

# Town and Community Council Climate Toolkit



Cymraeg

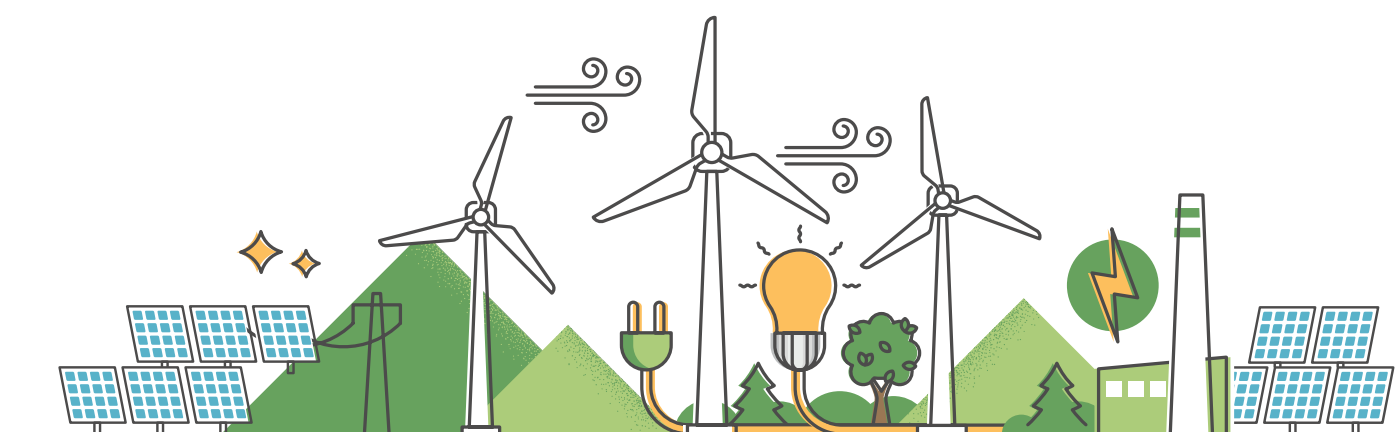
Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg -  
<https://siryfflint.gov.uk/cy/Resident/Climate-Change/Climate-Toolkits.aspx>

This document is also available in Welsh -  
<https://siryfflint.gov.uk/cy/Resident/Climate-Change/Climate-Toolkits.aspx>

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Welcome

Welcome to the Town and Community Council Climate Toolkit. This is the first of its kind in Flintshire County Council and has been created by the Climate Change team.

This document and its supporting tools aim to empower Town and Community Councils and their stakeholders to develop climate change understanding, measure carbon emissions and act to reduce them, helping to tackle the climate crisis. There are many themes the toolkit works across, however, there is particular focus on behavioural improvements - helping to make better decisions and make the most of existing buildings and systems.

Throughout this toolkit are links to supporting webpages, content, and e-mails. These are provided in images, videos, and [blue underlined text](#). Flintshire County Council is not responsible for the content in external links provided in this document and supporting tools.

### 1.2 Targets

In 2015, at the United Nations COP 21 in Paris, the world came together to set temperature targets to limit global warming and resulting climate change. It was agreed that the global average temperature would be kept well below 2.0°C warmer than the late 1800s, with ambition to limit to 1.5°C. Currently, temperatures on average are 1.1°C higher.

#### [Paris Climate Agreement](#)

To help achieve this target, Welsh Government committed to Wales and its regions becoming Net Zero Carbon by 2050, with an ambition for the Public Sector to achieve this by 2030.

#### [Net Zero Carbon 2030 Route Map](#)

### 1.3 Flintshire County Council Action

In response to Welsh government's public sector targets, the council launched its [Climate Change Strategy](#) in 2022, stating how the council intends to reduce its own carbon emissions and improve carbon absorption from its land.

The Strategy is split into five key themes where climate actions are categorised, these are:

- **Buildings:** Heating, Electricity, Water Use, Waste and supporting various services
- **Mobility and Transport:** Fleet Travel, Business Mileage, Staff Commute and Public Transport
- **Procurement:** Materials, Products and Services in the Council's Supply Chain
- **Behaviour:** Decision Making, Efficient Behaviours, Engagement
- **Land Use:** Tree Planting, nature and how the land can help protect from climate change.

The council measures its carbon emissions annually to monitor progress and direct actions towards Net Zero Carbon by 2030. Each year's emissions are measured against its baseline year of 2018/19, and has since reduced carbon emissions by over 30% through investing in renewable energy, improving building efficiency, supporting staff with flexible working, optimising fleet travel and methodology improvements.



