schools to talk to children about waste and recycling and links this in with environmental awareness days such as [World Environment Day 2024](#) (opens new window).

The team work in collaboration with [Nottingham Climate Assembly - Youth Panel](#) (opens new window).

The Parks and Green Spaces Team work with local schools including [Tree planting events](#).(opens new window).

11. Is the council working in partnership with local businesses to encourage decarbonisation?

Yes.

This is through a variety of different channels including:

- a. *UKSPF funding. For current information on the support on offer visit: <https://www.broxtowe.gov.uk/for-you/investing-in-our-area/uk-shared-prosperity-fund/>*
- b. *Fast Followers – [Fast Forward Net Zero event](#) (opens new window).*
- c. *[Notts Green rewards](#) (opens new window).*

12. Has the council passed a motion to ban high carbon advertising and sponsorship?

No.

13. Does the council have an ongoing way for employee representative bodies (including recognised trade unions) to influence the development and delivery of the council's Climate Action Plan?

Yes.

This is encouraged in a number of ways including:

- *Within the Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy 2023-27.*
- *Through the Climate Change and Green Futures public consultation.*
- *Through consultation of new strategies for example the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy (2024-27).*
- *Thorough emailing environment@broxtowe.gov.uk 24*

Section 7: Waste Reduction and Food

1. Has the council encouraged the reduction of single use plastic at external events on council land, property or public spaces such as roads and parks?

Yes.

As part of the Green Festival all stallholders are asked to complete a booking form which includes a statement on the use of single use plastic items in order to reduce this. This booking form is being used as a guide for the events team when contacting their stall holders.

A copy of the booking form is found on the dedicated webpage [Broxtowe Green Festivals](#) (opens new window).

2. Has the council taken steps to support a circular economy locally?

Yes.

This is an action within the Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy 2023-2027 along with the Carbon Management Action Plan.

It can also be demonstrated through the [Furniture Rental Scheme](#) (opens new window).

The Council also supports local initiatives such as the [Beeston Repair Café](#) (opens new window).

3. Does the council support initiatives to redistribute surplus food?

Yes.

Through the [Nottinghamshire County Council Local Communities Fund: Food Distribution Grant](#) (opens new window).

4. Does the council have a sustainable food strategy?

No.

5. Is the council part of a sustainable food partnership?

Yes.

The Council is part of the Nottinghamshire Sustainable Food Network led by Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC). The network is an inclusive forum for discussion and collective actions on all key food issues and aligns with the six principles of [Sustainable Food Places](#).

Additional information can be found on NCC's dedicated webpage [Sustainable Food Network](#) (opens new window).

On 16 October 2024 the group will be delivering the first Nottinghamshire Food Summit, part of which will be to shape a Food Plan / Strategy for Nottinghamshire. Hold the date flyer is shown below.



6. Has the council taken steps to support local food growing?

Yes.

Examples include:

- Availability of [allotments](#) (opens new window).
- Supporting [Dig in the Community](#) (opens new window)
- Sporting [Incredible edible](#) (opens new window)
- Through [Green Rewards](#) (opens new window).

7. Does the council provide weekly kerbside food waste recycling?

No.

These are planned to be implemented as mandated by the Government by October 2027. Further information can be found within the Cabinet report: [Waste Strategy Update – Implementation of Food Waste Collections](#) (opens new window).

8. How high is the council's area wide annual recycling rate?

Information can be found within the [Environment Business Plan](#) (opens new window).

9. How low is the councils' area wide level of household waste produced?

Information can be found within the [Environment Business Plan](#) (opens new window).