

MEDWAY CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN 2025-2028

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN TABLES



An aerial photograph of a city, likely Medway, showing a river, residential areas, and industrial buildings. A large white hexagonal shape is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

OUR VISION

Medway Council is committed to reducing our carbon footprint, providing our community with a clean, green future, and to be a place that people want to live and work.



OUR AIMS

For Medway Council and
Medway the place:

- ◆ **Reduce carbon emissions to achieve net zero by 2050.**
- ◆ **Increase resilience against the impacts of climate change.**

PRIORITY 1: KNOWLEDGE AND EMPOWERMENT



PRIORITY AMBITION

Medway Council and local communities understand what causes climate change, how it affects us, and what can be done about it. They are empowered to take steps to lower their carbon footprint and adapt to its effects.

SUB-PRIORITIES

Engage Medway communities to build collective knowledge and develop understanding of local solutions to provide a meaningful response to the climate emergency.

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Communicate the benefits of effective climate response actions to Medway residents, business and the wider community across all relevant media platforms to encourage them to take action, and promote actions being taken by the council.	Ongoing	Core budget	Communications and Marketing Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least three posts a week on the Climate Change social media pages. • Two campaigns a year aimed at enhancing behaviour change in residents or encouraging businesses to adopt greener actions. All objectives to be agreed with the Climate Response team and feedback provided to the working groups. • 10% increase in number of followers on each channel for climate change each year • Monthly newsletters issued that inform, empower and encourage action, including latest funding opportunities • Monthly content updates and amendments to ensure current and accurate and helpful information • Quarterly review of website content, using data to inform decisions. • Quarterly updates in CC and Comms service plans
Deliver in person engagement at events and activities across Medway with targeted engagement to consider, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key stakeholders in Medway, including schools, businesses and community groups. • Communities more likely to be impacted by climate change. • Under-represented groups. 	Ongoing	Core budget	Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise a minimum of two bespoke climate events and activities per year and report on number of attendees • Climate change stall to attend Corporate and community events across the year to engage directly with the public. • Use data from previous years engagement to maps gaps and inform plans for the coming year, including the events to attend. • Attend minimum six school assemblies per year
Promote adult education programmes and courses for Medway's residents and communities that support the climate agenda and the council's priority areas including but not limited to, climate change awareness, food growing programmes and resource efficiency related courses.	Ongoing	Funded through contract	Skills Employment and Adult Education	In academic year 2025/26: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 courses per year with a climate change related theme • 10 courses per year that used recycled resources • 80 starts on courses with a climate change theme, 68 (85%) achievers

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Develop the Community Climate Working Group and ensure it is embedded within the council's climate response action to enable effective feedback on identified priorities.	Ongoing	Core budget	Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four meetings held per year • Seek opportunities and guests, including internal teams, to link with all five priority areas of the plan • Maintain awareness of group across all council service areas
Develop and implement a State of the Environment report for Medway to monitor local trends, progress and action, using publicly available and council-held data sources	Mar-26	Core budget	Business Transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content of dashboard and sources of data agreed July 2025 • Dashboard created by September 2025 • Beta testing of dashboard by October 2025 • Dashboard published in November 2025 • Dashboard reviewed in February 2026 prior to new financial year
<p>Engage local business owners through existing forums, networks and council communication channels to develop awareness of the climate change action plan and to encourage and support businesses to work towards net zero carbon targets and to develop resilience to the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>To include,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sign posting to guidance and best practice, including fully funded net-zero audits to guide businesses towards reducing environmental impact, accessing further funding and procurement opportunities. • ensuring the legacy of previous projects through shared learning and local case studies, and, • proactively seeking and promoting funding opportunities such as Partners for Green Growth Grants for businesses to co-invest in green technology, reducing their environmental impact. 	Ongoing	Core budget	Regeneration	<p>Engagement undertaken through the following forums:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business for Medway Network (3 x per year) no. of attendees (Target 60) • Town Centre Forums (5) • Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce • The Kent and Medway Growth Hub, • Opportunities promoted via case studies through newsletter and social media (Target four per year) • Business and Skills showcase (dedicated panel on net zero investment/ education, June) no. of attendees (Target 200) • No. of net zero audits (Target 13) • No. of Partners for Green Growth Grants (Target 5) • Value of Green Grant awarded (Target £10,000)

