

# Environment Strategy Delivery Plan

The Environment Strategy for West Berkshire has been refreshed for the period 2025 - 2030. Alongside updating and refocusing the strategy, the Delivery Plan has also been refined and prioritised to fit with the refreshed strategy. The tabs in this Delivery Plan each cover a different key theme and contain relevant overarching actions and specific tasks to help achieve them.

This Delivery Plan will be updated at least every quarter. As new opportunities arise that fit with the priorities for delivery and offer good value for money, additional tasks will be added.

The **key themes** that structure the Delivery Plan are:

Energy Efficiency and Renewables
Sustainable Transport
Natural Environment
Waste Reduction and Recycling

There are **common threads** that link across all the themes and these are explained in the tab following the themes.

Lastly, a list of other strategies, plans and documents that this Environment Strategy Delivery Plan links with are included in the final tab.

For queries relating to the Environment Strategy Delivery Plan, please email: [Environment@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:Environment@westberks.gov.uk)



Theme	Overarching Action	Specific Tasks	Progress	Responsibility	Estimated timescale	Estimated carbon reduction (tCO2e)	Estimated cost	Net Zero Target contribution WBC/District/ Both
Energy Efficiency & Renewables	Work with partners to ensure good strategic planning in support of decarbonisation goals	(EER1) Progress a review of the Local Area Energy Plan and increase partnership working with neighbouring authorities.	In progress	WBC Environment Delivery Team	To be reviewed in 2025/6	TBC depending on the nature and size of projects.	£(up to 25k )	Both
		(EER2) Improve links with SSEN (Scottish & Southern Electricity Network) through regular engagement and use of bespoke planning tools	In progress	WBC Environment Delivery Team	Ongoing	N/A Enabling Project	Officer time	N/A
	Progress the decarbonisation of the Council's estate and activities	(EER3) Conduct further audits of the Council's buildings to: a) assess energy efficiency b) identify areas for improvement (e.g. develop Decarbonisation Plans) c) bid for funding and d) undertake projects to improve energy efficiency	In progress	WBC Property/WBC Environment Delivery Team/ Team/WBC Leisure Team	Ongoing- Longterm Project	TBC depending on the nature and size of projects.	££££ (over £0.5m)	WBC
	Deliver projects to generate renewable energy	(EER4) Install a large scale solar farm near Grazeley	In progress	WBC Environment Delivery Team	Delivery in 2025/26	3747-3646 tCO2e/year	££££ (Over £0.5m)	Both
		(EER5) Initiate, plan and deliver further projects to install renewable energy on existing council assets and properties	In progress	WBC Environment Delivery Team/WBC Property Team/WBC Leisure Team/ WBC Education Team	Main delivery phase 2024/25 -2027/28	71-580 tCO2e/year - currently this is based on solar PV but can be adjusted as and when WBC introduces other renewables.	££££ (Over £0.5m)	WBC
	Continue to develop good communications and partnership working to assist residents, communities, schools and businesses to become more energy efficient and decarbonise their activities.	(EER6) Work with stakeholders and support community groups, to ensure they have access to relevant funding to develop community proposals for the installation of renewable technology	In progress	WBC Environment Delivery Team	Ongoing	3-15 tCO2e/year - this is based on installing 25kWp of Solar pv by the end of 2024/25 financial year and each year beyond that 50kWp is installed.	Officer time	District
		(EER7) Providing landlords and home owners with advice on funding to improve energy efficiency and affordability (with a particular focus on properties where EPC (Energy Performance Certificates) are E or below)	Not started	WBC Environment Delivery Team/Housing Service	Ongoing	31 -127 tCO2e/year Assumes that E,F & G private rental accommodation is brought up to D standard.	Officer time	Both
		(EER8) Support residents to assist with energy switching and group buying schemes to ensure they have the most affordable tariffs and opportunities for good value green energy initiatives	In progress	WBC Environment Delivery Team/Housing Service	Ongoing	Low/Medium	Officer time	District