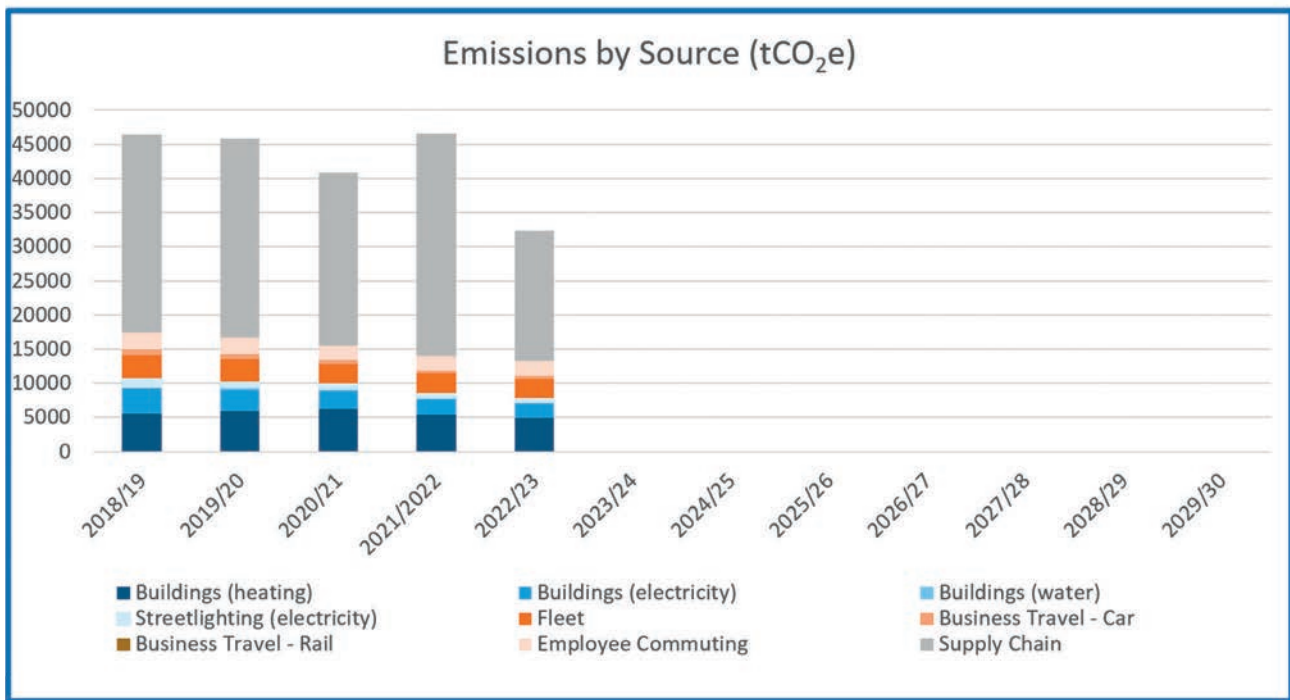


Image 1 Flintshire County Council carbon emissions

#### 1.4 Why a Climate Toolkit for Town and Community Councils?

There are 34 Town and Community Councils in Flintshire of various size, structure and resource who engage with many different stakeholders in their community, so there is a significant opportunity to demonstrate leadership through action and influence carbon emission reductions locally. Because of this, the Climate Change Strategy identifies the action 'CCBu10'.

***“Support Schools and Town & Community Councils to reduce operation’s emissions and engage with our building users to encourage positive behaviour change”.***

Town and Community Council carbon emissions are not accounted for in the council’s carbon calculations.

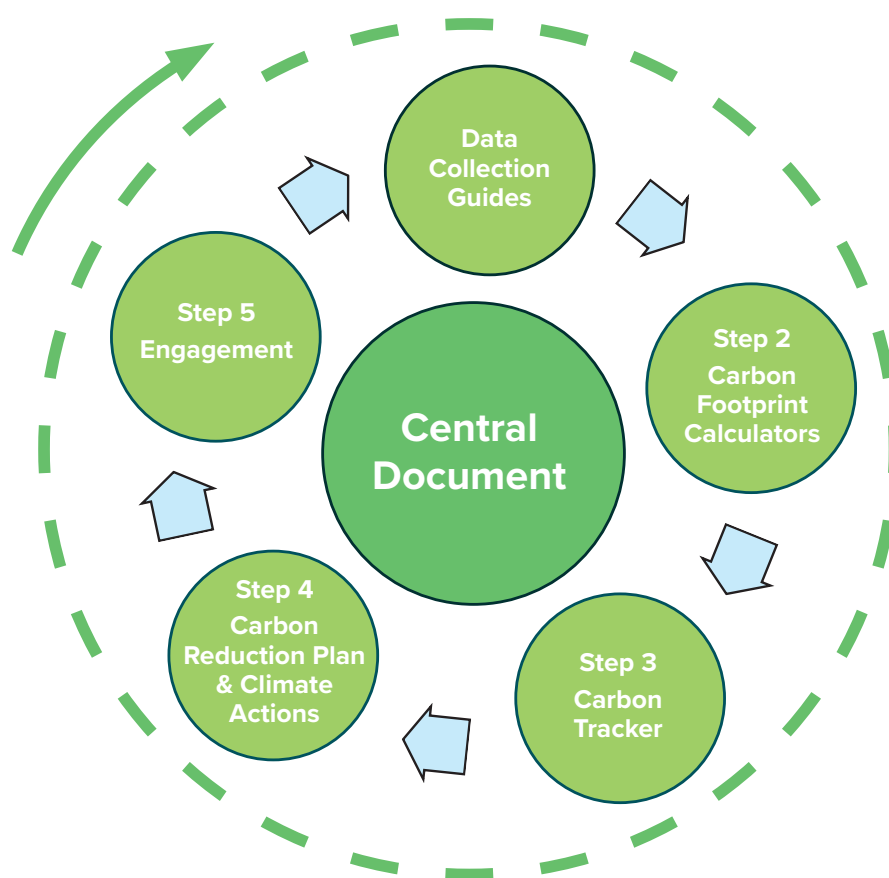
#### 1.5 Toolkit Ownership

It is the responsibility of a Town and Community Council to nominate a suitable member of staff as the Toolkit Lead and ensure the toolkit is implemented and supported. The council must also ensure that implementation and climate actions identified within the carbon reduction plan are aligned to policies and values and do not result in problems elsewhere.