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Engage, empower, and/or encourage children and young people in support of the climate agenda as opportunities arise around the current Cleaner and Greener Child-Friendly Medway core theme or through feedback from children and young people.	Ongoing	Core budget (specific projects not currently funded)	Child-friendly Medway Public Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child-friendly Medway team to report quarterly on number of partner opportunities offered to the Climate Change Team to attend a Child-Friendly Medway event and carry out engagement/consultation work. Child-friendly Medway to target at least one partnership opportunity per quarter for engagement with Climate response team Child-friendly Medway to report quarterly on all relevant projects and activities, such as the Signs of Youth project, including the number of children and young people taking part Public Health to report quarterly on the number of schools receiving the Medway Healthy Schools Award

PRIORITY AMBITION

Medway Council plays a leading role in local climate action and works to help create the right conditions for change.

SUB-PRIORITIES

The council understands its own carbon footprint and vulnerability to climate change and has a pathway to net zero and climate resilience, supporting council staff to embed effective climate response actions in their work.

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Coordinate assessment of the scope 1,2 and 3 emissions from the council estate and operations.	01/03/2028	Core budget	Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of progress against current carbon budget pathway (2020-2028) and updates to carbon pathway (2020-2028) Assessment of scope 3 emissions completed – March 2027 Prioritisation of carbon reduction targets in existing and future contracts and policies identified – From 2027/2028 Annual carbon savings achieved through contracts and policies
Co-ordinate the development and implementation of Medway Climate Action Ward Improvement Plans (CAWIPs) in partnership through the Members Climate Change working party and identify opportunities for funding to support implementation	Ongoing	Core budget	Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members to develop CAWIPs, with first ward improvement plan to be completed by December 2025 Objective to have ward improvement plans for each ward in Medway by 2028
Ensure climate change is incorporated and embedded into all Commissioned services and strategic plans delivered by Adult Partnership Commissioning	Ongoing	Core budget	Adult Partnership Commissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detail of services commissioned and how climate change has been embedded Evidence each quarter to show how commissioned services are meeting their sustainability/ climate change responsibilities Any upcoming opportunities to embed into new services

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Develop a carbon reduction and climate change resilience costed plan for our council buildings (including council owned schools but not including housing stock) to meet the council's net zero and adaptation targets, and actively explore funding options for delivery including the council's Building Repairs and Maintenance Fund, existing maintenance budgets and through external funding opportunities .	01/03/2026	Feasibility Funding to engage Consultants	FM and Capital Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure Feasibility Funding to appoint Consultants to produce Carbon Reduction & Climate Change Resilience Plan • Costed plan developed and updated annually • Funding opportunities considered, applied for, successful • Projects implemented • Monitoring of the impact of implemented projects undertaken
Develop and implement a Climate Impact Assessment tool for use in council decision reports, to identify opportunities to mitigate and reduce impacts from project/ policy inception	01/12/2026	Core budget	Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping for tool completed by December 2025 • Tool drafted and tested by June 2026 • Implementation within council decision making process by Dec 2026
Develop a standardised council system for vehicle use data collection, and seek efficiency opportunities such as the standard use of fuel cards and auto updates using GPS tracking systems	01/03/2026	Core budget	Business Transformation & Highways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SharePoint site active • Percentage of council vehicles using fuel cards • Percentage of council vehicles using SharePoint
Implement process for accurately assessing action need for Medway to reach net zero	01/03/2027	Core budget	Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess current models used by December 2025 • Make recommendations for process to be implemented by June 2026 • Implement process by March 2027

PRIORITY AMBITION

People and organisations across Medway and Kent are working together to tackle climate change and create stronger, more resilient communities.

SUB-PRIORITIES

Effective partnership working with stakeholders and strong community collaboration to align good practice.