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Sustainable Transport	Work with Partners to develop strategic plans and initiatives to support sustainable and low carbon travel across the District	(ST1) Develop the next Local Transport Plan for the district	In progress	WBC Environment Delivery Team/ Network Management	Summer 2025	N/A Enabling Action	£££ (£100k to £0.5m)	Both
		(ST2) Deliver the actions as identified within the Council's ULEV Strategy, including ensure 100% of the Council's (viable) light fleet vehicles uses ULEV by 2030	In progress	Various WBC Teams	By 2030	66 -264 tCO2e/year (average reduction) based upon fleet transitioning to EV	££££ (Over £0.5m)	Both
		(ST3) Expand car club activities to deliver vehicle locations in 3 new areas of the District (in addition to Newbury town already being served) by 2030 with a priority of using EVs wherever possible.	In discussion	Environment Delivery Team	By 2030	TBC	TBC	Both
		(ST4) Delivery of plans under relevant contracts to provide EV chargepoints in identified community areas to support residents and businesses switching to EVs <b>NB:</b> <i>Concession contract being considered April / May 2025 - Task may be updated as a result</i>	New 20-year contract being considered April / May 2025	Environment Delivery / Network Management Teams	Figure and timescale to be set once new contract is confirmed	TBC	TBC	Both
	Through effective communication and engagement promote sustainable travel options	(ST5) Encourage residents and visitors to use public transport by providing up to date information on bus and train routes and providing incentives where possible. In line with the Bus Service Improvement Plan.	TBC this is a new action	Transport Services/ WBC Environment Delivery Team	Ongoing	2775 tCO2e/year (This is based on the previous action and will need to be revised.)	££££ (over £0.5m)TBC. We will receive funding	District
	Effective use of travel plans and travel monitoring systems to inform future sustainable travel decisions	(ST6) Install a network of automatic active travel monitoring sites at key locations on the LCWIP (Local Cycle and Walking) Infrastructure primary network	In progress	WBC Network Management	TBC as there are new sites	N/A Enabling Action	££ (25k - £100k)	District
	Work with partners to develop active travel routes and hubs across the District	(ST7) Delivery of the priority routes identified in the Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Pla) (LCWIP)	In progress	WBC Network Management	Medium term (April 2023- March 2026)	Low/ Medium	The Council's Capital Programme details the funding allocated to delivery of active travel routes and will be enhanced by further grant funding where opportunities arise.	District
		(ST8) Deliver a Cycle Hub in Theale and investigate further sites.	In progress	WBC Environment Delivery Team/ GWR	Medium term (April 2023- March 2026)	Low	£££ (£100k- £ 0.5m)	District
	Develop Sustainable Travel initiatives for Council staff	(ST9) Implement a new travel policy for staff to incentivise more sustainable patterns of travel to/from work and on site visits	Delayed	WBC Environment Delivery Team	Short term (this is behind schedule).	Medium	££ (25k - £100k)	WBC

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The Natural Environmnet	Develop and implement a strategic approach to the creation of Natural Capital across the District	(NE1) Continue to develop a Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) Framework to investigate an approach to natural regeneration to identify opportunities for rewilding, tree planting, CO2 capture and habitat conservation and creation across West Berkshire.	In progress	WBC Countryside Team and WBC Environment Delivery Team	Ongoing	N/A Enabling Action	£££ ( £100k - £0.5m)	Both
		(NE2) Through the Natural Solutions Delivery Partnership (NSDP) continue to work with key stakeholders across the district on developing opportunities for habitat creation and natural capital initiatives.	In progress	WBC Countryside Team and WBC Environment Delivery Team	Ongoing	N/A Enabling Action	Officer Time	Both
		(NE3) Develop an approach and deliver projects that will achieve the amount of Nutrient Mitigation in the River Lambourn Catchment Area required by the grant funding received through the Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund	In progress	WBC Environment Delivery Team, Drainage Team, Planning and Ecology	2025 - 2027	Unknown as yet	TBC	Both
		(NE4) Engage and contribute to the development of the Berkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) to establish a regional approach to nature recovery.	In progress	WBC Countryside Team and WBC Environment Delivery Team	2025/26	N/A Enabling Action	Officer Time	Both
	Working with partners, continue to develop and implement best practice methods of environmental land and water management.	(NE5): 'Work with partners to develop Natural Flood Management (NFM) projects to allow catchment wide adaptation to flooding.	In progress	Various WBC Teams and the Environment Agency	April 2026- March 2030	N/A	Officer Time	NA
		(NE6): Ensure hedgerow management on all council land is in accordance with good ecological practice guidance.	In progress	WBC Countryside Team	Ongoing	Low	£ (up to £25k)	District

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Waste Reduction & Recycling	Continue to develop the actions to reduce municipal waste and increase recycling rates	(WRR1) Reuse, recycle and compost at least 60% of municipal waste we handle by 2030.	In progress	WBC Waste Management	Long term (April 2026-March 2030).	161 tCO2e per year	TBC, awaiting more information from central government.	District
		(WRR2) Implement a kerbside collection system that is fully compliant with the minimum service standards required by the UK Government.	In progress, (must be complete by 31st March 2026).	WBC Waste Management	By March 2026	Medium	££££ (Over £0.5m)	District
		(WRR3) Encourage residents to consider how changes might be made to their own recycling habits so that the amount of waste unnecessarily sent to landfill is minimised.	In progress	WBC Waste Management Key support from Waste Minimisation Officer	Ongoing	Low/ Medium	Officer Time	District
	Reduce waste and increase recycling rates from Council activities	(WRR4) Work to reduce waste and increase the recycling rate of WBC's offices via improved awareness of the recycling scheme and provision of improved facilities where required.	In progress	Facilities Management/Environment Delivery (Comms assistance)	Ongoing	Low/ Medium	£ (up to £25k)	WBC

