



Report subject	<b>Climate Action Annual Report 2019 20</b>
Meeting date	16 December 2020
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	<p>BCP Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency on 16 July 2019 and followed this by considering and approving for consultation a draft Action Plan at its meeting on 16 December 2019. This was a logical extension of the excellent work undertaken by its predecessor councils before the formation of BCP. This report sets out the work the Council has carried out in the first year towards achieving our targets to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make BCP Council and its operations carbon neutral by 2030</li> <li>• Work with the wider community to make the region carbon neutral before the UK target of 2050</li> </ul> <p>This period has seen the Covid-19 pandemic trigger a national lockdown, which has impacted on some of our planned activity and had a direct effect on environmental quality. During this time, the Council has been working to establish the full extent of the challenge by calculating the amount of carbon emissions from Council operations that will need to be avoided or offset in order to meet this target – over 40,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. These efforts have led to BCP Council being named one of five UK towns and cities praised as global climate leaders by carbon disclosure charity CDP on their ‘Cities A-List’. Actions in the period July 2019 - July 2020 included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporating the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals – including no.13: ‘Climate Action’ into our Corporate Strategy</li> <li>• Purchasing green electricity from renewable sources for all our buildings and a proportion of streetlights</li> <li>• Incorporating Sustainable Procurement in the Council’s</li> </ul>

	<p>new Financial Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allowing key workers free use of sustainable transport during the pandemic, with 1000 essential journeys made on Beryl Bikes</li> <li>• Helping 691 eligible households referred into the Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP) save £770,000 in energy bill reductions and financial benefits, whilst generating carbon savings</li> <li>• Undertaking works at bus facilities in response to COVID-19 measures ensuring that buses can be used safely</li> <li>• Developing a Decision Impact Assessment tool ensuring that all projects, decisions and policies can be assessed against climate change and other sustainability criteria</li> <li>• Installing Electric Vehicle charging points at council depots and an Electric Refuse Collection Vehicle and road sweepers are to be trialled</li> <li>• Forming a Coastal Engineering Partnership with Dorset Council to help protect communities from coastal flooding and erosion.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p>	<p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(a) Cabinet approves launch of the 2050 Climate Action Plan public consultation survey</b></li> <li><b>(b) Cabinet supports the creation of a Climate Action Leadership Board</b></li> <li><b>(c) Cabinet endorses and recommends that Council endorses this report as an update on activities taken to address the Climate and Ecological Emergency during 2019/20</b></li> <li><b>(d) Cabinet endorses and recommends that Council acknowledges that the total measurable GHG emissions from BCP Council activities for 2019/20 is 41,809 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e; and endorses the use of this figure as a baseline against which to measure emissions reductions up to 2030</b></li> <li><b>(e) Cabinet endorses and recommends that Council supports the development of:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(i) 2030 BCP Council Climate Action Plan</b></li> <li><b>(ii) Delivery plan and funding proposal to undertake</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>activities identified in the 2030 BCP Council Climate Action Plan</b></p> <p><b>(f) Cabinet endorses and recommends that Council acknowledges that the total measurable GHG emissions from BCP Area activities for 2017 (reported in 2019/20) is 1,841,600 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e; and endorses the use of this figure as a baseline against which to measure emissions reductions up to 2050</b></p> <p><b>(g) Cabinet endorses and recommends that Council supports the development of:</b></p> <p><b>(i) 2050 BCP Area Climate Action Plan following completion of public engagement during 2020/21</b></p> <p><b>(ii) Delivery plan and funding proposal to undertake activities identified in the 2050 BCP Area Climate Action Plan, including consideration of a Community Climate Bond scheme</b></p>
Reason for recommendations	To allow the Council to meet its commitments under the Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration and help global efforts to keep climate warming below 1.5°C to avoid further environmental damage, population displacement, biodiversity loss and risk to life.
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Mike Greene, Transport & Sustainability
Corporate Director	Kate Ryan, Corporate Director Community & Environment
Report Authors	Roxanne King, Strategic Lead – Climate, Resource & Sustainability Neil Short, Sustainability Manager – Energy & Green Economy Becky Beaumont, Sustainability Officer
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Update

