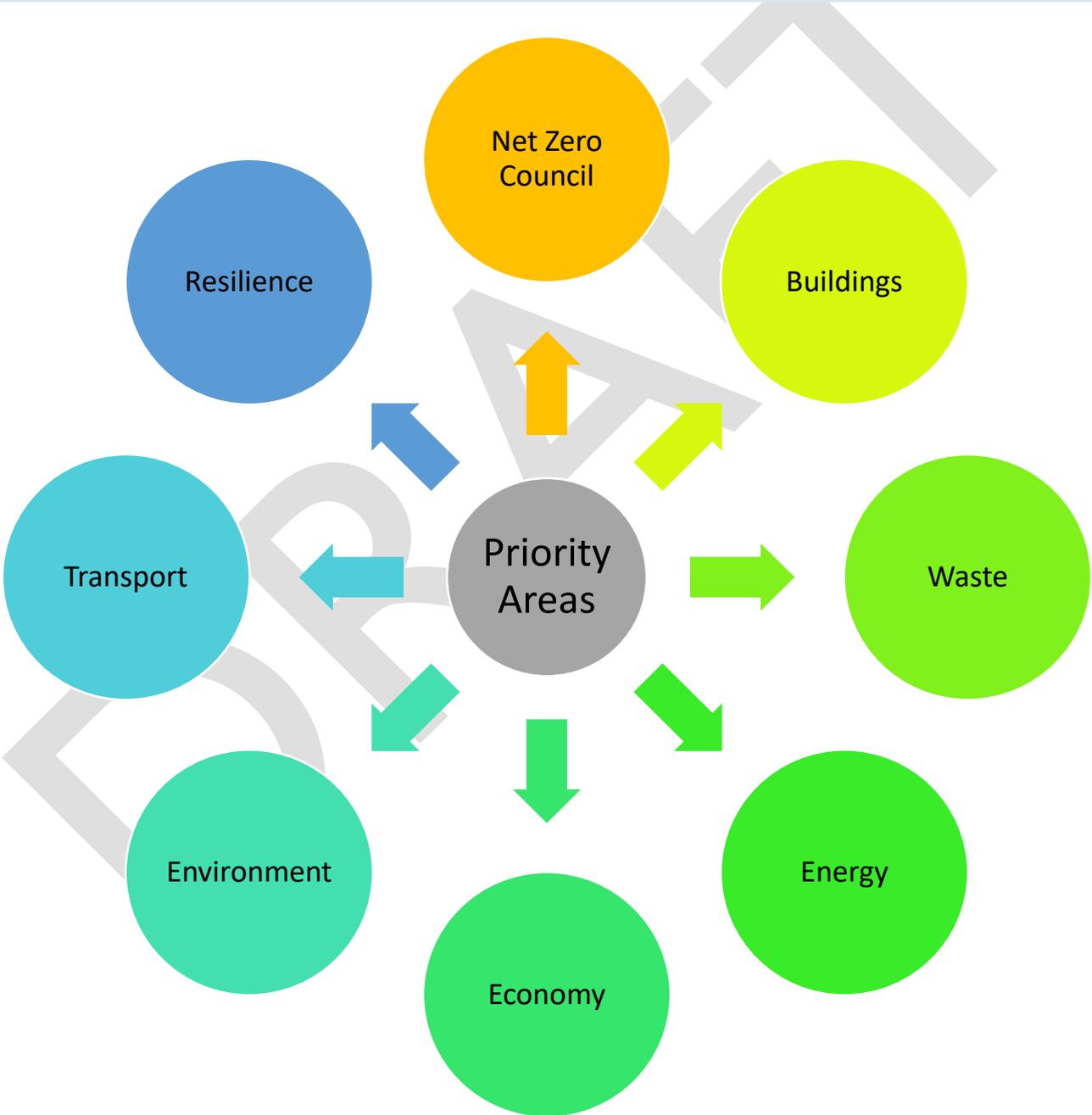


Climate Change Strategy 2022-2030

Foreword

East Riding of Yorkshire will be net zero carbon and climate resilient. It will be a healthier and cleaner area supported by renewable energy, sustainable transport and underpinned by a strong local green economy. We will create an environment for people and nature to thrive, helping lead the way to a fairer and more equitable society.



Introduction

In 2019 East Riding of Yorkshire Council established a review panel to understand the risks and opportunities presented by climate change. The recommendations were published in February 2021, at the same time (and in line with national government) the council declared a climate emergency.

The Panel concluded that the Council should develop a Climate Change Strategy to co-ordinate our response to climate change and define our ambitions and vision for the future. This Strategy aims to fulfil the review panel recommendations and to help understand our impacts on the climate. The Strategy will outline how the authority will play its part in tackling the climate crisis as well as supporting our partners, business and residents to do the same.

Climate change will impact everyone; however, our young people will have to live with the consequences for much longer. Young people across the East Riding have expressed their fears around climate change and are urging us to do more to protect their future.

“Our generation is the first to feel the impacts of climate change and the last generation that can do something about it” – Barack Obama.

Our climate continues to change rapidly, and we must all play our part to prevent further damaging warming. Globally emission of carbon dioxide must be halved by 2030 if we are to keep warming to 1.5 C. By working together across all sectors of society this challenging target can be met. The chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (a body that brings together climate scientist from across the globe) said that:

“We are at a crossroads. The decisions we make now can secure a liveable future. We have the tools and know-how required to limit warming” - Hoesung Lee – Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Climate change will lead to warmer temperatures, changes in rainfall patterns, sea level rises and more frequent and intense heatwaves and flooding events. Even when we dramatically reduce our emissions of carbon dioxide, we will still be left with a warmed climate that we'll need to learn to live with. This Strategy will consider how we can reduce our impact on the climate and adapt to the inevitable changes we will see in the future.

This Climate Change Strategy has been written to cover the work we're doing as a council and in partnerships, however we hope that it inspires our residents to consider their own impact on the climate. You don't have to be an expert on climate change, and you don't need to be perfect. Every action counts. We'll only succeed in tackling climate change by working together.

Understanding Climate Change Language

Climate Change

Climate change is the long-term changes in global temperatures and other characteristics of the earth's atmosphere. The earth is surrounded by a layer of greenhouse gases, which trap heat from the sun, keeping our planet warm. Since the industrial revolution and the burning of fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas, more greenhouse gases have been released into the atmosphere, which traps more of the sun's heat causing the planet to heat up.

