

Torrige District Council Carbon, Environment & Biodiversity Plan

Third Annual Review, July 2024

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Progress with delivery of the Council's actions to meet its net zero by 2030 target have been assessed as green, amber or red. This is indicated by the coloured stripe at the right hand side of the table.

Progress with delivery of the Council's action to meet the UK and Devon's net zero by 2050 target can be found at the [Devon Climate Emergency](#) website.

Energy			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
<p>1.0 We will carry out a review of our energy consumption across our estate, develop an options appraisal plan for our sites, and where necessary put in place carbon targets and seek funding to implement improvements. This will include options for retrofit, smart energy controls and energy generation and storage opportunities. We will assess whether the council could generate all its energy needs from its own resources.</p> <p><i>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: B7, B16, E1.2</i></p>	<p>Improvements to our estate will be carried out in line with our Asset Management Strategy 2023-2028. Condition surveys for our estate have been completed and along with other work eg energy efficiency surveys these will form a costed plan for planned preventative maintenance (PPM).</p> <p>We have heat decarbonisation plans for 10 of our biggest energy users. We have submitted a bid for Low Carbon Skills Funding to develop detailed designs for 3 of these, with a view to bidding for Public Sector Decarbonisation Funding in 2025.</p>	<p>Costed PPM by 25/26.</p> <p>Progress of additional actions dependent on subsequent funding.</p>	
<p>1.1 We will review our energy tariff and investigate the feasibility of moving to a renewable energy supplier for all our energy needs, once energy efficiency and renewable energy measures are complete.</p> <p><i>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: E5</i></p>	<p>TDC procures its energy supplier in conjunction with the other Devon Districts/ County to secure collective value for money. The current contract expires September 2024. Councillors agreed on 19/6/23 to renew this contract with our current supplier. The renewable energy tariff offered is provided by Npower, a subsidiary of E.ON. E.ON currently own two RE generation sites in the UK and the rest of their green tariff is made up of REGOs purchased separately to RE generation. Investment in this tariff does not result in additional RE generation and so will not reduce carbon emissions. We will re-consider investing in RE if a true green tariff becomes available.</p> <p>Note: TDC reports its carbon footprint in line with the UN Greenhouse Gas Protocol and aligns with the Science-based targets initiative. As such the purchase of renewable electricity may not reduce our Scope 2 emissions to zero.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>	

Energy			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
1.2 Replaced with action 1.3 below			
1.3 We will work with tenants to deliver measures that improve energy efficiency or increase renewable energy generation, where funding allows.	We have a heat decarbonisation plan for our three leisure sites. We have secured £61k through the Swimming Pool Support Fund to install solar panels at Holsworthy, and we have bid for an additional £1.17M through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme for further decarbonisation works at this site.	Solar panels installed 2025. Progress of additional actions dependent on subsequent funding.	
<i>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: E1.2</i>			
1.4 Develop a Local Area Energy Plan for Devon.	The transition to net zero will use significant amounts of renewable electricity in Devon. A Local Area Energy Plan will set out how this can be delivered. A planning group was established in June 2023 and agreed a methodology (the Energy Systems Catapult guide). We have collected data to model the existing energy system in Devon and are working with the South West Net Zero Hub to address any gaps.	Dates TBC	
<i>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: E1</i>			

Transport			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
<p>2.0 We will continually improve the efficiency of our vehicles across our fleet ensuring that our vehicle purchases meet the highest EURO engine emissions standards, and that these are maintained to a high standard. We will regularly review refuse fleet routes to maximise efficiency. At the purchase of any council vehicle we will review options for electric, ultra-low emission or hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.</p>	<p>This area continues to be a focus given the potential carbon savings involved. Viable options remain limited. Current electric HGVs are not able to service the needs of our Waste & Recycling fleet. The use of light fleet EV's for our Grounds Maintenance service remains out of reach at the current time, primarily due to cost and technical constraints. However technology and costs are improving all the time and we will keep this under review. Current plans around the new Operational Services centre include significant EV charging provision in preparation.</p> <p>We were unable to find a suitable electric compact tractor to manage our Estate for biodiversity and so have purchased a diesel vehicle.</p> <p>We are working with partners to develop a green hydrogen economy in the district, centred around Appledore. Hydrogen-powered HGVs may be a more viable alternative to replace our Waste & Recycling fleet, as is the industry expectation. It is important to note that the Centre for Future Clean Mobility, our partners within the Appledore Clean Maritime Innovation Centre, are engaged in the study of the use of green hydrogen for W&R and North Devon Council are also keen, creating future potential shared gains.</p> <p>Harbour vessels yet to be reviewed. The Appledore Clean Maritime Innovation Centre will support our ambition for clean maritime vessels.</p>	<p>Target date to be determined but likely to be a long-term aspiration</p>	
<p><i>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: C1, R1.4, R1.6, R5, R11, T35</i></p>			

