

Action on climate change and nature recovery

Leading in building climate resilient communities, reducing carbon emissions and restoring our natural environment

- Promote sustainable practices
- Enhance nature recovery
- Deliver action on climate change

What we will do:

- Council-owned homes decarbonisation programme
- Nature and Climate Action Plan (NCAP) delivery
- South Oxfordshire Net Zero programme
- Proactively engage with and support businesses to decarbonise their own operations and influence others in the community
- Remove fossil fuels from council-operated leisure centres as part of our decarbonisation plans
- Watlington Flood Alleviation Scheme
- Wheatley West Flood Alleviation Scheme
- Nuneham Courtenay Flood Alleviation Scheme
- Technical Services delivery
- Emergency response work programme
- Following publication of Oxfordshire Climate Adaptation Route Map and Action Plan, develop district level adaptation actions for the council and integrate into annual review of the Nature and Climate Action Plan
- Fulfilment of statutory Biodiversity Net Gain obligations
- Promote the development of Habitat Banks in appropriate locations in South Oxfordshire as a key mechanism to drive nature recovery
- Seek opportunities to increase support for and the profile of the Local Wildlife Sites Project as a key mechanism to help deliver Nature Recovery
- Undertake biodiversity audit of corporate land and develop proposals to put nature recovery at the heart of our grounds maintenance operations
- Progress towards adoption of an Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and identifying actions for the council to deliver following adoption of the Strategy
- Waste Resources and Street Cleansing Strategy Action Plan

How we'll go about this

We will take a multifaceted approach based on direct action, working in partnership, and exerting influence.



How we will do it



Direct Action

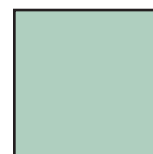


Working in Partnership

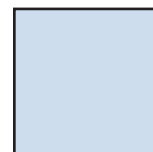


Exerting Influence

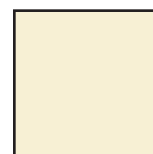
When we will do it














Within the period of the Annual Delivery Plan 2025/26












Beyond the period of the Annual Delivery Plan 2025/26 (i.e. 2026/27 or later)



Ongoing/business as usual

Outcomes	How we will do it:	How we will measure progress	How we will report it	Reporting
Expand and scale-up decarbonisation activity		• Percentage of council-owned homes with an EPC rating of C or above	• 100% by Q4 2026/27 / RAG & trajectory	Annual
		• Number of council-owned homes with renewable energy systems	• 9 homes by Q1 2027/28 & RAG	Annual
		• Progress towards net zero carbon district by 2045 (South Oxfordshire)	• RAG, trajectory & narrative	Annual
		• Number of council-operated leisure facilities that have undergone decarbonisation	• 5 by 2027/28 (retrospective)	Quarterly
Reduce operational greenhouse gas emissions		• Reduction in gross operational greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions	• % / RAG & (downward) trajectory (2030 target)	Annual
		• Number and percentage of council fleet vehicles that are zero emission	• Number and % (increase)	Annual
Support communities to alleviate and adapt to extreme weather events		• Narrative and number of flood and drainage alleviation schemes facilitated and/or implemented	• 3 & narrative • Nuneham Courtenay – 2025/26 • Watlington – 2026/27 • Wheatley West – 2026/27	Annual
		• Summary of other activities to reduce risk of flooding	• N/A (narrative only)	Annual
		• Narrative and number of locations where expert advice and support provided on flood alleviation	• Number, location & narrative (retrospective)	Annual
		• Advise communities on emergency response plans	• Number of emergency response plans & narrative (retrospective)	Annual
		• Develop district level action plan and incorporate actions into annual review of Nature and Climate Action Plan	• Yes/No (by Q4 2025/26) & narrative	Annual

Outcomes	How we will do it:	How we will measure progress	How we will report it	Reporting
Enhance biodiversity		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Biodiversity Net Gain reporting (including mean BNG from permitted major and minor developments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10% uplift in Area Units & narrative	Annual
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Number of habitat banks approved through Section 106 agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1 per year & narrative	Annual
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Number of biodiversity units secured through council agreed habitat banks located in South Oxfordshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">50 Area Habitat Units per year	Annual
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Number of local wildlife sites surveyed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">7	Annual
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Number of local wildlife sites where management advice is provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5 & narrative	Annual
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Percentage of council-owned land managed for nature recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">% (retrospective) & trajectory (increase)	Annual
Collaborate to achieve our climate and ecological goals		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy adopted	<ul style="list-style-type: none">RAG & trajectory (October 2025)	Annual
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Amount of residual waste per household	<ul style="list-style-type: none">kgs per household (decrease) - target of 330kgs per household for 2026/27	Annual
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">% (increase) – ongoing target of 62%	Annual