

# Council Climate Change Plan 2021-25

Towards a Net Zero and Climate Resilient Council

**1<sup>st</sup> April 2022- 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023:**

- Council Corporate Emissions Summary
- Year 2 Project Highlights



31st October 2023

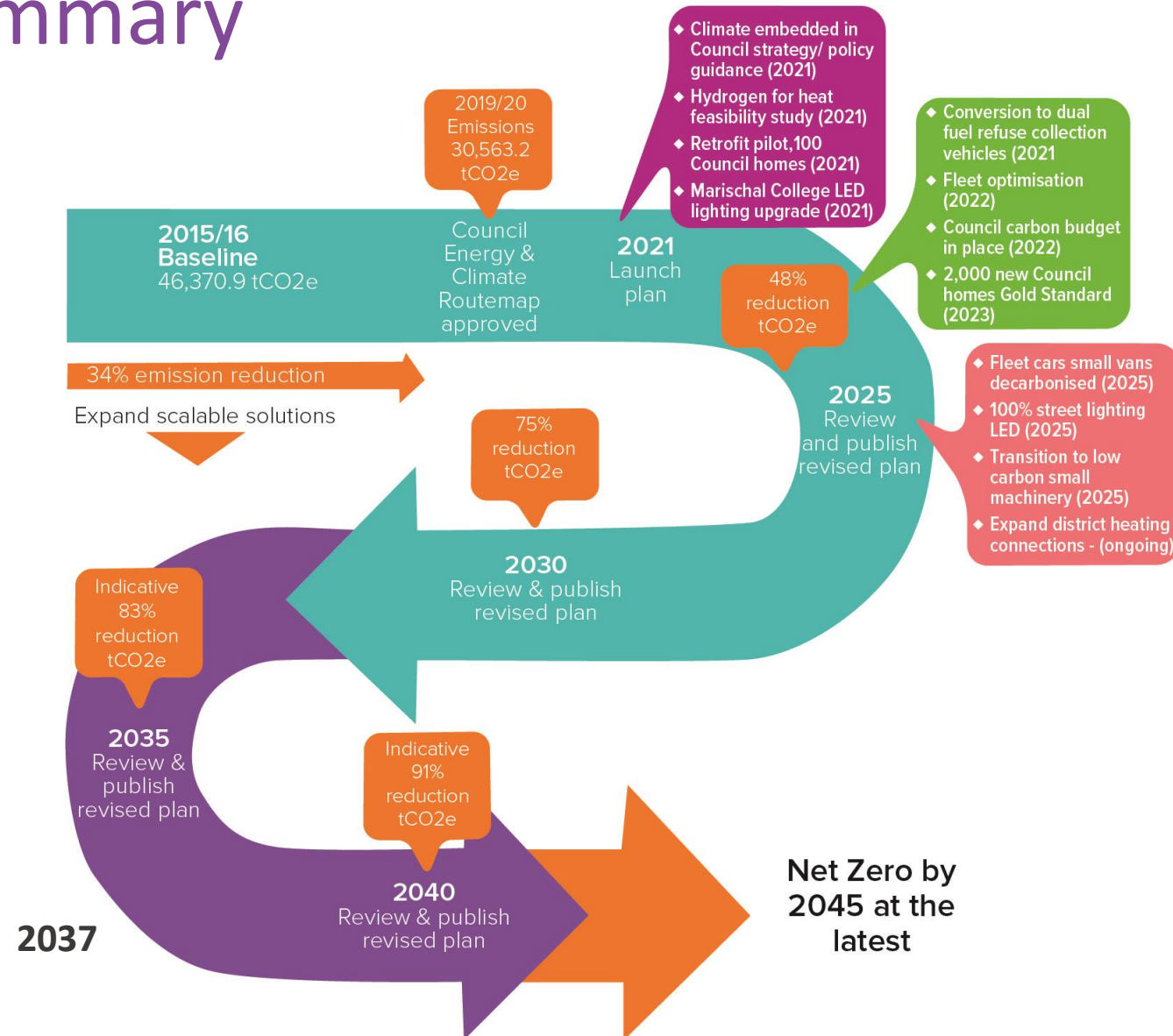


# Council Climate Change Plan

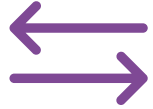


- Approved March 2021
- The Council aims to be an exemplar for net zero and climate resilience, through actions to reduce carbon emissions and measures to manage the climate risks to our assets and operations.
- **Net zero corporate carbon emissions by 2045 at the latest**
  - Interim targets:
    - *48% reduction (at least) by 2025*
    - *75% reduction (at least) by 2030*

# Plan summary

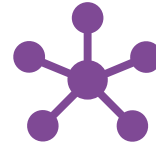


# Challenges



## **Transition from oil & gas to clean energy:**

Renewable and low carbon heating and cooling solutions for Council buildings including schools & housing.



## **Resources:**

Meeting standards and new statutory duties require further resources and training across Council teams.  
Maintenance of electric, Hydrogen fleet.  
To apply for funding, source investment.