Go to section 3.2 for Toolkit Lead

## 1.6 Toolkit Contents

The toolkit is a collection of documents, spreadsheets, and resources to help understand climate change and the risks presented, measure carbon emissions and reduce them by creating a carbon reduction plan.



*Image 2 Toolkit tools and process to implement the toolkit.*

- **Central Document** (this document): Always refer to this document as it contains all information required to implement the toolkit.
- **Carbon Footprint Calculator:** Excel-based calculator where Town and Community Councils input data (e.g., electricity consumption) to measure its carbon emissions.
- **Staff Commute Calculator:** Excel-based calculator to determine staff commute emissions.
- **Carbon Tracker:** Excel-based tool where Town and Community Councils record year-on-year carbon emissions showing where progress is being made.
- **Carbon Reduction Plan:** The Town and Community Council creates this plan to report on carbon emissions and identify actions to reduce them. This is available in both Microsoft Word and Excel.
- **Climate Actions:** A list of actions that Town and Community Councils may wish to adopt to reduce carbon emissions.
- **Data Collection and Input Guidance:** Simple instructions on how to use the carbon calculator and tracker correctly, and survey templates to collect data that is not already available.

## 1.7 Toolkit Benefits

As well as reducing carbon emissions to address climate change, the toolkit brings other benefits such as cost savings from reduced energy consumption, improved climate knowledge and skills, involvement in local action, improved well-being, supports Section 6 applications (The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty) and direct support from the council. Additionally, the Well-being of Future Generations Act is also supported.

The [Well-being of Future Generations Act](#) consists of 7 connected well-being goals for Wales.

They are:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of more cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
- A globally responsible Wales



The toolkit supports these goals by:

### Prosperous Wales

Reducing the council's carbon emissions enables investment in projects and ways of working that can deliver savings. Action also supports the development of a low carbon economy through projects, tree planting and land management.

### Resilient Wales

Decarbonisation promotes resilience through action such as investment in renewable energy infrastructure and increasing ecological resilience through enhancing biodiversity. By planning for climate change adaptations, the Town and Community Council and its communities will become more resilient.

### Healthier Wales

Decarbonisation promotes a shift to active travel, investment in green infrastructure, support locally sustained food sources and development of renewable energy. This promotes healthier lifestyles, improved well-being, and reduced health impacts.

### Globally responsible Wales

By reducing emissions to net zero, the Town and Community Council contributes to climate change mitigation, leading locally to help achieve Welsh Government, and international climate goals.



## 2. Climate Change

### 2.1 What is Climate Change?

Climate and weather are very closely related terms but with one very different factor: Time. Weather tends to last few hours to a few days, whereas Climate is the average of that weather over long periods of time (tens to thousands of years). This can be further elaborated as.

***Climate is what you expect, weather is what you get!***

Climate change is the shift in those average weather conditions, and for the UK we typically expect that summers will become hotter and drier, while winters become milder and wetter with extreme weather events happening more often and worsening.

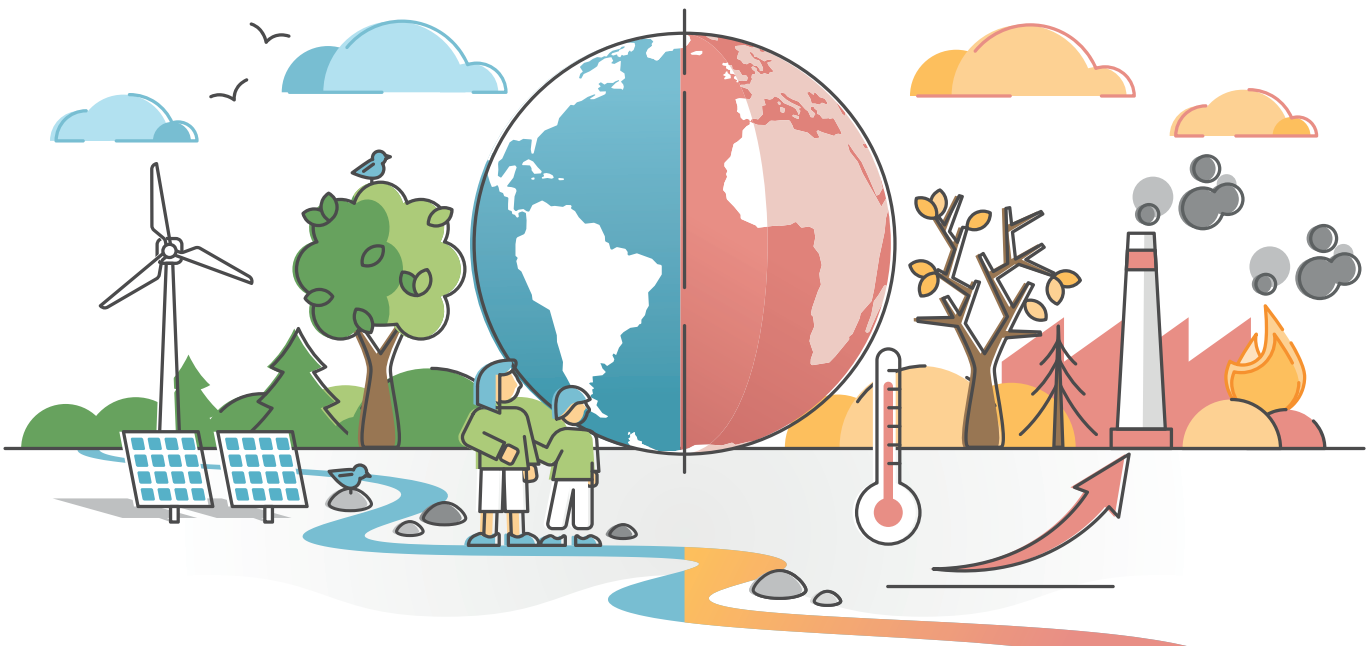
### 2.2 What causes Climate Change?

