

Luton 2040

Luton Net Zero: Climate Policy and Action Plan

Luton 2040
A place to thrive



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Climate Change Policy

Luton Council Climate Change Policy

As part of Luton's 2040 vision, it is the commitment of Luton Borough Council (LBC) to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from the council estate and operations to net zero as well as lead the way to a net zero Luton town by 2040. The commitment is one of five strategic priorities at the heart of the 2040 vision to ensure that Luton is a healthy, fair, and sustainable town, where everyone can thrive, and no-one has to live in poverty.

LBC has noted its impact on the environment and contribution to climate change from emissions arising from the delivery of its operations and those from residents' activity across the town. LBC is committed to embedding the necessary principles of sustainable development into the council's operations to reduce emissions and build climate resilience across Luton to achieve and support our long-term ambitions as a town.

At an operational level, LBC will work across all Council services and departments and provide the necessary resources and performance review to improve environmental performance and build resilience into existing and future services and provisions. LBC will encourage and enable all employees to embed these commitments into their daily work to make it standard practice. LBC will also work with contractors and suppliers to improve environmental performance. This policy will, therefore, be communicated to all employees and contractors working for or on behalf of LBC.

LBC will monitor environmental performance against organisational objectives and targets and monitor the implementation of emission reduction projects as outlined in the accompanying action plan. Progress on both aspects will be reported regularly.

LBC will work collaboratively with residents, partners and organisations across Luton to reduce our net carbon emissions and increase climate resilience over the next two decades. With this commitment at the heart of our 2040 vision LBC will work in partnership to ensure that our homes, our infrastructure, our businesses and our airport are sustainable and resilient to a changing climate.

The Climate Action Plan sets out the work the council and others will undertake to implement this policy.

Luton Borough Council is committed to:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions to net zero carbon by 2040 for the council estate and Luton town
- Ensuring that local environmental, social and economic issues are addressed to ensure that Luton is a fairer, healthier and sustainable place to live where everyone can thrive and no-one has to live in poverty
- Working collaboratively with residents and our schools, hospitals, local businesses and our charities to actively encourage responsible practices and behaviours
- Identifying and managing the Council's own local environmental and climate change impacts
- Identifying the risks and vulnerabilities from expected climate change and produce plans and actions to limit negative impacts and improve resilience
- Leading by example and use our influence to raise awareness and understanding of environmental and climate change issues
- Promoting this policy and make it known to all staff, members, suppliers, contractors, partners and citizens

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Action Plan

Our Action Plan

The action plan is presented in the following tables by sector. The following information is given for each action included:

Headline action – High level action description

Action description – Detailed description of the planned action

Action type – Delivery mechanism of action e.g. Policy development/ council decision, enabling activity by council and others, council led project or partnership project requiring leadership external to council

Timeframe – Expected delivery date

Delivery owners – Organisation/ department responsible for delivery

Delivery partners – Other organisations/ departments supporting delivery

Carbon impact – Estimated carbon impact illustrated through arrows, dotted line equates to a negligible impact. ‘E’ represents enabling action and therefore is not attributed to direct emission reduction

Co-benefits - positive results of action implementation other than emission reduction.

Linking co-benefits to action

Below are the co-benefits referenced within the action plan. Links between ‘other co-benefits’ and the Luton 2040 objectives are given in brackets.

Luton 2040 Objectives		Other Co-benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustaining economic growth • Skills for the future • Local wealth building • A thriving town centre • A real living wage town • Transforming lives through arts • Growing the airport • Starting and developing well 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living and working well • Ageing and dying well • Quality education for all • Safe and cohesive community (community engagement) • Quality and affordable housing • A town built on fairness and social justice • A child-friendly town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green jobs and skills (<i>Inclusive economy</i>) • Reduced fuel poverty (<i>Population wellbeing, A town built on fairness and social justice</i>) • Reducing (health) inequalities (<i>Inclusive Economy, Population wellbeing, A town built on fairness and social justice</i>) • Improved health & wellbeing (<i>Population wellbeing</i>) • Improved air quality (<i>Population wellbeing</i>) • Cost savings for council (<i>Inclusive Economy</i>) • Resilience to climate change (<i>Population wellbeing</i>) • Local economic resilience/growth (<i>Inclusive economy</i>)