## **Scale of challenge:**

Decarbonising Council homes.  
Public Sector targets: transition to zero emission fleet by 2030.



## **Buy-in and collaboration:**

Required from Organisation and Tenants.  
Training and guidance required.



## **Data:**

As gathering improves and scope widens,  
greater action required to stay on target.

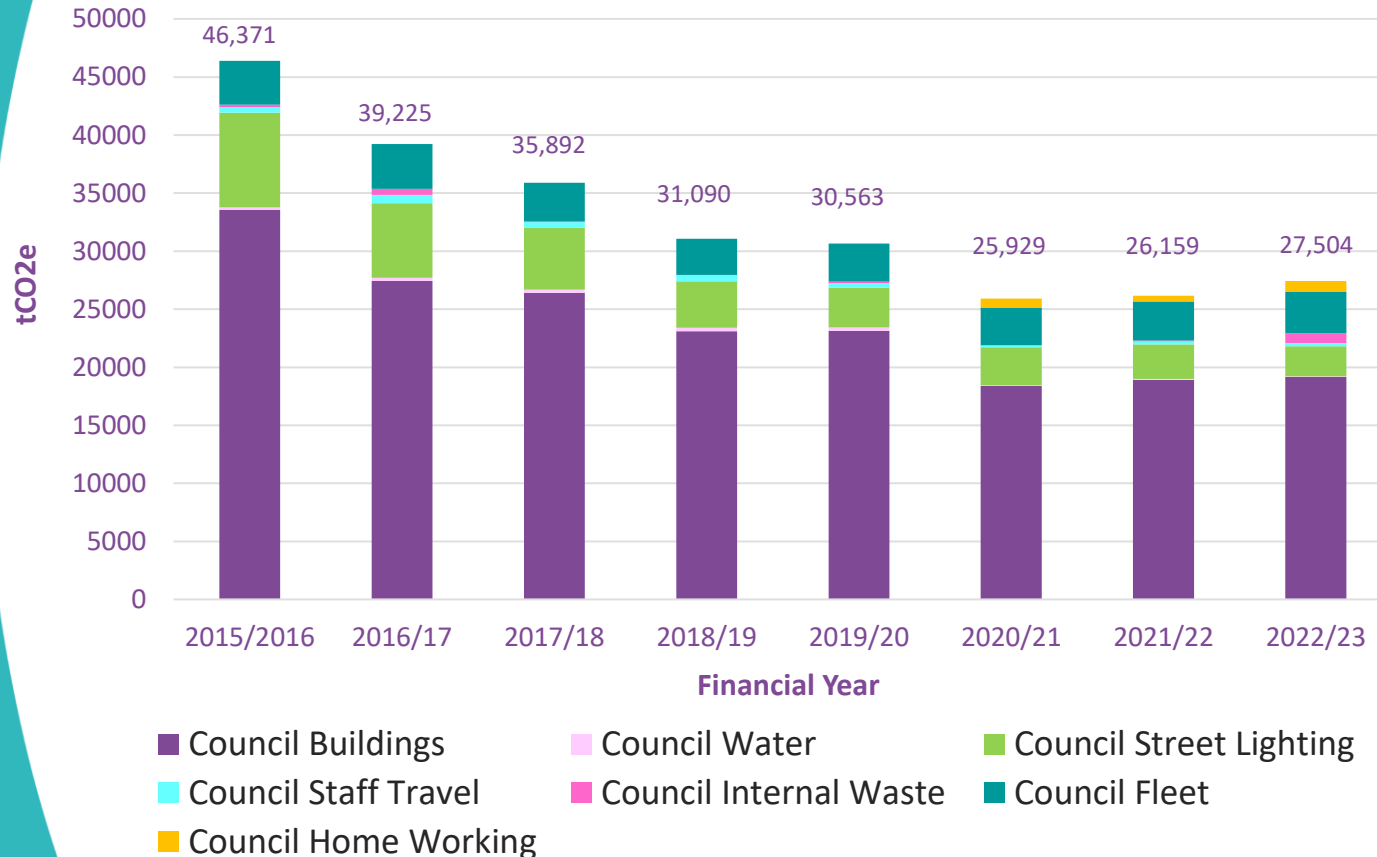


## **Funding:**

Availability and success dependant.

# Council Corporate Emissions Summary 22/23

## Overall Emissions By Source [tCO2e]



Total 22/23 emissions have increased by 5% compared to 21/22.

### Factors to explain increase:








- Addition of District Heating emissions to scope. Without this addition, 22/23 emissions would show as 26,007 tCO2e, a reduction of 0.6% compared to 21/22.

Factors out with our control, such as:

- Temporary change to management of some Corporate Waste due to a fire at Altens East Facility.
- Home Working calculation method change by Scottish Government increased emissions.