Transport			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
<p>2.1 We will explore, implement and promote electric vehicle charging infrastructure, particularly utilising partnership working and external funding to develop schemes across North Devon for the benefit of our residents and businesses and supporting our sustainable tourism ambitions. This will include exploring energy generation and storage opportunities in our car parking facilities.</p>	<p>Use of public EV charging points in our carparks is still at a low level and we have no plans to expand provision for those sites where we currently have EV charging.</p> <p>Devon County Council has secured £7M Local EV Charging Infrastructure (LEVI) funding and we have submitted a number of sites for new EV provision.</p>	<p>LEVI Tender published Summer 24, delivery 25/26.</p>	
<p>2.2 We will identify and develop active travel options across North Devon to create a safer environment for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders. This includes identifying rural cycle routes and electric cycle charge points in line with central Government recommendations. This will be progressed in partnership with a range of stakeholders including Devon County Council through the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.</p>	<p>Torrige Active Travel Group continue to meet regularly.</p> <p>Devon County Council have developed a Local Cycle & Walking Infrastructure Plan with partners including TDC which will help us provide better routes.</p> <p>Funding for improvements will be on a project by project basis.</p>	<p>No date specified at present.</p>	
<p>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: T6, T7</p>			
<p>2.3 We will carry out a review of our Taxi Licensing Policy and will use this as a basis to encourage our taxi operators to move to electric and ultra-low vehicles, including exploring the provision of dedicated taxi charging point(s) to support the trade.</p>	<p>A revised taxi policy was formally adopted in May 22. A number of amendments/ incentives for electric and low emission vehicles have been included (details here).</p> <p>Our taxi policy will be reviewed next year.</p>	<p>Policy will be reviewed again in 2025</p>	
<p>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: T36</p>			

Transport			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
2.4 We will investigate the use of alternative, low carbon fuels for our vehicles.	We have discounted the use of hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) to fuel our vehicles due to significant concerns about its sustainability, cost and supply issues. A sustainability assessment of HVO is being carried out by the Environment Agency and we will review our decision once the findings are published.	Target date to be determined but likely to be a medium-term aspiration	
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: T42			
Planning			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
3.0 We will use the review of the local plan to embrace opportunities to deliver carbon reductions and improvements in sustainability and biodiversity making use of guidance, expert evidence and best practice to best deliver on a range of environmental matters. We will use best endeavours to maximise the potential of new developments to be highly efficient and incorporate low carbon heating and cooling solutions and support sustainable travel for future residents, customers and visitors. Through the plan review we will revisit and consider the opportunities to support on and offshore wind energy development.	Members have agreed to prepare a new joint Local Plan, in collaboration with North Devon Council. Members have agreed to set up Thematic Working Groups to support this review, including a Climate and Environmental Emergency group, which will provide a forum for exploring opportunities to be incorporated within the plan.	Ambition for formal plan making process to begin Nov 24, subject to Government planning reforms coming into force, with new Plan submitted by Oct 26.	
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: C6, C7, E1.1, E1.2, E1.3, E4, B12, T12			

