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Climate Change

Strategy Document 2010

Foreword

This is the first time that Gateshead has produced a Climate Change Strategy.

Gateshead Strategic Partnership recognises that climate change is the most serious threat to the environment and the future development of the human race. We need to reduce our carbon pollution and protect our communities from the detrimental effects of climate change.

Partners in Gateshead have agreed a long term vision for the borough called Vision 2030. One of the Big Ideas to come out of this is 'Sustainable Gateshead'. The Climate Change Strategy contributes to the targets set out in this Big Idea.

This strategy aims to set the direction and identify priorities to meet the needs of those who live in, work in or visit Gateshead. It identifies the challenges and focuses energies and resources.

There is a need for strong co-ordination between partners of the Gateshead Strategic Partnership through the Gateshead Agreement. The Climate Change Strategy seeks to harness the efforts of all partners, local people and businesses in Gateshead to address this major issue.



Cllr Mick Henry
Leader of Gateshead Council



Executive Summary

This Climate Change Strategy sets the direction and identifies priorities to meet the needs of those who live in, work in or visit Gateshead. Extensive consultation has been undertaken to gain the views of local people on what the strategy should include and these have been reflected throughout.

The Strategy focuses on two main elements:

1. Mitigation – reducing our carbon pollution
2. Adaptation – adjusting to changing climate and protecting our communities from the detrimental effects of climate change.

It provides a framework to:

- Change how we carry out our day to day activities
- Help individuals change their lifestyles
- Encourage local businesses to change the way they work to reduce adverse impacts on the environment and adapt to the changing climate

The key priorities for effective implementation of the strategy involve:

Mitigating the effects of climate change by:

1. Reducing waste and improving recycling rates
2. Reducing energy use and improving energy efficiency
3. Identifying new ways to produce energy locally
4. Developing greener transport options and encouraging their use
5. Helping businesses, communities and individuals make greener choices
6. Exploiting new business opportunities and associated training

Adapting to climate change by:

7. Protecting our communities and the natural and built environment from adverse weather impacts resulting from a changing climate and developing our response to severe weather events through robust emergency planning.

The Strategy and its key priorities are supported by an Action Plan which Gateshead's partners will come together to deliver.

Introduction

Climate change and its effects

The climate is changing fast. We need to respond now. Whether the change is due to man-made processes, or is the result of natural, cyclical change, it makes economic sense to reduce our energy use and our use of natural resources. We also need to do whatever we can to alleviate the worst effects, adapt to the new climate and plan for the future.

This strategy focuses on two elements of Climate Change:

- Adaptation - adjusting to the changing climate.
- Mitigation - reducing further release of harmful greenhouse gases to help prevent further changes to the climate.

Why act now?

No matter what the extent of the change in the climate, we know there is increasing likelihood of extreme weather events and other impacts'. This will include:

- Increased flooding incidents
- Heatwaves
- Infectious diseases
- Increased number of pests and vermin
- An impact on the economy with increased damage to buildings and loss of business or service
- Increased pressure on public services, such as health, emergency services and local authorities

The Partnership is taking the opportunity to make a difference now. Even the smallest action by individuals will have an impact on the climate. The choices we make are important and can add up to significant change, so we all have a role in responding to this challenge.

What if we do nothing?

In 2009, the Chief Scientific Advisor to the Government said if we do nothing, 2030 will look like:

- Population growth to 8 billion (predominantly urban)
- Increased demand for food
- 30% increase for water and water shortages leading to mass migration
- 50% increased demand for energy
- Demand for resources, increasing the gap between the rich and poor

In common with many parts of the UK, the North East climate change adaptation study predicts that there will be an increase in:

- Frequency of flooding from rivers, streams
- Adverse health and welfare effects during warmer summers
- Incidents of wild fires and parkland fires
- Frequency of flooding from drainage systems
- Infectious diseases in humans and livestock
- Pests
- Damage to fabric and structure of buildings
- Pressure on emergency services
- Disruption to service continuity
- Pollution from contaminated land
- Wildlife impacts of construction and maintenance activities
- Storm-related debris
- Footpath and cycle path erosion
- Business opportunities associated with adaptation

There will also be changes in winter road maintenance regimes, loss of business/service productivity or continuity and reduced adverse health effects during warmer winters.

