

2024-2025 Q4 CLT Climate Update

January to March 2025

Presented on: Tuesday 22nd April 2025

By Harriet Robinson - Climate Coordinator

Contents

- ▶ CLT Actions: You said, we did
- ▶ Corporate Plan Actions
- ▶ Key Highlights
- ▶ Climate Action Plan Short Term Actions
- ▶ Climate Action Plan Medium Term Actions
- ▶ Climate Action Plan Long term actions
- ▶ Appendix

CLT Actions: you said, we did

1. Goals and target audience need clarification - enhance coverage and messaging

1. Comms plan discussed with Parks, Countryside and Climate team with meeting set on 4th March

4. Ensuring value for money, prioritising control over core, statutory functions

4. Climate is non-statutory so there has been a focus on proving value through showcasing key events and promoting our Climate agenda

2. Ask CPCA for additional spend for the Net Zero Villages project

2. CPCA have confirmed there is no additional funding for this project

5. New approach to climate training

5. 30 min online climate learning now part of the staff iLearn suite

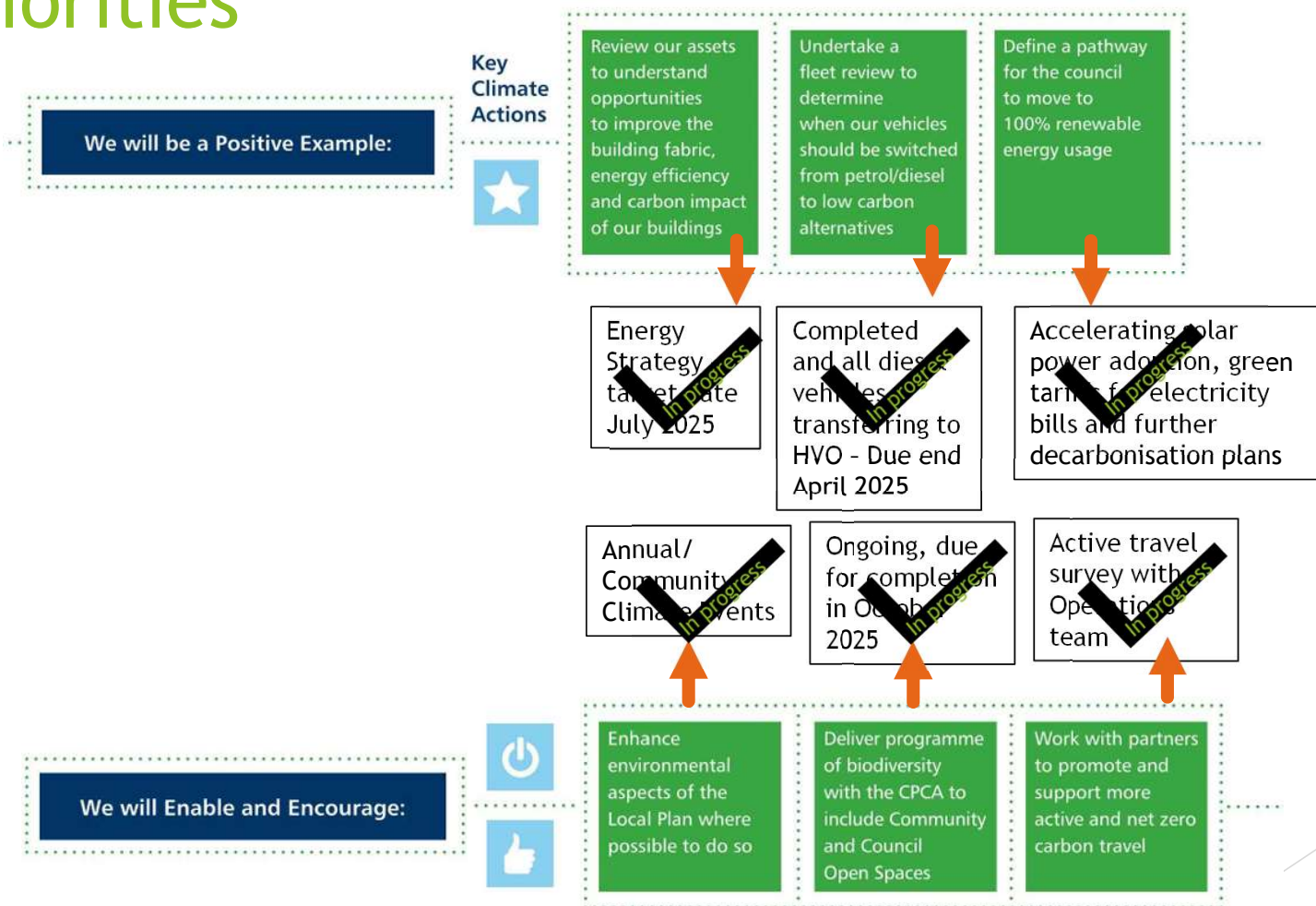
3. Community health and wellbeing

3. Community climate events planned throughout 2025 to influence residential behaviour change concerning their carbon footprint

6. Demonstrate ability to drive change to further enhance climate influence

6. Attended several events, increased LinkedIn posts highlighting key areas of Climate work within HDC for relationship building. Comms plan initially planned for beginning of March but to be rescheduled.

