

Sustainability and Climate Crisis Action Plan - 20th October 2023

|                       |       |               |          |   |  |                  |                            |            |   | Red - Late start / Critical Challenges to completion<br>Amber - Work started but target date has been extended (place new target date in O)<br>Green - On Track towards target date (incl. where target date was previously extended)<br>Blue - Project complete - no further update needed |                      |   |
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| The me                | No.   | Net Zero Plan | Priority | Committed Action  | Directorate  | LEAD OFFICER     | Involved Officers          | Start date | New Target date (Darken blue if deadline) | Overall progress  | Last Progress Update | Progress update<br>Format: Initial - update on all progress relevant to task. There is no need for repetition or multiple dated updates unless relevant   |
| Governance Leadership | 1.010 | Yes           |          | Increase staff resourcing to co-ordinate and deliver the actions in this strategy. It is anticipated that we need up to 2 Sustainability Officers and 1 Energy Manager.   | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Tom Hardy        | Tom Hardy<br>Candice Luper | Nov-20     | Dec-23                                    | G   | 16/10/2023           | TH:<br>In addition to the long standing role of Sustainability Projects Officer, the Council now has an Infrastructure Officer (Sustainability) which is a new permanent role. There is a resource request going to the Senior Leadership Team in late October which will seek to recruit an additional support officer role/apprentice. This is a significant step forward compared to where we were. In addition to this, a new approach will be launched to align with the next iteration of the strategy which will involve officer working groups on key themes, to reinforce the message that all officers are responsible for helping the Council meet its carbon reduction and sustainability targets.  |
| Governance Leadership | 1.020 | Yes           |          | Review financing mechanisms available to fund the actions in this plan. This should include a clear policy of financing Invest to Save proposals based on specific carbon and cost saving criteria. We will also explore options to engage with the local community with a view of encouraging sponsorship and donations if appropriate.  | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Linda Parker     |                            | Jan-21     | Dec-23                                    | A   | 10/10/2023           | LP - The invest to save capital budget (£1m) is available to fund actions in this plan subject to generating savings/efficiencies that pay back the borrowing requirement over 5 years. Proposers of schemes are encouraged to seek other funding opportunities (grants etc). Finance consulted our Treasury Management brokers re green bonds. Their advice is that the Council is able to access loans at lower rates of interest than the green bonds on offer. Sustainable projects will therefore be assessed against the rate of return. No further action.<br>CL 03/23 - Consultations with the Green Finance Institute and other local authorities have now taken place and confirmed the viability of using a Climate Bonds as a way to enable the local community to invest in local projects, whilst reducing the interest rate payable by the Council.  |
| Governance Leadership | 1.080 | Yes           |          | <b>Deliver ongoing engagement and awareness raising</b> to staff, contractors and service providers on sustainability issues and solutions through the 'StAN' staff portal, weekly Team Brief, staff emails and direct training. Particular teams will require specialised training (e.g. Building Service).  | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Candice Luper    |                            | Dec-20     | Continuing                                | G   | 10/10/2023           | CL - Communications are released to staff via STAN, Team Brief and emails. Emails and Team Brief notes have been sent on how to keep energy bills down at home whilst working at home, home heating, recycling and energy grants and a padlett has been created as a one-stop reference point for all staff sustainability initiatives, policies and tips. We have created an energy saving page for staff with lots of advice on reducing bills and ran a session with Citizens Advice on how to save money on bills and save energy. We regularly prompt discussions on STAN around choosing plant-based diet, recycling and more recently introduced a way of helping staff to reduce food waste in the Council Offices. Sustainability Office Champions meet every 6 weeks to discuss ways of engaging staff more widely. Most recently they have implemented some comms and initiatives to reduce food waste from the office fridges. Further staff communications will take place as part of Greener Together and once new staff are in place. Staff travel survey currently being undertaken to review greener travel facilities for staff. In Oct all staff were invited to take part in the Sustainability and Climate Crisis Strategy consultation and information on Solar Together was shared with staff. |
| Governance Leadership | 1.090 | Yes           |          | <b>Deliver strong and consistent messages to the public</b> about sustainability, the environment and climate change through the Council's publicity channels which include the Community News publication, <a href="http://www.stalbans.gov.uk">www.stalbans.gov.uk</a> , <a href="#">MyStAlbans District account</a> , press releases, social media, events, Sustainability News and the <a href="#">Building Futures website</a> . | Amanda Foley - Strategy, Policy and Transformation     | Claire Wainright | Candice Luper              | Nov-20     | Continuing                                | G   | 10/10/2023           | CW/CL<br>- New e-newsletter functionality (Granicus/Gov Delivery) has gone live.<br>- Sustainability News published 3-4 times per year (Candice Luper).<br>- Website is updated and social media posts released regularly (mainly sharing content from Hertfordshire Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership and that emanating from govt, plus relevant St Albans Council news).<br>- Year-long study completed with the University of Hertfordshire to explore methods of changing behaviour.<br>- Comms plan to be developed as part of St Albans Greener together once recruitment is complete.<br>- The Council has featured in the 'Local urgency on the Climate Emergency?' report highlighting our good public engagement around sustainability and climate change.<br>- Webpages is to be restructured to better communicate to public and partners on what we are doing and how they can do their bit.<br>- Climate Emergency UK scorecard assessment process replied to in full - awaiting results.  |