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Ensure care homes and domiciliary providers have access to information on relevant climate action, events and activities taking place in Medway via the Medway Care Portal and Adult Social Care newsletters, and support registered care homes and domiciliary providers to take climate action by including relevant agenda items at Care Forum meetings. This may include guest speakers, sharing of problems faced, best practice and local experience and sharing latest funding opportunities.	Ongoing	Core budget	Adult Partnership Commissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At each quarter report the number of providers who attended the monthly Carers Forum Evidence each quarter: Relevant guidance and/or links included on portal At least one climate related communication issued on portal each quarter (this may be resharing relevant Climate Response Team posts, grant funding opportunities from Climate Response newsletter, policy updates etc) Report the level of engagement on climate change on Forum discussions
<p>Work with partners to develop, deliver and share content, activities and programmes, which consider the climate agenda, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> support Medway's creative sector to apply knowledge practically. support and engage Medway's communities on the climate change agenda 	Ongoing	Fully funded within core budget and will be enhanced by bidding for grant funding where projects are appropriate	Culture, Libraries and Heritage	<p>Repair Café</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In partnership with Men in Sheds and volunteers Repair & reuse and expert advice <p>Measure: 10 cafés per year reaching 25 people per café measured quarterly</p> <p>Libraries Small Electricals Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Libraries/Waste Team partnership Recycle & donate Ongoing throughout the year <p>Measure: Target 9 tonnes measured annually</p> <p>Kent & Medway Environmental Sustainability Pledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creative Medway/Creative Kent partnership Advice and support Ongoing throughout the year <p>Measure: 10 sign ups per year measured annually</p> <p>Events Medway Outdoor Events Sustainability Toolkit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events Medway/Climate response Team partnership Advice and support Ongoing throughout the year <p>Measure: Events Uncovered (community events management training programme) - 40 learners per year measured annually</p>

PRIORITY 2: CLEAN, EFFICIENT AND EQUITABLE ENERGY



PRIORITY AMBITION

Council buildings and assets/structures use energy more efficiently and need less power to run.

SUB-PRIORITIES

Energy management plans have been put in place by the council (across council-owned homes, corporate buildings, council-managed schools and highway assets), and support is offered to Medway residents on measures to reduce energy usage.

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Progress the Heat District Network studies including, a) Completion of the Techno Economic Feasibility study (Phase II) in Hoo (Ground source) b) Completion of the Detailed Planning and Development (Phase III) study in Chatham (River source)	a) March 2026 b) March 2026	External grant (secured)	Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Techno Economic Feasibility Study completed to scope, budget and programme • DPD for Chatham completed to scope, budget and programme • Await Central Government Heat Network Policy/Co-ordinator details to be released for further guidance.
Establish and implement systematic approach to promote available housing energy efficiency programmes to Medway residents and landlords	Ongoing	Core budget / External funding	Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint dedicated officer by August 2025 responsible for identifying and promoting relevant funding streams and programmes • Establish benchmarking system to assess level of engagement with each identified programme and funding stream • Establish benchmark system by December 2025 to assess take-up of all relevant schemes • Review schemes by February annually to identify most effective funding streams and programmes
Integrate energy efficiency measures into the council property maintenance strategy and monitor the effectiveness of energy performance measures across council buildings	Ongoing	Core budget and external funding (tbc)	FM & Capital Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress reporting through the Corporate Landlord Board • CLB to approve Top 10 priority buildings (based on annual energy usage) to have energy efficient installation by 2027. • Corporate estate to follow 2027 onwards

