

An introduction to:

Sustainability and Climate Change

...to support development of Carbon

Road Maps

for

Deal Town & Walmer Parish Councils

February 2020

(SUMMARY VERSION AUGUST 2020)



Why is a Carbon Road Map Necessary?

Paris Agreement 2015

- The World's first comprehensive climate agreement:
- Hold temperature increase to **below 2 °C**
- Increase ability to:
 - **adapt to adverse impacts**
 - **foster climate resilience**
 - **deliver development with low GHG emissions**
 - **...in a manner that does not threaten food production**
- **Finance** flows consistent with climate-resilient development pathway
- Reach **global peaking** of GHG emissions as soon as possible



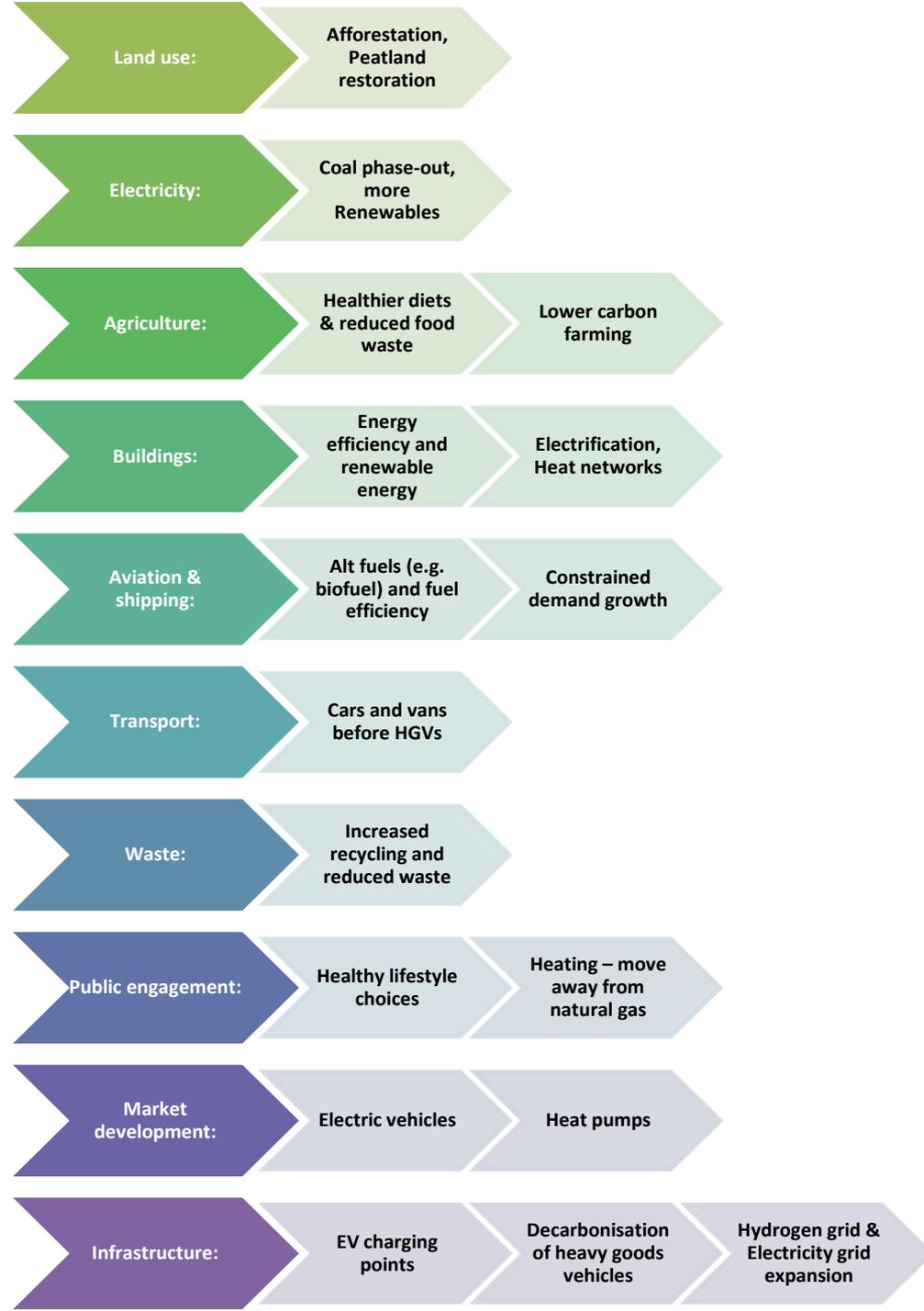
Net Zero 2050

- **Net Zero Emissions Law:**

- First major economy to do so
- GHG emissions to net zero by 2050
- UK one of the largest historical contributors to climate change
- Limits warming to 1.5°C
- Meets Paris Agreement & Climate Change Act