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| Governance Leadership | 1.100 | Yes | YES | Encourage and support community engagement through groups, forums, events and partnerships that focus on local environmental action. This includes where appropriate, using Council resources to leverage the impact that groups or organisation can have where this is the most effective way to raise awareness. Encourage organisations to network, share experiences, and identify opportunities to play their part. This includes for example the Climate Advisory Group, Strategic Partnership (SP), Town and Parish Council groups, Sustainable St Albans events, Hertfordshire Community Energy Group and Herts Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership. Partners will be encouraged to develop action plans and report back about progress. | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Candice Luper | Stuart Fitzsimmons<br>Maria Cutler  | Nov-20 | Continuing | G | 10/10/2023 | MC:<br>- This involves a range of local partnerships, both with business community and wider community.<br>- Herts EDOs held a sustainability business conference on 11 Feb.<br>- Sustainable St Albans has given annual update to the Strategic Partnership highlighting initiatives such as Count Me In.<br>- We promote funding and initiatives available to businesses such as the Low Carbon Workspaces grant, Eastern New Energy Programme, Herts IQ (which gives a roundup of the latest funding for businesses looking to innovate in green tech, collaborate with research institutes or adapt their operations to improve efficiency), Low Carbon Innovation Fund and Clean Growth Fund.<br>CL:<br>- Continue to attend regular meetings with other Districts, HCCSP and subgroups to implement cross-County action on sustainability and climate change. This has included the development of Action Plans to tackle Water, Carbon Reduction, Behaviour Change, Biodiversity, Transport and Adaptation sub-groups. Annual HCCSP conference to involve businesses and the community will be held in November.<br>- St Albans Greener Together project, funded by Innovate UK, is now in the preparation stage and will involve extensive community engagement, communications and facilitation. It will also enable the establishment of a community-centre called the Green House, which will provide a central location for sustainability initiatives, gatherings and workshops.<br>- Individuals and groups are welcome to attend the Councils Climate Advisory Group meetings.<br>- Council has established a partnership arrangement with Sustainable St Albans to deliver a community engagement programme to include workshops, training and support to develop their own Climate Action Plans. So far 8 volunteer climate champions have been trained and have delivered engagement for over 200 people. Lead Officer is exploring how we can expand and continue the scheme beyond the initial trial year. Parishes were engaged in 2021.<br>-- Working with Oaklands College to incorporate sustainability themes across all the curriculums in 2022/23 to produce outputs that can be used for ongoing community engagement across the District.<br>- Working to re-establish the St Albans Sustainability Market and supporting other local environmental events<br>- The Council promoted and supported SustFest 2023 and discussions are underway for SustFest 24 |
| Governance Leadership | 1.110 | Yes | YES | <b>Work in partnership with local groups</b> to deliver a climate change and sustainability public engagement programme to empower local citizens, organisations and businesses and help overcome barriers to action. This may include a Citizens Assembly should we have a specific idea or project to explore. (Corporate Plan) Establish a Citizens' Assembly to drive forward the climate emergency policies of this Council   | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Candice Luper | Peggy Sharp<br>Nicola Ward          | Oct-21 | Continuing | G | 10/10/2023 | CL:<br>- Experience from other Councils with Citizens Assemblies shows it is a resource heavy and expensive process and therefore we do not feel this is an appropriate way forward at the moment, preferring to use our limited resources on decarbonisation and engagement.<br>- Sustainable St Albans are delivering a 2 day per week programme (since Sept 2021) on our behalf to engage the community and train a network of volunteers to engage the community. The project has provided training and engagement to 22 groups/businesses, trained 9 Climate Champions who have engaged a further 192 people, delivered 4 pop-up events in Batchwood, Sopwell and Cinningham Wards and have encouraged 58 people to pledge 99 steps as part of St Albans Count Us In / St Albans Climate Action Network.<br>- St Albans Greener Together, funded by Innovate UK, will provide a comprehensive communications and engagement strategy to connect with the community and encourage involvement at all levels. We are focusing on the preparation of this scheme as a focus for engaging the community.  |
| Governance Leadership | 1.120 | Yes |     | <b>Work with the Business Improvement District and other business networks</b> , to develop and deliver city-wide environmental schemes and improvements. This might include Greening Business Support Schemes or Business sponsored renewable projects.   | Amanda Foley - Strategy, Policy and Transformation     | Maria Cutler  | Stuart Fitzsimmons<br>Candice Luper | Jan-21 | Continuing | G | 10/10/2023 | CW - Waiting on a Gov consultation on single use plastic due in Autumn. Still in discussion how best to do this with business community and post Covid recovery. Investigating scheme that could be linked to Charter Market.<br>SF - Discussions have been had with the BID about introducing business recycling scheme.<br>JP - Graduate intern spent the summer months in 2022 delivering a project to engage local businesses to help reduce the amount of litter dropped in and around retail premises. .<br>CL - Discussions with BID around introducing a campaign to encourage retailers to close doors in winter and turn lights off during the night. Many are already now doing this. Exploring the possibility of running a reusable cup scheme for the District. This could be self-sustaining but requires someone to manage the scheme and so far no-one has volunteered to take the project on.  |
| Governance Leadership | 1.130 | Yes |     | <b>Influence government to introduce more stringent sustainability policy</b> in areas such as building, housing, renewable technologies, energy, water, waste and habitat protection, through responding to consultations and working with organisations such as the Local Government Association.  | Amanda Foley - Strategy, Policy and Transformation     | Maria Cutler  | Candice Luper                       | Oct-21 | Continuing | G | 13/10/2023 | CW/CL - Will respond to Government consultations when appropriate and encourage other organisations to do so. The Council has responded to the Statutory Consultation on Luton Airport Expansion (2022); HCC South Central Growth and Transport Plan Consultation (2022), HCC Rail Strategy(2022) and Planning for the Future Consultation (2020); Consultation on proposals to ban commonly littered single-use plastic items in England (2021); LGA Climate Change Survey (2021), Governments Net Zero Strategy (2022 via HCCSP), NPPF (2023) and various others relating to transport, waste and green space. (2023) National Air Quality Strategy responded to as part of regional air quality group. Council recently (July 2023) responded to rail industry's ticket office closures. Business Summit on 15 Nov 2023 will have update re sustainability to business community and Sustainable St Albans will lead breakout group.  |

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| Energy use | 2.020 | Yes |     | Explore approaches to allocate greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets to individual departments and services.  | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Candice Luper |   | Jun-22 | Oct-23  | A | 10/10/2023 | CL - There are inherent difficulties with allocating emissions to Departments as some Departments hold the majority of the emissions (e.g. Leisure and Building Management) whilst others (e.g. HR) hold few. Over the next few months we will explore with AECOM whether this is an approach they advise us to take.  |