It is also true to say that a changing climate may be positive for people in Gateshead:

- Warmer winters leading to fewer cold related deaths
- Opportunities to grow more and different types of food
- Opportunities to produce energy from cleaner and more efficient sources such as wind and solar

However, the risks and threats still outweigh these opportunities and we need to respond accordingly.

How we will deliver the strategy

Gateshead Strategic Partnership (GSP) brings together a range of organisations responsible for delivering services across the borough of Gateshead.

The GSP comprises a number of partnership groups; one of these is the Safer Stronger Communities and Culture Themed Partnership which brings together organisations including Northumbria Police, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service, Gateshead Council and Gateshead Community Network. It is this group that will take the lead role in tackling climate change.

Case study: Car sharing in Northumbria Police

In June 2009 Northumbria Police introduced a car sharing scheme. For the first time the workforce had an opportunity to help reduce congestion and pollution while saving money by reducing travelling costs. The scheme also aimed to help the force reduce car park congestion at police sites.

What we did

By using the established Internet based Liftshare private scheme, there are no security issues and people can easily find others who live close to them and travel to the same workplace.

A huge amount of work has been carried out to help make the workforce aware of the scheme and its benefits - this has been helped by various incentives including a 'guaranteed lift home' initiative. This is helping to break down barriers for people who are concerned about being let down by their lift if their car share partner is called away on business.

What impact has this had?

The initiative has begun to reduce the number of sole occupancy cars travelling to Northumbria Police sites and this in turn reduces the associated CO2 emissions. The added effect is that employees are now thinking more about the journeys they make and why the force is asking them to share.

Through the Liftshare site, employees are meeting new people who live close-by to share with. Therefore car sharing is not only environmentally and economically beneficial, but socially too, that is, 'sustainable'.

This strategy demonstrates the commitment of those organisations to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change in Gateshead. The following key issues underpin the whole strategy:

- Climate change is everyone's business
- The need for strong leadership
- The benefits of partnership working in harnessing collective action
- The need to restate our commitment to tackling climate change and environmental challenges
- Responding to the need for improvement
- The importance of energy efficiency and renewable energy in meeting future needs
- Taking a wider perspective and achieving balance is crucial
- Embedding climate change in all strategies and plans
- Climate Change is about protecting communities and improving their sustainability

As outlined, this strategy contributes to delivering the Sustainable Gateshead Big Idea within Vision 2030. It is an overarching document with a number of other plans and initiatives delivering on detailed requirements and initiatives.



International - The UK is working with the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the G8 countries and the European Union to find ways to reach global agreement on action to avert dangerous climate change.

The UK is a signatory to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Rio Declaration on climate change and the 1997 Kyoto Protocol which is the first ever international treaty to set legally binding pollution reduction targets on developed countries that have ratified it.

Case study: Cycle Plus Scheme

Salary sacrifice schemes are becoming very popular in cycling plans throughout the country. They allow employees to buy/hire bikes at reduced costs for use when travelling to work promoting sustainable travel.

What we did

Gateshead Council has recently introduced a salary sacrifice Bike to Work Scheme enabling employees to have the use of a bike to cycle to work as long as they use it to travel to work at least half of the time.

A bike is hired for a period ranging from 12-18 months, through salary deductions from gross, rather than, net pay and no VAT is paid on the hire of the bike. At the end of the hire period, the bike may be offered for sale to the employee at the current market value, or the bike may be kept by the employer for use as an employee pool facility.

What impact has this had?

It is still early days, but the aim is to decrease carbon emissions for travel to work by council employees. The scheme will be evaluated to ensure this has happened and capture impact on sustainable travel options.

Crucial to tackling climate change is securing a global agreement to a realistic, robust, durable and fair framework beyond 2012, when the first set of targets under the Kyoto Protocol expires. The UK Government is therefore aiming to reach an ambitious agreement at the UNFCCC Conference of Parties at Copenhagen in December 2009.

The European Commission's Covenant of Mayors on Climate Change builds on this. The Council signed the Covenant of Mayors on 13 January 2009 committing to a range of actions particularly the production and implementation of a Sustainable Energy Action Plan.