Aligning Climate Strategy to Corporate Plan Priorities



Corporate Plan - Action Snapshot

Year	Do	Enable	Influence
2023/24	5	0	1
2024/25	2	3	1
2025/26	0	0	2
Total	7	3	4

All Actions are Completed or on Target for Completion

Itemised breakdown featured in Appendix 1



Q4 Key Highlights

January 25- attended Future Fens project workshop hosted by Anglian Water in partnership with North Star Transition and UCL

February 25: Cabinet approves the use of HVO for all HDC diesel vehicles, saving us 1,100 tonnes of CO2 a year once implemented

3rd February 25: hosted the Locally Determined Contributions (LDC) workshop at Pathfinder House

12th February 25: hosted sustainable Procurement Training by ARU to HDC Facilities, Procurement and Climate teams



Key Highlights continued

March - Home Energy handover.
Continuation of processing ECO4 Flex applications awaiting the Warm Homes Upgrade Grant announcements

7th March - 11 successful applicants announced for the Net Zero villages grant application fund. £257,376.60 awarded

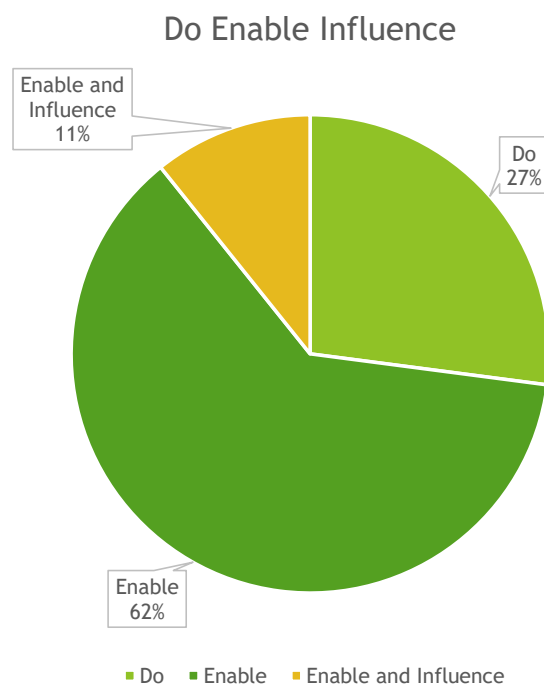
8th March - collaboration with 3CICT upcycling 65 laptops and 30 mobile phones for reuse

10th March - new project support officer starts 12-month FTC to support Biodiversity For All project and Climate actions

Over £257,000 Granted to Rural Communities to Tackle Climate Change -
[Huntingdonshire.gov.uk](https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk)