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
<p>LED lighting replacement programme implemented across council property, to include:</p> <p>a) Install LED and motion sensor lighting in Medway sports centres including external facilities and implement programme of solar and LED lighting systems throughout Medway parks and greenspaces</p> <p>b) Install LED lighting at Medway Tunnel</p>	01/03/2028	Funding tbc	<p>a) Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response/FM & Capital Projects</p> <p>b) Highways</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project team to be established by August 2025 • Initial proposals for sports centre, with indicative costings, by April 2026 • Initial proposals for parks and greenspaces, with indicative costings by April 2026 • Progress reporting through the Corporate Landlord Board • Tender process completed by April 2026 • Contractor appointed by August 2026 • Install completed by March 2027
<p>Develop an energy management system to manage ongoing energy use in council buildings. e.g. develop a smart energy plan to ensure that all council energy use is minimised/efficient.</p>	01/03/2030	Budget Growth tbc	FM & Capital Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Energy Usage Policy for staff to follow in corporate buildings as smaller buildings would not require full BMS. • Policy to be written by 01/04/26 • Soft Market Testing to establish preferred system. • Procurement Award. • Roll-out & Implementation.
<p>Ensure all Medway Council housing stock has a minimum EPC C rating by 2030, and all newly-built council-owned homes have a minimum EPC B rating.</p>	01/03/2030	Core budget and external funding	Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum 150 additional council-owned homes to achieve minimum EPC C rating each year. Figures monitored monthly. Improvements to include: Windows, roofs, doors, boilers, lighting, fans • Minimum 150 suitable Medway Council-owned homes per year to have Cavity Wall Insulation installed or improved.
<p>New Medway schools are designed and built to include effective energy efficient climate response measures, and existing Medway schools are maintained and - where appropriate - expanded to include a range of energy efficient climate response measures</p>	Ongoing	Core budget and external funding (tbc)	Schools Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LED lighting: Medway controlled schools to retrofit with energy-efficient LED lighting; reduce lighting energy consumption across all retrofitted schools; allocate budget and schools to fund with LA to provide additional funding as and when available and schedule retrofitting during school holidays to minimise disruption; retrofit 50% of existing Medway controlled schools within the next 4 years. • Heat pumps install heat pumps in all new Medway schools; achieve a 20% reduction in heating and cooling energy consumption within the first year of installation; secure funding and partner with experienced contractors for installation; complete as new schools are built • Insulation ensure insulation in existing Medway controlled schools is at the highest standard, to improve energy efficiency; achieve a 15% reduction in heating and cooling costs; work with schools to identify priority areas for insulation upgrades; complete insulation upgrades in 75% of Medway controlled schools within 4 years.

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
New Medway schools are designed and built to include effective energy efficient climate response measures, and existing Medway schools are maintained and - where appropriate - expanded to include a range of energy efficient climate response measures	Ongoing	Core budget and external funding (tbc)	Schools services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling Work with Medway controlled schools to continue with the implement of a comprehensive recycling programme; increase recycling rates by 50% within the first year of implementation; work with waste provider Countryside to ensure Medway controlled schools have recycling internal bins and dry mixed recycling (DMR) bins. Support Medway controlled schools to educate students and staff about recycling, through assemblies and posters; launch the programme in all Medway controlled schools within 1 year. • PV Install solar panels on the roofs of all new Medway controlled schools and monitor the retrofit where appropriate at existing schools; achieve a 15% reduction in electricity costs within the first year of installation; partner with local solar energy companies to ensure cost-effective installation; complete installations within 2 years of school construction. • Sustainable landscaping on new schools Work with Medway controlled schools to develop sustainable landscaping; increase tree canopy cover by 10% post development, consisting of native and foreign trees with the emphasis of the right tree for the right space; collaborate with local environmental groups and volunteers for planting and maintenance; complete initial landscaping projects as and when new schools are built. • Active travel considerations Work with Medway controlled schools to promote active travel (walking, cycling) among students and staff; work with Medway controlled schools to increase the number of students and staff using active travel methods by 20% within the first year; work with Medway controlled schools to provide bike racks, and work with the road safety team to run awareness campaigns; launch initiatives in all Medway controlled schools within 2 years.

PRIORITY AMBITION

There are local opportunities to produce, use and share renewable energy at affordable costs.

SUB-PRIORITIES

The council's energy use is powered by renewable energy (corporate buildings, council managed schools, assets and activities).

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Review opportunities to switch to 100% renewable electricity tariff for the council (noting that current costs of certifying this are prohibitive).	01/03/2026	Core budget	FM & Capital Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% renewable electricity tariff to be met in line with Medway Council target of net zero by 2050. • Review current provider performance through annual market assessment

PRIORITY 3: SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT



PRIORITY AMBITION

Walking, cycling, public and shared transport are the top travel choices for people living, working or visiting Medway.

SUB-PRIORITIES

Public transport is improved and increased active travel is enabled and supported through infrastructure and usage encouraged through engagement.