National - The Government is already targeting large organisations and significant energy users through a range of national initiatives. However it recognises that local councils and their partners are well placed to lead their communities to act at a local level. There are a number of reports, commitments and legislation that need to be taken account of in Gateshead:

- Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change 2006. This argued that the economic benefits of strong early action to tackle climate change far outweigh the cost of dealing with the consequences.
- Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change 2001 and 2005 commits local authorities to set targets for reducing carbon pollution.
- Climate Change Act 2008 sets legally binding targets for the UK to reduce carbon pollution by 26% by 2020 and by 80% by 2050.
- Planning and Energy Act 2008 enables local authorities to take steps to require builders to include a proportion of energy from renewable sources.

Regional - The North East Declaration on Climate Change signed by all local authorities in the North East acknowledges that climate change is occurring and will have far reaching effects on the region's people, places, economy, society and the environment and have pledged to work together to tackle the causes of climate change and its impact.

The North East Climate Change Adaptation Study predicts future weather patterns in the region, looks at the impact, and advises how to prepare for them. This provides a basis from which we can plan to protect our local communities.

Local - Our Sustainable Community Strategy, Vision 2030 sets out our actions and targets for the next 20 years. Six priorities or Big Ideas were identified through consultation with local people, businesses and partners. Climate change is at the heart of the Sustainable Gateshead Big Idea and a range of targets have been identified around increasing recycling, achieving carbon neutral status and reducing energy consumption.

Delivery of the targets in Vision 2030 will be supported by our local area agreement, The Gateshead Agreement, in which responding to climate change is a priority. This is an agreement across all partners within the Gateshead Strategic Partnership and this strategy sets out what we will do to adapt to and mitigate climate change.

One of the targets in the Gateshead Agreement is National Indicator 188 - Adapting to Climate Change, which aims to embed the issues of adapting to the changing climate in organisations and businesses in Gateshead.

In addition, various partners are agreeing and taking forward individuals strategies and plans to respond to this important issue. For example, Gateshead Council recently agreed a Carbon Management Plan as part of the Carbon Trust's Local Authority Carbon Management Programme. The Plan aims to reduce carbon pollution and embed a low-carbon culture.

Case study: Introduction of energy efficient escalators

Nexus - the Tyne and Wear Passenger Transport Executive – aims to improve the quality of life of everyone in Tyne and Wear by creating better transport networks. It is committed to addressing the issues of climate change and has an obligation, through the CRC energy reduction scheme, to reduce energy consumption.

What we did

During the transformation of the Haymarket Metro Station we introduced energy efficient escalators. These reduce in speed by up to 60% when the escalator is not in use.

What impact has this had?

The approximate energy saving from these escalators and the introduction of energy saving devices will result in an annual carbon reduction of 21.1 tonnes and an annual cost saving of around £3,900 compared to previous years.

The replacement of the six escalators at Monument is next on the programme and based on data collected from Haymarket we are hoping to achieve a reduction in the annual energy consumption of around 48 tonnes of carbon dioxide.

The replacement of all 26 escalators during the next phase of the programme has the potential to generate an overall reduction of 670,000KWh, a reduction of 362 Tonnes of carbon dioxide a year.

Case study: Dr Garry Jenkins

In August 2006, Dr Garry Jenkins - a renewable energy consultant with North Energy and resident of Gateshead, installed a solar water heating system. The system is a 2.75 square metre flat panel feeding into a 190 litre twin coil tank. The system was supplied by Zeneaga Solar, part of the Eaga group, using Zen International solar technology from the Netherlands.

What he did

Dr Jenkins installed the system to demonstrate his commitment to renewable energy and energy efficiency. The system is very simple and by using a drain-back tank it means there is no risk of the water freezing. A government grant was available through the Clear Skies scheme, now called the Micro-generation Scheme. The grant of £400 helped towards the costs.

What impact has this had?

The system pump has run for over 3,300 hours since installation with an estimated energy yield at roughly 1,200 kWh per year. Over the period from April to September he has only had to use gas to heat the water after two or more cloudy days. The longest it has run without the need for any gas heating was for 42 days in summer 2007.

Consultation

In order to develop debate in Gateshead about climate change, a discussion document was produced by the Partnership to support the development of the strategy. The document widened debate about the impact of climate change on Gateshead and sought views from organisations and individuals on the key issues and potential actions.

Two events were held in order to establish people's views on climate change.