Over the last couple of centuries, industrial activity has grown significantly as has demand for energy, products, food, travel, and land. As a result, burning of fossil fuels and the removal of natural habitats and forest have caused an imbalance of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in the atmosphere, where more carbon is being emitted than is being absorbed by trees, oceans, etc.

***Levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere are almost 40% higher than what has naturally occurred over the last 650,000 years!***

Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas meaning it can absorb the sun's infrared radiation and act as a blanket warming our atmosphere. Globally on average our atmosphere has warmed by 1.1°C since the mid-1800s and is resulting in Climate Change.

Other greenhouse gases exist such as Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) which contribute to global warming, but Carbon Dioxide is the focus of climate action.



## 2.3 Impacts of Climate Change

These shifts in temperatures affect weather events around the world and can vary from region to region. This can increase the frequency and severity of extreme weather events and has impacts such as forest fires, severe droughts, flooding, food scarcity, poor health and well-being, declining biodiversity, and rising sea levels due to melting ice caps and glaciers.

In the UK it is expected that summers will become warmer and drier, with winters milder and wetter.

## 2.4 Who is impacted by Climate Change?

Ultimately everyone is being impacted by Climate Change, but certainly not equally. People on lower incomes, from minority groups and living in less developed and/or low-lying countries, are typically impacted more greatly.

And it is not just people who are feeling the effects - there are many species of wildlife and plants which are also impacted, [some of which at risk of extinction as a result.](#)



### 3. Implementing the Toolkit (Step 1)

#### 3.1 Introduction

This section will explain processes and some key considerations to make in order for the Town and Community Council to successfully use the toolkit.

#### 3.2 Toolkit Lead

The first step of implementing the Town and Community Council Climate Toolkit is appointing a Toolkit Lead. The Toolkit Lead is the member of staff who will be responsible for the use of the toolkit, calculating carbon emissions, collaborating with stakeholders, and ensure it is well-engaged with.

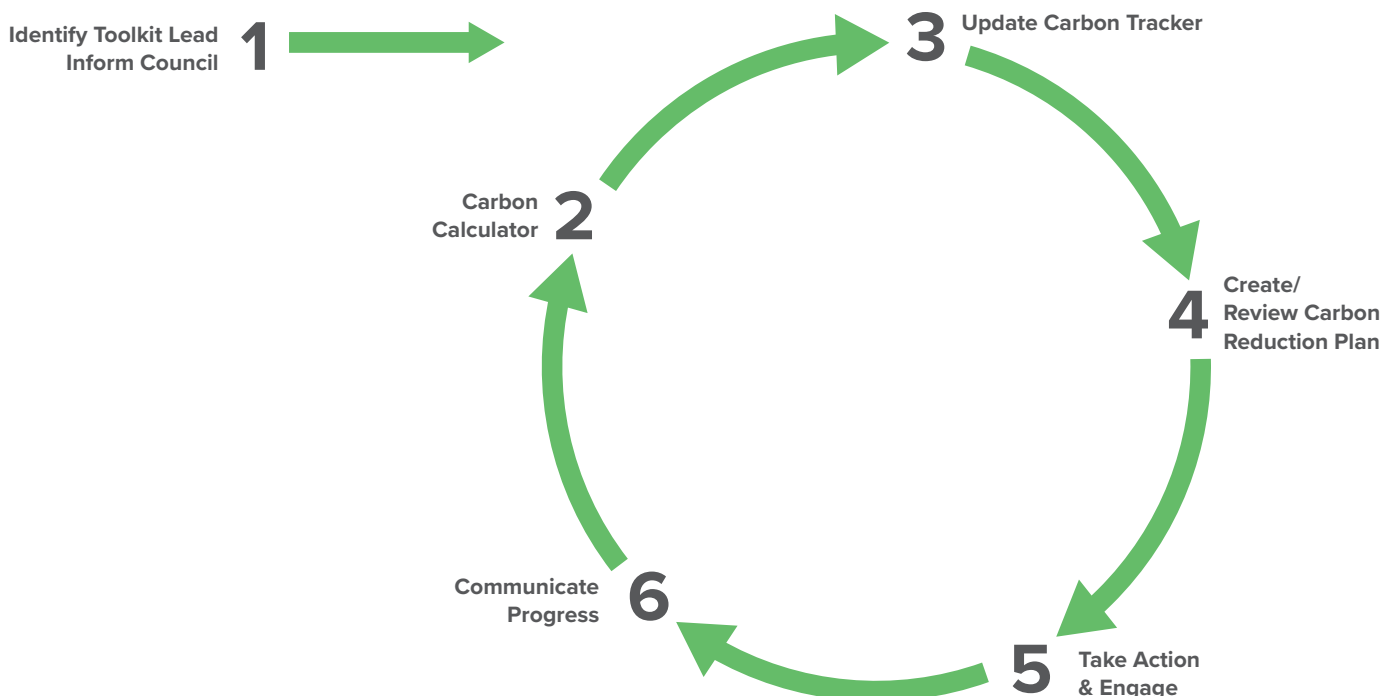
This member of staff can be agreed upon by the Council but should have the knowledge and resources in which to take this role.

Once a Lead has been identified, they should notify the Council's Climate Change Team and introduce themselves ensuring full support can be provided.