| Energy use | 2.030 | Yes | YES | <b>Develop a structured plan of action to undertake energy and renewable technology audits (CORPORATE, OPERATIONAL, MUSEUMS, LEISURE)</b> to identify the most cost-effective means to decarbonise our property portfolio. It should also include works to ensure that all Council buildings have an Energy Performance Certificate of B or above by 2030. Low carbon heat sources such as heat pumps or heat networks <u>will need to replace gas fired boilers</u> . The study should explore means to obtain cost neutral improvements through Energy Services Company schemes such as Re:FIT or interest-free programmes such as Salix. Implementation is expected to begin by Nov 2020.<br>(Corporate Plan) Ensure that the Councils office buildings and Council-sponsored developments are more energy efficient, including renewable energy schemes & Develop a plan for greater use of solar panels on Council-owned property and support businesses looking to develop solar or other renewable assets | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Tom Hardy     | Candice Luper<br>Stuart Foster<br>Nick Sherriff<br>Matthew Pearce | Nov-20 | Ongoing | G | 16/10/2023 | TH/MP:<br>• Installation of energy efficiency measures in the Civic Offices, Sandridge Gate and Ver museum progressing as per the energy audit action tracker.<br>• EPC and DEC project established, leisure buildings being surveyed in October 2022 ahead of new contract. DEC's complete for St Albans Museum and Gallery and Verulamium Museum and Civic Centre.<br>• Energy efficiency measures written into new leisure management contract to progress decarbonisation of leisure buildings.<br>• Bid submitted to star chamber in September for Photovoltaic (PV) panel (Design Phase) for Sandridge Gate Business Centre and Verulamium Museum, this will take place in 2023. The car parks are to be considered at a later date.<br>• Successful bid to star chamber in September for Renewable Heating (Design Phase) for Sandridge Gate Business Centre and Verulamium Museum, this will take place in 2023 but in the meantime ECO3 audits have been commissioned for both sites to gather the information required for the design phase.<br>• Successful bid submitted to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund for funding to undertake a decarbonisation strategy for the Council's corporate and operational buildings.<br>- Recently went out to around 10-12 contractors for an expression of interest for each of the pieces of work however I was very disappointed to only receive back 1 response in total. Therefore I have now started approaching frameworks to establish the most suitable for the work and ensure the procurement processes comply with the Council's procurement rules.<br>• Verulamium Museum lighting upgrade (Phase 2) has been scoped and is moving forward to implementation. |
| Energy use | 2.040 | Yes |     | Undertake a high-level analysis of our emissions, realistic trajectory towards becoming a net zero Council and District and the costs and options for decarbonisation.   | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Candice Luper |   | Jan-21 | Oct-23  | G | 10/10/2023 | CL - This will be included in the next iteration for the sustainability and climate crisis action plan.  |
| Energy use | 2.050 | Yes |     | <b>Corporate and Commercial Buildings- Ensure that all lights are replaced with LED (preferably sensor operated) as and when they reach the end of their life.</b> Payback periods depend on the type of lighting replaced and the operating hours but tend to lie between 2-6 years and can often be funded by Salix.   | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Tom Hardy     | Helen Ramsay  | Nov-20 | Mar-23  | G | 16/10/2023 | The target date set for completing this work is 31 March 2023. This is a rolling programme of replacement, when old bulbs/fittings reach end of life, replacement with LED takes place. There have been recent instances of this taking place and we are currently undertaking a large-scale upgrade at Verulamium museum.   |
| Energy use | 2.060 | Yes |     | <b>Upgrade our energy supply contract to ensure that any electricity purchased by the Council is sourced from renewable energy.</b> Any energy purchased which is not supplied from renewable energy (e.g. gas) will be offset through an appropriately certified offsetting scheme by 2023.   | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | John Patrick  | Candice Luper   | Oct-20 | Oct-23  | R | 10/10/2023 | CL/JP/LP - Electricity and Gas supply to the majority of Council buildings was sourced from renewable energy in 2021/22. There have been issues with the supplier not meeting our contractual requirement to provide EDIs which has led to unexpected costs to the Council as we have to pay someone to enter the bills. The contract was based on fixed term prices which protected the Council from the significant increase in costs over the past 18 months. However, the supplier refused to accept new sites and therefore individual arrangements were entered into for these sites until the contract was relet in 2022.<br>The gas supply contract was let in 2022 but the market has changed significantly since 2021/22. An additional premium is payable to the supplier if the Council wants to guarantee the supply is from renewable sources. Our energy advisors also confirmed that this premium is not ringfenced by the energy company for renewable projects. The estimated cost of the premium to the Council was £40k per annum and due to the additional costs and advice that the premium is not directed to renewable projects, the REGO (renewable energy guarantees of origin) were not purchased. Over the past few months officers have worked to ensure that all sites for gas have been moved to the new supplier. The fixed term electricity contract terminated 1/10/23 and a procurement process was completed to move to a different supplier using the CCS Framework. The option of purchasing REGOs was considered but were only available at an additional premium, were no guaranteed and like the gas supply are not directed to renewable projects.                                     |

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| Energy use | 2.080 | Yes |     | Work with our energy suppliers to encourage them to more rapidly install Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) technology to the remainder of Council-owned Housing properties, to allow for more accurate monitoring of energy consumption  | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Simon Smith       |   | Jan-21 | Mar-24 | A | 23/08/2023 | SS - Housing Asset Team will work with energy suppliers to communal areas to install this technology  |
| Energy use | 2.090 | Yes | YES | <b>Develop a Council-wide construction standard for Council new builds</b> and refurbishments to ensure that high standards of energy efficiency and sustainability are incorporated to building design and construction to achieve appropriate zero carbon buildings standard. Government have provided Planning Authorities with the green light to go above and beyond Building Regulations. This policy should also address material sourcing requirements to reduce carbon impacts of product transport. Government aspirations include the Future Homes Standard, the commitment to phase out fossil fuel heating installations off the gas grid, and aspirations and initiatives around home retrofits (EPC band C by 2035) and low-carbon heating. The Future Homes Standard for example, will ensure new build homes have low-carbon heating and world-leading levels of energy efficiency by 2025. The World Green Building Council also provide frameworks as does Passivhaus. Ultra-high energy efficiency standards, installed alongside an air source heat pump, represent a 1-4% uplift on build costs relative to a home built to current regulations. Passivhaus is estimated to lift costs for the developer by 7% but could come down to 3% in future. Taking into account whole life costs, high efficiency buildings are cheaper in the long-run. It costs a 1/3 of the price to incorporate efficiency measures such as low carbon heat to a new build, than to retrofit them to existing buildings. | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Robbie Hazlehurst | Simon Smith<br>Tom Hardy<br>Candice Luper | Apr-20 | Mar-23 | G | 23/08/2023 | RH - The Capital Projects team are working with their clients, whether it be Housing, Estate Services or Green Spaces, to establish a specification for new build and refurbishment developments that will maximise sustainability features. All Capital Projects meet the RIBA 2023 standard for sustainable construction.