## Background

1. On 16 July 2019, BCP Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency. The headline commitments of this were to make BCP Council and its operations carbon neutral by 2030, and to work with partners to set a target date for when the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole region can be made carbon neutral, ahead of the UK target of 2050. An annual report is required to update on progress towards achieving these targets.
2. Within this reporting period, largely due to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, Council funding, resources and the delivery of services has been put under extreme pressure. Climate action plans have been disrupted and activities halted, delaying

projects to achieve our carbon-neutral targets. The Council was unable to engage the public on climate action, as had been intended, due to the Covid-19 restrictions and the Council-approved public consultation on the draft Action Plan was postponed and is now launched alongside publication of this report.

3. Early 2020 also saw the largest ever recorded global reduction in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>. The Covid-19 measures imposed in the UK and abroad limited the use of cars, vans and other polluting vehicles significantly. Large public events were cancelled, international travel cancelled, and manufacturing of non-essential items suspended. Business travel, commuting and personal trips were reduced, giving people time to enjoy nature, grow food and improve local habitats. The 6% global CO<sub>2</sub> reduction during this time is significant due to the extreme measures put in place and the personal behaviour change of whole populations – but to meet global climate objectives of limiting global warming to below 2°C, this level of carbon reduction must be exceeded year on year.

### **Carbon Neutral BCP Council 2030 update 2019/20**

4. The report at Appendix 1 details the most complete and up to date data available and highlights some key projects which took place within BCP Council in 2019/20 to address the emergency.
5. The total measurable GHG emissions from BCP Council activities for 2019/20 is **41,567 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e** (views 1 and 2). This figure includes as many areas of BCP activities as possible, but it is important to note that the actual GHG emissions are more than this. Inclusions, exclusions and assumptions relating to each Scope 3 category are explained in the Technical Appendix.

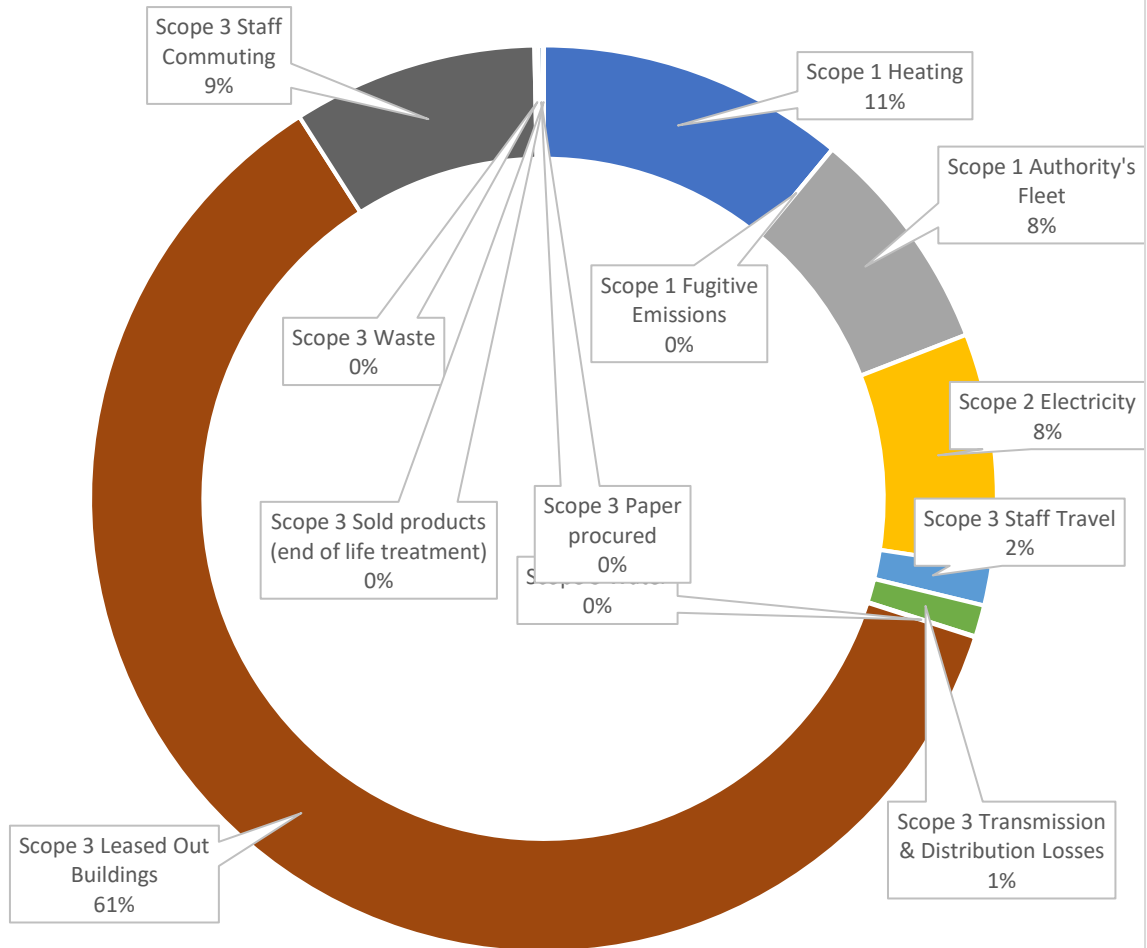
## BCP Council CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions Inventory 2019/20