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
The number of bus passengers on local services to reach nine million journeys per year through effective delivery of the council's bus service improvement plan	01/03/2028	BSIP grant & S106 developer funding (where applicable)	Transport and Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree programme of bus service enhancements including uplifts to service frequency and additional weekend services, by 31 March 2025 • Commence implementation of an agreed programme of bus service initiatives and promotional activity for 2025/6 by 1 April 2025 • Completion of programme by 31 March 2026 • Quarterly performance monitoring, following data returns from local bus operators in Medway.
Identify and implement infrastructure improvements to priority bus corridors across Medway	Ongoing	BSIP grant & S106 developer funding (where applicable)	Transport and Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of a draft Local Bus Infrastructure Plan by 31 April 2025, including outline designs for improvements on identified bus corridors • Consultation on the draft Local Bus Infrastructure Plan by 31 May 2025 • Publication of final Local Bus Infrastructure Plan and finalisation of programme for delivery of a first tranche of infrastructure improvements by 1 July 2025 • Completion of design process and finalisation of a construction programme for the delivery of the first tranche of infrastructure improvements by 31 January 2026. • Quarterly performance monitoring
Residents and visitors have access to a minimum 100 miles of signed cycle routes in Medway through effective delivery of the council's local cycling and walking infrastructure plan	01/03/2028	Active Travel Fund, LTP & S106 developer funding (where applicable)	Transport and Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of the Medway Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan by 1 April 2025 • Finalisation of programme for delivery of a first tranche of walking and cycling infrastructure improvements by 1 July 2025 • Quarterly performance monitoring, as reported via Pentana
Increase modal choice with the objective of half of all journeys in Medway to be made using active modes of travel	01/03/2030	BSIP grant, Active Travel Fund & S106 developer funding (where applicable)	Transport and Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going implementation of the Medway Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, subject to funding • On-going Implementation of the Bus Service Improvement Plan • Adoption of a new Local Transport Plan for Medway by 31 December 2026 • Quarterly data monitoring of Medway's cycle counters. • Pupil mode of travel data from schools, gathered in line with annual focus campaigns.

PRIORITY AMBITION

Walking, cycling, public and shared transport are the top travel choices for people living, working or visiting Medway.

SUB-PRIORITIES

Traffic/parking management is improved and road space is reallocated for active travel through spatial/land use planning to reduce congestion and improve air quality.

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Implementation of School Streets across Medway as part of the Safer, Healthier Streets programme	01/09/2025	Internal and external capital funding	Transport and Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of tranche 2 school street locations by 1 September 2025 • Annual monitoring report for the existing School Street locations, to be completed by July 2025. This will consider mode of travel, traffic / air quality / PCN data and feedback from the participating school communities.
Introduce Route Report technology to assist with reporting highway defects	01/03/2026	Transformation	Highways management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trial technology from 1st April 2025 for 2 years • Reduction in number of journeys • Reduction in fuel costs • Reduction in diesel fleet vehicles • Carbon savings achieved

PRIORITY AMBITION

Medway supports the switch to ultra-low emission vehicles by providing fair access to infrastructure.

SUB-PRIORITIES

The transition is enabled and supported by:

- Reducing the council's direct emissions
- Providing suitable EV infrastructure

- Working in partnership with key stakeholders
- Working to deliver an equitable transition

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Continue to install EV charge points across Medway as part of the council plan target for Medway to have 750 publicly accessible charging points by 2028. This will include: a) Install of 140 on-street charging points and a minimum five rapid charging points across Medway by August 2027. b) Secure further charge point installation through operator private investment. c) Ensure every council sports centre car park has EV charge points by end of 2027.	01/03/2026	External funding (tbc)	Highways management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) • Award contract for LEVI funded charge points September 2025 • Commence work January 2026 • Phase 1 install of 140 7-22kW on-street EV charging points and 5 rapid charge points in the first 2 years of the contract. b) • A minimum of 250 chargepoints of varying speeds delivered by the end of year 5 c) • Proposals, with indicative costs, to be outlined by January 2026 • One third of chargers in council leisure centres to be installed in Year 1 (2026) with the remainder by the end of Year 2 (2027)
Purchase and deliver new £12m waste collection fleet as part of a phased approach to reduce emissions	01/03/2026	Capital budget	Waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 46 vehicles in new waste fleet to be delivered and operational by January 2026

PRIORITY 4: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY



PRIORITY AMBITION

Medway benefits from a low carbon waste management system.

SUB-PRIORITIES

Waste is reduced and recycling increased.