- A 'Special Forum' stakeholder event including GSP members and Area Forum members took place on 31st March 2009.
- A 'Get Green' Climate Change conference for young people was organised and delivered by the Gateshead Youth Assembly.

Both events were well attended with lively debate and lots of ideas generated. At these forums, pledge cards were also circulated for people to make personal or organisational commitments to address this important issue.

In addition to the conferences a survey was developed to support the discussion document. This was sent out to 500 randomly selected households and to community and interest groups. A Viewpoint resident's survey was also carried out.

Case study: The Gateshead Housing Company

The Gateshead Housing Company wants to reduce its energy consumption and carbon pollution it produces from its activities. The first step in doing that was to find out how much energy was being using and measure the number of pieces of electrical equipment that were being left on overnight unnecessarily. To do this an energy audit was carried out in the offices.

What we did

Since the energy audit in June 2009, the company has put in place a number of initiatives to reduce energy use.

- To change staff attitudes, the results of the audit were circulated to all teams with key messages about reducing energy and waste and a series of follow up messages reminding staff about 'turning appliances off'
- An Environmental Working Group has been established and trained to monitor, risk assess and manage energy use as well as other environmental risks.
- A network of Environmental Champions has also been set up to encourage other staff to behave in a more environmentally-friendly manner.
- Five environmental auditors have been trained, qualified by examination to IEMA standards to carry out checks relating to energy and waste management.
- 8 half-day awareness-raising sessions for staff have been held on general environmental issues and some detailed information around ISO 14001 Environmental Management System certification. Around 100 delegates attended these events (25% of the workforce).
- Key messages regarding environmental themes are included in regular staff email updates.

What impact has this had?

A second audit in December 2009 showed that the number of computers left on overnight had reduced by 37%. We are in the early stages of measuring the impact of our actions but we anticipate that we will reduce our carbon emissions by 10% within the next year.

The Climate Change discussion document and survey were also available on the council website for residents to complete. Overall, 618 responses were received to the survey. A young person's discussion document was also developed and sent out to primary and secondary schools for consultation.

The Cabinet and Senior Management Team of Gateshead Council also considered environmental sustainability at a planning session and identified issues they wish to see as a priority and to devote the necessary resources to achieve them.

Case study: Blaydon Primary Care Centre

A new Primary Care Centre (PCC) has been developed for Blaydon to provide an increased range of healthcare services improving patient access to various treatment and specialist clinics. This will be alongside the new Leisure Centre facility for the area.

What we did

In designing and building the new centre, a range of measures were incorporated to minimise the impact of the centre on the environment and to improve its future sustainability. These measures include:

- A flood risk assessment.
- The inclusion of a Biomass boiler, with a Combined Heat and Power (CHP) unit to allow the heating and ventilation system to recover heat and re-use it.
- More effective use of daylight - with solar control through large roof overhangs, and building fabric to minimise unwanted heat losses and gains minimising the need for heating or cooling.
- Using responsibly sourced materials wherever possible including reused/ reclaimed/ recycled materials.
- Producing a detailed green travel plan to increase take up of sustainable travel options.
- A Grey water harvesting system will be used for toilets using rainwater for flushing toilets.
- Providing new habitats for many of the species found in or around the neighbouring Shibdon Pond encouraging biodiversity.

What impact has this had?

The new building will be one of the most environmentally friendly buildings in Gateshead and will reduce overall carbon emissions and long term sustainability. This will mean that the Primary Health Care Centre should achieve a Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method 'Excellent' Rating.

What you said

The consultation showed that the vast majority of people agree that climate change is an issue that will affect them. Over half agreed that climate change has become more of an issue for them in the past year, but those aged 18-24 are more likely to agree than others. More than three quarters agreed that they personally can help to limit the effects of climate change.

Again, most people agree that local councils, other public services, businesses and manufacturers, community and voluntary organisations and individuals can contribute to tackling climate change. More than half would like to do more to help the environment with most 25-35 year olds likely to do more.

The young person's consultation has shown that approximately 60% of the young people consulted think climate change will affect them and 70% now care more about climate change than they used to. General comments were made including turning off electrical items and using public transport more which shows that the young people of Gateshead are aware how to slow down climate change.

Our Priorities and Actions

Gateshead Strategic Partnership's vision is set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy, Vision 2030: "Local people realising their full potential enjoying the best quality of life in a healthy, equal, safe, prosperous and sustainable Gateshead".