1. Residential Buildings

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
Retrofit homes	Set out the level and likely cost of homes retrofits required to meet net zero by 2040. Set targets for % homes retrofits needed per year needed to deliver net zero by 2040 for council, social landlords and private sector homes. To be included in new Housing Strategy. Achieving these targets is highly dependent on the availability of grant or other funding mechanisms from central government. Progress will be monitored annually.	Policy development/ council decision		Climate change team, Housing Strategy team	Consultation with Housing Associations, landlords, residents	E	-
Planning	Review and update the draft Local Plan to ensure policies that promote net-zero carbon development and maximise energy and carbon savings, reduce embodied carbon, and increase resilience to the effects of climate change for all developments are embedded. A 'direction of travel' interim document can provide details of expected future requirements to local trades and property developers	Policy development/ council decision	2023-2025	Luton Council – planning department and climate change team	-	E	Community engagement (through consultation on the plan)
Green jobs and Skills	Ensure that skills development for housing improvements is integrated within the work of the Employment & Skills Partnership Board and the Employment & Skills Strategy. This could include supporting apprenticeships and a module of an NVQ.	Policy development/ council decision	2023	Luton Council	Barnfield College and other education and skills organisations	E	Green jobs and skills
Planning	Ensure that there is planning guidance available to developers, households and landlords that clearly explains to them how	Policy development	Starting 2023 in	Luton Council – planning	-	E	Community engagement

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
	they can comply with, and go beyond, the Local Plan requirements on decarbonising buildings Publish a new build housing brief to specify the standard required for new council housing.	t/ council decision	parallel with Local Plan	department and climate change team			
New build	Provision of sufficient resources for communications about and enforcement of new building regulations to ensure maximum compliance	Council led	2023	Luton Council - building control	construction sector businesses	E	Community engagement
Engagement	Establish Landlord licencing including phased energy efficiency improvements with EPC level and carbon reduction targets for the private rented sector. Ensure sufficient council staff resource to enable enforcement of licences and existing requirements of MEES.	Council led	2023	Luton Council Housing / Environmental Health	Landlord and residents' representatives	E	Community engagement
Retrofit council owned homes	Following the stock condition survey, set decarbonisation target date for Council owned homes and identify the first properties to retrofit as trials for new fabric improvements and heating technologies including considering district heat schemes. Monitor impacts on sample of individual homes.	Policy development/ council decision	2024	Luton Council Housing / energy department	Energy auditor / specialists	E	-
Carbon literacy, engaging the supply chain	Ensure that residents have access to impartial advice through information campaigns and sign-posting to existing information, both in the region and nationally. .	partnership project	2024	Collaboration with neighbouring boroughs	Climate change team; neighbouring authorities,	E	Green jobs and skills

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
Green jobs and Skills	Engage with supply chain of installers to encourage them to reach out to meet new demands. Support local suppliers to develop the required skills for implementing low carbon retrofit , including support in meeting the needs of public sector procurement.	requiring leadership external to council	2024	Bedfordshire Chamber of Commerce	Economy board, local trades networks, colleges	E	Local economic resilience/growth Green jobs and skills
Engagement / Retrofit	Retrofit zero carbon demonstration / show home(s) (council owned property) to provide real examples of solutions and benefits. Link to communication campaign about technology changes and benefits.	Council led project	2025	Luton Council Housing department	Energy specialists, architect, construction sector businesses	↓	Community engagement Green jobs and skills
Engagement	Encourage sharing of information about carbon reduction through the existing Private Landlords forum	requiring leadership external to council	2025	Landlord representatives	Landlords, Luton Council housing Department,	E	Community engagement
Campaigns	Continue delivering communication campaigns to residents on carbon reductions for homes, including energy efficiency advice and information about funding opportunities	Council led project	2040	Housing Strategy	Luton Council Housing department	E	Community engagement
Retrofit council owned homes	Implement phases of council and other social housing improvements in energy efficiency, renewable deployment and zero carbon heating	Council led project	2027 +	Luton Council and Housing Associations (depending on ownership)	Residents, Delivery managers, construction sector businesses	↓↓	Reduce fuel poverty Improved health & wellbeing Green jobs and skills Resilience to cc Local economic resilience/growth
Retrofit privately owned homes	Building on existing awareness raising (as above), work with neighbouring local authorities to establish a building retrofit support service and communications	requiring leadership external to council	2027 ++	Partnership between various local councils and the	Advisory agency, Assumes existence of Central Government	↓↓↓	Reduce fuel poverty Reducing (health) inequalities

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
	campaign about private sector low carbon retrofit. This will support landlords and home owners in deciding on approaches and applying for grants or other financial incentives.			retrofit Supply chain	scheme to provide financial mechanism		Improved health & wellbeing
New build	New housing developers to provide low carbon new homes built to the Future Homes standard	Requiring leadership external to council	2025	Foxhall Homes and other developers	construction sector businesses	↓	Green jobs and skills Resilience to climate change