<br>SS - Housing are included on the new build schemes for HRA stock and specifications for the developments are designed to maximise carbon reduction and achieve a high level of energy efficiency based on the feasibility of these measures available at the time of planning. All HRA refurbishment/Capital replacement works are to be incorporated into the HRA Energy Strategy.<br>CL - Discussions underway with University around whether they can help us to develop a construction standard/policy and also need to investigate whether the Future Homes Standard will meet the needs for efficient buildings without us writing our own policy. |
| Energy use | 2.130 | Yes | YES | <b>Undertake an ongoing programme to improve energy efficiency of Council-owned housing incorporating the advice in the energy audits.</b> Currently this includes work to install A-rated boilers, insulate lofts and cavity walls, install double glazing and energy efficient lighting to interior and exteriors. The government has set a target of all homes being improved to Energy Performance Certificate C[ by 2035. Our aim is that all Council Housing meet EPC B by 2030. This will require the conversion of gas boilers to low carbon heat sources, renewable technology, and improvements to insulation. We will explore the potential for whole house refurbishments such as the Dutch 'Energiesprong' (energy leap). This achieves an 86% reduction in emissions and currently costs around £70k per average home. Costs are forecast to come down to £35k per property in the near future. Annual savings can be obtained from reduced maintenance and income generated from energy savings made by the residents, and potentially the Renewable Heat Incentive. Upgrading a home to EPOC C costs on average £4,385 per home and reduces emissions by around 30%. (Corporate Plan) Develop a plan for improved home insulation for both Council-owned and other properties  | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Simon Smith       |   | Nov-20 | Sep-23 | G | 26/07/2023 | SS:<br>- The Council has been awarded funding on the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 1 of £1.5m to improve the EPC performance of 136 properties. The works began in September 2022 and be complete by 31st August 2023.<br>- The Council was awarded Green Homes Deal Local Authority Delivery 1B funding to carry out works to 45 properties to achieve a Carbon Neutral output and an EPC rating of C to these properties. The lessons learnt from these pilots will inform the Energy Strategy developed by the Housing Service to achieve the Council's target of 2030/31. This programme was completed in 30/06/2022.<br>- The Council have been successful in a bid for funding under the SHDF Wave 2.1 scheme for works on 914 properties, the programme delivery dates are from April 2023 until July 2025. The Council will receive £8.78m from Government funding and contribute £9.7m from the HRA for a total works package of £18.78m                     |

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| Energy use | 2.140 | Yes | YES | Investigate the possibility of using land or developments for a large-scale energy generation to enable us to produce our own energy and decarbonise our operations, and as a means of income generation and energy resilience.  | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Chris Briggs |               | Nov-20 | Mar-22 | G | 10/10/2023 | CB - As set out in the Site Allocation in the new Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan sets out for site H3 - East Hemel Hempstead (Central) the requirement: 17. Use of the exceptional environmental opportunities provided by this scale of employment development for large scale solar power generation; including on all rooftops and as appropriate on car parking, lorry parking etc. This can be seen in the Site Allocations document as at:www.stalbans.gov.uk/new-local-plan<br>MP - Met with local Solar PV expert who is willing to provide free feasibility and give advice and support for progressing with the Councils' renewable objectives. A preliminary rooftop analysis has been undertaken looking at current Council buildings and the most feasible location for a new system, as well as the cost for a new system. Using data from the existing system on the Civic centre, calculations will be done to determine the payoff time for a new system. This information will inform any future decisions for this sustainability item.<br>TM 05/08/21 This project will be considered as part of the revision of the property investment strategy and plan for 2022-23. Latest property investment strategy and plan being reviewed at scrutiny committee. New projects to be brought to the Regeneration and Business committee in November. |
| Energy use | 2.150 | Yes | YES | Develop Planning Policy requiring high standards of sustainable construction, resource efficiency, on-site renewable or low carbon energy generation.  | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Chris Briggs |               | Jan-21 | Jul-23 | G | 10/10/2023 | CB - Draft policies agreed at Planning Policy & Climate Committee 10.6.23 for Local Plan Reg 18 consultation 12 July - 25 September 2023.   |
| Energy use | 2.160 | Yes |     | Ensure that the Planning Department are equipped with expertise in sustainable construction methods and low carbon technology to be able to understand the best solutions available and demand appropriate improvements.   | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Sarah Ashton | Candice Luper | Jan-21 | Jun-25 | G | 10/10/2023 | CL - Have identified training options for Planners with Apse, TCPA and others.<br>HCCSP are delivering a one day training for Planners on NPPF and Climate Change via TCPA  |
| Energy use | 2.170 | Yes | YES | Explore financial and other ways to secure carbon offsetting measures in major developments. This can incentivise the construction of energy efficient buildings and finance the transition to a low carbon district. Similar measures have been introduced in London and Milton Keynes.   | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Chris Briggs |               | Jan-21 | Jul-23 | G | 10/10/2023 | CB - Draft policies agreed at Planning Policy & Climate Committee 10.6.23 for Local Plan Reg 18 consultation 12 July - 25 September 2023.   |
| Energy use | 2.180 | Yes |     | In the next review of the new Local Plan, seek to allocate suitable areas of land within the District following paragraph 151 of the NPPF for renewable and low carbon energy and heat. Increasing renewable energy capacity requires finding suitable sites. 1MW wind requires 25-54 acres of land, 1MW solar requires 4 acres (though wind has 3 times more capacity to generate energy per MW than solar). The average town in UK has 32MW of renewable energy whereas in St Albans we have just 4.7MW. Enfield has installed several solar farms and now generates 58.4MW. | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Chris Briggs |               | Feb-21 | Jul-23 | G | 10/10/2023 | CB - Draft policies agreed at Planning Policy & Climate Committee 10.6.23 for Local Plan Reg 18 consultation 12 July - 25 September 2023. Includes allocation of land for large scale PV at East Hemel Central Broad Location.  |