[climatechange@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@flintshire.gov.uk)

#### 3.3 The Process

The toolkit involves a simple process that should be followed and conducted annually. This is shown below starting with the nomination of a Toolkit Lead and informing the council's climate change team of the toolkit's use.



*Image 3 Process Cycle to implement toolkit.*

### 3.4 Limitations

Although unlikely, Town and Community Councils should always be aware of any new risks introduced when selecting climate actions in the carbon reduction plan. Always ensure decisions are made collectively as a council so to safeguard its main purpose.

### 3.5 Toolkit Access and Updates

The toolkit is accessible on Flintshire County Council’s Climate Change webpage.

#### Climate Toolkit

The toolkit will be reviewed and updated periodically or where issues arise. Toolkit Leads will be informed when these updates become available.

### 3.6 Key Contacts

If you need any support with using the toolkit, data collection or taking action, then please contact the teams in the table below.

Enquiry	Contact
Toolkit Issues & General Enquiries	<a href="mailto:climatechange@flintshire.gov.uk">climatechange@flintshire.gov.uk</a>
Utilities & Renewables	<a href="mailto:energy.unit@flintshire.gov.uk">energy.unit@flintshire.gov.uk</a>
Council Services Waste Data	<a href="mailto:WasteData@flintshire.gov.uk">WasteData@flintshire.gov.uk</a>
Tree Planting and Nature	<a href="mailto:biodiversity@flintshire.gov.uk">biodiversity@flintshire.gov.uk</a>
One Voice Wales	<a href="mailto:admin@onevoicewales.wales">admin@onevoicewales.wales</a>





## 4. Carbon Management

### 4.1 Introduction

The main driver of climate change is the emission of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere related to the burning of fossil fuels and other activities. Reducing those emissions where possible are key to meeting public sector Net Zero Carbon by 2030 and limiting the impacts of climate change.

This section provides information on the tools available to help measure, monitor, manage and reduce Town and Community Council carbon emissions. The carbon management tools are.

- Town and Community Council Carbon Calculator
- Carbon Tracker (with Reduction Plan and Actions)
- Carbon Reduction Plan
- Data Collection Guidance

### 4.2 When are these tools used?

Town and Community Councils should measure their carbon footprint and update the carbon reduction plan annually, measuring emissions from a set period of time (e.g. financial year April to March). This will ensure emissions are monitored routinely helping carbon reduction efforts.

### 4.3 Emission Themes

Carbon emissions are categorised into themes, aligning to Flintshire County Council's (themes) approach. These are defined as.

Theme	Emission Sources
Buildings	Building Electricity and Heating (gas, heating oil, etc.)
	Water Use and Treatment
	Waste/Recycling
Mobility & Transport	Fleet Travel
	Business Mileage
	Staff Commute
Supply Chain	Supply Chain

### 4.4 Town and Community Council Carbon Calculator (Step 2)

Step 2 is the first step to reduce carbon emissions by calculating the quantity (kg or tonnes) and understanding where they come from (emission source such as electricity use). Doing so will help identify and prioritise the right actions to reduce emissions.

The first year a carbon footprint is calculated is called the '**Baseline**' and is what all targets and future calculations are compared against. The baseline and all future calculations are set within a 12-month reporting period (typically the financial year). For the purposes of the toolkit, this has been set at 1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023.

The Town and Community Council Carbon Calculator is an excel-based tool issued by Welsh Government for Public Sector use. However, the Climate Change team has simplified the calculator ensuring it is relevant to Town and Community Councils. Each emission source can be selected in the relevant category (buildings: electricity) using built in drop-down options in the **orange cells**. Once selected, the relevant data is added into the **blue cells** (e.g., kWh of electricity consumption) and the tool calculates this into carbon emissions.

### Buildings

Ownership structure	Fuel/emission source	Category 1	Data	Units
Buildings we own and occupy	Grid electricity	Consumption based	25,000	kWh
Buildings we own and occupy	Natural gas	All natural gas	40,000	kWh

Image 4 Example of Town and Community Council Carbon Calculator layout

The emission sources included in the carbon calculator include.

Emission Source	Description
Building Energy	Electricity, Natural Gas, Heating Oil, LPG, Biomass
Building Water	Use and Treatment by Utility Companies
Waste	Types of Recycling, quantity, and end use
Fleet Travel	Distance travelled using vehicles owned by the Town and Community Council
Business Travel	Mileage claims from staff using own vehicles for work tasks
Staff Commute	The travel Town and Community Council staff do to get to work and back home
Supply Chain	All the goods and services the Town and Community Council procures

## 4.5 Renewables

The Town and Community Council Carbon Calculator also has a section in which to record the amount of energy generated by on-site renewables such as solar panels.

On-site renewables reduce carbon emissions by reducing how much electricity the Town and Community Council will be using from the UK grid supply which uses a mixture of fossil fuels and renewables (gas, nuclear, wind, etc.).

## 4.6 Land & Nature

The Flintshire County Council's own carbon reporting takes into consideration the amount of land which is owned and the amount of carbon dioxide which can be absorbed by the trees and vegetation within that land.

However, as most Town and Community Councils don't have significant areas of land this figure would be minor yet require additional investigation. Because of this, the Town and Community Council Carbon Calculator does not measure any carbon absorption from Town and Community Council land.

However, Town and Community Councils will be encouraged to identify and implement activities that promote nature as part of the Carbon Reduction Plan since the climate emergency cannot be solved without acting for nature, and vice versa.