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
1. Commission a Waste Strategy to identify and appraise options for domestic waste collection and disposal in Medway. 2. Subsequently, develop a plan to influence, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fleet and equipment • Scheduling and specifications • Behaviour change opportunities • Service messaging in support of a low carbon waste management system. 	1. Timescale for Strategy - September 2025 2. Timescale for plan – March 2026	Core budget	Waste management	Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy commissioned • Public consultation • Strategy produced • Strategy published Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan developed • Plan delivered • Minimum levels of waste to landfill using NI193 methodology
Divert a minimum 81% of residual waste away from landfill	1 March 2026	Core budget	Waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual target: Deadline 31 March each year. • Quarterly reporting. • Monitoring - through monthly input/output tonnage data.

PRIORITY AMBITION

Everyone uses resources sustainably by following steps like refusing, reducing, reusing, repairing, and recycling, to help cut down waste

SUB-PRIORITIES

Medway's communities are supported to use resources sustainably and council waste is reduced and recycling increased.

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Raise awareness of projects and services which encourage low carbon waste management (Prevent, Reuse, Recycle, Recover, Dispose).	Ongoing	Core Budget	Waste management	Awareness programme to be established and reported through quarterly monitoring.
Audit commercial waste contracts for the Corporate Estate and develop a Workplace Waste Strategy to minimise waste from corporate offices and buildings and maximise recycling in line with the waste hierarchy.	1 March 2027	Core budget	FM and Capital Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Waste Provider (Medway Norse) is to work in conjunction with FM Contract • Manager to develop targets for waste audits. • Commercial Waste contracts to move from FM to Waste Team by 01/04/27 (or in line with FM service delivery provider renewals)
Implement sustainable event management practices across council events and avoid single use and plastic promotional materials.	Ongoing	Core budget	Public Health and Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events policy updated and circulated to all staff by 2026. • Audit of events and promotional materials
Create minimum 100 new allotments as part of initiatives to encourage local food growing, including community gardens and school gardens	1 March 2028	Core budget and capital budget tbc	Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify potential sites by January 2026 • Produce outline plan by July 2026 • Implementation to begin from 2027 • Indicative proposals for 20 allotments in 2026 as part of Cozenton Park tree nursery plans, subject to development of allotment action plan
Co-ordinate the Medway Food Partnership with strategic priority given to reducing food waste and redistributing edible surplus food as set out in the Medway Food Strategy 2024-2030	Ongoing	Core budget	Public Health and Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medway to achieve gold status for Sustainable Food Places award by 2028 • Simpler Recycling food waste collection: waste team to deliver project for food waste collection from flats by April 2026

PRIORITY 5: GREEN AND RESILIENT MEDWAY



PRIORITY AMBITION

Medway's natural environment is protected, is resilient to climate change, and continues to absorb carbon.

SUB-PRIORITIES

Medway's greenspaces are protected and enhanced with opportunities sought to enhance existing habitats and their resilience to climate change.

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Implement the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy through working with the Kent Nature Partnership	1 March 2028	a. Core funding b. Core funding, S106 and external funding (unsecured)	Sports, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Actively participate in the Kent Nature Partnership and LNRS subgroup to support the Production of State of Nature in Kent and identify and Implement Biodiversity Network Recovery Areas. b. Maximising natural capital on Medway Council - owned greenspaces. c. Management plans for each Medway Council park and open space to take into account LNRS and biodiversity net gain, prioritising Green Flag parks.
Plant minimum 10,000 (net) trees across Medway parks and greenspaces, ensuring they are maintained appropriately to thrive	1 March 2028	External funding tbc.	Sport, greenspaces and climate response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First phase planted February 2025 - 3,600 trees. • Produce outline plan for second phase - including funding - by August 2025. • Second phase to begin implementation from November 2025
Assess Medway's current tree stock, composition and condition to better understand risks and vulnerabilities to climate change and identify action required.	1 September 2027	Core budget	Planning Specialist (trees) Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tool agreed to map Medway's current tree canopy cover and funding identified if required by Dec. 2025. • Tree canopy cover mapping completed by June 2026. • Approved tree policy published by March 2026. • Undertake review of council maintained tree stock, composition and condition by December 2026. • Produce a report to identify risks and vulnerabilities, costed actions to be taken and funding identified by September 2027. • Annual monitoring report on tree stock, action progress and monitoring of tree establishment and biosecurity risks.
Create minimum 100 miles of roadside nature reserves	1 March 2028	Core budget	Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope works and produce indicative plan for first 30 miles by December 2025 • Plan for implementation from May 2026 • Plan for second phase to be completed by December 2026
Deliver a new Community Tree Nursery at Cozenton Park for use by the council and volunteers.	1 March 2027	External funding tbc.	Sports, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External grant aid secured for part funding of the start up the community tree nursery project at Cozenton Park in 2025. Further external funding to be applied for hub, community garden and other elements • Tender, award & implement the community tree nursery project at Cozenton Park. Subject to external funding being achieved estimated tender date is March 2026 • Engagement programme with local volunteers, community and schools to be implemented as scheme progresses