Scope	Emissions Type	Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e) with full Scope 2 based on kwh of electricity used	Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e) with reduced Scope 2 from green electricity procurement
<b>Scope 1</b>	Heating	4,569.96	4,569.96
	Fugitive Emissions	Not known	Not known
	Authority's Fleet	3,372.34	3,372.34
<b>Scope 2</b>	Electricity	5,523.48	3,447.03
<b>Scope 3</b>	Staff Travel	576.35	576.35
	Transmission & Distribution Losses	468.93	468.93
	Water	12.23	12.23
	Leased Out Buildings	25,358	25,358
	Staff Commuting	3,628	3,628
	Waste	62	62
	Paper procured	72	72
	Sold products (end of life treatment)	0.2	0.2
	Investments	Not known	Not known
	All procured products and services	Not known	Not known
<b>Total Known Emissions</b>		<b>43,643</b>	<b>41,567</b>

6. By including all known Scope 3 data BCP Council is being as transparent as possible in reporting our carbon emissions. Despite being the hardest scope to measure and therefore open to more inaccuracies and assumptions, analysis of this scope still provides us with valuable insight into all our activities as an organisation.

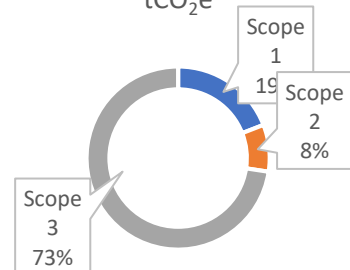
NB. The scale of Scope 3 data will change over time as more data is gathered, and the accuracy of the data improved.

View 1: BCP Council emissions inventory  
2019/20 (including green electricity) total =  
41,567 tCO<sub>2</sub>e



NB. Figures showing as 0% refer to categories where the proportion of the total emissions is less than 1% - these are labelled on the inside of the doughnut chart