Climate change affects everyone and as the earth warms we will experience more unpredictable and extreme weather events such as big storms and heavy rainfall to droughts and wildfire.

Climate risk

Climate risk refers to the potentially negative impacts of climate change for example the potential adverse effects on lives, the economy and the environment.

Climate Resilience

Climate resilience is the ability to anticipate, prepare for and respond to hazardous events, trends or disturbances related to climate.

Vulnerability in the context of climate change

Climate change vulnerability is the tendency to be adversely affected by climate change and is a component of climate risk. It refers to the degree to which places/ people/ the natural environment are susceptible to and unable to cope with the adverse effects of climate change, for example extreme weather variability and extremes.

Carbon footprint

A carbon footprint is the total amount of greenhouse gases that are generated by the actions of particular individual, organisation or community. The UK average footprint for 2022 is 9.5 tonnes per person. It includes activities relating to commuting, food, shopping and travel.

Net zero/carbon neutral and the difference between the two (People use interchangeably)

Being **Carbon Neutral** means balancing greenhouse gas emissions by 'offsetting' (removing from the atmosphere) an equivalent amount of carbon for the amount produced. A commitment to being carbon neutral does not require or imply a commitment to reduce overall GHG emissions.

In contrast, a commitment to **Net-Zero** means reducing greenhouse gas emissions with the goal of balancing emissions produced and emissions removed from the atmosphere. For the purposes of this strategy, we will use the following definition (SBTi Net Zero Standard 2021):

- Reducing scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions to zero or to a residual level that is consistent with reaching net-zero emissions at the global or sector level in eligible 1.5°C-aligned pathways
- Neutralizing any residual emissions at the net-zero target year and any GHG emissions released into the atmosphere thereafter

Scope 1,2 & 3 emissions

Greenhouse gas emissions are divided into three different groups or scopes to help trace where those emissions came from and make it easier to report on them. Scope 1 emissions are produced directly at source from fuel combustion for example for company vehicles. Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from purchased electricity. Scope 3 includes all other indirect emissions for example those from outsourced services or purchased goods.

Decarbonisation

Decarbonisation refers to the process of removing carbon dioxide from a given activity. For example the decarbonisation of the national grid means the reduction of the amount of carbon used to generate a unit of electricity.

Green economy

A Green Economy is a concept that creates a sustainable low-emission world that benefits both society and the planet. A Green Economy is defined as low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive and is driven by investments into activities, infrastructure and assets that benefit the planet.

Circular economy

A circular economy is a model of making and using products, which involves sharing, reusing, refurbishing, and recycling existing materials and products, so that they can be used for as long as possible. It is a solution to the global climate emergency where products and services are designed to maximise their value and use and minimise waste. It can be explained as 'make, use, remake'.

Fairer and more equitable society / equalities

The principles of equity, justice and fairness are fundamental to understanding and addressing the challenges of global climate change. An equitable society is one in which everyone can participate and prosper and is fair and reasonable in a way that gives equal treatment to everyone.

Sustainable transport

Sustainable transport refers to any type of transport that is 'green' and has a low impact on the environment and is also about balancing our current and future needs. Examples of sustainable transport include walking, cycling, car sharing or ultra low emission vehicles (ULEV) e.g. electric vehicles.

Energy efficiency

Energy efficiency means using less energy to get the same job done and eliminating waste energy. For example, energy-efficient LED lightbulbs are able to produce the same amount of light as normal lightbulbs but use 75-80% less electricity.

Fuel poverty

In England, a household is considered to be fuel poor if:

- They are living in a property with a fuel poverty energy efficiency rating of band D or below.
and
- When they spend the required amount to heat their home, they are left with a residual income below the official poverty line.

Sustainability

Sustainability means meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainability does not only refer to environmentalism, but also includes things such as social equity and economic development. Sustainability as a value is shared by many individuals and organisations who want to demonstrate it through their policies, everyday activities, and behaviours.

Climate Risk in the East Riding

It is expected that, as time goes on, the East Riding will experience wetter winters, drier summers, higher sea levels and more extreme heatwaves. These climatic changes are likely to have significant impacts on society, the economy and environment within the county by exacerbating existing risks and introducing new risks. This section provides an overview of the most significant climate-related risks to the East Riding.

Flooding – The East Riding is already highly vulnerable to flooding. It is ranked within the top 10 areas in the country with the highest number of homes at risk of river and tidal flooding, while surface water flooding is a widespread and growing risk, especially in urban areas of the county. Furthermore, almost 60% of the population within the Hull and East Riding catchment of the Humber River Basin District (HRBD) are currently at risk from flooding. With more extreme storms and a 20-30% increase in winter rainfall as a result of climate change by 2100, the frequency and severity of surface water and fluvial flooding in the East Riding is likely to increase. Similarly, sea levels are expected to rise by up to 1m by 2100, leaving low-lying areas of the East Riding at significantly increased risk from tidal flooding.

Coastal Change – The majority (48km) of the East Riding coast is made up of soft glacial boulder clay. As a result, the East Riding has one of the fastest eroding coastlines in Europe, with average erosion rates of up to 4 metres a year and individual losses of over 20m recorded. Based on these rates continuing, approximately 209 residential properties would be lost to the sea within the next 100 years along with businesses, caravans, transport links and utilities infrastructure. However, rising sea levels and increased storminess linked to climate change are expected to result in higher rates of erosion and therefore bigger impacts on communities and businesses.

Heatwaves – By 2100 it is expected that mean summer temperatures in the East Riding will be 3-4 degrees Celsius hotter than today. They are also expected to be drier, with more frequent and more extreme heatwaves. Such temperature rises not only have an impact on how we live our lives but can have a significant effect on public health through heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heatstroke and hyperthermia. This impact is often felt worst by vulnerable residents, including those over 65, who make up a higher-than-average proportion (26%) of the East Riding's population.

While those impacts explored above are of particular importance for the East Riding, and therefore prominent in this Strategy, it is important that plans are made to mitigate, and adapt to, all impacts of climate change. Some additional potential impacts, as outlined in the most recent UK Climate Change Risk Assessment include risks to:

- The viability and diversity of habitats and species.
- Soil health from increased flooding and drought.
- Natural carbon stores and sequestration from multiple hazards, leading to increased emissions.
- Crops, livestock and commercial trees.
- Supply of food, goods and services due to climate-related collapse of supply chains and distribution networks.
- People and the economy from climate-related failure of the power system.
- The UK from climate change impacts overseas.