The Partnership has already identified some key targets in responding to climate change in Vision 2030. These are:

- Recycling at least 50% of our waste by 2020
- Reducing carbon pollution by 40% by 2025
- Reducing residents' energy consumption by 20% by 2030
- Achieving 30% locally generated renewable or low carbon energy by 2030

This is supported by The Gateshead Agreement, which also has responding to climate change as a key target. This strategy supplements and enhances those targets to achieve that vision.

Climate Change Strategy Objectives

In order to make a difference we need to:

- Change how we carry out our day to day activities
- Help individuals change their lifestyle
- Encourage local businesses to change the way they work
- Reduce our adverse impact on the environment and adapt to the changing climate.

To achieve that change, the Partnership will focus efforts and resources on the following key priorities.

Mitigate the effects of climate change by:

- Reducing waste and improving recycling rates
- Reducing energy use and improving energy efficiency
- Identifying new ways to produce energy locally
- Developing greener transport options and encouraging their use
- Helping businesses, communities and individuals make greener choices
- Exploiting new business opportunities and associated training

Adapt to climate change by:

- Protecting our communities and natural and built environment from severe weather and the changing climate and developing our response to severe weather events through robust emergency planning.

Our Actions

Reduce waste and improve recycling rates

- Work with local companies to reduce packaging waste.
- Work with businesses and individuals to reduce food waste.
- All partners to develop and implement waste minimisation programmes.
- Increase the range of recyclable materials by working with partners.
- Make it easier to recycle by improving methods available for individuals and organisations.
- Introduce incentives for reducing waste and recycling more.

Reduce energy use and improve energy efficiency

- All partners to develop programmes to reduce their carbon pollution from their buildings by 35% within five years.
- Work with home owners, private landlords and Registered Social landlords to reduce carbon pollution from the domestic sector.
- Support residents and businesses to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy use, by providing tailored advice and support.
- Help local people and businesses to reduce water consumption and ensure water is used efficiently to reduce the energy consumed in its production.
- Research and support developments in:
 - Energy saving goods production
 - Production of low carbon and renewable energy generation equipment
- Consider how carbon offsetting can benefit local businesses and residents.

Identifying new ways to produce energy locally

- Set up an organisation that can contribute to increasing low carbon and renewable energy generation within Gateshead.
- Encourage new residential and commercial developments to incorporate the generation of low carbon and renewable energy on site.
- Encourage the use of low carbon and renewable technologies in existing buildings.
- Research and support developments in:
 - Low carbon and renewable energy generation
 - Energy from waste

Providing high quality green transport options and promoting their use

- All partners to develop and adopt a travel plan which incentivises employees to reduce their carbon pollution travelling to, from and at work.
- Develop the Local Transport Plan, to improve bus routes and services, park and ride facilities and cycling and walking routes to reduce car use.
- Seek to increase levels of investment in public transport and work to change perception of it.
- Make public transport a more attractive and convenient option for those who live and work in Gateshead e.g. through better integration between different types of public transport and providing incentives for people to use it.
- Create a safer environment to encourage walking and cycling to school.
- Research ways in which partners plan new developments and services in Gateshead to reduce the need to travel.

Case study: The Sage Gateshead

In order to take responsibility for tackling climate change, The Sage Gateshead is managing its significant contributions to carbon emissions so we can identify environmental objectives and targets, to focus on the most critical areas of the business.

What we did

We set up a staff-led Green Team to be responsible for managing company environmental policy. The team also disseminate information to staff and liaise with incoming productions on environmental issues. Some of the activities the team have implemented include:

- Re-programming of existing plant and boilers to reduce consumption
- Improving our recycling
- Changing lighting for LED option
- Reducing travel mileage

The Cleaning Team are now using a new product called Innu-science. The new cleaning schedules use biotechnology which is 100% human and animal safe.

The Sage Gateshead has enrolled in the 10:10 campaign which is a national drive encouraging individuals and organisations to cut carbon emissions by 10% during 2010.

What impact has this had?

We achieved the green tourism silver award and are also in the process of obtaining BS 8901 (Sustainable developments which will be management system specific).