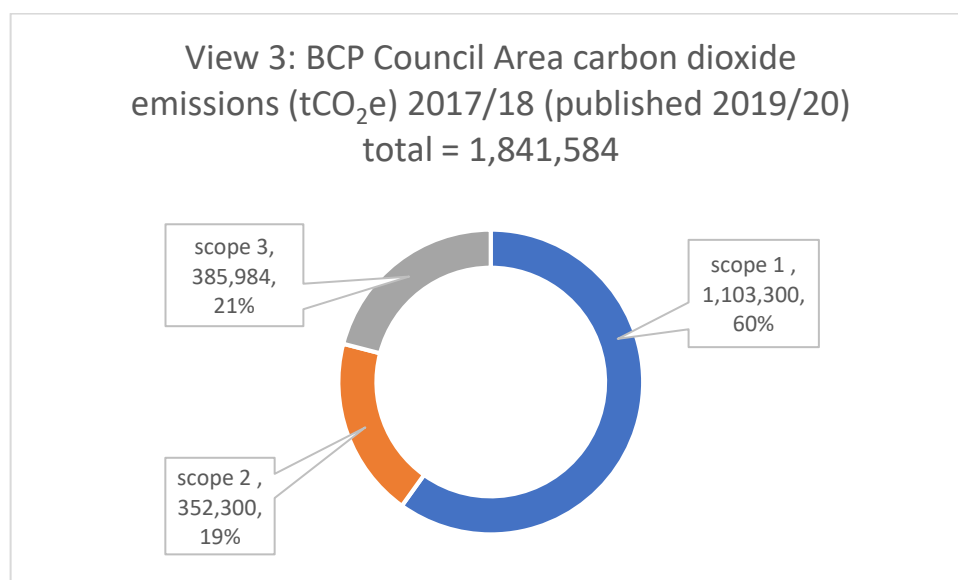
View 2: BCP Council CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions 2019/20 Scope 1, 2 and 3 - total = 41,567 tCO<sub>2</sub>e



## Carbon Neutral BCP Council Area 2050 update 2019/20

7. The Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration committed BCP Council to work with the wider community to make the region carbon neutral before the UK target of 2050. The report at Appendix 1 details the most complete and up to date data available and highlights some key projects which took place in the year from July 2019 to address the emergency.
8. The most up to date data has been compiled on area-wide emissions to enable progress to be benchmarked, see table below and View 3. It should be noted that Scope 1 and 2 figures shown are derived from 2018 data made available by Government in 2020 and the Scope 3 figure provided by the Government-funded SCATTER project in 2019, using 2017 data.

<b>BCP Council Area Emissions Inventory for 2019/20</b>				
Emission Scope	Scope 1 2018 data, published 2020 (BEIS)	Scope 2 2018 data, published 2020 (BEIS)	Scope 3 2017 data, published 2019 (SCATTER)	
Primary Sources	Gas use, road transport fuel	Electricity use	Purchased products, waste, water, aviation	<b>Area total</b>
Total (tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e)	1,103,300	352,300	385,984	<b>1,841,584</b>



## **Climate Action – Next Steps**

9. The next steps identified in the report at Appendix 1 provide an indication of the types of projects which could be feasible to implement in the year from July 2020. These are subject to consultation and approval.
10. BCP Council will consider climate adaptation and mitigation activities for delivery in 2020/21 around waste, staff engagement, travel, buildings, planning and land use, working together, governance and scope 3 emissions.
11. BCP Council is in the process of establishing a Climate Action Leadership Board to engage community partners, local organisations and large employers such as Bournemouth University, Poole Port and NHS in climate action. Following completion of public engagement on the Draft Climate Action Plan, BCP Council and the Climate Action Leadership Board (once established) will consider activities for delivery in 2020/21 and beyond around home energy, working together, nature, travel and climate action financing.