2. Non-residential buildings

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
Council estate	Energy performance monitoring and fabric surveys to provide detailed energy audits of all council buildings. In the context of an overall estate buildings strategy & asset management plan, develop a detailed action plan for improvements including expected capital and lifetime costs, ready for funding opportunities.	Council led project	2023	Luton Council – Estates & Energy Management teams	Energy auditors contractors	E	-
Energy efficiency	Enforce, where possible, minimum efficiency standards for privately rented commercial properties	Council led project	2023	Trading standards	Local businesses	↓	Local economic resilience/growth
High standards for new build	Town centre development to provide leadership for change: to meet best practice design standards rather than just current building regulations, and to include the new football stadium development. District heating and shared renewable generation infrastructure should be included and designed for future expansion.	council led project or partnership project	2023+ master planning	Luton Council	Energy/heat specialists, Local businesses, Construction sector.	↓ ↓	Green jobs and skills Local economic resilience/growth Resilience to cc Reducing (health) inequalities Improved health & wellbeing Improved air quality
Planning	Encourage detailed energy audits of business and public sector buildings	Enabling activity by council and others	2023+ public sector	Businesses and property owners	Local energy surveyors	E	-

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
School buildings	Energy performance monitoring and fabric surveys to provide detailed energy audits of all schools. Develop a detailed action plan for improvements including expected capital and lifetime costs, ready for funding opportunities	Council led project	2023+	Luton Council – Estates & Energy Management teams	Schools / Academies	E	-
Council estate	Develop a funding strategy based on the needs of the estate buildings action plan, including consideration of innovative funding mechanisms	Council led project	2023	Luton Council – Estates & Energy Management teams, Finance department	-	E	-
Council estate	Review the Capital Strategy and capital processes to take account of social benefits/ESG in impacts assessments. For example to allow for longer term payback on building improvements to enable new technologies to be implemented.	Policy development/ council decision	2023+	Luton Council – Finance, Procurement and Estates teams	-	E	-
Planning	Review and update the draft Local Plan to require high standards of energy performance and low carbon heat for new build and refurbishment of commercial properties based on best practice such as LETI Climate Emergency Design Guide and BREEAM 2018	Policy development/ council decision	2023-2025	Luton Council – planning department and climate change team	-	E	Community engagement (through consultation on the plan)
Engagement	Establish a Luton climate change partnership to co-ordinate regular energy and climate change related collaboration between business and public sector organisations to share	Enabling activity by council and others	2023+	Luton Council Climate change team with a partnership established to	Large energy users across the town	E	Business community engagement

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
	best practice and enable joined up action.			own it, potentially led by University of Bedfordshire?			
Heat networks	Develop more detailed heat network plan (based on existing heat mapping work and town centre master plan). Require connections for new developments through planning. Also scope out renewable energy planning related to new developments	enabling activity by council and others	2023	Luton Council	Energy/heat master planning specialists, Local businesses, Construction sector.	E	-
Energy planning	Collaboration with UK Power Networks regarding power network to ensure sufficient capacity and connections for new developments and existing buildings	enabling activity by council and others	2023	Luton Council		E	-
Engagement	Provision of support and advice to local business on transition to net zero, potentially building on support being provided by Wenta e.g. using Luton Heritage Forum	Council led project	2023	Luton Council climate change team	Wenta or other provider	E	Local economic resilience/growth
Council estate and schools	Implementation of urgent and priority audit recommendations to move towards net zero in the council buildings and schools. Monitor impacts.	Council led project	2023-5	Luton Council – Estates & Energy Management teams	Programme co-ordinator, building contractors and associated trades.	↓	Green jobs and skills
Building retrofits	Encourage business and public sector property owners to invest in retrofit to reduce fossil fuel use, improve energy efficiency and increase renewable generation across multiple projects	Requiring leadership external to council	2025+	Businesses and public sector property owners	Multiple projects requiring building contractors and associated trades etc	↓↓↓	Green jobs and skills Local economic resilience/growth Resilience to cc

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Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
							Reducing (health) inequalities Improved health & wellbeing Improved air quality

3. Transport and Active Travel

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
Infrastructure changes	Through procurement policy (see governance action plan) ensure that choice of road materials are lowest carbon for future projects	Council led project	2023 +	Luton Council	-	↓	-
Modal shift - Active travel	Campaign for a car free day and promote behaviour change with businesses and residents	Enabling activity by council and others	2023	Luton Council	Local community groups	↓	Improved air quality; Improved health & wellbeing
Behaviour Change	Provide support for car clubs & lift sharing schemes through engagement with local schools and businesses beginning with an E-Car Club pilot scheme in Luton	Enabling activity by council and others	2023	Luton Council	Local community groups; Schools; Local Business	↓	Improved air quality
Modal shift – Active travel	Work with schools, colleges and large employers to develop travel plans which decrease use of the car and increase walking and cycling	Partnership project	2023	Luton Council	Luton Schools, colleges, and businesses	↓	Improved air quality; Improved health & wellbeing
Modal shift – Active travel	Develop targets and an action plan for optimizing mileage for Council business travel through travel planning	Policy development	2023	Luton Council	Luton Council employees	↓	Improved air quality; Cost savings for council
Infrastructure changes – Active Travel	Promote cycling and walking in Luton through network improvements to create safe cycling and walking routes ¹ . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wider cycle lanes / segregated cycle tracks • Controlled crossing points for cyclists • ‘Active travel friendly’ junction improvements • Creation of ‘quiet ways’ 	Council led project	2023	Luton Council	-	E	-