Planning		
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion
3.1 We will seek to take forward the relevant principles and actions of the Devon County Council's Carbon Plan through the review of the local plan to ensure joined up direction of travel to meet our mutual carbon, environmental and biodiversity aims and targets.	Devon's Carbon Plan published September 2022. The provisions of the Carbon Plan will be considered as part of the preparation of a new local plan as per 3.0 above, with actions incorporated as appropriate through that process. Local Plan Thematic Working Groups provide opportunity to explore the principles and actions in detail.	As 3.0
3.2 We will seek to take forward and build upon our pioneering work that seeks biodiversity net gain from development through the local plan review.	Developers have a statutory requirement to deliver 10% Biodiversity Net Gain on the majority of development proposals. The potential to require additional BNG above the mandatory level in northern Devon will be considered through the preparation of a new Local Plan (see 3.0 above).	As 3.0
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: F14		
3.3 We will seek to engage with wider partners to develop local biodiversity off setting schemes to provide choice and assurance to developers obligated through the planning process within North Devon.	The Council has agreed a process for considering formal habitat bank proposals. It is working with providers to consider their proposals and to legally secure them as appropriate. The Council is engaged with the North Devon Biosphere to support the development and roll-out of their Natural Capital Marketplace through our UK Shared Prosperity Funding.	As 3.0
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: F17, F18		
3.4 We will lobby Government for improved building regulations for energy efficiency and making renewable energy sources compulsory for new builds.	The Government launched a consultation on review of the National Planning Policy Framework and its role/ contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation in December 2022. The Council responded to that consultation, providing, amongst other things, in principle support for onshore wind development. The Council will respond to any future consultation opportunities.	Ongoing
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: E6		

Planning			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
<p>3.5 We will lobby Government and local providers for improved digital connectivity to order to promote further flexible and remote working patterns, enhancing access to services, supporting our isolated communities and reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: T1</p>	<p>The government intends to deliver nationwide gigabit-capable broadband as soon as possible, and aims for the majority of the population to have 5G coverage by 2027. As progress in this area becomes clearer this will be kept under review.</p> <p>Our emerging Economic Strategy recognises the need for universal and reliable access to full fibre broadband.</p>	Ongoing	

Biodiversity			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
<p>4.0 We recognise the benefits of carbon sequestration and the value of tree planting to future offsetting needs, and so we will continue to develop our tree planting programme on land owned by the Council and will look to take full advantage of funding and schemes available to support this plan.</p>	<p>We are developing a biodiversity management plan for the Council, including tree planting. This will be reviewed on a regular basis.</p>	Date TBC	
<p>4.1 We will develop a Tree Strategy which will acknowledge the value of our Green Infrastructure including our approach to the management and protection of trees across North Devon, promote sustainability through the 'right tree right place' ethos, promote partnership working and lead by example with our communities.</p>	<p>Devon Tree Strategy published 2024. We will undertake a mapping exercise of our current landholdings and identify opportunities for further planting.</p>	Mapping completed Q4 24.	

Biodiversity		
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion
4.2 We will integrate our climate and biodiversity ambitions with our ground's maintenance operations, developing sustainable options that can be implemented and maintained as part of this programme including developing 'rewilded' areas across our North Devon estate.	<p>This forms part of our biodiversity plan (see 4.0 above).</p> <p>Our verges and meadows are now under better management for wildlife by cutting outside of the spring and summer seasons and removing cuttings. Areas have also been oversown with yellow rattle to weaken grasses and create better conditions for wildflowers.</p> <p>We are working with the Bumblebee Conservation Trust to ensure that the bedding plants selected for our parks are good for supporting pollinators. We plan to implement wildlife friendly measure where possible within our formal gardens.</p> <p>We do not use pesticides in our Grounds Maintenance operations.</p>	2025
Action 4.3 no longer forms part of the Council's action plan. This is a Biosphere project in partnership with Siemens.		
Action 4.4 above will no longer form part of the Council's action plan. This is a Biosphere project. A new action has been added, 7.7		
4.5 We will work with the North Devon UNESCO Biosphere Reserve to support delivery of their Nature Recovery Plan.	The Marine and Landscape pioneers feed into the Biosphere's Nature Recovery Plan; NDC are working with the Biosphere and other partners to deliver this plan.	2030
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: F14, F18, F23.2		