- **Major changes are required**

- Highest possible ambition
- Technologies & approaches needed are understood
- New policies are required
- 1.2% of annual GDP in 2050



Net Zero 2050: Relevance to Deal & Walmer Council

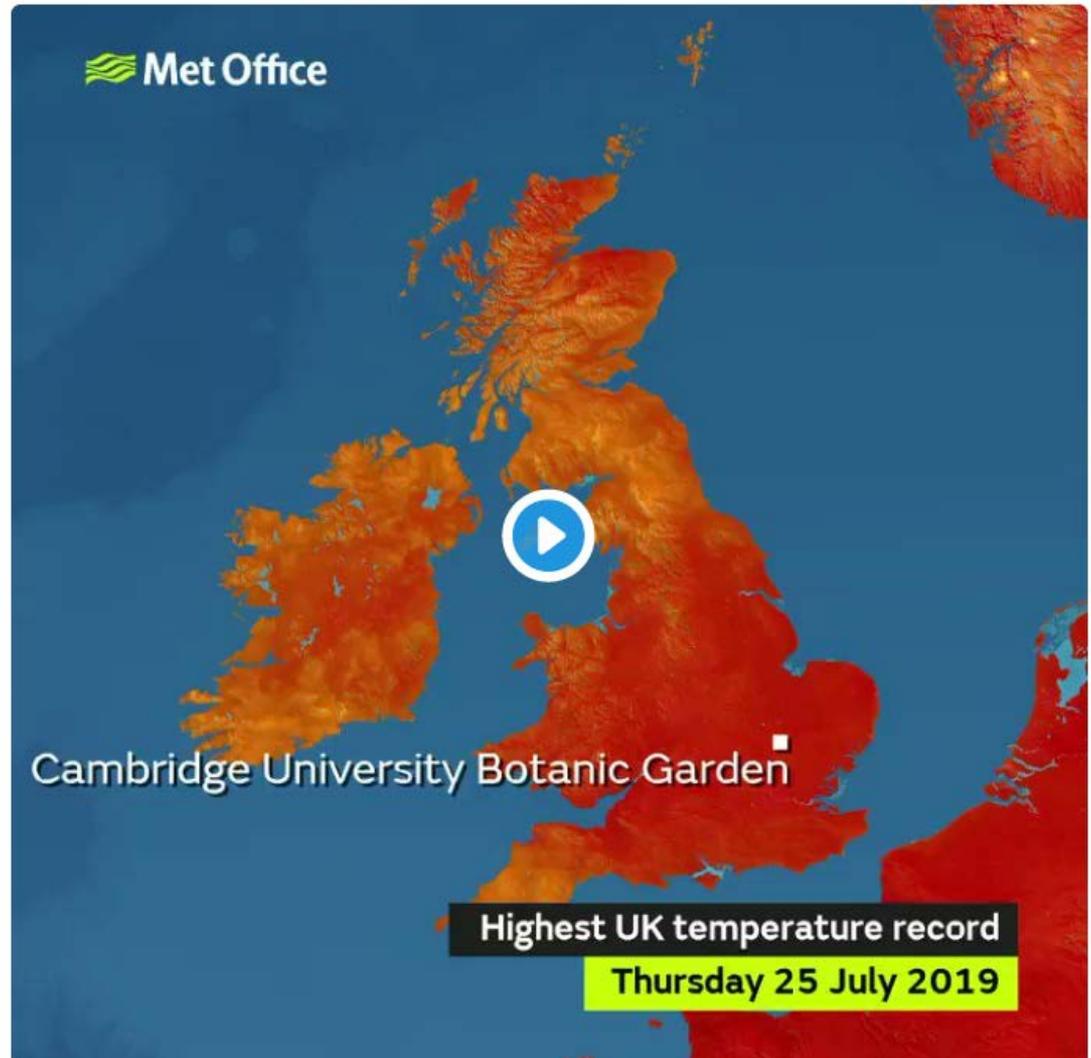
- **Clear leadership needed:**
 - Applies to every level of government
 - Delivery in partnership with businesses and communities
- **Foundations are in place:**
 - Policy development has begun
- **Deliver with greater urgency:**
 - Current plans insufficiently ambitious
 - Others proceeding too slowly
 - Confront challenges