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| Energy use | 2.210 | Yes |  | Deliver a scheme to support vulnerable and low-income households by making use of Energy Company Obligation funding to improve the energy efficiency and warmth of their homes and reduce excess winter deaths. As part of this we will ensure that we make best possible use of the 'Flexibility Eligibility' so that local householder who need it, are able to access support. | Chris Traill – Community & Place | Candice Luper | John Frost                   | Sep-20 | Ongoing | G | 17/10/2023 | CL:<br>- St Albans Warmer Homes scheme was set up to provide residents with a clear way to access Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding. YES Energy managed the scheme and installed 17 boilers, 9 Cavity, Room in roof or Loft Insulation, 1 new heating and 1 remedial heating during the programme. Scheme was widely promoted with press releases, social media, Council newsletters and direct mailings to low EPC households.<br>- Working in partnership with Older People's Trust who agreed to provide top-up funding to those over 60 in need of boiler replacements and repair who were not able to obtain 100% funding from ECO via St Albans Warmer Homes<br>- We permitted the installers on the National Energy Foundation (NEF) installer network to use the Councils ECO Flex criteria. This made it easier for more contractors to help local households obtain ECO funding. (Previously only Yes Energy had access through the St Albans Warmer Homes scheme). Since NEF came on board their installers have provided 9 boiler replacements, 48 cavity wall insulation, 9 loft insulation and 19 first time heating systems.<br>- Warmworks scheme was launched Aug/Sept 2022, allocating £1,362,000 Green Homes Grant funding to deliver wall, loft and hot water tank insulation, Air Source, ground source or hybrid heat pumps, Biomass boilers, Double / triple glazing to replace single glazing, energy efficient doors, thermostats and heating controls, to low-income households. This has been promoted on social media and is on our website but wider launch will take place once all elements have been finalised.<br>- ECO closed in spring 2022 and ECO4 opened some time later. We have published our ECO4 Flex SOI which allows us to take part in the scheme and for residents to continue applying for certain measures. Any contractor registered as an NEF Installer can access our ECO Flex SOI and thus identify eligible households in our area.<br>- Work is underway with EON who will target a specific area of the District for whole-house improvements under an ECO4 funded scheme to mostly private, and some social, housing.<br>- St Albans Home Energy Support Service is now live. This replaces St Albans Warmer Homes, and provides a central port of call for residents to obtain information on how to reduce their energy bills, how to improve home energy efficiency and guide residents to funding if they are eligible. The service is being provided for free thanks to funding from the Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme, however the Council have paid additional fee to ensure that 75 middle and high income households are also able to access advice on home energy efficiency. As of 15th August, 54 able-to-pay households have taken up advice through this service as well as 176 low income households.<br>- SADC now signed up to Great British Insulation Scheme which means that installers on the NEF network may now seek eligible households in the area to apply.<br>JF:<br>HUG 2 Grant of £576,000 allocated to St Albans District following successful bid. Will target off-gas properties for energy efficiency measures. Warmworks appointed as managing agents. Soft launch has been conducted will promote more widely when managing agent's website is ready for referrals.<br>- SAHESS are attending a number of Older Peoples events in the area to promote the scheme |
| Energy use | 2.220 | Yes |  | Collaborate with the Parish Councils and local groups to actively promote advice and information on reducing energy consumption, managing their energy bills, renewable technology and tackling fuel poverty. We will promote national grants, subsidies and initiatives as they become available.  | Chris Traill – Community & Place | Peggy Sharp   | Nicola Ward<br>Candice Luper | Apr-21 | ONGOING | G | 10/10/2023 | CL -<br>- See previous cells which outline our comms and engagement activities.<br>- All Parishes have been offered one-to-one support at the Parish Roundtable and also at APC meeting in 2021. One on one meetings commenced with 3 Parishes. SADC Climate Change training will be used at one Parish. Also provided links to the online Youtube training in July 2022.<br>- Solar Together scheme launched in September, a Herts-wide solar panel (and battery and/or EV charger) bulk purchase scheme via iChoors. Over 3300 households registered for the scheme in St Albans District (this is the most in Hertfordshire). 640 households are progressing with installations. The initiative was promoted by letter, social media and radio. We are now awaiting details for the number of people who will progress with assessments.<br>- Solar Together 2 has been launched as of 29th August 2023<br>- Older Persons Events include information on energy efficiency and St Albans Home Energy Support Service will be attending to promote the service.<br>- Information on local scheme's energy efficiency advice etc, sent to local voluntary groups and parish Councils. Gradually collating a mailing list of local contacts.<br>- Risk of increasing poverty in the District as a result of rising fuel prices has been added to the Council's Risk Register. Mitigating measures are being developed and promoted. These include warm spaces and the delivery of energy efficiency talks and workshops.<br>- HEAT App was launched to show users how they can simply save energy at home.   |
| Energy use | 2.230 | Yes |  | Improve promotion of the <u>Home Repairs Assistance Grant</u> providing support for improving the energy efficiency of vulnerable households, by improving visibility on the website and through a specific leaflet.  | Chris Traill – Community & Place | John Frost    |                              | Oct-20 | ONGOING | G | 17/10/2023 | JF:<br>No new claims   |
| Energy use | 2.240 | Yes |  | In response to complaints from tenants in the private rented sector, we will enforce the requirements of the <b>Housing Health and Safety Rating Scheme (HHSRS)</b> and the <b>minimum energy efficiency standards</b> to reduce the hazard of excess cold. Where homes aren't adequately heated, landlords will be requested to carry out energy efficiency improvements.        | Chris Traill – Community & Place | John Frost    |                              | Mar-20 | ONGOING | G | 17/10/2023 | JF:<br>2 properties identified with potential excess cold hazard. 1 x Improvement notice served and remedial works completed by landlord. 1 x Statutory Abatement Notice Service and alternative heating provided.   |



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| Energy use     | 2.250 | Yes |     | <b>Establish how the Council might more proactively monitor and enforce Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards</b> given the existing resources to do so. Minimum energy efficiency standards have been set by the Government for homes that are privately rented, with a minimum 'Energy Performance Certificate' of E required. Councils are responsible for ensuring that these standards are met, but research suggest that many councils aren't effectively enforcing them at the moment, thus missing a key opportunity for cutting carbon and improving housing quality. Cost £45k pa to cover a full-time officer. Some of this can be recouped through fees.  | Chris Traill – Community & Place | John Frost    |                             | Oct-20 | ONGOING | A | 17/10/2023 | JF:<br>Enforcement strategy drafted and currently awaiting review by legal team and then subsequent approval.<br>EPC checks are being conducted on all properties in the private rental sector where tenants approach Private Sector Housing team about their properties to ensure EPC standards are met.   |