¹ Underpinned by the Draft Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

Electric Vehicles	Work with private sector partners to deliver EV charging infrastructure across the council estate for both council and public charging	Partnership project	2023	Luton Council	Luton Businesses	E	-
Electric Vehicles	The Council will undertake a fleet review, to identify a preferred pathway to electrify its vehicle fleet and inform a procurement strategy based on whole life costs	Council led project	2023	Luton Council	-	E	-
Other	All major residential and commercial planning applications to include a Travel Plan in line with current best practice and to ensure buses provided with the infrastructure needed to serve new developments	Policy development	2023	Luton Council	Developers	↓ ↓	Improved air quality ; A thriving town centre
Rail	Improved connection between National Rail and Luton Airport on delivery of DART	External project to the council	2023	Luton Airport	Luton Council	↓	Growing the airport
Modal shift – Active travel	Supportive measures to encourage modal shift to active travel, and monitor impacts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycle training, • Cycle hire schemes • Cycle recycling scheme • Community cycle clubs • Low Traffic Neighbourhoods • Driver awareness training and marketing and promotion. 	Council led project	2023	Luton Council	Luton Schools, colleges, and businesses, Community groups	E	-
Electric Vehicles	The Council will undertake a hackney/PHV fleet review and work with operators to develop a pathway that increases EV uptake for these vehicles	Council led project	2023	Luton Council	-	E	-
Rail	Complete electrification of passenger rail through Luton through replacement of EMR Meridian by Hitachi bi-modes	External project to the council	2023	Network Rail	Luton Council	↓	Improved air quality

Rail	Completion of Access for All Works at Luton (Town) and Leagrave to allow those with mobility challenges to use the railway locally	External project to the council	2023	Network Rail	Luton Council	↓	More travel options
Modal shift – Active travel	Implement School Streets ² (traffic exclusion zones) for schools in Luton and Play Streets ³ to restrict traffic movements at peak times and encourage shift to active travel.	Partnership project	2023	Luton Council	Luton Schools	↓	Improved air quality; Improved health & wellbeing
Electric Vehicles	To support residential EV charging and to develop the on-street EV charging network, the Council will create a dedicated e-form so residents can suggest new locations for EV charge points	Council led project	2023	Luton Council	Residents	E	-
Rail	Return of EMR Intercity services to Luton Airport Parkway, encouraging those who live north of Corby to take public transport to the Airport	External project to the council	2024	Great British Railways	Luton Council	↓	Growing the airport
Alternative fuels	Interim action for diesel vans and HGVs in Council Fleet to be run on biofuels	Council led project	2025	Luton Council	-	↓	Improved air quality
Electric Vehicles	Widespread EV infrastructure across the council estate for both council and public charging, starting with a phased roll-out of EV charge points at key council housing carparks	Council led project	2025	Luton Council	-	↓ ↓	Improved air quality
Electric Vehicles	The Council will, subject to viability, commit to delivering multiple fast, rapid or ultra-rapid charging points at its fleet depot to accelerate a phased transition towards EV use	Council led project	2025	Luton Council	-	↓	Improved air quality
Modal shift	Road user charging e.g., Implement a workplace parking levy or Clean Air Zone to fund transport improvements	Council led project	2025	Luton Council	-	↓	Improved air quality Revenue generation for council for local investment

² A School Street is a road outside a school with a temporary restriction on motorised traffic at school drop-off and pick-up times. The restriction applies to school traffic and through traffic.

³ Playing out on your street <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/streets-travel/playing-out>

Electric Vehicles	EV infrastructure at taxi ranks for drivers across Luton e.g. locations for exclusive 'taxi only' recharging points	Enabling activity by council and others	2025	Luton Council	Taxi companies	↓	Improved air quality
Infrastructure changes	LED traffic signal infrastructure	Council led project	2025	Luton Council	-	↓	-
Public transport	Engage with and promote travel schemes and discounted tickets e.g. Arriva discounted tickets for organisations participating in a travel club, including bus fares for 17-21 year olds at 70% of the adult fare, 16 and under at 50%	Partnership project	2025	Luton Council	Local transport organisations, Arriva	E	Improved air quality Living and working well
Public Transport	Deliver bus priority measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strategic bus lanes on key routes (3km new bus lanes) • improved access for buses to the town centre • Traffic signalling priorities for buses 	Council led project	2025	Luton Council	Arriva	↓↓	Improved air quality
Public Transport	Work with the university to investigate how the various campus locations and halls could be connected by public transport	Partnership project	2025	Luton Council	University of Bedfordshire	E	-
Public Transport	Improve the experience of travelling by public transport and communicate this to residents through a marketing campaign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved waiting facilities, • Improved on board experience, • Better ticketing, • Cycle storage at mobility hubs Employ several Bus Ambassadors	Council led project	2025	Luton Council	Arriva	E	-
Efficiency	Implement a local delivery hub to maximise the efficiency of deliveries / enable green 'last mile' services.	Partnership project	2025	Luton Council	Service providers	↓↓	Improved air quality