### 4.7 Carbon Tracker (Step 3)

Step 3 is use of the carbon tracker which is an excel spreadsheet for Town and Community Councils to add their carbon emissions once calculations are completed. The tracker calculates changes in emissions and displays the results as graphs, including a carbon reduction target that provides an emissions reduction pathway. This is based on the annual emissions reduction targets for the council.

The tracker aids comparison against the baseline year and previous years, showing where progress is being made and helps to identify and prioritise future actions.

Emissions by Source (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)							
	Baseline	2023/24	% Change	2024/25	% Change	2025/26	% Change
Buildings			#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!
Waste			#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!
Fleet & Equipment			#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!
Business Travel			#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!
Staff Commute			#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!
Supply Chain			#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!
<b>Total GHG Emissions</b>	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	#DIV/0!	0	#DIV/0!

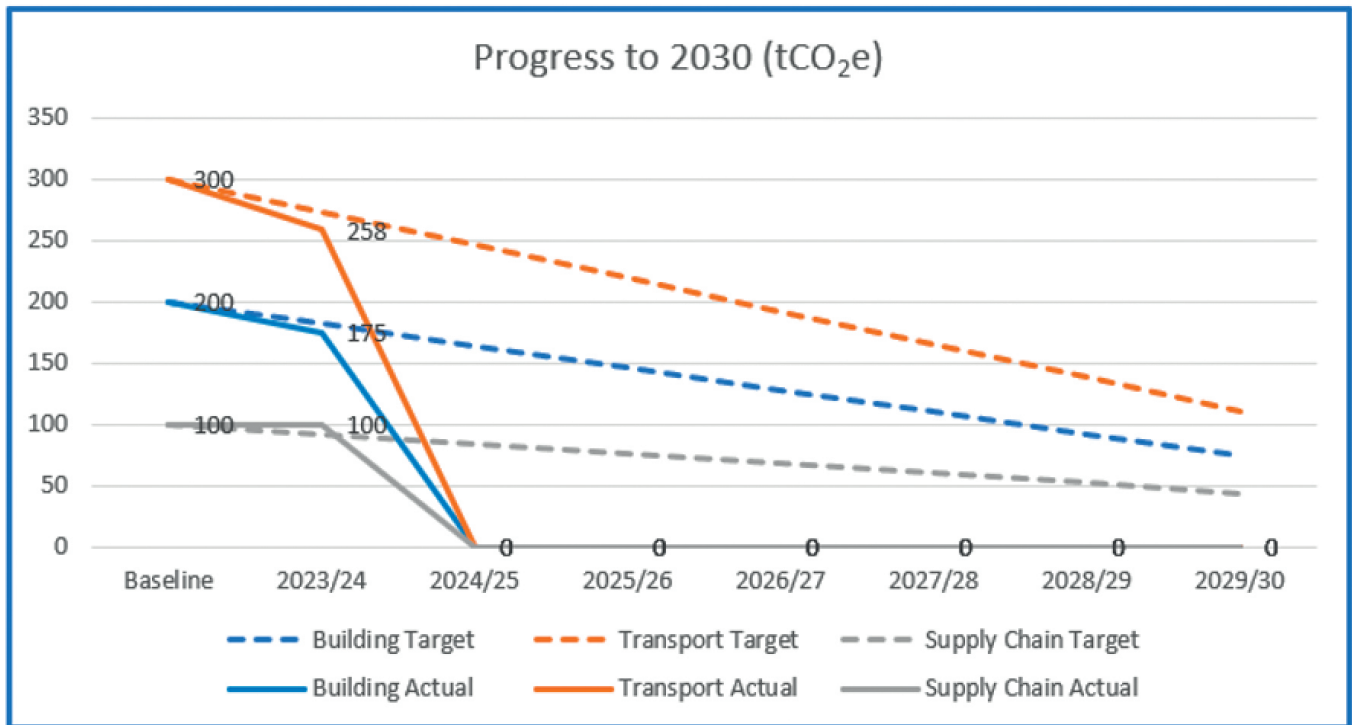


Image 5 Carbon Tracker and example of reduction pathway based on baseline data.

## 4.8 Carbon Reduction Plan (Step 4)

When a Town and Community Council calculates its first carbon footprint (baseline year) and understands the sources of emissions and quantities, the Carbon Reduction Plan can then be written, this is Step 4 of the process.

The Carbon Reduction Plan reports on the Town and Community Councils carbon emissions, describing what they are, how and why they are changing from year to year and the various actions the Town and Community Council will adopt to reduce them. This tool is presented as a template in two formats; built within the Carbon Tracker in Excel (with automatically updated graphs) or a Word document. Please only use one format.

The plan should be formally agreed by the Town and Community Council, updated after each carbon footprint calculation has been completed, and actions only changed where it is found they are no longer viable, or improved actions become available. The Town and Community Council can track when actions are completed in the Action Plan table.

## 4.9 Climate Actions

Within the Carbon Tracker is a list of climate actions that a Town and Community Council could adopt in their Carbon Reduction Plan, and covers all five themes of Buildings, Mobility & Transport, Procurement, Land and Behaviour.

Town and Community Councils should select a number (e.g., 10) of impactful and relevant climate actions it wishes to complete in the years to come (e.g., up to 2030). Town and Community Councils are only expected to complete a few actions per year ensuring they are manageable and implemented well.

Town and Community Councils are welcome to add further relevant actions that are not suggested in the toolkit.

## 4.10 Data Collection

Collecting quality and complete data is typically the more difficult part of bringing together a carbon footprint.