Our first Energy Display Certificate was issued on the 21st November 2008, giving us an energy efficiency rating of C70. We have just received our new Energy Display Certificate and our efficiency rating has improved to C68 with efficiency savings of 4.9%. Activities over that last year have resulted in a total of 66.75 tonnes of CO2 emissions saved.

In the future the Green team will be looking to install new electric car charging posts around the building, obtain BS8901, improve travel with our own staff and the public, introduce a staff bicycle scheme, reduce our water consumption and continue to change lights to LED.

Helping businesses, communities and individuals make greener choices

- Encourage the use of sustainable techniques such as composting and growing your own food.
- Raise awareness about local and seasonal produce.
- Work with developers to provide more sustainable developments and services.
- Encourage businesses and local people to buy low carbon and local goods and services.
- All partners to develop and adopt a consistent and challenging Sustainable Procurement policy and action plan.
- All partners to develop and adopt a Sustainable Construction policy for new and existing buildings.
- Support local farmers to grow food and biomass.
- Engage local people, local communities and businesses in debate and dialogue to raise awareness of climate change issues and encourage them to take action.
- Investigate joint procurement and distribution initiatives between Gateshead based public and private organisations to encourage low carbon supply lines.

Exploiting new business opportunities and associated training

- Encourage the development of training capacity in Gateshead in new and emerging environmental technologies.
- Become a centre of excellence in green technology
- Encourage the development of new and existing businesses in green and new technologies

Protecting our communities, the natural and built environment from severe weather and the changing climate and developing our response to severe weather events through robust emergency planning

- All partners to carry out risk assessments on their services to determine how climate change may affect them.
- Conduct research into the capacity of the natural environment to reduce flood risk.
- Increase green space to reduce urban heat island effect.
- Protect, maintain, enhance and re-establish natural habitats, animals and plants in Gateshead.
- Develop and implement a series of specific plans and strategies to complement the generic Emergency Plan which will ensure an effective response to severe weather events and protect health and property.

Climate Change Strategy Action Plan

Priority 1 - Reducing waste and improve recycling rates		
Key Actions	Delivery Tasks	Measures
1. Work with local companies to reduce packaging waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key partners through carbon management group Research alternative packaging options Advise local shops on how to reduce packaging waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced levels of non-recyclable packaging Lower levels of landfill waste
2. Work with businesses and individuals to reduce food waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further develop the Love Food, Hate Waste campaign Develop "left-overs" recipe book Raise awareness of how to store food etc Raise composting rates Introduce composting opportunities at recycling centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower levels of landfill waste Reduced levels of food waste Increased home composting
3. All partners to develop and implement waste minimisation programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree and implement waste reduction action plans 	To be agreed
4. Increase the range of recyclable materials by working with partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key local partners to work with Clarify current range of recyclable materials Work to ensure these are used more widely 	To be agreed
5. Make it easier to recycle by improving methods available for individuals and organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review current recycling methods Publicise what is currently available Consult on how to facilitate recycling for local people and businesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of recycling points % of recycled materials
6. Introduce incentives for reducing waste and recycling more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with private contractors and businesses Research what incentives are feasible Devise how these can be implemented 	To be agreed
Priority 2 - Reducing energy use and improving energy efficiency		
Key Actions	Delivery Tasks	Measures
7. Produce a Sustainable Energy Action Plan for 2010-2020 with the aim of reducing the Borough's carbon pollution by more than 20% by 2020.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce and implement the Sustainable Energy Action plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in level of carbon pollution NI 186 Per capita CO2 emissions in the local authority area
8. All partners to reduce their carbon pollution from their buildings by 35% within 5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce and implement carbon management plans Participate in 10:10 campaign to achieve a 10% cut in NI 185 emissions within a 12 month period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in level of carbon pollution NI 185 CO2 reduction from local authority operations NI 186 Per capita CO2 emissions in the local authority area