Waste & Recycling			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
5.0 We will seek to 'build green' in our developments such as the Burrows Centre, and look to maximise sustainability and energy generation opportunities in the development of TDC's new Operational Services Centre, including future proofing the site for an expanding electric vehicle fleet.	<p>We continue to push for high environmental standards whilst balancing the need for other considerations such as insurance.</p> <p>We carried out a public consultation of our proposed Operational Services Centre in Bideford in April 23. This will be more energy efficient than our current depot and will also improve biodiversity on site.</p> <p>The Appledore Clean Maritime Innovation Centre has been awarded £15.6m of funding from the Levelling Up Fund issued by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. The centre will contain a host of sustainability measures and will be incorporate significant renewable electricity generation.</p> <p>Our Homeless and Temporary Accommodation projects are using retrofit technology where practicable and where possible we have used the latest off-site manufacture for optimum energy efficiency.</p>	<p>Operational Services Centre handover for use 2025.</p> <p>ACMIC handover for use 2026</p>	
5.1 We will fully participate in the review of the Resource and Waste Strategy for Devon and Torbay, and actively promote its aims to minimise the waste we create, to reduce the impact of resource and waste management on climate change by tailoring operations to reduce the waste carbon footprint, and to seek to preserve natural capital and practice resource efficiency.	<p>Strategy published 2020, key initiatives such as introduction of a deposit return scheme and extended producer responsibility have been delayed.</p> <p>Torrige has a good recycling rate of 52.6%. We are working with Waste & Recycling Advisors to improve the quantity and quality of recyclates collected.</p>	Target date to be determined but likely to be a medium-term aspiration	
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: R2, R6, R13, R15			

Waste & Recycling			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
<p>5.2 We will promote and support the development of the circular economy and waste hierarchy and will review and be open to all options available to reduce the carbon footprint of our waste collection activities which may include, but is not limited to, maximising recycling and developing new waste recycling opportunities, promoting the waste hierarchy through review of the residual waste collection programme and exploring options to reduce, reuse and repair.</p> <p>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: R1, R7, F23.5</p>	<p>The Environment Act will help the transition to a more circular economy, incentivising people to recycle more, encouraging businesses to create sustainable packaging, making household recycling easier and stopping the export of polluting plastic waste to developing countries.</p> <p>A ban on single-use plastic cutlery and plates was introduced in England in October 2023.</p>	Ongoing	

The Council			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
<p>6.0 We will carry out an annual review of our carbon plan and will be transparent about our direction of travel, achievements and challenges in meeting our stated ambitions. This will be reported on annually to Full Council and is part of our wider commitment to making our climate and biodiversity ambitions central to the governance and operations of the Council.</p>	<p>This is the third annual review of our carbon plan.</p>	Annually	

The Council		
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion
<p>6.1 We will develop and approve a sustainable procurement policy to incorporate sustainability, the environment and corporate social responsibility into our financial procedures. We will guide and support smaller businesses who work with us to meet these ambitions. We will regularly review our sustainable procurement policy application and weighting to further develop this approach to maintain continual improvement and encouragement of the most sustainable suppliers to the Council.</p> <p>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: R19</p>	<p>TDC approved their Social Value Policy in January 24, as well as a new Procurement Strategy with a greater emphasis on sustainability.</p> <p>We are using the Social Value Engine to capture the social value of our procurement.</p> <p>Our Major Projects team are working with contractors to ensure decreased carbon emissions are delivered in our large construction projects (see 5.0 above)</p>	By 2027
<p>6.2 We will integrate carbon, environmental and biodiversity ambitions into all our capital projects and ensure that stated standards and targets in these areas are included into those projects.</p> <p>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: R19</p>	<p>Revised PID process approved September 2021 incorporating these factors.</p>	Completed
<p>6.3 We will support sustainable travel by staff and customers at our main Council sites through the provision of bike racks and facilities for staff as well as the promotion of the Government's Cycle to Work Scheme.</p> <p><i>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: T26</i></p>	<p>A bike rack was be installed at Riverbank in 2023.</p> <p>We are working towards 'Cycle Friendly Employer' accreditation.</p>	Ongoing