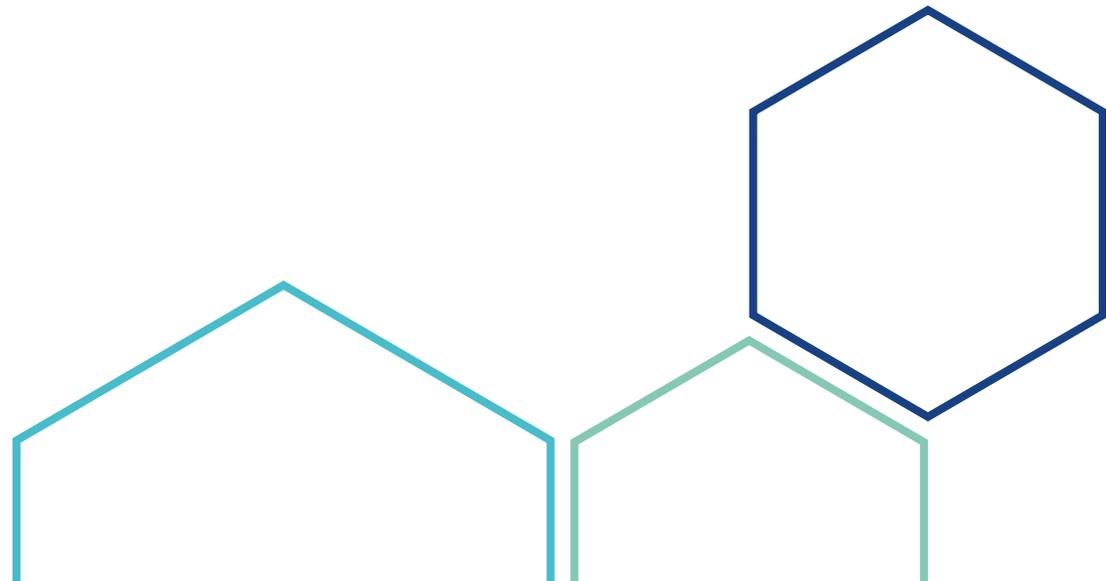
PRIORITY AMBITION

Medway can handle the effects of climate change and remains a good place to live/has a liveable urban environment

SUB-PRIORITIES

Sustainable development is led by local and neighbourhood plans

Actions 2025-28	Timescale	Funding	Service	Output/measures of success (SMART)
Through the implementation of relevant development plans including the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans, provide updated planning policy to guide sustainable development through supporting the transition to net zero carbon by 2050, reducing the need to travel and minimising the use of natural resources, strengthening green infrastructure and biodiversity, delivering resilient and healthy development.	Local Plan adoption tbc	Core budget	Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of Draft Plan June 2025. • Submission for Examination November 2025. • Annual reporting against policies in Authority Monitoring Report each December. • Quarterly updates in service plan monitoring.
Provide information and guidance to Medway's communities about how they can protect themselves from climate hazards such as flood events and heatwaves.	1 March 2027	Core budget	Sport, Greenspaces and Climate Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake baseline study, identifying any gaps and developing proposals to address these • Use the Climate and corporate comms channels and existing networks to disseminate guidance on preparing for and staying safe during extreme weather events • Work with frontline council staff, including housing officers and social care, to integrate advice into standard service provision.



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TOGETHER WE CAN HELP TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE



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If you want to speak to somebody in your own language the
Community Interpreting Service can help, phone **01634 335577**

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