Broader Context

International and national bodies, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the UK Committee on Climate Change (CCC) have given clear messages that governments are not yet doing enough to tackle climate change, but that there is a viable way to achieve net zero and avoid the worst impacts of climate change. We are currently on course for 3-4°C of warming but with a concerted international effort and investment, limiting warming to 1.5-2°C is possible, as per the United Nations Paris Agreement.

Climate change cannot be tackled in isolation. The 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, of which climate change is one, show that there are many factors that influence the health and prosperity of people and the planet.

The UK has a world leading Climate Change Act which sets out our national ambition to be net zero by 2050 and contains budgets for the amount of carbon we are able to release into the atmosphere. We have already seen significant progress to reduce our emissions. From the year 1990 we have reduced emissions by nearly 50% and by 2030 we are on track to achieve a 68% reduction.

In 2021, the UK's Net Zero Strategy was published setting out policies and proposals for decarbonising all sectors of the UK economy to meet the national net zero target of 2050.

Yorkshire & Humber Climate Action Plan

In November 2021 the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Climate Change Commission published the first ever climate action plan for the region. The action plan has been developed to encourage shared responsibility for climate action, and makes the case for significant, tangible actions to tackle the climate emergency. The plan highlights the need to move beyond targets and planning to action and delivery, calling for climate and ecology to be places at the heart of decision making.

A fundamental aspect of the plan is the importance placed on building resilience to the changing climate (sometimes called being climate ready, or climate adaptation). Over recent years a considerable amount of emphasis has been placed on reducing our carbon and other greenhouse gasses to limit warming. The plan for Yorkshire and the Humber recognises that even when emissions are cut the climate will still change and we need to be prepared and take action to protect our way of life.

The action plan details a framework for change and 50 actions that will focus climate action across the Yorkshire and Humber region. The plan focuses on building a fair and just transition and to build the region's resilience against climate disasters. It also sets a target to achieve net zero by 2038 and specifies the need for "significant progress" by 2030.

Cross cutting themes

The following outline the cross-cutting themes which underpin our Strategy. Solutions to meet the challenges of climate change should where possible also tackle the challenges of the broader societal issues faced in the East Riding of Yorkshire, including the rural nature of the area, health and wellbeing and inequalities.

East Riding Rurality

The East Riding is predominantly a rural area, with 44% of residents living in dispersed rural communities. Rural areas face a different set of challenges to that of urban areas especially when tackling climate change. Some of those challenges faced by our residents include limited availability of public transport, or access to suitable employment. The rural nature of the area also poses challenges to the council, for example we need more vehicles and crew to complete waste collection rounds.



341,173 people
live in the east
Riding of Yorkshire
(ERYC,2022)



93% rural by area
44% rural by
population
(ERYC,2022)



157,760 households
in an area covering
approximately **930**
sq/m (ERYC,2022)

Like many areas across the UK the East Riding has a broad range of household income levels, however there are pockets of deprivation in places such as Goole, Bridlington and South-East Holderness. Increasingly, the population in the East riding is becoming older, due to a high percentage of people retiring to the area. Deprived populations and elderly people are more likely to suffer from the impacts of climate change as they have less resilience to severe weather events.

Whilst the landscape and demographic of our area is a strength and presents many opportunities, current economic uncertainties, major policy changes and continuing downward pressure on public sector finances are presenting rural communities with numerous challenges and climate change only adds to these pressures. Throughout this strategy we have identified where challenges, opportunities or actions link to the rural nature of the East Riding of Yorkshire using this symbol:



East Riding Coast

The East Riding of Yorkshire is not only rural, but is also defined by its coast, stretching from Flamborough Head in the north to Spurn Point in the South, a total of 53 miles. The 120-metre-high chalk cliffs, stacks, caves, and coves at Bempton and Flamborough Head support large numbers of seabirds such as puffins, gannets and kittiwakes which together form the UK's largest mainland breeding seabird colony. Several major settlements are located along our coastline (from north to south Bridlington, Hornsea and Withernsea) and have a significant part to play in the prosperity of the area, with fishing, offshore developments and tourism forming a key part of the region's economy. Tourists visit the area specifically for our coastal towns, long sandy beaches, and wildlife experiences. Whilst the area's connectivity with the Humber Estuary and wider marine environment means that it is perfectly placed to support a broad range of coastal industries.

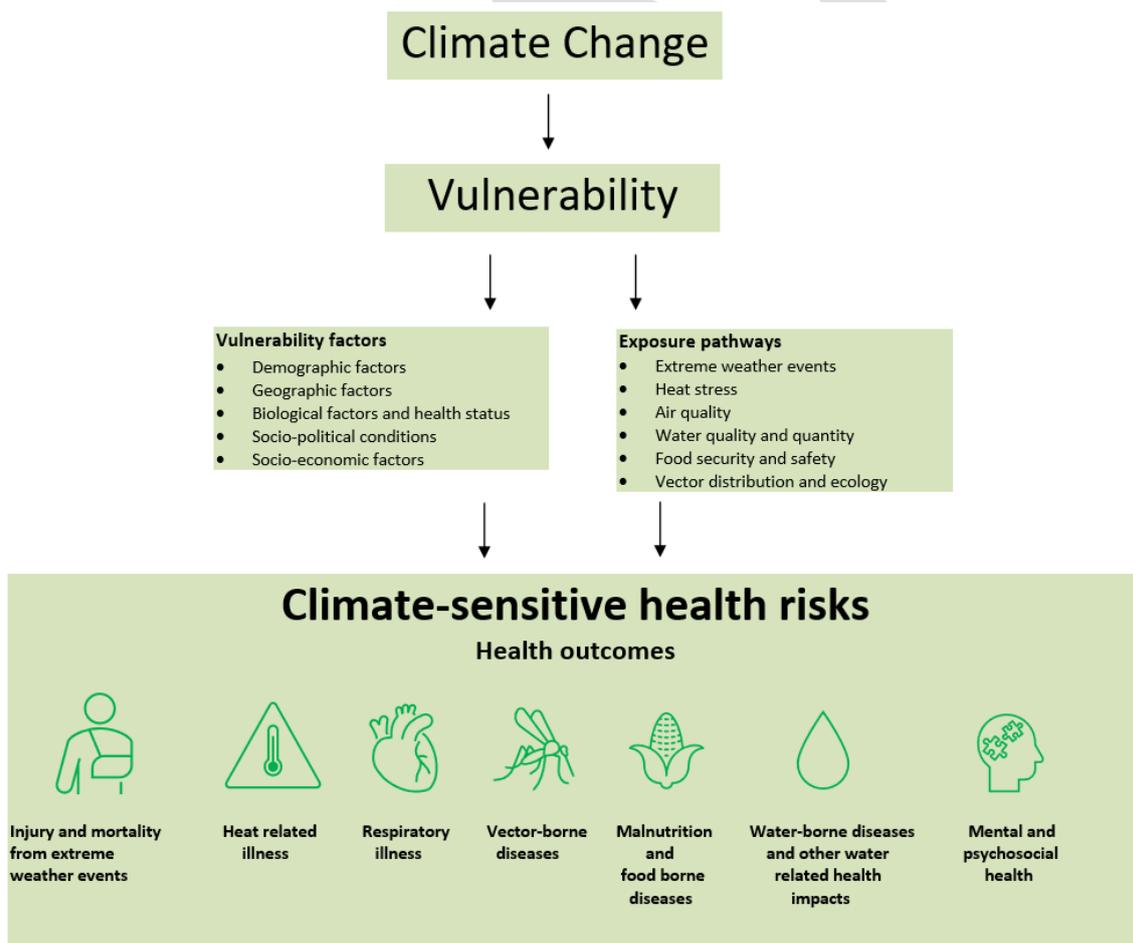
The coast and its wildlife are however already experiencing the impacts of climate change, and it will be necessary to redress our relationship with the natural environment whilst also securing economic growth. There are many opportunities and challenges linked to our coastline, and a number of climate actions which will link to the coastal nature of the East Riding of Yorkshire. These will be identified within the strategy using this symbol