9. Work with home owners, private landlords and Registered Social landlords to reduce carbon pollution from the domestic sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase level of insulation in residential houses Provide advice and guidance about how to insulate more Promote energy saving Become the best insulated borough in the region All new developments to reach Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4 Exemplar homes reaching level 6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease level of energy NI 186 Per capita CO2 emissions in the local authority area % of energy efficient homes NI 187 Tackling fuel poverty - % of people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating
10. Support residents and businesses to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy use, by providing tailored advice and support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop advice and guidance package covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sources of high energy use Low energy alternatives Insulation Energy saving materials/ equipment 	To be agreed
11. Help local people and businesses to reduce water consumption and ensure water is used efficiently to reduce the energy consumed in its production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce water saving guide with partners Research and promote the recycling of greywater Investigate potential for increased use of rainwater Provide advice and guidance on these to partners, local people and local businesses Extend the use/ availability of water metering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water use per household Number of new developments with grey water
12. Research & support developments in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Energy saving goods production Production of low carbon and renewable energy generation and its components 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct research into the new and emerging markets Establish ways to support developments Implement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NI 185 CO2 reduction from local authority operations
Priority 3 - Identifying new ways to produce energy locally		
Key Actions	Delivery Tasks	Measures
13. Set up an organisation that can contribute to increasing low carbon and renewable energy generation within Gateshead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement ESCO arrangements 	To be agreed
14. Encourage new residential and commercial developments to incorporate the generation of low carbon and renewable energy on site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research options for including low carbon generation in developments e.g. combined heat and power plants Provide accessible information for developers Incorporate this into planning advice and guidance Work with regional partners e.g. NAREC to develop a shared understanding of the options 	To be agreed

15. Encourage the use of low carbon and renewable generation technologies in existing commercial and domestic buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with regional partners e.g. NAREC to develop a shared understanding of the options • Provide accessible advice and guidance on what technologies are available • Incorporate this into planning advice and guidance e.g. for home improvements 	To be agreed
16. Promote the use of artists to make energy installations works of art and an addition to our tourism offer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore funding to incorporate contemporary art into all new energy installations 	To be agreed
17. Research & support developments in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Low carbon and renewable energy generation Energy from waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct research into the new and emerging markets • Establish ways to support developments • Implement 	To be agreed
18. Consider how carbon offsetting can benefit local businesses and residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research options for local carbon offsetting programmes • Develop local carbon offsetting schemes • Investigate mechanisms for monitoring individual carbon pollution • Work with partners, local businesses and residents to implement 	To be agreed

Priority 4 - Providing high quality green transport options and promoting their use

Key Actions	Delivery Tasks	Measures
19. All partners to develop and adopt a travel plan which incentivises employees to reduce their carbon pollution from travelling to, from and at work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce a baseline of work related travel • Agree and implement a green travel plan incorporating low carbon options for employees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in carbon pollution through work related travel • NI 194 Air quality: Percentage reduction in NOx and primary PM10 emissions through LA • NI 198 Children travelling to school: mode of transport usually used
20. Develop the Local Transport Plan to improve bus routes and services, park and ride facilities and cycling and walking routes to reduce car use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with partners e.g. Nexus to update local transport plan • Investigate potential of park & ride facilities • Produce an updated, comprehensive map of walking and cycling routes 	To be agreed
21. Seek to increase levels of investment in public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Nexus on planning of future public transport options • Lobby Government to change system 	To be agreed
22. Make public transport a more attractive and convenient option for those who live and work in Gateshead e.g. through better integration between different types of public transport and providing incentives for people to use it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research potential routes and integration between bus and metro • Investigate how incentives to use public transport can be introduced • Partners to consider preferential season ticket loans if these are not available • Develop campaign to highlight accessibility and quality of public transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI 194 Air quality: Percentage reduction in NOx and primary PM10 emissions through LA

23. Create a safer environment to encourage more walking and cycling to school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with schools to ensure school travel plans are robust • Ensure safer routes to school are rolled out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI 194 Air quality: Percentage reduction in NOx and primary PM10 emissions through LA • NI 198 Children travelling to school: mode of transport usually used
24. Research ways in which partners plan new developments and services in Gateshead to reduce the need to travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure development control policy adequately reflects a focus on reducing car usage and promoting green transport options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI 194 Air quality: Percentage reduction in NOx and primary PM10 emissions through LA • NI 198 Children travelling to school: mode of transport usually used

Priority 5 - Helping businesses, communities and individuals make greener choices