**Total 2022/23 emissions have reduced by 41% against 2015/16 (baseline year) and are still on track to achieve the interim target of a 48% reduction by 2025**

# Council Corporate Emissions Summary 22/23

Emissions Source	Comparison of 21/22 and 22/23	Comments
Buildings		Increase is due to addition of Public buildings heated by District Heating to totals for the first reporting year.
Water		Tendency to fluctuate.
Street Lighting		An eighth continuous year of emissions reduction, a 68% fall from the baseline year, due to LED lighting programme and change in emission factors (greening of grid).
Staff Travel		Due to increased activities post COVID 19.
Internal Waste		Temporary change to management of some corporate waste due to a fire at Altens East Facility which increased emissions overall, however tonnage of waste reduced by 5%.
Fleet		Increase due to improved monitoring.
Home Working		Change to Scottish Government calculation method.

# Themes



Buildings	Mobility	Other Operations	Leadership & Governance	Awareness & Behaviour Change
Council buildings & Council housing	Fleet & staff travel	Street lighting, internal waste, nature based action	Processes, procurement and decision making	Communications, participation and training

Operational

Enabling

# Buildings Theme



92 new Gold Standard homes completed at Auchmill, with improved insulation, renewable energy to provide hot water & connected to the district heating network.



92 new Gold Standard homes at Auchmill



Project Doric- Phase 2 underway with external wall insulation and zero carbon technologies such as air source heat pumps and solar panels



Local Heat & Energy Strategy (*LHEES*) in progress, to improve energy efficiency of buildings & reduce emissions from heating.



Torry Heat Network approval for Phase 2, to heat up to 570 homes and a community campus.

*Phase 1 expected to be completed August 2023.*



New School opened in Countesswells, with a target of EPC A.



Opening of new Countesswells School



Muirfield Primary School and Len Ironside Centre connected to the district heating network.



# Mobility Theme



Car Club retendered from Co-Wheels to Enterprise, 10 exclusive cars available for Staff use. 6 electric and 4 hydrogen.



8 fleet dedicated EV charging points installed for 16 fleet vehicles.



'Local Authority Fleet Operator of the Year' at the Transport News Scottish Rewards, for commitment to sustainable fleet vehicles.



88% of Fleet is now low emission.



Staff Travel Survey undertaken, and revised Council Travel Plan drafted and consulted on.



25% of Council's external passenger transport providers use low emission vehicles.



Fleet of the Year Award 2023

# Other Operations



Following storms, high risk damaged trees cleared, felled and restocked. Plus 400 + street trees planted.



160k spring bulbs delivered & planted by 112 community groups.



Beautiful Scotland, ACC Volunteers. Aberdeen won a Gold Medal, Best City and joint 1st in the Rosebowl, as part of the Beautiful Scotland 2022 Awards



9 Green Flags for well managed parks & green spaces.



40 It's Your Neighbourhood' groups now formed.

*More than any other Council.*



The Strategic Tree & Woodland Implementation Plan approved in June 2022.



Engaged with over 250 community partnerships.

*Various environmental improvements, projects and campaigns.*



50 child minders & their children taking part in planting and food growing initiatives.

*Bee Happy Pollinators and Toots, Roots, Buckets and Boots projects.*



LED Streetlighting Replacement Programme completed.

*Estimated to save 400 tCo2e per year*



System pilots introduced to calculate Procurement emissions, report on Community Benefits & Environmental Outcomes.



Six-year North-East Local Flood Risk Management Plan published in December 2022



Printer rationalisation survey complete. Results to inform initial proposal to review requirements.

# Leadership and Governance



Aberdeen City Council responded to the global climate change and nature loss crises by declaring a climate and nature emergency in February 2023.



The Council Carbon Budget 2023/24 was approved at Council in March 2023 alongside the financial budget.



Council in March 2023 approved a series of multi-year capital investments to progress net zero and climate resilience, including an £800,000 programme for 2023/24 initiatives in support of the Council's Climate Change Plan.



Net Zero Environment and Transport Committee established to monitor delivery of all services and functions relating to net zero, environment and transport, ensure delivery of Council environmental targets and the meeting of related statutory obligations.

First meeting was November 2022.

# Awareness & Behaviour Change



Internal Climate Change training module launched to raise staff awareness of Council's Climate Change Duties and encourage action.



Council contribution to Climate Week North-East 2023: 8 Council teams hosted 11 events with over 600 attendees, working in partnership with 13 organisations.



Refresh of Staff Intranet page: 'Green Workplace', now includes further access to Climate and Sustainability information, events and participation opportunities.



Regular Council-wide communication campaigns are launched to save energy, such as, 'Switch Off' during school holidays.



On-going progress to incorporate climate change action into annual staff appraisals.



Green Champions Network has grown from 63 to 75 members, participating in 8 activities.

*e.g., Workplace food growing, 'repair what you wear' workshops and activities to provide access to free reusable period products in the workplace.*



Council Climate Change Plan won 'Best Practice' Award at the inaugural Scottish Renewables Net-Zero Energy Transition Awards.