Key message:
every action counts



Extreme Weather

- **Climate:**
 - 2019
 - Hottest June on record for Europe
 - French heatwave:
 - 45.9°C (+1.5 above previous record)
 - UK heatwave:
 - 38.7°C (+0.2°C above previous)
- **Heatwave intensity:**
 - At least 5x more likely
 - Longer wildfire season
 - Excess Summer mortality



Tipping points

TIPPING POINTS

Nine climate “tipping points” where rising global temperatures could push parts of the Earth system into irreversible change



Climate Change

- **Global Warming:**
 - Long-term rise in average temperature of the Earth's climate system
 - Extremely likely that human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century
- **Not all climate change is human induced**
 - But accepted that human activity exacerbated climate change
 - Human induced climate change
- **Climate Change:**
 - Changes in Earth's climate system
 - Human activity adds to the Earth's energy budget

- Atmospheric CO₂:
 - 280 ppm in 1750
 - 413 ppm in 2020
- Carbon Cycle has sequestered only around half of this increase
- At current emission rates:
 - Temperatures increase 2 °C 2036
 - The upper limit to avoid "dangerous" levels

Attitudes towards Climate Change

- Changing rapidly
- IPSOS / MORI Aug 2019:
 - 85% now concerned about climate change
 - Majority (52%) very concerned
 - Majority think UK should achieve net zero more quickly than by 2050
 - Concern particularly high among the middle classes
 - 64% Labour and 59% Liberal Democrat supporters very concerned (Vs 42% of Conservative supporters)

“In 2005/6 we saw a peak in concern about the environment, reflecting the prominence of media reporting around, for example, Al Gore’s Inconvenient Truth, the Kyoto Protocol coming into effect and the Stern Report.

But climate fatigue appeared to set in, particularly in the aftermath of the economic crash when it struggled to compete for public consciousness. Recently though concern has been creeping up again, and after events such as Extinction Rebellion, the school strikes for climate, and the climate emergencies being declared by Local Authorities this latest poll shows the highest levels of public concern for climate change that Ipsos MORI has recorded in the last 15 years.

The number of people saying they feel “very” concerned is a sign that public opinion is rebuilding in strength, and the record summer temperatures across the UK might also be contributing to an increasing sense among the public that our country is already feeling the effects of climate change.”

The Rise of Climate Justice

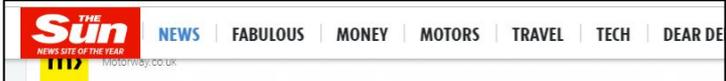
- Global warming framed as an ethical and political issue
 - Rather than one that is purely environmental or physical in nature
- Issues include equality, human rights, collective rights, historical responsibilities
 - ***A fundamental proposition of climate justice is that those who are least responsible for climate change suffer its gravest consequences***
- Greta Thunberg
 - School Climate Protests - 4m in 163 countries
- Activism
- Civil Disobedience
- Legal action

Greta Thunberg's defiance upsets the patriarchy - and it's wonderful

Suzanne Moore



The 16-year-old climate-emergency activist refuses to kowtow to old men, and it has left them squirming



'SHE'S A CYBORG' Greta Thunberg, 16, subjected to outrageous claims she's 'not sexy enough' by French left wing 'intellectuals'

Debbie White

30 Sep 2019, 12:43 | Updated: 30 Sep 2019, 14:02



34 COMMENTS

TEEN campaigner Greta Thunberg has been verbally attacked by elderly French left-wing intellectuals who say she's "not sexy enough".

Arrogant Bernard Pivot, 84, dismissed the 16-year-old climate activist as a "furious Swede" while another Michel Onfray compared her to a "silicon doll".