Firstly, a Town and Community Council must agree on the reporting period they wish to collect data and determine a carbon footprint baseline for. The Carbon Tracker has set this to the financial year (1st April to 31st March) aligning to Flintshire County Council's own reporting period. However, Town and Community Councils can decide on the reporting period they wish to use and adjust the tracker accordingly.

The document 'Data Collection and Input Guidance' provides all the key information required for a Town and Community Council to source the correct data for the carbon calculator and input that data following a simple step-by-step guide. It is essentially a summarised version of Welsh Government's [Public Sector Net Zero Reporting Guide](#). Additionally, this document provides the key contacts for data, and survey and audit templates to collect information on staff commute and waste.



## 5. Engagement (Step 5)

### 5.1 Introduction

This section highlights where your stakeholders can be engaged to develop climate understanding and action. Town and Community Councils vary in size, structure, and resource, so these are general suggestions.

### 5.2 Who to Engage with and how?

#### 5.2.1 Councillors and Staff

To demonstrate leadership at a local level, Town and Community Councils should consider how internal processes and engagement can integrate climate change so the topic becomes normalised in discussion and decision making.

- Add Climate Change in to existing or new policies where the topic would be relevant (E.g., Biodiversity).
- Provide a platform where climate change and similar topics can be discussed in formal internal meetings (e.g., fixed agenda items for environment).
- Ensure considerations are made for the environment and climate in the decision-making process (E.g., carbon emissions, waste, local procurement, etc.).
- Add a climate or environmental message in e-mail signatures (e.g., consider the environment before printing, etc.)
- Involve other building users when investigating and implementing the climate toolkit.

#### 5.2.2 Associated Volunteer Groups

Town and Community Councils have many stakeholders who they can engage with in the community, one being volunteer groups. These groups may vary in purpose but it's still possible to engage them all. This can be done through different methods such as.

- Social Media
- Emails
- Engagement Events
- Volunteering Sessions & Work Plans
- Surveys

These methods can increase climate action between local volunteer groups and Town and Community Councils, while promoting the work done to inspire other local volunteer groups and stakeholders.

### 5.2.3 Local Business

Climate change can be a difficult topic for many small businesses to approach, understand and do something about. By taking action where they can, businesses could see operating costs reduce, become more appealing to prospective customers, and help generate a wider climate conversation.

As a local leader, Town and Community Councils are in a unique position to promote climate action to businesses via.

- Local business communications
- Meetings
- Business forums
- Local markets
- Business-focussed events (e.g., music, craft or food and drink festivals)

Businesses should also be made aware of resources that are available to them such as the links below and climate funding.

[Business Wales Reducing Energy Use](#)

[SME Climate Hub](#)

### 5.2.4 Members of the Public

Town and Community Councils have close relationships with the public through serving the local area and being responsible for many local matters. It is important that climate change is addressed at this local level to help inform, engage, and initiate action by the public which can help to reduce bills and increase wellbeing.

There are many ways to engage with the public on climate change using formal and non-formal engagement, examples of these are.

- Public Events
- Social Media
- Newsletters (E.g., email)
- Town and Community Council Websites
- Surveys
- Coffee Morning
- Town Hall Events and Consultations

To engage with the public on climate change, it is key to make discussion relevant by reflecting on local climate impacts (e.g., flooding) which may have affected them or people they may know. By connecting a climate issue to the resident, it can help to inspire and enact action.

### 5.2.5 Other Town and Community Councils

As Town and Community Councils vary in size and resource, some may have greater or fewer opportunities to integrate climate actions into their operations. Even time can be extremely limited, so where possible, Towns and Community Councils are encouraged to engage with one another helping to build understanding, grow ideas and learn how to take effective climate action with the resources available.

Consider what platforms are already available to begin opening discussions. Does your council and staff meet regularly with neighbouring councils or are there annual events where climate change could be a discussion topic?

### 5.3 One Voice Wales and Friends of the Earth Cymru

One Voice Wales and Friends of the Earth Cymru have developed a climate change and nature action guide for Town and Community Councils in Wales, giving councils information and practical ideas on what they can do to act. The document “[Tackling Climate Chaos - A guide for town and community councils](#)” covers such topics as summarised below, as well as case studies where other councils across Wales have taken action.

- Energy
- Finance
- Food
- Nature
- Transport
- Water
- Zero Waste

One Voice Wales can be contacted for further information support.



## 6. Communication (Step 6)

### 6.1 Introduction

It's well known that communication is key, and it is no different for Climate Change. Whether it is to provide news, promote behaviour change or provide knowledge, Town and Community Councils are encouraged to inform stakeholders on climate action and ultimately celebrate success.

Following Step 6 will encourage support, insight and ultimately promote further action.

### 6.2 Communication in Town and Community Councils

Town and Community Councils will each have their own means of communicating news to their stakeholders and it's important that they are all considered when the Town and Community Council has any news on its climate action, reports or decision making.

Continue using your forms of communication that work for your Town and Community Council but do consider and agree what should be communicated to your stakeholders and when.

### 6.3 Communication to Flintshire County Council

The Climate Change team are always available to provide Town and Community Councils with support, so please don't hesitate to make contact.

Town and Community Councils are asked to inform the Climate Change team when they adopt the Town and Community Council Climate Toolkit, so it is possible to understand which councils are actively working to reduce emissions.

Additionally, any feedback to improve the toolkit will always be helpful in ensuring it can continuously be developed.

Please contact the team directly at [climatechange@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@flintshire.gov.uk)





## 7. Learning and Development

### 7.1 Toolkit Workshops

To support Town and Community Councils and Toolkit Leads in using this toolkit, the climate change team will offer workshop sessions at key times, such as at launch or when there have been significant updates. Workshops will focus on further explaining the role of the toolkit and developing skills to use tools such as the Town and Community Council Carbon Calculator.