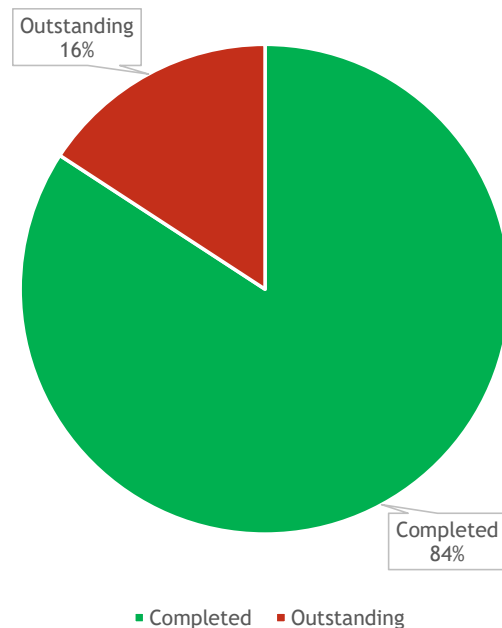
Climate Budget overview - Do Enable Influence



- ▶ 27% of climate budget has been spent on 'do'
- ▶ 11% of budget has been spent on 'enable and influence'
- ▶ 62% of budget has been spent on 'enable'
- ▶ Mitigation for increasing 'influence' spend (CLT support required):
 - ▶ Empowerment through the Huntingdonshire Business Awards (coming 2025-26)
 - ▶ Improve our communications and storytelling through a strong comms plan

Climate Action Plan - Short Term Actions

Short Term Goals (2024-2025)



► Outstanding goals:

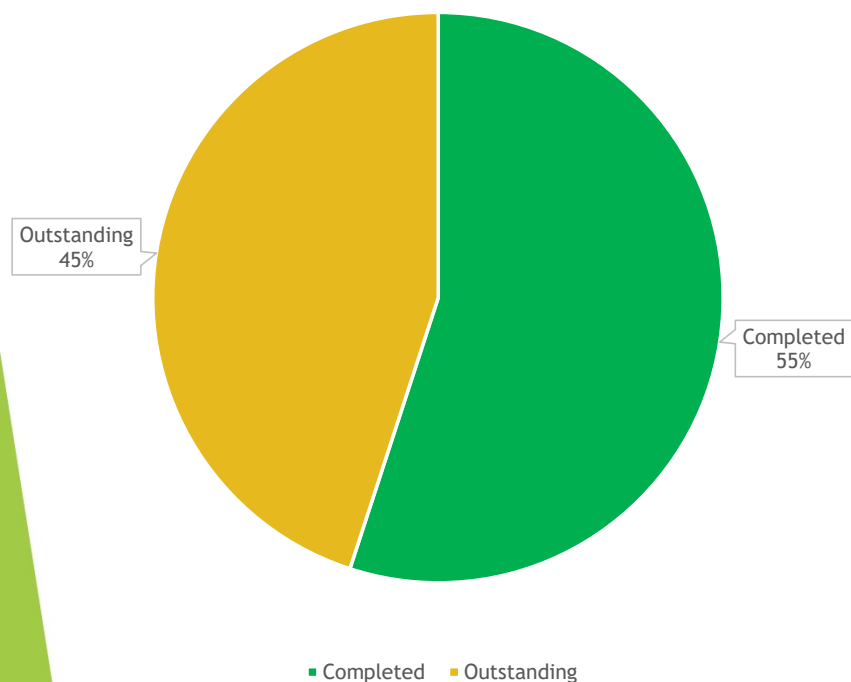
- Include climate considerations within all key strategies and government documents
- Implement impact assessments for all key decisions to ensure climate implications are considered
- Update procurement rules to ensure new contracts/services minimise negative impact on the Climate

► Mitigations in place:

- New Business Performance and Transformation Manager revising climate considerations within all key strategies.
- Procurement team to update frameworks to include further Climate impacts. Moving to updated climate action plan.