Health Implications of Climate Change

‘Climate change is the biggest health threat facing humanity’ (World Health Organisation (WHO)).

It is widely acknowledged that the risks from climate change will affect everyone. Some will be affected more than others. The people whose health is being harmed first, and to a greater degree than the wider population, are often the people who contribute least to climate change. People in low-income households and disadvantaged communities are often hit first and hardest. The diagram below, created by WHO, provides an overview of climate-sensitive health risks, their exposure pathways and vulnerability factors:



These climate-sensitive health risks are disproportionately felt by the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, including women, children, ethnic minorities, low-income households, migrants or displaced persons, older populations, and those with underlying health conditions. Health impacts of climate change will be determined by how vulnerable and resilient people are and how quickly society can adapt to the changes we see. Climate change is also expected to increase the pressures on our health care systems.

Most action we take on climate change will impact health, therefore, as part of the development of this strategy a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) has been carried out. The assessment picks out some of the positive and negative impacts of climate change and highlights steps that can be taken to minimise or maximise the effects respectively.

The strategy will seek to act on the recommendations contained within the HIA either within our action plan following implementation of this strategy, or via relevant Council Strategies and Policies. This symbol will note those areas where Health is a consideration within the challenges/ opportunities or actions:



Inequalities and Climate Change

Certain social groups are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, for example, single parent households and carers (who are disproportionately female), disabled people and the elderly. The root causes of their vulnerability lie in the intersectionality of their geographical locations, their financial and socio-economic circumstance, and their cultural and gender identity, in addition to their access to services and decision making.

The most vulnerable can also be disproportionately impacted by climate change mitigation measures, which can place a higher financial burden on low-income households, for example, decisions that expand public transport or carbon pricing may lead to higher public transport fares which can have a greater impact on low-income groups.

East Riding of Yorkshire residents will be included in the decision-making process for the climate change strategy. The strategy will be developed and implemented with transparency and provide easy access to information.

The Council are keen to regularly consult with vulnerable residents on the issue of climate change to ensure that the strategy is inclusive and mitigates/maximises any negative/positive impacts respectively, and that any measures are taken to ease the burden on protected groups as far as possible. This symbol will note those areas where equality is a consideration within the challenges/ opportunities or actions:

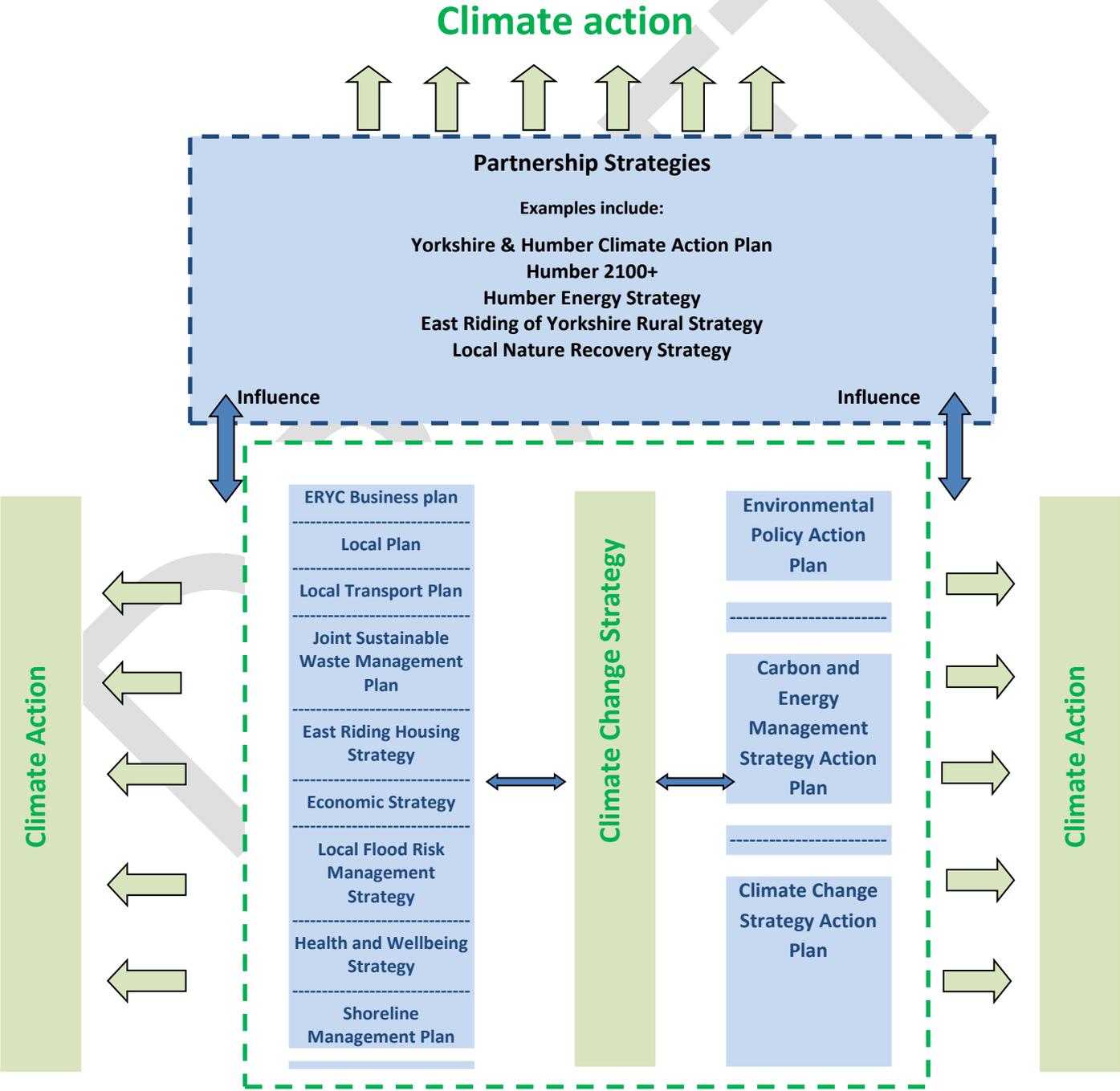


Linkages to other Strategies and Policies and Corporate Requirements

The Climate Change Strategy will set the overarching direction of travel and identify key opportunities for action to tackle climate change across the East Riding. It will form part of a suite of plans, policies and strategies that contribute to climate action.

The diagram below highlights the interdependencies between the Climate Change Strategy, other Council plans and strategies and those of key partners, with all of these contributing to climate action across the East Riding. The green dashed box highlights Council strategies links, whereas the blue dashed box represents partnership strategies with the green arrows highlighting climate action delivery.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council strategy landscape to support climate action across the East Riding:

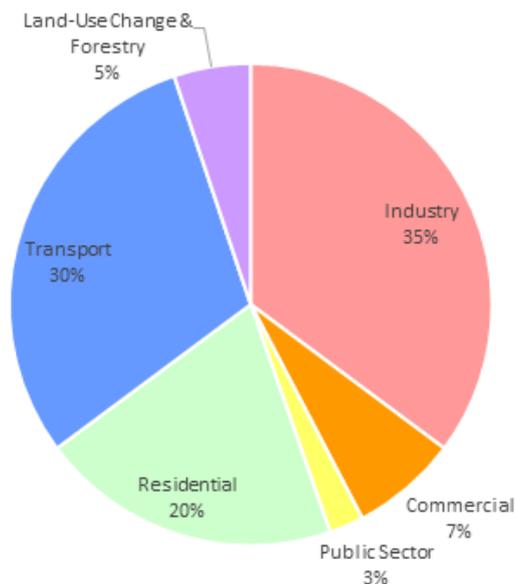


Where are we now?

East Riding of Yorkshire

The estimated carbon footprint of East Riding of Yorkshire was 2731.9kt CO₂e in 2019.

To identify priorities for climate action we need to understand where our emissions come from. The chart below shows the main sources of emissions in the East Riding, breaking it down into key sectors. These are the latest estimates of the territorial emissions produced by the Government, where emissions are allocated according to the point where that energy is consumed. This does not account for emissions from imported goods into the East Riding.



The industrial sector produces a large proportion of the emissions in the East Riding, despite a reduction in emissions over recent years. The region is nationally recognised for its industry and manufacturing, particularly around the Humber Estuary. The industrial cluster in the Humber region emits more emissions than any other UK cluster and accounts for a large proportion of the total emissions in the East Riding.

Emissions from road transport have only marginally declined since 2005 and still remain a large part of the total emissions in the East Riding. This is because, despite, improvements in vehicle efficiency and clean technology, these gains have been offset by an increase in road traffic.

Notably, there has been a 60% reduction in emissions from electricity in the East Riding from 2005-2019. This is largely due to an increase in renewable energy capacity contributing to the decarbonisation (less carbon used to produce electricity) of the national electricity grid. This is alongside phasing out the use of carbon intensive fuels sources like coal, which have contributed to the overall reduction in residential and industrial emissions in the East Riding of Yorkshire.

Agricultural emissions are somewhat captured in the sectors for 'Industry' and 'Land-Use Change & Forestry' and have only seen a slight decline. This data, however, is not likely to present the true picture of agriculture in the East Riding, as emissions from livestock and fertilisers are not well captured. It is suggested that 10% of the total greenhouse gas emissions in the UK are from agriculture.

Not all the emissions we produce in our daily lives are captured in the data above, because carbon emissions are produced from the products we purchase and consume like food and drink, clothes, shoes, consumer electronics and

appliances. Each product that is purchased has a carbon footprint, which will depend on how the product is sourced, prepared and transported during its lifecycle.

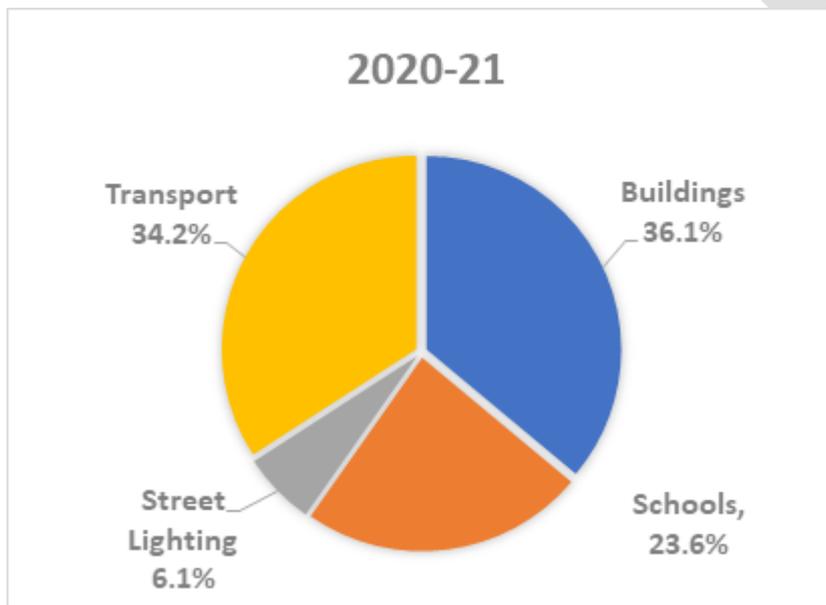
It is estimated that in the East Riding the emissions produced from food and diet, along with the consumption of goods and services (including leisure and entertainment activities) per-household is similar to the UK average. Changing personal daily habits and what we consume can help tackle climate change.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

The estimated carbon footprint of East Riding of Yorkshire Council was 29,875t CO₂e in 2020-21.