The Council			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
6.4 We will carry out a full audit of the Council's carbon footprint to current Government guidance, ensuring parity of scope with North Devon Council to provide future opportunities for comparing performance and best practice, in order to drive change and improvements across both Authorities.	The 2023/2024 update will be available autumn 2024.	Annually	
6.5 We will review consumables purchased and used by the Authority and will seek to move to environmentally positive options. This will include areas such as cleaning materials, stationary usage, tools and machinery.	<p>Consumables will be reviewed as contracts are renewed.</p> <p>We have carried out a Print/scan review to establish how best to meet Council needs whilst minimising printing where possible, being energy efficient etc. We began a phased programme to introduce new, more energy efficient multifunction devices in April 24 and hope to reduce energy consumption by 40%.</p> <p>TDC has agreed a new desktop strategy and will be introducing new Wyse PCs containing up to 60% recycled material and that are more energy efficient (EPEAT Gold and ENERGY STAR qualified).</p>	Target date to be determined but likely to be a medium-term aspiration	
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: R11			
6.6 We will support staff and members to reduce their carbon footprints by facilitating hybrid working models that support elements of home working and mobile working practices and promoting sustainable transport options such as mileage reduction methods, developing or promoting the use of electric and ultra-low emission vehicles for business purposes and encouraging cycling, walking, car sharing and public transport.	TDC has a home working policy for staff, which has been implemented where possible.	Ongoing	
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: T4, T7, T26			

The Council		
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion
6.7 We will review our treasury management policy and resources to determine feasibility of divestment and NDC including and developing ethical investment vehicles within its portfolio.	<p>The use of ethical investments in our own portfolio have been reviewed (here) and the matter taken forward into our latest Treasury Management Strategy.</p> <p>Pensions fall to DCC, and their commitment to a net zero portfolio is given here.</p>	Treasury Management Strategy reviewed on an annual basis.
6.8 We will develop and maintain a communications plan integrated with all departments across the Council to showcase the work of the Authority in leading the response to the climate and biodiversity emergencies. This will include a community facing webpage of information, support and resources, as well as a staff and Member facing information source to internally promote our plans and achievements	<p>Climate communications plan agreed Nov 2022 and being delivered.</p> <p>Our website has community facing webpages.</p> <p>We are part-funding a Comms post at the Devon Climate Emergency Partnership.</p>	Ongoing
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: C4		
6.9 We will encourage staff participation in our carbon ambitions by including 'green' idea generation through training and the corporate appraisal process.	<p>'Green' questions now a standing part of our annual staff survey – reporting to our Member Climate Working Group.</p> <p>We have an online climate change training module available and are hoping to secure Carbon Literacy training through the South West Net Zero Hub.</p> <p>We have no plans to incorporate climate considerations into our corporate appraisal process.</p>	Ongoing Training reviewed Q2 2024
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: R19		

The Council		
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion
6.10 We will integrate consideration of the impacts of climate change into our committee decision making process and ensure that reviews of internal policies will align with our climate emergency and biodiversity priorities.	Revised committee paper format agreed 2021.	Completed
6.11 We will support members on their role in championing, influencing and implementing positive climate change and biodiversity measures within NDC and the wider communities they represent.	<p>The Member Climate Change Working Group is now a constituted group providing strategic input and oversight into a range of areas and reporting their recommendations to C&R Committee.</p> <p>Expert speakers on a range of environmental matters report to various committees.</p> <p>An online climate change training module for members is available and will be reviewed in Q2 2024.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Training reviewed Q2 2024</p>
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: C4		
6.12 We will seek to improve the quality and extent of the data in our carbon footprint, particularly for Scope 3 emissions.	Ongoing improvement in data quality and inputs.	Ongoing
6.12 We will develop an offsetting strategy.	Work on an offsetting strategy has begun, however a lack of credible local offsetting schemes mean we are unable to progress this.	By 2030
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: F18		