Climate Action Plan - Medium Term Actions

Medium Term Goals



► 9 actions due for completion in Q1 2025 including:

1. Scope 3 emissions reporting
2. Developing an Energy Strategy
3. Setting a carbon budget
4. Delivering the Biodiversity For All programme in partnership with the CPCA

► Mitigations in place:

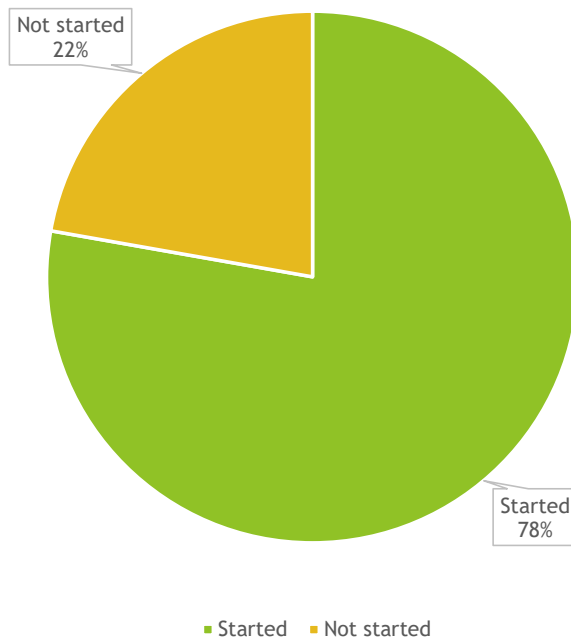
1. Work to be undergone in 2025-2026
2. Energy Strategy to be completed by July 2025
3. Carbon budget being set in line with LDC work, due for completion in Q3 2025
4. Biodiversity For All due for completion in October 2025

(Numbers correspond actions to mitigations)

Climate Action Plan

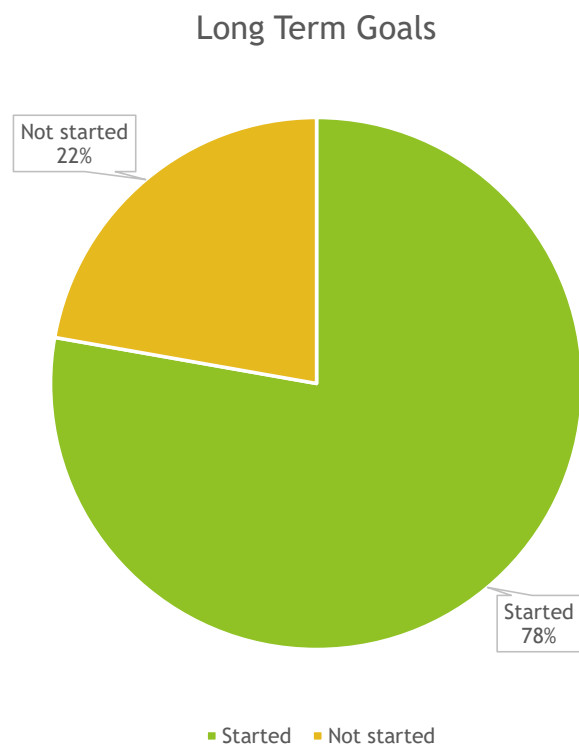
Long Term Actions

Long Term Goals



- ▶ Started 14 actions due for completion in 2027 which include:
 - ▶ Supporting delivery of the Great Fen
 - ▶ Previously contributed funding from the Planning team, which stopped due to budget constraints. Currently attending their steering group for delivery updates
 - ▶ Quantifying carbon savings from the Council's shift to e-billing
 - ▶ Council tax team planning a trial of this later on in 2025
 - ▶ Increasing our recycling service for communal areas
 - ▶ CLT approval for role already completed. Providing budget carryover is approved, recruitment can commence on this role immediately
 - ▶ Researching alternative power sources for CCTV cameras
 - ▶ Initial investigations suggest current solar sources unreliable for keeping cameras working 24/7. Further consultancy work to continue over 2025/2026
 - ▶ Providing housing association landlords with information/advice on energy saving to support their tenants
 - ▶ Head of Economy, Regeneration and Housing Delivery connected with landlords to address energy efficiency in their housing stock

Climate Action Plan - Long Term Actions (continued)



- ▶ Not started 4 actions:
 - ▶ Promoted high quality design in the Council's commercial estate that incorporates net zero gain to biodiversity
 - ▶ Estates only became aware of this recently
 - ▶ Work with partners and responsible transport authorities to promote active, net zero carbon travel
 - ▶ Not started yet
 - ▶ Support capital grant development (where government grant funding becomes available) to encourage businesses to lead in green credentials
 - ▶ Grant funding has not become available but investigations into B Corp status has begun
 - ▶ Increase our measured household recycling rate
 - ▶ Weekly food waste will come in next year (2026) to begin this action, which will make a massive impact

Questions?