How is this relevant to Deal and Walmer?

How is this relevant to a Town Council?

There are 9,000 parish and town councils in England:

- >16m people live in communities served by local councils
- 25% of the population
- 80,000 councillors serve on these councils
- £1bn invested in these communities every year

• Activities fall into three main categories:

- Representing the local community
- Delivering services to meet local needs
- Improving the quality of life and community wellbeing

How is this relevant to a Town Council?

Recent shifts in attitudes now means that:

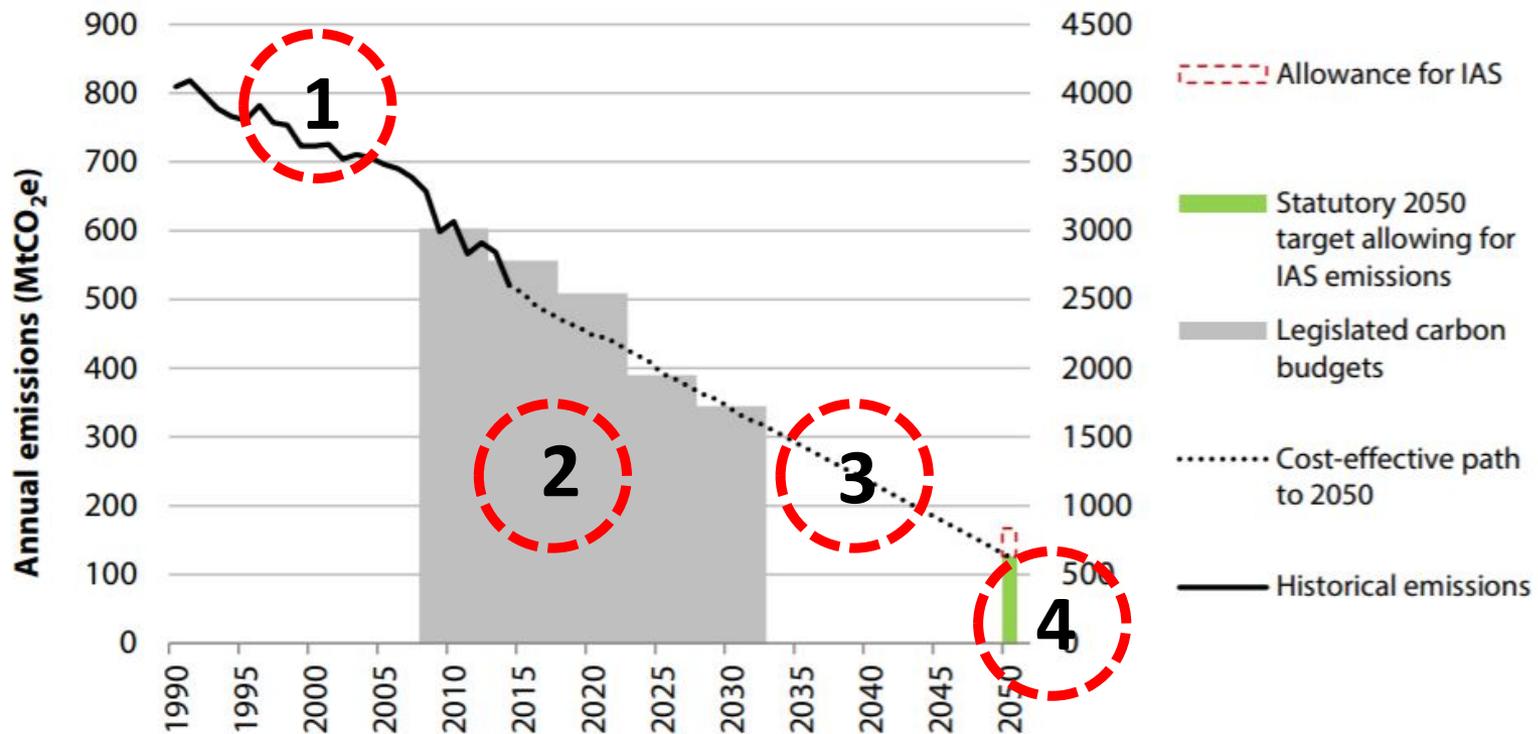
- Communities are more aware of sustainability than ever before**
- Individuals appear prepared to make more sacrifices**
- These sacrifices may increase demand for local services**
- Town Councils should prepare and respond accordingly**