*There are a number of aims or approaches that are relevant to all the themes identified in the Environment Strategy / Delivery Plan. These are therefore identified as common threads. A brief explanation of each of the 5 common threads across all themes is given below along with some examples of how we deliver these threads and other relevant key links.*

Common Thread	Explanation	Examples of relevant work/ links to relevant documents
Net Zero	Net zero is a position the Council seeks to achieve for its own activities by 2030. There is also a commitment to assist in the achievement of net zero for the District. This is a larger task and will involve all individuals, communities, organisations and businesses playing their part. Many of the schemes, projects and actions across all the themes will contribute in some way to the Council reducing its carbon impact or to the reduction of the District's carbon footprint.	Solar PV Grazeley- Webpage / HVO/
Health and Wellbeing	Many actions under the themes of the Delivery Plan will have a positive impact on health and wellbeing. Whether this is through reduced emissions from transport creating cleaner air, or enhancement of and greater access to nature, we aim to improve health and wellbeing through our activities and guard against any detrimental impacts. This supports the Council's commitment to a 'health in all policies' approach across the organisation.	<a href="#">Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2030 - West Berkshire Council</a>
Communications	Communication is key to working effectively. The Council will seek to communicate effectively and in a variety of ways to ensure residents, communities, organisations and businesses are aware of our plans and proposals. The importance of communicating successes of our own and others is recognised as an important way of encouraging others with ideas and inspiration. We will also seek to learn from others who communicate their innovative projects and help us to improve our projects and plans.	Environment Newsletter (monthly) Press releases Green Hub on Website
Partnerships	West Berkshire Council seeks to work in partnership wherever possible, particularly where this will strengthen outcomes, make the best use of resources and support, build and encourage community action. Existing partnership working has delivered some excellent outcomes and opportunities for new partnerships are encouraged.	BBOWT West Berkshire Natural Solutions Delivery Partnership
Education and Engagement	Providing information to help increase knowledge on climate and sustainability matters across the themes is important to enable and encourage understanding leading to action and behavioural change. Opportunities for engagement to support this education and joint learning are built into the Council's work alongside a desire to take up new opportunities for engagement where they deliver on important objectives and priorities.	Town and Parish Council Climate Forum <a href="https://www.westberks.gov.uk/parish-climate-forum">https://www.westberks.gov.uk/parish-climate-forum</a> Environment Advisory Group Open Forum Eco Champions (Internal)

Publication:	Link/ Notes:
The Environment Strategy	<a href="https://www.westberks.gov.uk/media/49068/Environment-Strategy-2020-2030/pdf/Environment_Strategy_2020-2030_updated.pdf?m=1615892303337">https://www.westberks.gov.uk/media/49068/Environment-Strategy-2020-2030/pdf/Environment_Strategy_2020-2030_updated.pdf?m=1615892303337</a> Refreshed Strategy due to be published May 2025
WBC Ultra Low Emissions Vehicle Strategy	Refreshed strategy due to be published Summer 2025
Local Area Energy Plan	Summary version available
Local Transport Plan	transport-plan
Bus Service Improvement Plan	<a href="2023/pdf/West_Berkshire_Council_Final_BSIP_2023.pdf?m=1699346886323">2023/pdf/West_Berkshire_Council_Final_BSIP_2023.pdf?m=1699346886323</a>
Flooding Be Prepared! Leaflet	<a href="https://www.westberks.gov.uk/media/57946/Flood-Booklet/pdf/Flood_Booklet.pdf?m=1704368266770">https://www.westberks.gov.uk/media/57946/Flood-Booklet/pdf/Flood_Booklet.pdf?m=1704368266770</a>
Social Value Policy	<a href="https://intranet/media/51707/Social-Value-Policy/pdf/Social_Value_Policy_20211.pdf?m=1710415437047">https://intranet/media/51707/Social-Value-Policy/pdf/Social_Value_Policy_20211.pdf?m=1710415437047</a>
West Berkshire Vision 2026 (refreshed 2023)	<a href="2019/pdf/WBV_2036_final_19.pdf?m=636903249717100000">2019/pdf/WBV_2036_final_19.pdf?m=636903249717100000</a>
The Council Strategy	<a href="2027/pdf/WBC_Strategy_Sep_23_Final.pdf?m=1695826265037">2027/pdf/WBC_Strategy_Sep_23_Final.pdf?m=1695826265037</a>
The Local Transport Plan 2011-2026	<a href="2026.pdf?m=1575546429557">2026.pdf?m=1575546429557</a>
Waste strategy	<a href="#">West Berkshire Waste Management Strategy 2025-2032 - West Berkshire Council</a>
The Emerging Local Plan	<a href="#">Examination of the West Berkshire Local Plan Review 2022-2039 - West Berkshire Council</a>
West Berkshire Council Tree Policy	Not yet published
The Parking Strategy	Due to be published in Summer 2025