The Council is one of the largest unitary authorities in the country, is responsible for a large array of property and infrastructure assets and provides public services to an area of over 930 square miles.

The Council directly accounts for approximately 1% of the total carbon footprint of the East Riding of Yorkshire. This includes the total emissions from assets that are owned or managed by the Council including buildings, schools, streetlights and the fleet of transport. The chart below illustrates the relative contribution of these asset groups to the Council's overall carbon footprint, using the most recent data we have available.



The council holds data on carbon emissions back to 2007/08 and since then buildings have always been the largest contributor to our overall emissions, this year that was just over a third (36.1%). This is followed closely by transport (34.2%), which reflects the area wide trend of steady increases in emissions overtime. Schools account of 23.6% of emissions and are a focus for future carbon reduction activity. Street lighting accounts for just 6.1% of emissions and has seen significant reductions due to the upgrade to high efficiency LED lamps.

Over the last decade, the Council has reduced its total carbon emissions. This has been the result of the Council's carbon reduction initiatives and having an Environmental Policy process that delivers environmental improvements, demonstrated through our ISO14001:2015 accreditation. Major external factors have also contributed to this including the decarbonisation of the electricity grid.

The Council's Carbon and Energy Management Strategy found that whilst the Council's carbon emissions are predicted to decrease in the short-term, due to the decarbonisation of the electricity grid, the Council will fail to meet the Climate Change Committee's (CCC) 4th and 5th carbon budget targets later this decade. To meet these, the Council will have to

significantly increase investment in carbon and energy reduction technologies and set relevant policies to reduce the authorities carbon footprint.

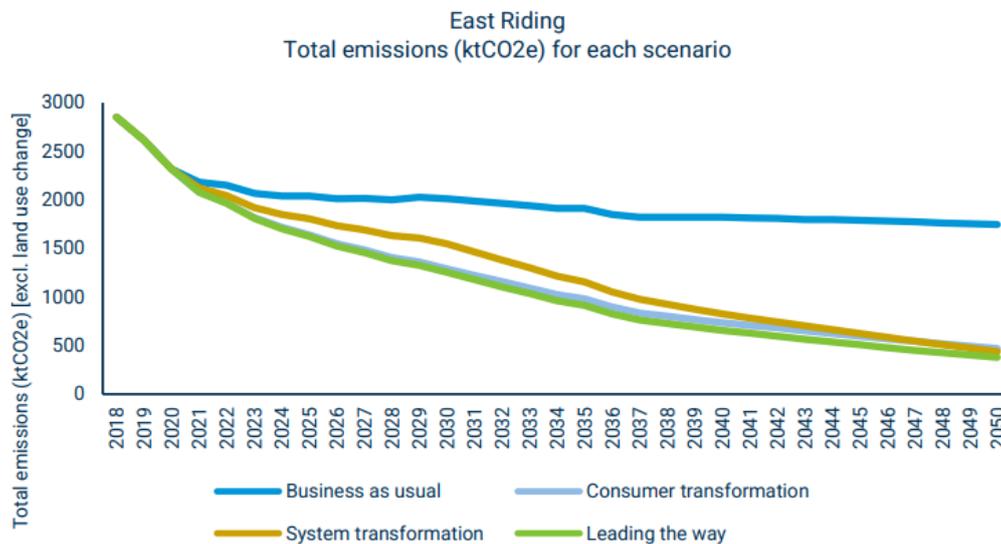
More data would support further understanding of the emissions we produce. In particular, the emissions that occur indirectly as a result of the Council’s activity. These are often referred to as scope 3 emissions and usually represent 70-80% of a local authority’s total emissions. Typically, these relate to the emissions associated with the things we buy (procured goods) and services, outsourced contracts and staff commuting. As part of our carbon monitoring and reporting we will explore ways to capture these emissions and set subsequent reduction plans.

Pathways & Trajectories

The Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research have calculated carbon budgets for each of the local authority areas in the UK. This helps local authorities to understand the contribution they must make towards the Paris Climate Change Agreement. The carbon budget sets out the maximum amount of carbon dioxide that can be emitted in a local area to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees compared to pre-industrial levels. With no change to the current emissions produced, it was predicted that the East Riding of Yorkshire would use its carbon budget by 2026.

We have undertaken a study to further understand the various pathways to achieve net zero. The research suggested that to align with a Science Based Target of 1.5 degrees, East Riding of Yorkshire will need to achieve net zero emissions by **2044**.

The challenge for achieving this should not be underestimated and will require significant changes to the way our energy system operates and fundamental lifestyle changes. Even if we follow the more ambitious pathways presented by the National Grid or Northern Power Grid, this may not achieve the net zero goal by 2044 and would require offsetting of residual emissions, which should always be a last resort. This is presented as the ‘Leading the way’ scenario on the graph below.



According to study we had commissioned, this scenario would require as a minimum a:

- 78% reduction in transport emissions with private vehicles and public transport powered by electricity or hydrogen;
- 89% reduction in industrial emissions; and
- 94% reduction in building emissions by maximising thermal efficiency and the majority of homes and commercial buildings operating a heat pump.

Measuring progress on climate adaptation is more challenging, primarily because the impacts of climate change are so varied and are changing all the time.

Nationally, the Government is required to produce a five-yearly climate change risk assessment, which helps set the National Adaptation Programmes, with the next set for 2023. The Climate Change Committee produces an assessment (every two years) of the UK Government's progress with adaptation. The most recent report found that action on adaptation has failed to keep pace with the worsening reality of climate risk and acting sooner will save more resources rather than waiting to deal with the consequences.