Other	Include zero (or low) emissions policy in taxi licensing, phased approach until 2040	Policy development	2025 +	Luton Council	Taxi companies, Luton Councillors	↓ ↓	Improved air quality
Public Transport	Design and develop Park and Ride (Travel Hub) site	Council led project	2025	Luton Council	-	↓ ↓	Improved air quality
Rail	Maximise local and regional rail connectivity to Luton, from London, the Midlands and through interchange with East West Rail	Partnership project	2025	Luton Council	East West Rail	↓	Improved air quality
Public Transport	Ensure that London Luton Airport has an ambitious Sustainable Travel Plan and outstanding bus connections with Luton and beyond.	Council led project	2027	Luton Council	Luton Rising, Airport Operator	↓ ↓	Improved air quality
Public Transport	Transition bus fleet to electric - introduce electric buses on the Luton Dunstable Busway network; and work towards Euro 6 by retrofitting existing fleet, all buses entering town centre to be zero or low emissions	Council led project	2030	Luton Council	Bus companies	↓ ↓	Improved air quality
Electric Vehicles	Luton council suppliers' fleet to be EV (set target years for cars and vans). Include zero carbon vehicle requirements in all service delivery contracts	Council led project	2030	Luton Council	-	↓ ↓	Improved air quality
Pedestrianisation	Enforce pedestrianisation of key areas such as High Town and Bury Park high Street. Extend vehicle free spaces across Luton town centre.	Planning	2030	Luton Council	Luton businesses	↓	A thriving town centre Safe and cohesive community Improved air quality
Rail	East West Rail complete between Bedford and Cambridge	External project to the council	2030	Department for Transport	Luton Council	↓	Accessibility to public transport
Governance	Implement monitoring mechanisms e.g. Urban Traffic Management Control. Traffic data will be essential in planning and evaluating the	Council led project	2023+	Luton Council	-	E	-

	effectiveness of AQ and carbon reduction interventions.						
Governance	Establish a formal partnership with bus operators	Partnership project	2023+	Luton Council	Bus operators	E	-
Governance	Incorporate place-based approach that accelerates the transition to a zero-emission road transport system for journeys that can't otherwise be made by active travel into the Local Plan	Council led project	2023+	Luton Council	-	E	-

4. Luton Airport

Luton Council is the sole shareholder of the airport company, Luton Rising which has a long record of providing financial support for important community activities and services across Luton. Luton Council is therefore a key stakeholder in the Luton Rising Sustainability Strategy⁴ and Net Zero Strategy⁵. It is the role and responsibility of Luton Council to work closely with Luton Rising on meeting the needs of airport expansion in a way which enables Luton Council to meet the targets set to become a net zero town. Luton Council also take on the responsibility to monitor the implementation of the net zero strategy outlined by Luton Rising.

The below actions are taken from the Net Zero Strategy published by Luton Rising, which emphasis given where Luton Council can support delivery of actions.

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
Procurement	Construction: to minimise emissions from construction a whole life carbon approach will be taken for procurement. This will require adoption of circular economy principles and the use of low emissions construction vehicles and equipment	Policy Development	2023	Luton Rising	Luton Council – procurement team	↓ ↓	Green jobs and skills
Energy efficiency improvements	Airport operations: lighting upgrades and heating equipment	Infrastructure investment	2025	Luton Rising	Airport tenants and operators	↓ ↓	Green jobs and skills; Improved air quality
Energy efficiency improvements	Airport operations: Introduce occupancy-led building management systems	Partnership project requiring leadership external to council	2025	Luton Rising	Airport tenants	↓	Local economic resilience/growth
Electrification	Airport operations and Surface Access: Promote the use of low emission vehicles	Engagement campaign; Policy development	2030	Luton Rising	Luton Council – transport	↓	Improved air quality