Key Actions	Delivery Tasks	Measures
25. Encourage the use of sustainable techniques such as composting and growing your own food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with allotment associations to provide advice and guidance to communities • Produce resource packages to advise local people how to grow their own food • Work with schools to reflect this in the curriculum or school club system 	To be agreed
26. Raise awareness about local and seasonal produce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a programme of campaigns to highlight seasonal produce in local shops and restaurants • Develop a 'local produce directory' outlining what is produced and available locally • Work with supermarkets to help them capitalise on the demand for local food 	To be agreed
27. Work with developers to provide more sustainable developments and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify partners to roll out guidance on how to ensure developments are sustainable • Reinforce this through planning and building control guidance 	To be agreed
28. Encourage businesses and local people to buy low carbon and local goods and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce a directory of local carbon products • Bring together local producers to promote their goods and services • Investigate potential of a 'local' charter mark for Gateshead e.g. 'made in Gateshead' or 'North East/ Regional' 	To be agreed
29. All partners to develop and adopt a consistent and challenging Sustainable Procurement policy and action plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree and implement a sustainable procurement policy 	To be agreed
30. All partners to develop and adopt a Sustainable Construction policy for new and existing buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree and implement a sustainable construction policy 	To be agreed

<p>31. Support local farmers to grow food and biomass</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine who the local farmers are in the area • Develop information resource about local food market and market for biomass • Offer information, support to farmers 	To be agreed
<p>32. Engage local people, local communities and businesses in debate and dialogue to raise awareness of climate change issues and encourage them to take action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a reference group of local people and businesses • Develop annual campaign of climate change messages – “6 ways you can change the world” • Keep people informed as and when new developments arise • Support local community groups with their activities 	To be agreed
<p>33. Investigate joint procurement and distribution initiatives between Gateshead based public and private organisations to encourage low carbon supply lines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map current supply lines carbon pollution • Identify joint procurement options • Consult on possible options • Implement joint procurement initiative 	To be agreed

Priority 6 - Exploiting new business opportunities and associated training

Key Actions	Delivery Tasks	Measures
<p>34. Encourage the development of training capacity in Gateshead in new and emerging environmental technologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope the market to determine the training required • Identify skills gaps and potential growth areas • Devise options to meet the training requirements • Work with Gateshead College to develop green NVQs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of students/ apprentices in environmental technologies
<p>35. Provide more and improved information on a regular basis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish who needs or would benefit from the information • Use a range of methods to reach audiences • Develop a communications plan covering all aspects of the agenda • Implement plan • Encourage all schools to become ‘sustainable schools’ • Provide a ‘green advice’ resource 	To be agreed
<p>36. Establish a green centre of excellence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Gateshead College and local universities to develop skills and training • Work with Gateshead College and local universities to develop reputation for research and development • Explore possibility of creating links with new school in West of Gateshead 	To be agreed

<p>37. Encourage the development of new and existing businesses in green and new technologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the Borough as a manufacturing base for green technology • Develop the market in recyclable products • Encourage the development of an energy efficient data centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new green businesses
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Priority 7 - Protecting communities, the natural & built environment from severe weather and changing climate

Key Actions	Delivery Tasks	Measures
<p>38. All partners to carry out risk assessments on their services to determine how climate change may affect them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish partner risk assessment template and guidance • Support partners to assess risk • Implement risk assessment process • Monitor outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI 188 - Achievement of level 3 by March 2010 and level 4 by March 2011 • NI 188 Level of preparedness the authority has reached in managing risks from a changing climate
<p>39. Conduct research into the capacity of the natural environment to reduce flood risk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research the possible ways the natural environment could prevent flood risk 	To be agreed
<p>40. Increase green space to reduce urban heat island effect</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the areas most affected • Develop options and implementation plan • Increase green space 	To be agreed
<p>41. Protect, maintain, enhance and re-establish natural habitats, animals and plants in Gateshead</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify areas to be protected and options for how areas can be protected • Look at the areas that need to be maintained and/ or enhanced • Consider areas of re-establishment • Review Open Spaces Strategy 	To be agreed
<p>42. Develop and implement a series of specific plans and strategies to complement the generic Emergency Plan which will ensure an effective response to severe weather events and protect health and property</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement a Flood Risk Management Strategic plan • Devise a list of specific emergency plans needed • Partners to review current emergency plans • Consult with partners to identify how to improve plans • Revise plans to make them fit for purpose. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI 188 - Achievement of level 3 by March 2010 and level 4 by March 2011 • NI 189 Flood and coastal erosion risk management