| Energy use     | 2.260 | Yes |     | <b>Attend Landlord Forums and work with lettings agents and private landlords</b> on an occasional basis to disseminate information and to raise awareness of Landlords' duties to meet minimum standards and to provide advice on the assistance available.  | Chris Traill – Community & Place | John Frost    |                             | Mar-20 | ONGOING | A | 17/10/2023 | JF - Landlords Forum held on 23/5/23, next forum scheduled for 23/11/23   |
| Energy use     | 2.300 | Yes |     | <b>Develop a structured plan of action to undertake energy and renewable technology audits of the main Council buildings (HOUSING)</b> to identify the most cost-effective means to decarbonise our property portfolio. It should also include works to ensure the main Council buildings have an Energy Performance Certificate of B or above by 2030. Low carbon heat sources such as heat pumps or heat networks <u>will need to replace gas fired boilers</u> . The study should explore means to obtain cost neutral improvements through Energy Services Company schemes such as Re:FIT or interest-free programmes such as Salix. Implementation is expected to begin by Nov 2020. (Corporate Plan) Ensure that the Councils office buildings and Council-sponsored developments are more energy efficient, including renewable energy schemes & Develop a plan for greater use of solar panels on Council-owned property and support businesses looking to develop solar or other renewable assets. | Chris Traill – Community & Place | Simon Smith   | Jason Grace                 | Apr-21 | Sep-25  | G | 26/07/2023 | SS -<br>- Housing Service Energy Strategy approved at Housing and Inclusion Committee meeting on 26/01/22. The strategy aims to achieve a carbon neutral position for Housing Assets by 2030/31.<br>- The Council has been successful in obtaining Government Funding under the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 1 to carry out energy efficiency works to 136 Housing Revenue Account dwellings to achieve an EPC rating of at least Band C by 31/08/2023.<br>- The Council has successfully bid for funding under the SHDF Wave 2.1 programme for works on 914 HRA properties, the works are due to commence in August 2023 and be completed 2025.<br>- The Housing Department have completed a partially Government Funded Pilot programme to work on 45 HRA properties. The properties all have an EPC rating of C on properties that had an EPC rating of D or below. The pilot programme will provided the basis of an energy strategy that will achieve a carbon Neutral position on HRA stock by 2030/31 and ensure all properties are at least at EPC B. The pilot programme began in March 2021 and was completed by the end of June 2022.<br>- The Housing Asset Team are working with the partnering contractor on the SHDF projects to install Vericon technology in up to half the properties on the projects. This technology can remotely monitor temperatures, humidity and use of heating. This will allow the Council to monitor the results of insulation and renewable heating measures and help to identify causes of damp and mould. |
| Transport & AQ | 3.010 | Yes | YES | <b>Provide 2-4 electric pool cars for staff to use for business purposes.</b> These cars will be available for public use outside of working hours.   | Chris Traill – Community & Place | Candice Luper | Steve Dibben<br>Jane Pearce | Aug-20 | Dec-23  | G | 10/10/2023 | CL/SD -<br>- Car Club launched to public on 26/01/22. Electric vehicles replaced hybrid vehicles in July 22.<br>- Promoted in Community News, Sustainability News and leaflets have gone out with Council Tax mailing.<br>- Staff processes are now in place and staff launch took place 26/05/22. So far only one staff journey despite ongoing communications.<br>- Between March 2022-June 2023 the cars travelled 14,512. Utilisation is around 5-10% per month so there is scope for much higher usage.<br>- Council and Enterprise are focusing on doing more local promotion including exploring car parks, bus stop posters, banners sites and leisure centres.<br>- Planning to extend contract and looking at how we can promote it again<br>- We know that the more cars available, the more people will view the cars as a reliable alternative. For now we need to monitor usage and keep promoting the scheme. Aim is to introduce more vehicles to town centres, flat developments and areas of limited parking.<br>- Leaflets will be provided to all occupants of the adjacent cos south development.<br>- Some issues with the charging infrastructure in October which we are working to resolve.  |
| Transport & AQ | 3.020 | Yes | YES | <b>All Council Housing fleet will be replaced with ultra-low emission vehicles</b> at end of life or by 2028 starting with markets vehicles. This will include service vehicles such as those required for parking enforcement and the recycling collection vehicles.   | Chris Traill – Community & Place | Simon Smith   | Andrew Ilott                | Mar-26 | Mar-27  | G | 23/08/2023 | Housing only have 1 vehicle which is the caretaker van. This will be replaced by 2028. Our contractors Morgan Sindall have recently purchased their first electric vehicle and have a second on order.  |

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| Transport & AQ | 3.021 | Yes | YES | All Council fleet will be replaced with ultra-low emission vehicles at end of life or by 2028 starting with markets vehicles. This will include service vehicles such as those required for parking enforcement and the recycling collection vehicles. (Waste, Parking, Markets, Grounds Maintenance)        | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Stuart Fitzsimmons | Candice Luper        | Oct-21 | Mar-24 | G | 10/10/2023 | SF:<br>- Fleet upgrade or fleet replacement discussions continue with Veolia and JOC.<br>- An upgraded fleet of Grounds Maintenance vehicles has been completed. 38 new vehicles and plant to GM contract of which 4 are EV and 1 is hybrid and these are now in operation. This represents a reasonable interim step. The Council has contributed to the purchase of an electric JCB for the Cemetery Service which is now being fully utilised.<br>- Veolia are currently trialling electric vehicles and keeping abreast of developments in the technology. Electric street cleaning vehicles are currently being trialled.<br>- We have purchased new street cleansing vehicles in 2022 and have ordered new Waste & Recycling vehicles to be delivered in July 2024.<br>- We are closely watching best practice and have attended local authority discussions on the use of different oils such as (hydrotreated vegetable oil) as an interim step towards net zero.<br>- Discussions also underway about the size of waste vehicles being used in the Conservation Area and whether we can choose smaller vehicles in the next contract to minimise damage to the public realm.<br>CL: HCC are procuring a research study to identify the best alternative fuels to use in Council fleet in the transition away from fossil fuels. This will help to inform our strategy.<br>- Parking Service undertaking paperwork to lease an all electric fleet for the next 36 months. |