⁴ <https://lutonrising.org.uk/our-planet/our-sustainability-strategy/>

⁵ <https://lutonrising.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Net-Zero-Strategy-1.pdf>

	and zero emission vehicles increase flexible capacity for recharging of vehicles using the airport						
Renewable energy	Airport operations: Purchase gas from renewable sources e.g. biogas	Policy development	2025	Luton Rising	Airport tenants and operators	↓	-
Renewable energy	Airport operations: Generate energy from on-site sources, including waste e.g. solar farm development	Partnership project requiring leadership external to council	2035	Luton Rising	Airport tenants and operators	↓↓	Green jobs and skills
Other	Airport operations: Establish a Community Carbon Offset Fund	Council led project	2035	Luton Council	Luton Rising	E	Local economic resilience/growth
Engagement	Continue engagement with the airport landlord (Luton Rising) and operator (London Luton Airport Limited) to ensure alignment with the 2040 net zero target for the town and, where possible, create more opportunities for community feedback on development proposals.	Partnership project	2040	Luton Council	Luton Rising and London Luton Airport Limited	E	Community engagement
Carbon removal	Airport operations: Research and implement, where feasible carbon removal opportunities	Partnership project requiring leadership external to council	2035	Luton Rising	-	E	-
Energy efficiency	Surface access: freight consolidation and	Luton Rising project	2030	Luton Rising	Airport operator	↓↓	Improved air quality

	promotion of proportion of full-load trips						
Enforcement	Maximise available statutory powers to seek environmental improvements through the planning process related to airport's operations and expansion.	Luton Council policy development	2030	Luton Council	Airport Operator/ Planning	↓	-
Active travel	Surface access: Promote the number of trips to the Airport estates using active and sustainable transport modes	Engagement campaign; Policy development	2025	Luton Rising	Luton Council – transport	↓ ↓	Improved health & wellbeing
Electrification	Surface access: EV points where possible and ensure all new builds provide the infrastructure required to meet Government standards	Infrastructure investment	2030	Luton Rising	Airport operator	↓ ↓ ↓	Improved air quality
Electrification	Surface access: Provide infrastructure to support the use of low emissions public transport and freight vehicles	Infrastructure investment	2030	Luton Rising	-	↓ ↓	Improved air quality
Innovation	Aviation: support the airlines in uptake of sustainable aviation fuels and electric aircraft.	Partnership project requiring leadership external to council	2040	Luton Rising	UK airlines	↓ ↓ ↓	-
Monitoring	Luton Council to monitor the implementation of the action plan and enforce policy changes where relevant	Council led project	2023 + Airport operator,	Luton Council	Luton rising, tenants	E	-



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5. Waste and consumer choices

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
Community engagement	Public awareness campaign on waste prevention through changing patterns of consumption and its connection to climate change e.g. Edible High Town program to educate on composting	Council led project	2023	Luton Council – waste team	Waste contractor	↓	Living and working well Safe and cohesive community
Planning	Work with the waste contractor and the public to improve policy enforcement to reduce waste contamination and extra waste, including awareness raising and feedback to the public and landlords	Partnership project	2023	Luton Council – planning department and waste team	Waste contractor Private sector landlords	E	-
Planning	Compliance with national legislation to provide separate food waste collection by 2025 for residential and schools waste. Explore the impact this has on carbon emissions and develop measures to mitigate this.	Council led project	2025	Luton Council – planning department and waste team	Waste contractor Schools and schools' food providers.	E	-
Planning	Review and procure waste disposal contact to incentivise waste reduction and increase recycling rates, including carbon metrics across the waste streams	Council led project	2025	Luton Council – planning department and waste team	-	E	-
Community engagement	Community and business partnership initiatives applying waste minimisation and circular economy principles: examples such as collaboration on methods to reduce food waste in hospitality businesses and swap shops and repair cafes.	Partnership project	2025	Community organisations Business forums	Partnership between council and organisations specialising in/using circular economy principles	↓	Skills for the future Safe and cohesive community Transforming lives through arts...

<p>Planning taking on board Strategy (2023)</p>	<p>Review the Luton Food Plan and consider developing a Food Strategy, the Government Food and recognising that nutrition and sustainability are interrelated and can no longer be tackled in isolation.</p> <p>Promote a more plant-based and low food miles diet within the council culture and work directly with schools</p>	<p>Partnership project</p>	<p>2025-2030</p>	<p>Luton Council – planning department and waste team</p>	<p>Luton Schools Food Poverty Alliance</p>	<p>↓</p>	<p>Improved health and wellbeing</p>
<p>Retrofit</p>	<p>Installation of carbon capture and storage technology to all energy from waste plants. To be made a requirement for future waste contracts.</p>	<p>Policy development</p>	<p>2040 onwards</p>	<p>Luton Council – planning department</p>	<p>Partnership between council and waste contractor</p>	<p>↓ ↓ ↓</p>	<p>Green jobs and skills</p>