Action Type	Action	Latest Update	Status	Expected end date
Do	Complete Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) Fuel Trial and present a business case for decision.	Cabinet has approved the use of HVO for all diesel vehicles. Transport team currently in process of purchasing fuel.	Completed	2024/25
Do	Deliver a Fleet Decarbonisation Plan.	Work being currently being undertaken by the Energy Saving Trust.	Completed	2024/25
Do	Deliver Energy Strategy.	Energy Strategy has been awarded to Cambridge MC and final sign off by 25th July 2025	In progress	Jul-25
Do	Deliver the Climate Conversation in 2024, showcasing community action and listening to local people in their communities.	2024 Climate Conversation delivered in November 2024. Community climate conferences planned for Spring 2025 pushed back due to elections, building work and conflicting events. Locations will be in climate working group members' wards.	Completed, further events ongoing	Spring 2025
Do	Identify emissions from HDCIT data centres to include in reporting and establish disposal methods for IT equipment to reduce environmental impact.	Last year's budget was aimed at improving datacentre efficiency, covering chillers, UPS racks, fire suppression and monitoring, with a focus on downsizing, sustainability and future-proofing. Progress has stalled due to limited responses to procurement and budget constraints. Upcycling workshops took place on 8th March 2025.	Continually ongoing	2024/25
Do	Establish climate and carbon emissions learning and development plan for Council employees.	E-learning package has been tailored to Huntingdonshire District Council's agreed strategy and priorities. Progressed to final stage	Completed	Feb-25
Do	Accelerate Solar Power Adoption on Council Buildings.	Cabinet has approved £412K spend in November 2024 for the install of roof-mounted solar panels at One Leisure St Ives Outdoor, OL Ramsey, OL St Neots and OL Huntingdon Dry. Spec and costs have been received, undergoing review.	Continually ongoing	2025/26

Appendix 1: Corporate Plan Actions

Appendix 1 continued: Corporate Plan Actions

Enable	Support community projects and plans that reduce carbon emissions.	Recruited 2 graduate ecologists and project support officer. Commenced habitat banking work and secured £130K of CPCA funding to implement natural flood defences across the district.	Continually ongoing	Jul-25
Enable	Deliver Biodiversity for All (2023-2025) to enable community action and support green skills development (PROJECT).	Bio4All due to finish at the end of June, Greenskills ending in August and Biodiversity Audit Project ending in October	In progress	Oct-25
Enable	Commission Active Travel Studies (UKSPF) to influence/inform future investment priorities (PROJECT).	Feasibility study for the LCWIP along with a HDC local aspiration document currently in progress. This has included stakeholder, public and Cllr engagement	In progress	Mar-25

Influence	Deliver the Phase 1 Rural Pilot HDCElectric Vehicle (EV) Charging Strategy Actions.	Final installation delayed by a couple of weeks but all sites (including 3 Parish Council locations) installed	In progress	Apr-25
Influence	Develop the Council's procurement rules to further embed social and environmental value.	Following the resignation of staff procurement roles have been re-recruited and last training session from ARU is being arranged.	In progress	2025/26
Influence	Expand positive climate action support for local businesses, celebrating best practice and sharing knowledge.	ACC completed in Q3. Continuing work on the LAEP (with CCC, underpins abilities of businesses to access and switch to greener energy) and new Economic Development team completed Green Business Programme initiative. Availability of funds to assist Community Buildings (NZV) to decarbonise has taken priority over this action.	Continually ongoing	2025/26
Influence	Adopt the Huntingdonshire Plan for Nature and influence the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) with our priorities.	Completed and adopted	Completed	Dec-24