Carbon Road Map

Example Carbon Road Map

(based on UK GHG Reduction Pathway 1990-2050)

1. Measure emissions
2. Factor-in positive impact of *existing* policies
3. Determine what new policies and initiatives are needed
4. Work out how to any gap

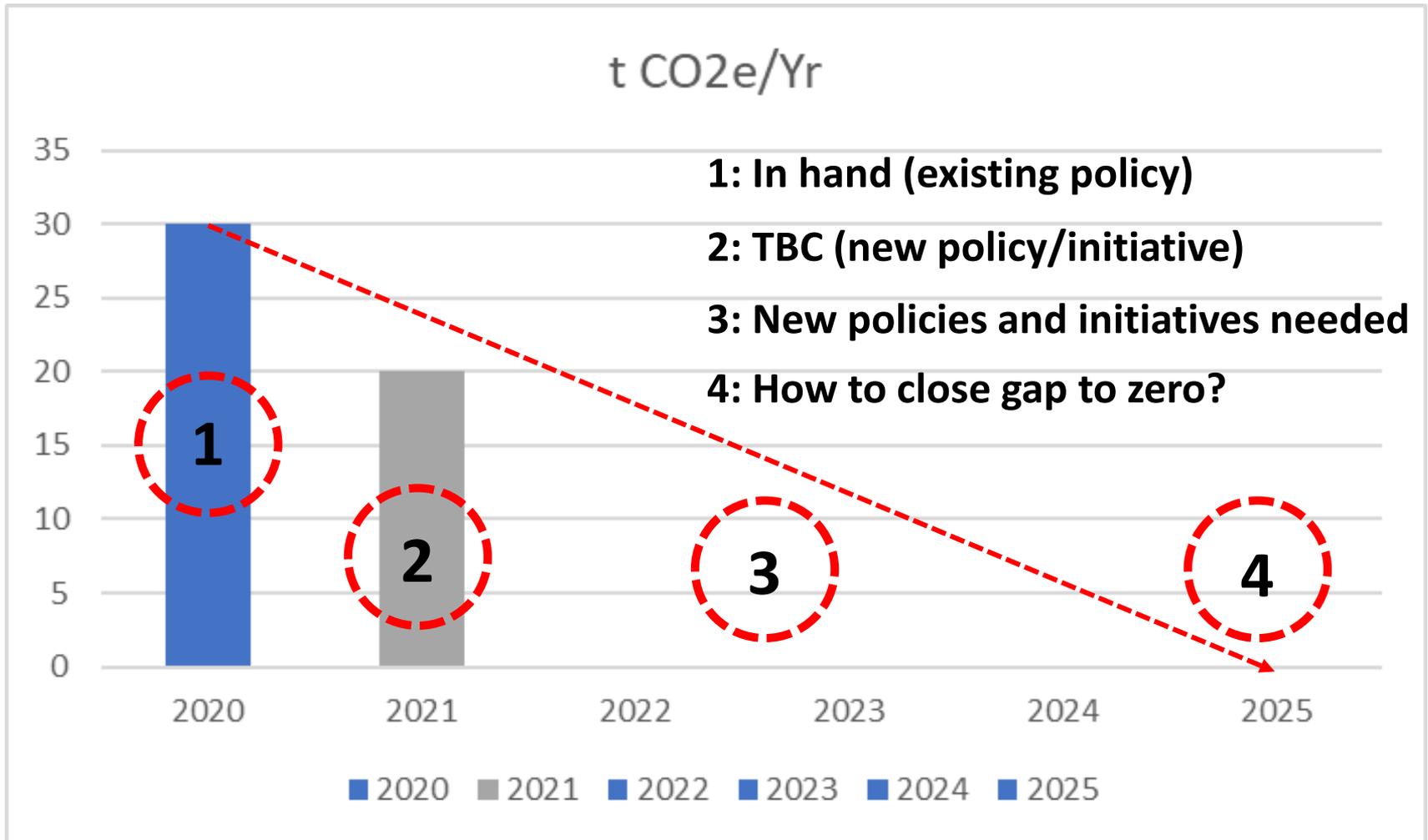


Example Carbon Road Map: Deal & Walmer

	UK	Deal & Walmer
Agreed to actively participate in GHG reduction?	Kyoto Protocol	Climate Emergency Declaration
Measure emissions	GHG inventory	Carbon footprint exercise TBC
Factor-in impact of existing policies	Wind turbines, solar farms, land use change, energy efficiency, EVs, transport fuels	TBC
Create new policies to drive GHG to net zero	WIP	TBC
Dealing with the 'net'	TBC (global projects, overseas tree planting)	TBC