6. Biodiversity and resilience

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
Planning	Continue to apply for government funding for flood and water management schemes	Enabling activity by council	2023+	Luton Council – procurement team	Environment Agency	E	-
Planning	Emergency preparedness: In advance of extreme weather events, work with the Public Health system to identify which social groups are most vulnerable and identify suitable interventions, based on recommendations from national climate change response plans:	Policy development	2023	Luton Council – planning department	Hospital / Primary care Trusts	E	-
Planning	Review and update the Local Plan to ensure policies to increase demands on developers that support resilience. Examples include development of sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) and meeting minimum targets for green space and tree cover through green roofs and tree planting.	Policy development	2023-2025	Luton Council – planning department		E	-
Biodiversity project	Improve the River Lea Linear Park to make the river corridor more accessible as a walkway through the town – involving links to river restoration	Council led project	2025	Luton Council Parks team	River Lea Catchment Partnership; Affinity Water		Improved health and wellbeing
Planting project	Increase access to allotments and equivalent spaces for growing food.	Council led project	2025	Luton council	Local community groups	E	Improved health and wellbeing
Planting project	Identify tree planting opportunities across the Borough to work towards	Council led project	2025	Luton Council – planning department and	Community groups		Improved air quality

	increasing the tree cover by 1 hectare by 2025 (with progress monitored).			green spaces team			Improved health and wellbeing
Planting project	Increasing biodiversity and increase carbon capture in highway verges and grass land where appropriate, with related public information provision about changes.	Partnership project	2025	Luton Council – green spaces team	Partnership between council and organisations such as Natural England		Improved health and wellbeing Resilience to climate change
Community engagement	Work with the community to manage risks of flooding, through public awareness campaigns, building community’s ability to prepare for and react to surface water flooding events. This builds on the lessons from the Luton and Dunstable Resilient and Adaptive Communities (RAC) project. For example schools projects to replace concrete surfaces	Enabling activity by council and others	2025	Luton Council – green spaces team	Central Bedfordshire	E	-
Planning	Develop a borough-wide assessment of climate vulnerability (a climate risk assessment), and use this as the basis for action planning for improved resilience	Council led project	2025	Luton Council – planning department and green spaces team		E	-
Planting project	Luton Council will actively seek to develop the Town Centre Masterplan to increase the amount of meaningful green space for community use. Link to the BLMK Integrated Care Strategy action to improve biodiversity and green estates where possible.	Council led project	2030	Luton Council – planning department	Health Care providers		Safe and cohesive community A child-friendly town

7. Council Governance and operational systems

Headline Action	Action description	Action Type	Timeframe	Delivery Owners	Delivery Partners	Carbon Impact	Co-benefits
Governance	Ensure that all new strategies include a clear statement about how the strategy will contribute to net zero	Policy Development	2023-2040	Luton Council – Councillors and Senior Officers	Across all council departments	E	-
Governance	Set interim targets against which progress towards net zero can be monitored and define indicators for the monitoring of all emission reduction actions	Monitoring	2023	Luton Council – Climate change team	Across all council departments	E	-
Governance	Choose and implement a decision-support tool to ensure that all council decisions are scrutinized for their impact on carbon emissions (e.g. Cornwall decision wheel)	Council decision	2023	Luton Council – Climate change team	Executive; scrutiny committee	E	-
Governance	Establish a dedicated delivery board to oversee delivery of this action plan	Council decision	2023	Luton Council – Climate change team	Executive, councillors, key community and business stakeholders	E	-
Governance	Continue providing regular progress updates through the Climate Change Advisory Board	Council decision	2040	Luton Council – all departments	Climate Change Advisory Board	E	Enhance reporting and monitoring
Collaboration frameworks	Aim to influence the development of national policies to support the local net zero transition, through representation on groups of councils campaigning for change such as for example UK100 and/or LGA.	Partnership project	2023	Luton Council – Climate change team	Other local authorities	E	-
Collaboration frameworks	Establish collaboration partnerships with local public and private sector organisations to ensure sharing of	Partnership project	2023	Luton Council – Climate change team	Local public and private sector organisations	E	

	best practice and economies of scale for similar activities. Linked to suggested Luton Climate Change Partnership (see buildings section) but potentially wider geographic scope to cover BLMK Health and Care Partnership.						
Collaboration frameworks	Promotion of carbon action across council departments e.g. through Climate Champions or Officers' Working Group	Council led project	2023	Luton Council – Climate change team	Across all council departments	E	-
Collaborative frameworks	Continue to work with the university, the Integrated Care Board and other anchor and community organisations and businesses to clarify roles and responsibilities and explore opportunities in delivery of local carbon reductions	Council led	2030	Luton Council – Climate Change team, Business engagement team	University of Bedfordshire; local businesses and organisations; community groups	E	Local economy and green jobs
Carbon literacy	Ensure that the LGA Councillors' workbook is highlighted to all Councillors	Council led project	2023	Luton Council – Climate change team	Councillors	E	Green jobs and skills
Carbon literacy	Arrange carbon literacy training for all councillors, and ensure this is included in induction for new councillors going forward	Council led project	2023	Luton Council – Climate change team	Councillors	E	Green jobs and skills
Carbon literacy	Arrange carbon literacy training, made relevant to each function, for all council staff	Council led project	2023	Luton Council – Climate change team	All Luton Council officers	E	Green jobs and skills
Carbon literacy	Organise, and find funding for, free carbon literacy training for community groups and in schools	Council led project	2025	Luton Council – Climate change team	Community groups, schools	E	Green jobs and skills; Quality education for all; Skills for the future