## **Summary of financial implications**

12. National policy reforms such as the Government's 'Green Industrial Revolution' and the Environment Bill are encouraging a move towards zero-carbon through renewable energy, sustainable transport and green finance, in line with international pledges. Although there are currently no formal requirements on local authorities, there are indications that in the near future it is possible legally binding carbon reduction targets and reporting requirements might well be put in place.
13. Meeting these targets at a local level will require the support of businesses, communities and partner organisations, many of which we hope to engage through the formation of a Climate Action Leadership Board. It will also require significant investment to enable the implementation of low-carbon measures. Competitive grant funding and other financing models are being made available through government departments and external bodies, but additional local funds may also be required.
14. Failure to meet carbon targets may result in financial consequences. The scale of any financial impacts will depend on the reduction targets mandated by Government and can be reduced according to the ambition of local interventions, such as making changes to the fuel used in our vehicles, how waste is treated, the amount of natural carbon storage and the carbon in our supply chains. Based on 2019/20 council emissions (calculated using government conversion factors) and the projected costs of offsetting per tonne CO<sub>2</sub>e (according to London School of Economics), the current estimated cost to offset BCP Council emissions in 2030 if we do not take measures to address them would be £3,117,525.
15. Long-term financial impacts can be reduced by investing in carbon reduction activities now. Many schemes will take time to implement due to planning, funding and resource implications (such as large-scale renewable energy generation or modal shift to sustainable transport), so it's imperative to prioritise and deliver climate action at the earliest opportunity. Reducing our energy bills, fuel costs and waste production will generate immediate financial savings which can be used to support further climate action within the organisation and help us reach our climate and ecological targets.



### Summary of legal implications

- 16. There are many legal implications in delivery of projects within the Climate Action Plan that will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 17. BCP Council is obliged to sufficiently take account of the Climate and Ecological Emergency in the development of the new Local Plan, or risk legal challenge.

### Summary of human resources implications

- 18. Considering the scale of the proposed actions and possible projects, if the BCP Climate & Ecological Emergency is to be meaningfully addressed it will require additional human resources. Some actions may require external expertise to deliver individual projects (e.g. Citizens Assembly) whilst others would last the duration of the project and so would require new Council posts (e.g. Climate Action Project Officer). We will continue to explore re-focusing of roles within the Environment Directorate and wider Council to minimise costs and use resources efficiently.

### Summary of sustainability impact

- 19. Decision Impact Assessment (DIA) ID: 22. DIA Report found at Appendix 2.

DIA Proposal ID: 22  
Welcome Roxanne King  
Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report  
BCP Council

Category	Status	Indicator
Review registration	Home Page	
Climate Change & Energy	Complete	Green circle
Communities & Culture	Complete	Green circle
Waste & Resource Use	Complete	Green circle
Economy	Complete	Green circle
Health & Wellbeing	Complete	Green circle
Learning & Skills	Complete	Green circle
Natural Environment	Complete	Green circle
Sustainable Procurement	Complete	Grey circle
Transport & Accessibility	Complete	Green circle

**Key**

- Not yet assessed (White circle)
- Major negative impacts identified – remedial action required (Red circle)
- Minor negative impacts identified – mitigation action required (Yellow circle)
- Only positive impacts identified (Green circle)
- No positive or negative impacts identified (Grey circle)

Submit Proposal  
Ask for help

### Summary of public health implications

- 20. Climate change will result in heatwaves, extreme weather events, floods, disease and increased cancer risk. The measures to reduce it will limit the dangers and those activities can also have direct positive health effects (e.g. increased fitness from cycling and better air quality from reducing car journeys).

### Summary of equality implications

- 21. There are no negative impacts identified on the protected characteristics groups of the Equalities Act 2010 from the recommendations in this report. However, an

Equalities Impact Assessment will be undertaken, as necessary, for individual projects in the draft Action Plan before commencement to ensure this.

### **Summary of risk assessment**

22. We are uncertain of the full extent that the effects of climate change will have on our area but know it will be more severe if we do not act now. Non-achievement of our declaration commitments will contribute to a further degraded and hostile global environment – with local consequences, lack of energy supply resilience for the area and legal challenge from environmental organisations. However, acting positively and rapidly, many of the actions that are proposed will help to make our society thrive. Having declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency, a risk identified is that of non-achievement of targets, which will result in reputational damage from negative publicity (locally, nationally and internationally). As we move to implementation and projects develop, business cases will consider further associated risks and benefits.

### **Background papers**

Published works:

BEIS (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) and DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) [UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting, Conversion Factors 2019: Full set \(for advanced users\)](#).

SCATTER <https://scattercities.com/>

### **Appendices**

1. BCP Council Climate Action Annual Report 2019/20
2. Decision Impact Assessment (DIA) Report ID: 22
3. DRAFT Climate Action Survey