Example Carbon Road Map: Deal & Walmer

- Carbon reduction trajectory:



Carbon Road Map: Deal & Walmer

- **Important to note:**
 - Deal and Walmer councils are small organisations
 - ***Direct carbon footprints not likely to be significant***
 - Ambitions around *indirect (scope 3)* emissions need to be considered carefully:
 - Services
 - Supply-chain
 - Events
 - Tourism
 - All activities in Deal and Walmer that are caused or initiated by the councils
 - ***OK to focus on Scope 1 and 2 for 2020-2025***
 - Single actions unlikely to make much of a difference
 - A combination of actions required

Carbon Road Map

- **Process employed by Deal & Walmer must be defensible:**

- Need to follow accepted methodology
- Input data, calculations and results should be documented
- Policies should be created
- Activities delivered
- Impact of activities needs to be monitored
- Results need to be documented



- **What is the 'accepted methodology'?**

- GHG Protocol – most widely used accounting tool
- GHG emissions categorised into three groups or 'scopes':
 - Scope 1: **Direct** emissions from owned or controlled sources.
 - Scope 2: **Indirect** emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, heating and cooling.
 - Scope 3: **All other indirect** emissions that occur in a company's value chain.

Carbon Road Map

- **The road map is an multi-annual action plan:**
 - Agreed policies, tasks and initiatives
 - With proven CO₂e reduction impacts
- The allocated budget enables the plan to be implemented
- The committee must be ready to consider options and agreed actions
- 5-years is probably just about sufficient assuming real progress is made:
 - Don't rely on offsetting alone
 - But accept that some offsetting may be required

What are Deal & Walmer Town Councils Already Doing?

Current Status

- Climate Change Emergency declared:
 - Immediate objective: Carbon neutral by 2025
 - Committees have been created
 - Champions (or dedicated project officers) are in place
 - Annual budgets created
- Both Councils have committed to a carbon footprint exercise:
 - Baseline by Oct 2019
 - Action plan by Mar 2020
 - Scope TBC

Carbon Road Map: Budgets

	Deal	Walmer
Annual budget	£1,000	£750
Total value of cash and short term investments	£516,953	£307,451
Precept + other receipts	£459,891	£260,791
% total budget for CE	0.19%	0.24%
Suggested budget @ 1% of gross income	£4,599	£2,608
Suggested budget @ 2% of gross income	£9,198	£5,216
Suggested budget range	£4,600 to £9,200	£2,600 to £5,200

- Initial thoughts:
 - Annual budgets @ c. 0.2% of total income are too low
 - 1-2% of gross income is recommended
 - ***N.b. Deal TC has £50k project budget available***
- UK budget:
 - 2% of GDP ~ £50Bn/year (for 30 years)
 - For comparison – UK spend on diesel/petrol each year is ~ £31Bn