Our Communities			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
7.0 We will support communities in adapting to climate change, sustainability and carbon reduction in community and emergency plans.	The Adaptation Strategy for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly was published in Autumn 2023 and has been endorsed by TDC. We will work with the Devon Community Resilience Forum and the Devon Climate Impacts Group to deliver relevant actions.	Ongoing	
7.1 We will support our towns, parishes and communities with information and support on carbon cutting and biodiversity enhancing projects, funding and opportunities. We will promote the development of local schemes around tree planting, allotments, community gardens and orchard provision.	<p>Wilder Communities event held at Northam in March 2024. We run a series of volunteer events and schools education days at Northam Burrows and Kenwith Nature Reserve.</p> <p>We are working with Appledore School to bring sustainability into all aspects of their curriculum. We are hoping to run tailored education sessions for pupils linked to a bid to the Royal Society's 'Tomorrow's Climate Scientists' fund.</p> <p>Sustainability & Climate Officer attends talks, community events, energy fairs etc as required.</p>	Ongoing	
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: C2, C3, R1			
7.2 We will support households experiencing fuel poverty by working with partners to promote and implement energy efficiency measures through the adoption of a fuel poverty strategy. This will develop a multi-agency approach to tackling fuel poverty in the district from maximising leverage of existing options to creating enhanced services to residents on energy efficiency/ money management advice and retrofit options.	<p>Fuel Poverty group for Northern Devon under review to ensure it's still fit for purpose.</p> <p>We have a Statement of Intent for Ecoflex and the Great British Insulation Scheme.</p> <p>We have adjusted our housing assistance policy to top up these funds or deal with Category I hazards in owner properties.</p> <p>We provided a letter of support for the Devon consortium LArea retrofit accelerator.</p>	Ongoing	
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: B2, B6			

Our Communities		
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion
<p>7.3 We will publicise statutory Minimum Energy Efficiency (MEES) requirements to Landlords, support them in meeting their obligations and align our Housing Enforcement Policy to ensure targeted and effective enforcement of these standards in our private rented sector.</p> <p>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: C2</p>	<p>No progress due to pressures on housing team to act on the housing crisis. This action will be reviewed once our new Housing Renewal Team is in place and gained more experience.</p>	<p>No date set</p>
<p>7.4 We will develop guidance for supporting and promoting sustainable events through licensing function and North Devon's Safety Advisory Group.</p> <p>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: C2</p>	<p>Guidance published 2022.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>7.5 We will seek opportunities for developing a low carbon economy, promotion of green entrepreneurship and investment through our new Economic Strategy. We will provide businesses with information and support on energy generation, improving energy efficiency and reducing their own carbon footprint. We will support North Devon employers, communities and organisations in declaring their own Climate and Biodiversity Emergencies and developing action plans. We will work with Petroc and support local schools to maximise opportunities for the next generation in our new green future.</p> <p>This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: R3, R22</p>	<p>The forthcoming Economic Strategy for Northern Devon emphasises the need to develop our green economy.</p> <p>Development of Floating Offshore Wind projects in the Celtic Sea offer a once in a lifetime opportunity to develop a green, high tech economy in northern Devon. We have recruited a Clean Maritime Officer for northern Devon to enhance capacity in this area. We have also received £100k from the South West Net Zero Hub to develop a green hydrogen roadmap for northern Devon.</p> <p>We are partners in a Green Economy Group for northern Devon which will provide advice and support for businesses interested in sustainability and regeneration.</p> <p>Four businesses have been supported by the first round of our Rural England Prosperity Fund for England Net Zero funding. Further funding can be found at North Devon Plus.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

Our Communities			
Commitment	2024 Update	Due for Completion	
7.6 We will promote shopping local, promoting farmers markets, direct fish sales and local green start-ups and develop the local green economy and economic generation by pursuing opportunities, funding and seeking cooperation to take full advantage of opportunities.	Support has been provided through the Shared Prosperity Fund for the eat:Bideford market to support local food producers. This event takes place in October, most suppliers are based within 30 miles of the town.	Ongoing	
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: <i>F1, F1.1, F1.2</i>			
7.7 We will support our farmers and the agricultural industry to produce more sustainable food.	North Devon+ are supporting the agricultural sector to understand the changing funding landscape and biodiversity requirements. We recently held a special public meeting to address issues facing the agricultural industry.	Ongoing	
This action links to the following Devon Carbon Plan actions: <i>F9, F19</i>			
7.8 We will work with the Devon Climate Emergency Partnership to deliver actions enabling Devon to become net zero carbon by 2050.	Northern Devon Futures are intending to focus on this as one of the key aims of their strategy. A climate action group has been set up to facilitate this. Climate change will be one focus of the new potentially devolved administration for Devon.	Ongoing	
7.9 We will work with the Devon Climate Emergency Partnership to deliver actions enabling Devon to adapt to climate change.	We have identified a number of actions within the Adaptation Strategy for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly that can be delivered by TDC. This includes provision of information to Town and Parish Councils on the impact of climate change in their area.	Ongoing	