Locally, we continue to monitor and track elements of climate risk in the East Riding across our different work streams and partnerships. This includes:

- A programme to assess the levels of risk from coastal erosion, which includes twice yearly aerial image and Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) surveys of the whole East Riding coastline.
- A series of assessments and studies to improve understanding of surface water flood risk, test the effectiveness of flood mitigation works and record the condition of flood defence structures. This includes our cutting-edge approach to produce 'baseline' integrated computer models of the area's drainage catchments, which we can overlay with rainfall and tide level data to simulate combined sources of flooding.
- Our emergency planning team regularly update and share an assessment of the major risks we face in the East Riding, including those from climatic and weather events, so the core responders can plan and prepare for emergencies as necessary.
- Measuring progress with partnerships, such as the Humber Resilience Forum and the Regional Flood and the Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC).

Whilst we have these procedures in place for measuring climate risk, we will continue to undertake research to further understand all the risks from climate change, estimating the costs of achieving climate resilience and how the Council can support residents and businesses with adaptation measures.

What is important to our residents?

Initial Public Consultation

Recognising that early engagement was critical to the development and success of the Climate Change Strategy, East Riding of Yorkshire Council utilised the online engagement platform, Commonplace, to better understand public opinion on climate change in the local area. The consultation took place between November 2021 and February 2022. We had 300 responses and the below highlights the results.

We found the key climate priorities for respondents, in order of popularity, were:

- Transport and air quality.
- Trees and green space.
- Buildings and homes.
- Energy supply.
- Community action.

We also found, the top priorities for driving climate action, in order of popularity, were:

- Political leadership.
- Community involvement.
- Funding.
- Education and awareness.
- Transparency.

Some of the other frequently mentioned topics, outside of the set questions of the survey were:

- Electric vehicle infrastructure.
- Electrification of the rail network.
- More engagement with residents on climate change and the environment.
- Supporting active travel

We have worked with members of the Youth Parliament, the Regional Youth Climate Action and East Riding Voluntary Action Services to hear what our young people think about their future and more specifically climate change. Climate Change was a key priority for candidates for the youth parliament. East Riding of Yorkshire Council will support young people to have their say on how climate change is addressed.

The East Riding of Yorkshire Council recognise the importance of individual actions and those of community groups, businesses and partner organisations. Consultation and engagement will remain an important tool to delivery of the climate change strategy.

We have reflected the views of residents within our strategy. The next opportunity to input into the strategy will be between August and September 2022. During this 8-week consultation we will seek views on the draft Climate Change Strategy.

Our Approach

This strategy outlines the approach the East Riding of Yorkshire Council will use to reduce carbon emissions and build resilience to climate change. It is designed to set the East Riding on a path to net zero by establishing a flexible road map which can be added to over time as new policies and strategies are introduced that impact our ambitions.

The strategy will take an integrated approach to climate change, considering how we become more resilient to the changing climate (climate adaptation) and how we can reduce our impact on the climate (climate mitigation).

The strategy has been developed to cover the period 2022-2030 with the aim to kick start **rapid action** to reduce emissions and build resilience. During this time, we will focus our efforts on quick win actions (those that make big carbon savings or are simple to implement). We'll also develop our data to ensure we have the best information on which to base future decisions. This approach will enable us to reassess our position in 2030, and ensures the strategy remains aligned with evolving policy, legislation, and technological changes.

The Strategy is...

- Based on our current understanding and evidence which will develop and evolve overtime.
- Integrated. A Strategy that will set aims for reducing emissions and building resilience to the climate within East Riding.
- A Strategy that will set our priority areas for action to 2030.
- A plan that has been developed in collaboration with key partners and aims to reflect the views of residents.
- Flexible. We will update this regularly to ensure that it aligns with evolving policy, legislation and technological & market changes.
- A Strategy that builds on the positive actions taken by the Council, its partners, local businesses, and residents within the East Riding.
- A Strategy that has sustainability at its core. We will strive to ensure actions represent a sustainable solution to the challenges of climate change, making best use of resources and having socio-economic benefits.
- Designed to support, coordinate, and facilitate climate action.

The Strategy is not...

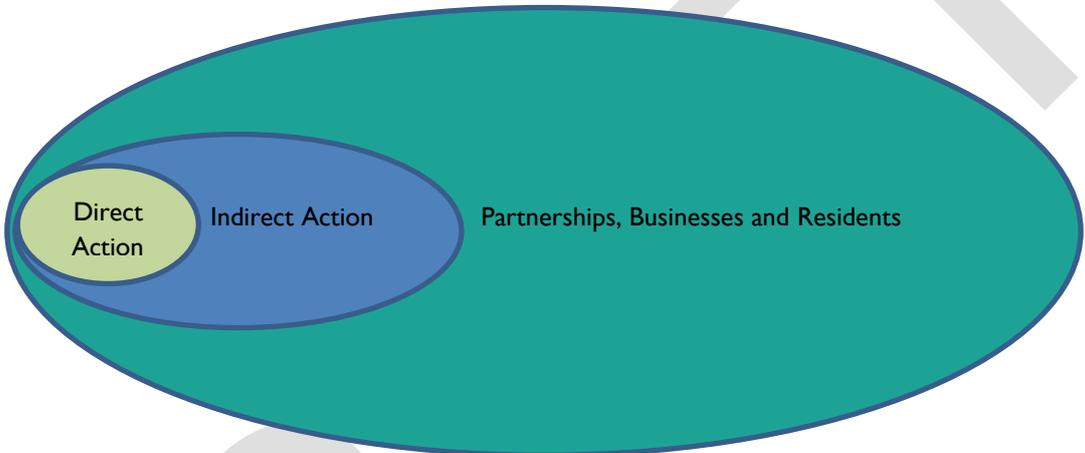
- Perfect. The Council has led on the development of this Strategy at pace, acting in line with the climate emergency that we are facing.
- A fixed path to achieving net zero. We will continue to review our strategy to ensure we're still heading in the right direction.
- Enough on its own to meet our climate targets. Everyone must play their part.
- A Strategy that will dictate action. Instead, we hope to work with partners, businesses, and our residents to establish the most suitable actions for the East Riding.

Scope

East Riding of Yorkshire Council recognises that we directly impact a small proportion of the emissions of the East Riding, however we do influence them indirectly. This strategy has been developed to cover 3 broad areas of our work.