Citizen Engagement	Build on initial citizen engagement around this action plan to develop and maintain a citizens' panel to co-design and monitor action on carbon emissions and climate resilience	Council led project	2023	Luton Council – Climate change delivery board	Councillors, council officers, Community groups, businesses	E	Green jobs and skills; Safe and cohesive community; A town built on fairness and social justice
Citizen Engagement	Develop a Local Area Energy Plan to enable households and businesses to better understand the decarbonisation options appropriate for them	Council led project	2023	Luton Council – Climate change team	UK Power Networks; University affiliation	E	Reduced fuel poverty; Improved health & wellbeing
Citizen Engagement	Encourage schools to sign up to the Ashden 'Let's Go Zero 2030' campaign	Partnership project	2023	Luton Council: schools team; climate change team	Luton Schools	↓	
Citizen Engagement	Promote existing and create new opportunities for more young people's participation in development and delivery of the net zero agenda	Council led projects	2025	Luton Council; Climate Change team; Schools teams	Luton Schools	E	
Citizen Engagement	Involve young people in net zero awareness raising campaigns and events delivered by the council	Council led project	2040	Luton Council, Climate Change team	Luton Council - Communications team, Community Development team	E	
Citizen Engagement	Enhance work with schools and education providers at all levels from early years to university to include climate change in curriculum and extra-curricular activities and progress action plans	Council led project	2040	Luton Council, Climate Change team	Luton Schools, University of Bedfordshire	E	
Citizen Engagement	Integrate climate change into community engagement activities across the council, wherever	Council-based decision	2040	Luton Council – Climate Change team	Luton Fairness Taskforce; Social Justice Unit	E	

	possible, for example through the Fairness Task Force, Your Say Your Way, Participatory Budgeting, Wellbeing Champions and so forth						
Citizen Engagement	Provide more specific and targeted information to residents in general, and young people in particular, about carbon impacts on every day actions	Council led project	2040	Luton Council – Climate Change team	Community & faith groups, Luton Council of Faiths	E	
Citizen Engagement	Enable an ongoing opportunity to comment on the climate change action plan through the council website and regular events	Enabling activity by the Council	2023	Luton Council – Climate Change	Luton Council – Communications team	E	
Procurement	Ensure that the social value framework used by the council addresses climate change	Policy development	2023	Luton Council – Procurement	Luton Council – Climate change team	E	-
Procurement	Ensure all major procurement is scrutinized using the council’s decision support tool (see ‘governance’)	Policy development	2023	Luton Council – Procurement	Luton Council – Climate change team	E	-
Procurement	Council to act as leader in ensuring that climate change impact is considered as part of procurement decisions, and influence large local businesses to follow this example.	Policy development	2023	Luton Council – Procurement	Luton Council – Climate change team; Local businesses supplying the council	E	
Procurement	Develop a detailed plan to transition all council procurement to net zero requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All suppliers to be required to have in place plans to transition to net zero All services delivered to the council to be net zero 	Policy development	2023	Luton Council – Procurement	Luton Council – Climate change team	↓ ↓	-

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where applicable, goods purchased to be net zero in-use (e.g. fleet vehicles, heating and cooling systems) 						
Investments	Assess the impact of the council resolution calling for the development and adoption of responsible investment policies by the Bedfordshire Pension Fund.	Policy development	2023	Luton Council – Climate change team	Luton Council – Finance	E	-
Finance	Develop plans for projects that will implement the action plan, so that when funding streams become available, it is possible to apply for them within short timeframes. These plans should include identification of delivery partners, to help the council spend funding allocations within timeframes that are sometimes very short	Council led project	2023 +	Luton Council – Climate change team	All Luton Council officers	E	-
Finance	Review of capital strategy to ensure that investment is prioritised to achieve net-zero and all investment mitigates negative environmental impacts	Council led project	2023 +	Luton Council – Climate change team and Finance team		↓ ↓	
Finance	Include ESG reporting in Council reporting to move social value and environmental impacts up the agenda	Council led project	2023 +	Luton Council – Climate change team	All Luton Council officers	E	-