Activity	Deal	Walmer
Declared Climate Emergency	Y	Y
Established Committee / dedicated staff	Y	Y
Agreed annual budget	Y	Y
Committed to undertake carbon audit	Y	Y
Committed to deliver carbon road map	Y	Y
Switch to 100% renewable energy	~ under review	Not possible
Reduce paper use via electronic devices	Underway	Not implemented
Office Paper Usage – all paper now recycled	Y	?
Plastic Free Deal – sign up	Y	?
Single use plastic review	Y	?
Meat-free catering at Council events	Y	?
Zero waste events	Y	?
Sustainable Tourism – preparing new cycling & walking map	Y	Y
Sustainable Tourism – Cycle Friendly Accreditation	Y	Y
Sustainable Tourism – New Leisure Routes Mapped	Y	Y
Sustainable Tourism – ebike hire scheme	Y	Y
Sustainable Tourism – Environment grants aimed at accommodation providers	Y	N
Sustainable Tourism / Transport – Online Cycling Resource	Y	-
Sustainable Tourism / Transport – NCN Route 1 Signage audit (Sandwich – Dover)	Y	Y
Sustainable Transport - Increase Cycle Parking	Y	Y
Sustainable Transport – Free Cycle Maintenance Training Courses	Y	Y
Sustainable Transport – NCN Route 1 resurfacing	To be Completed before April 2020	To be Completed before April 2020
Sustainable Transport – Quietways Mapped	Y	Y
Sustainable Transport – Free Bike Marking	Y	Y
Sustainable Transport – Mayor’s Hybrid Car	Y	N
Sustainable Transport / Air Pollution – Sustrans Big Pedal promoter 2020	Y	Y
Sustainable Transport / Air Pollution – Pavement Mobility Review	Y	?
Sustainable Transport / Air Pollution - Deal station accessibility improvements	Y	
Cycle Friendly Deal Project	Adrian Oliver appointed	Walmer will adopt similar to DTC
Cycle storage at station		Stakeholders engaged
Vehicle idling outside schools	Y	School initiative to be started
Tree planting	Y	Options being explored
Recycling bins	Y	1 so far (more to be installed)
Ethical banking	Under consideration	Under consideration
Ethical Investment Review	Y	?
Electric buses		S106 TBC / DDC & KCC engaged
EV charge points (via DDC)		Working with DDC & KCC
Tree planting	2 trees - more committed (+ Aldi site)	6 trees / precept levy considered

Existing Activities

- Initial thoughts:
 - Wide ranging
 - Sensible and logical
 - Excellent early progress
 - Focus on sustainable tourism and transport
- Impacts:
 - How are impacts be quantified?
 - Can impacts be quantified?
 - How sustainable can tourism become?
 - Probably not enough focus on Scope 1 and 2 emissions (more on this later)
- Immediate opportunities:
 - Switch to renewable energy supplier
 - What is the annual business mileage and how can this be cut?
 - Are there enough EV charge points in progress?

Ambitions

- Overall joint ambitions:
 - Commits to becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2025
 - Ringfenced budgets to achieve this
 - Carbon audit / roadmap by Mar 2020
 - Environmental impact assessments in officer reports
 - Assist other organisations in Parish to reduce their direct and indirect CO₂
- Additional ambitions – Deal:
 - Air pollution publicity campaign
 - Plastic free audit and recommendations
 - Promote efficient use of water resources

Ambitions

- Deal Environmental Policy goes further:
 - Promote environmental awareness
 - Reduce consumption of energy and water across all activities
 - Minimise impact of council travel by developing sustainable travel solutions
 - Reduce all types of pollution associated with council activities
 - Promotion of home energy efficiency
 - Develop safe walking and cycling routes
 - Work with suppliers to reduce social and environmental impact of goods and services
 - Use products and materials efficiently
 - Specify goods have a minimal environmental impact
 - Minimise production of waste
 - Support low carbon technologies
 - Ensure development is sustainable
 - Protect, conserve and enhance natural environment and biodiversity

What else could be considered?

- Existing initiatives may not be sufficient to reach zero carbon by 2025
- New ideas may need to be considered:
 - Buildings:
 - Tariff switch to 100% green energy (elec and gas)
 - Renewable energy generation
 - Energy efficiency
 - Building use:
 - Plant-based status catering
 - Systems/Equipment efficiency
 - Transport policy:
 - Parking
 - Modal shift / sharing
 - Travel for meetings / events
 - Working:
 - Environmental / sustainability impact assessments for all decisions

Sense Check

- Are the right type of actions being considered?
 - Overall **YES...BUT**
 - Many options to consider - not all will be appropriate (or affordable)
 - 3 strategic actions:
 - Political will **YES**
 - Plans in line with a carbon reduction pathway **UNDERWAY SOON**
 - Raising necessary funds **YES (BUT COULD BE HIGHER)**



**33 actions local authorities can
take on climate change**

Thank you

Matthew Morris

www.stemsustainability.co.uk

matmomorris@hotmail.com

07881 628 942