- East Riding of Yorkshire Council **directly** reduces carbon emissions and takes action to adapt to the changing climate. *ERYC is directly responsible for just 1% of emissions in the East Riding.*
- **Indirect** climate action will facilitate change through the services the Council delivers. *ERYC is responsible for the delivery of many key services, such as planning, housing, economic development and waste etc estimates suggest that we might influence as much as 30% of the area’s emissions in this way.*
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council work in **partnership** with other organisations, businesses and communities and we will support climate action across the East Riding through collaboration.

Local Authority Sphere of Influence



Governance

This strategy is a living document, which means that as our knowledge of climate change improves, or more national policy and legislation come into effect this will be reflected within the strategy. We will review the strategy yearly to ensure it is up to date and accurate. We will also provide a yearly update on progress through a revised Environmental Statement. This will reflect key activity taken throughout the year and achievements made, including reporting our corporate and area wide carbon footprints.

Taking action to address the Climate Emergency can-not be done solely by officers, but instead needs a multi-disciplinary approach. We will need to draw on skills and resources from across the organisation and with wider partners. It will need to be part of the way we do things and embedded in the way we deliver our services. We will review our service plans to ensure that they align with the ambition of the strategy.

We will also explore the opportunities to develop an area wide climate change action group. This could take several forms and will be subject to public consultation to ensure it meets the needs of residents. Such a group would aim to expand on existing community involved and support future action. It would enable regular two-way dialogue and share ideas with and across local community representatives.

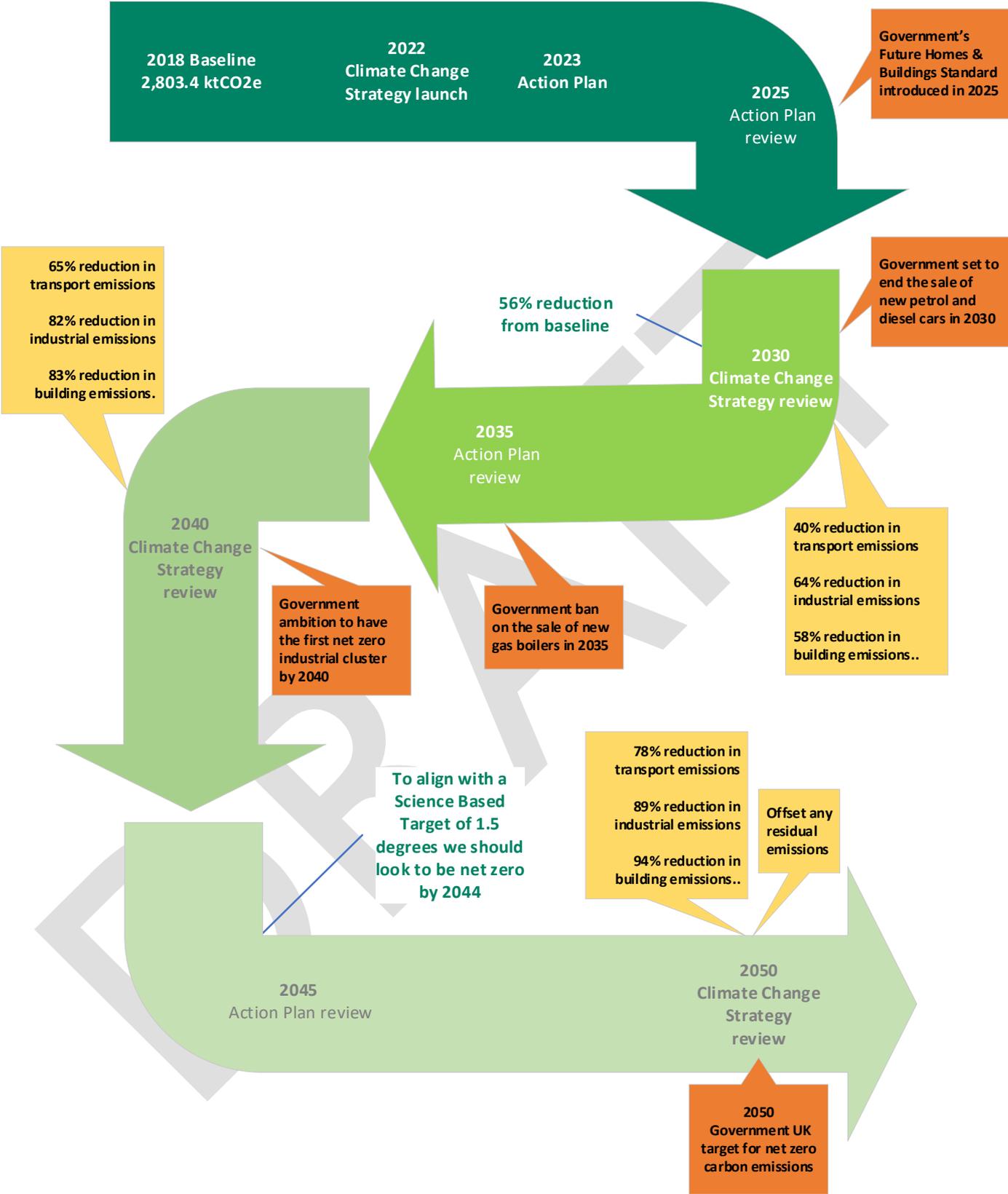
Due to the broad range of areas the climate change strategy covers it is essential to have an action plan detailing activities and projects that contribute to the strategy vision and priorities. The action plan for this strategy is in development and will cover each of the priority areas identified. The action plan will be updated every 5 years, except for the initial action plan, which will be for the period 2022-2025. The initial period of the action plan will lay the foundations for future activity and focus in on actions that will deliver rapid emission reductions.

Climate action will also be monitored through our corporate risk register, which as well as quarterly reporting will be reviewed annually to ensure that we are capturing all the risks effectively and that they are still appropriate. Action will also be scrutinised at regular meetings of Environment and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny.

Targets

The council set a target for its services to be net zero by 2050 in line with national government. This target will be reviewed over the period of the next action plan to ensure we are able to achieve it, and identify opportunities to bring this date forward if possible.

An area wide emissions target has not currently been set. This is because such a target needs to be developed through extensive consultation across partner organisations, businesses and residents. During the course of the action plan, we will consult widely on a potential area wide target which can be supported and monitored by the action group as defined within the governance section.



Roadmap based on an ambitious scenario for achieving the fastest credible decarbonisation, achieving net zero before 2050. Scenario built around the key elements of future energy scenarios by Northern Powergrid and National Grid ESO.

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