Additionally, the climate change team can accommodate requests from individual Town and Community Councils if they require further assistance and can be done either remotely or on site.

### 7.2 Climate Change Training

Flintshire's Climate Change team can deliver bespoke climate essentials training for Town and Community Council Members. Please contact [climatechange@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@flintshire.gov.uk) for more information.

### 7.3 Carbon Literacy Training

Carbon literacy is “an awareness of the carbon dioxide costs and impacts of everyday activities, and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, on an individual, community and organisational basis”.

Home - [The Carbon Literacy Project](#)

Training is recommended for decision makers at the Town and Community Council, and some of Flintshire's members are now Carbon Literate. This training is available from external providers and also delivered by the climate change team for Flintshire County Council staff. Contact the Council's Climate Change team for more information.

### 7.4 Networking

As additional support for Town and Community Councils using this toolkit, Flintshire County Council's Climate team will look to facilitate networking events where Toolkit Leads can engage with one another to share experiences and progress and discuss ways in which the toolkit can be more beneficial.

The Climate Change team will notify all Toolkit Leads of networking events when they are arranged and will request Town and Community Councils to suggest agenda items for discussion.



## 8. Funding & Support

### 8.1 Introduction

In this section are some sources of funding for building and nature projects. Click on the images and specific links to visit their website and funding pages.

### 8.2 Building Improvements

For any building-related projects, please contact [energy.unit@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:energy.unit@flintshire.gov.uk) for advice and support.



Salix is wholly owned by the Government and operates as a Non-Departmental Public Body, under the sponsorship of the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero.

- **[The Wales Funding Programme](#)**: Allows public sector bodies to apply for interest-free loans for up to one hundred percent of the costs of energy-saving or renewable energy projects.
- **[The Salix Recycling Fund](#)**: This is a ring-fenced fund with capital provided by Salix and matched by the partner organisation, to be spent on energy-saving projects with paybacks up to eight years for Welsh clients.



The **[Low Carbon Heat Grant](#)**, provided by Welsh Government is available to all local authorities with projects that are ready for implementation. It is intended for capital works associated with retrofitting low carbon heat solutions in non-domestic, local authority-owned buildings.

### 8.3 Nature and Trees

Flintshire County Council's Biodiversity Team are keen to support the biodiversity improvement of Town and Community Council grounds, the team can provide advice on biodiversity enhancement and funding opportunities for environmental projects.

[biodiversity@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:biodiversity@flintshire.gov.uk)



Keep Wales Tidy are a charity working across Wales's communities to protect our environment for now and for the future. Funding

- **[Local Places for Nature](#)**: Transform an unloved area into a beautiful garden where nature can thrive by accessing free garden packages to schools as well as community groups and other community-based organisations.

## 9. Appendices

### 9.1 Appendix 1 - Glossary

<b>Baseline Year:</b>	The emissions that occurred in the period of 1st April 2018 - 31st March 2019 are what targets are based on and all future carbon emission calculations compared to.
<b>Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e):</b>	The warming effects of greenhouse gases are compared against the warming effect of carbon dioxide, providing a standardised unit of measurement. For example, methane is approximately 28 times more warming than carbon dioxide, meaning 1kg is equivalent to 28kg of CO <sub>2</sub> , or 28 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e.
<b>Carbon Footprint:</b>	Measurement of carbon emissions a person, organisation or place emits, thus their contribution to global warming. This multiplies data from energy consumption, travel, waste, and procurement by a relevant emission factor to give a final figure.
<b>Climate Change:</b>	Refers to a large-scale, long-term shift in the planet's weather patterns and average temperatures. Humans have increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, which causes increased global temperatures.
<b>Decarbonisation:</b>	Reducing the carbon intensity and carbon emissions of an activity or service or wider organization.
<b>Direct Emissions:</b>	Emissions of carbon emissions into the atmosphere from sources that are owned or controlled by an organization such as burning natural gas in boilers, burning petrol in owned company vehicles etc.
<b>Emission Factor (EF):</b>	The quantity of carbon emissions related to a unit of activity or consumption, typically given in kg or tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> e. For example, burning 1 kWh of natural gas produces approximately 0.18254 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e.
<b>Global Warming:</b>	The earth Natural emissions have typically been in balance for 100,000s years, however, human-caused emissions have increased and shifted this balance so much so that the earth has warmed by 1.1°C since the late 1800s and is currently projected to reach 2.4°C by 2100.
<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions:</b>	Emissions of carbon dioxide, methane etc from human and natural activities and sources. Wider greenhouse gas emissions are collectively calculated into a 'carbon dioxide equivalent' displayed as CO <sub>2</sub> e.
<b>Indirect Emissions:</b>	Emissions of carbon emissions that are a consequence of the activities of the organization but occur at sources owned/controlled by another organization.
<b>Net Zero Carbon:</b>	An organisation reduces carbon emissions, and any that remain are balanced by carbon dioxide removals such as tree planting.
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	A defined period of time in which carbon emissions are emitted and calculated (e.g. Flintshire County Council use 1st April to 31st March).
<b>Themes:</b>	The Council sorts its own emissions into themes based on the emission source; <b>Buildings</b> (Gas, Electricity, Water and Waste); <b>Transport</b> (Fleet Vehicles, Business Mileage and Staff Commute); and <b>Procurement</b> (purchase of goods and services in the supply chain).