| Transport & AQ | 3.022 | Yes | YES | Museums Van will be replaced with ultra-low emission vehicles at end of life or by 2028  | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Farhana Begum      |                      | Mar-23 | Mar-24 | G | 10/10/2023 | Service Manager shall start the planning for the replacement of the Museum Service van for an electric version by Mar 2024. 1 vehicle is still in working order and has low mileage. It will be replaced in the next 4-5 years. No further update required until nearer the time.   |
| Transport & AQ | 3.030 | Yes |     | Update the Council's Green Travel policy/guidance such that flights will only be authorised in exceptional cases where there is no reasonable alternative and that long-distance journeys must be made using lower carbon options such as rail or else journeys will not be reimbursed.                      | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Jane Pearce        | Lakshmi Raghavachari | Jan-21 | Dec-23 | G | 14/08/2023 | JP - Draft being developed, delayed by changes to working practices during pandemic and recovery period. Reviewing green travel policy/guidance from other authorities to identify best practice. Staff do not use flights or travel long distances for work so not a significant issue for us.   |
| Transport & AQ | 3.040 | Yes |     | Explore options to reward and incentivise staff to choose lower emission travel. As part of this we will look to incentivise cycling by providing a mileage reimbursement for business trips travelled by bike. We will also explore how making changes to the Essential Car Allowance can support this aim. | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Jane Pearce        | Lakshmi Raghavachari | Jan-21 | Dec-23 | G | 14/08/2023 | JP- Green Travel guidance and incentives being reviewed as part of 'modernising our employment offer' alongside new operating model and changed working practices post-pandemic.<br>Work to develop new green travel policy/guidance underway (as above).<br>Cycle to work incentives launched with new benefits platform.<br>Electric vehicle pool cars available to staff for business use.<br>Electric vehicle purchase staff purchase schemes being reviewed.<br>Cycle mileage not introduced yet. Will be considered as part of green travel policy.<br>Formal review is being initiated into the essential car user allowance this summer/autumn ready to request any formal changes (if required) in time for Pay Policy which gets agreed around Xmas time. No change made to policy at the current time  |
| Transport & AQ | 3.080 | Yes |     | Work with the County Council to develop planning guidance policies around the installation of electric vehicle charging points in new developments.  | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Chris Briggs       |                      | Jan-21 | Jul-23 | G | 10/10/2023 | CB - Draft policies agreed at Planning Policy & Climate Committee 10.6.23 for Local Plan Reg 18 consultation 12 July - 25 September 2023.   |
| Transport & AQ | 3.090 | Yes |     | Identify locations to install secure cycle storage in the district to maximise the use of bicycles and encourage cycling. This includes the provision of on-street cycle cages for streets of terraced houses.   | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Steve Dibben       | Candice Luper        | Feb-21 | Sep-23 | A | 23/08/2023 | SD/CL - Form added to website to allow residents to express interest in an on-street cycle cage. 50 requests obtained so far. Expressions of interest from the public were then sorted into catchment areas to assess demand. We have searched council owned land within the high demand areas as well as possible off-street locations. These were taken back to consultees for feedback. The responses are currently being assessed. We received 11 favourable responses to one location however some are unwilling to pay for the service citing the fact that car drivers do not have to pay for parking. Have discussed the option to have a fully managed service exploring options.<br>The demand was relatively low and so no scheme is currently being considered.   |
| Transport & AQ | 3.120 | Yes |     | Develop a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for the District to identify cycling and walking improvements required to increase the number of trips made on foot or by cycle, including key links such as the routes from the City Centre to the rail stations.                           | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Chris Briggs       | Wendy Frost          | Jan-21 | Jul-23 | G | 10/10/2023 | CB - Three stakeholder and Councillor engagement events took place spring-summer 2022. HCC are the lead authority and the two Councils and the consultants are taking on board all the comments made. A public consultation took place 7 Feb - 20 March 2023. Proposed final LCWIP agreed at PP&C 12 September 2023 - to go to HCC Panel and Cabinet in late 2023 for their final adoption.   |



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| Transport & AQ | 3.140 | Yes | YES | Evaluate the most cost-effective and practical options to increase EV charging infrastructure across the District utilising OLEV funding. This will increase our understanding of future needs, management options, costings, and inform our policies on residential charging and appropriate requirements for new developments. Estimates suggest that we will need around 62 electric vehicle chargers in place before 2030 at a cost of £100k. Installation of EV charging to key Council sites is expected to commence before the end of 2020. (Corporate Plan) Develop plans for a significant increase in off-street and on-street electric charging points | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Tom Hardy     | Steve Dibben<br>Candice Luper      | Oct-20 | Mar-23  | G | 16/10/2023 | SD:<br>Phase 2 installation was completed in the middle of May 23. The following sites are now operational:<br>Hart Road - 4 EV Charging Spaces (2 Fast Charging Units)<br>Cotlandswick Leisure Centre - 2 EV Charging Spaces (1 Fast Charging Units)<br>Keyfield Terrace - 4 EV Charging Spaces (2 Fast Charging Units)<br>London Road - 4 EV Charging Spaces (2 Fast Charging Units)<br>Bowers Way - 2 EV Charging Spaces (1 Fast Charging Units)<br>Charter Close - 2 EV Charging Spaces (1 Fast Charging Units)<br><br>SADC has also installed or is planning to install EV charge points to the new developments at developments at Jenny Lane, Noke Shot, Cottonmill Community & Cycle Centre, and CCOS South.<br><br>TH: There are no further installations planned this FY, pending guidance on on-street charging from the County Council. However, the Council's leisure operator and the grounds maintenance operator are also exploring options at their various sites.  |
| Transport & AQ | 3.150 | Yes | YES | Develop a strategy, and associated incentives, to reduce emissions from the pool of local authority-authorised taxis. This will include programmes to encourage electric vehicles through education, marketing, loans, vehicle emissions restrictions, vehicle inspections, reduced licensing costs and determine end date for fossil fuelled licensed vehicles. We will review the proportion of large taxis we demand and agree a timetable for retiring existing polluting vehicles. (Corporate Plan) Develop plans for the re-introduction of electric taxis  | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Robin Ray     | Desmond Crehan<br>Daniel Pattenden | Oct-20 | Oct-23  | A | 25/10/2022 | RR - Briefing paper being prepared to set out potential measures to be introduced.<br>New taxi policy in place, including phasing out of petrol/diesel vehicles, emissions standard and reduction in fees for low emission vehicles. As previously stated larger and often more polluting vehicles can provide wheelchair accessible vehicles, and we have no direct control so unable to 'introduce electric taxis'.<br>- Currently exploring the introduction of an electric-only taxi rank in town centre (with charge points).<br>- CL - HCCSP are undertaking an exercise to create a unified Herts-wide taxi decarbonisation policy for Herts.   |
| Transport & AQ | 3.170 | Yes | YES | Introduce an all-electric (or hybrid) pool car club for businesses and residents of the District. This provides vehicles for members to use on demand thereby reducing the need for car ownership.  | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Candice Luper | Steve Dibben                       | Aug-20 | Dec-23  | G | 10/10/2023 | CL/SD -<br>- Car Club launched to public on 26/01/22. Electric vehicles replaced hybrid vehicles in July 22.<br>- Promoted in Community News, Sustainability News and leaflets have gone out with Council Tax mailing.<br>- Staff processes are now in place and staff launch took place 26/05/22. So far only one staff journey despite ongoing communications.<br>- Between March 2022-June 2023 the cars travelled 14,512. Utilisation is around 5-10% per month so there is scope for much higher usage.<br>- Council and Enterprise are focusing on doing more local promotion including exploring car parks, bus stop posters, banners sites and leisure centres.<br>- Planning to extend contract and looking at how we can promote it again<br>- We know that the more cars available, the more people will view the cars as a reliable alternative. For now we need to monitor usage and keep promoting the scheme. Aim is to introduce more vehicles to town centres, flat developments and areas of limited parking.<br>- Leaflets will be provided to all occupants of the adjacent cos south development.<br>- Some issues with the charging infrastructure in October which we are working to resolve. |
| Transport & AQ | 3.190 | Yes |     | Continue to develop and implement the measures of our Air Quality Management Plan to reduce emissions from road transport and improve air quality. As part of this we will look to introduce Air Quality Monitoring points across the District for particulate air pollution.   | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Tara Murphy   |                                    | Oct-20 | ONGOING | G | 11/10/2023 | TM:<br>- Our Air Quality monitoring results showed pollutant concentrations of nitrogen dioxide to be under Air Quality Strategy objective levels by a significant margin at 2 of our 3 AQMA's. As a result of sustained reductions in pollutant levels, we have revoked these 2 AQMA's. DEFRA appraised and accepted our ASR22. We then revoked AQMA 2 & AQMA 7 and will report on these revocations in ASR23 (June 23)<br>- Traffic management schemes involving various road closures, are currently being trialled around our remaining AQMA 1 (Peahen Junction) in the town centre.<br>CL<br>HCC - undertaking a comprehensive Air Quality monitoring and engagement campaign. Installing air purifiers into schools, real time monitoring on walkers in various routes, monitoring air quality in homes and monitoring of air quality where there are open fires and wood burning stoves.  |

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| Transport & AQ | 3.210 | Yes |  | <b>Widely promote the Idling Action St Albans Campaign</b> to raise awareness of the impact of idling vehicles on health and air quality. We will also introduce anti-idling zones and ensure idling is effectively enforced. Children and parents will be the core focus for any campaigns. (Corporate Plan states) Reduce pollution from car emissions around schools by implementing car exclusion and no car idling zones. Work to promote anti-idling zones with a programme of effective enforcement | Chris Traill – Community & Place                       | Candice Luper | Robin Ray |  | Jun-21 | ONGOING | G | 10/10/2023 | CL:<br>- Idling Action banners produced for use at schools and car parks. Signage has been installed to Drovers Way/Russel Ave car park. Banners have been provided to 4 schools to hang on their gates in conjunction with newsletter articles. Had planned to do parent engagement but no Idling Action St Albans volunteers have been available to help.<br>- HCC has provided training for more Idling Volunteers for Clean Air Day and delivered 150 interactions across Herts. We have wildly invited people to take part via social media and emails to our network but no-one took up the offer in St Albans. Some active Councillors also did some engagement at a local school using our materials.<br>- HCC are delivering an extensive clean air campaign which will include anti-idling <a href="https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/clean-air/clean-air.aspx">https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/clean-air/clean-air.aspx</a><br>- Occasionally residents contact the Council and we send them materials to give to drivers.<br>- The ice cream van firm using Verulamium Park under contract to the Council, have invested in a cutting-edge technology battery-only van which will power the production of ice-creams and therefore eliminate the need to idle the engine during use, in addition to their grid-fed van. Since the site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, the laying of electricity cables to create additional power points is cost prohibitive.<br>- RR - County have indicated that they intend to issue a statement/guidance to schools relating to school streets schemes, no intent to delegate powers to district on this matter. Parking considering other legal options to tackle idling.<br>- No further direct engagement with the public has taken place in 2023 due to limited staff capacity. |
| Transport & AQ | 3.240 | Yes |  | <b>Facilitate a regular transport stakeholder meeting</b> to bring together Herts County Council, local transport providers and Intalink to encourage improvements to local public transport provision, cycle and walking routes and roads. The meeting will provide a forum to share best practice, address and overcome issues, apply for funding and implement improvement projects, for example to convert local buses to electric, hydrogen or biogas.  | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Steve Dibben  |           |  | Feb-21 | Apr-22  | G | 22/05/2023 | SD: As part of the National Bus Strategy Local Authorities, including HCC developed Bus Service Improvement Plans (BSIP).<br>- HCC facilitates a quarterly Enhanced Bus Partnership meeting.<br>CL - In terms of Electric buses HCC are looking at putting a bid in for Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) this is funding to work with bus operators not areas on purchasing electric buses and charging points in depots. Currently we've had an expression of interest from UNO and Arriva but further discussions need to be had as the DfT will only fund 75% of the total amount needed so there is a shortfall for operators and potentially HCC. Nothing has been agreed yet on how that bid will look like but we'll be putting something together. If it is with UNO then that will have an effect on St Albans as UNO services go there.   |
| Transport & AQ | 3.260 | Yes |  | Continue to meet regularly with St Albans Cycle Forum, St Albans Bus Users Forum, and Herts County Council Integrated Transport Team to discuss issues and future projects, and to give passengers a means to voice concerns and experiences to those that plan and operate their services.  | Suzanne Jones – Customer, Business & Corporate Support | Steve Dibben  |           |  | Oct-20 | ONGOING | R | 22/05/2023 | SD - St Albans Bus Users Forum meetings have been suspended indefinitely since lockdown. Attendees from meetings prior to Covid don't appear to be active anymore.  |