



Item

CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN 2021-2026

To:

Councillor Rosy Moore, Executive Councillor for Climate Change,
Environment and City Centre
Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee 25/03/2021

Report by:

David Kidston, Strategy and Partnerships Manager
Tel: 01223 457143, Email: david.kidston@cambridge.gov.uk

Wards affected:

Abbey, Arbury, Castle, Cherry Hinton, Coleridge, East Chesterton, King's Hedges, Market, Newnham, Petersfield, Queen Edith's, Romsey, Trumpington, West Chesterton

Key Decision

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report presents a revised Climate Change Strategy covering the period from 2021-2026 for approval, following public consultation in autumn 2020. The revised strategy sets out the Council's approach to: reducing its own carbon emissions; supporting residents, businesses and organisations in Cambridge to reduce their emissions; and helping the city adapt to the predicted changes in climate. The revised strategy builds on what the Council has achieved to date, but sets out new ambitions in the context of the Climate Emergency, including working more with residents, communities, businesses and institutions.
- 1.2 The report also presents a new Carbon Management Plan for 2021-2026 for approval. The Carbon Management Plan sets out in more detail how the Council will reduce its direct carbon emissions from its corporate buildings and fleet vehicles towards net zero carbon.

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

1. Approve the Council's Climate Change Strategy for 2021-2026.
2. Approve the Council's Carbon Management Plan for 2021-2026.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council has had three previous Climate Change Strategies since 2008, covering the periods 2008-2012, 2012-2016 and 2016-2021. The Council has also had two previous Carbon Management Plans, covering the periods from 2012-2016 and 2016-2021. Annual reports on progress in delivering actions and projects identified in these strategies and plans have been presented to meetings of the Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.2 The revised Climate Change Strategy takes into account the key findings from public consultation and engagement on a draft framework for the strategy, which was agreed by the Executive Councillor for Climate Change, Environment and City Centre at the Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee meeting on 1 October 2020.
- 3.3 Consultation and engagement on the strategy has included:
 - 5 online workshops during November 2021, which were attended by a total of 75 residents. 3 of the workshops focused on specific themes in the strategy (housing, waste and sustainable food, and climate change adaptation) and 2 of the workshops covered the strategy as a whole. Each workshop included presentations by Council officers and University of Cambridge experts, followed by a facilitated discussion with participants.
 - An online consultation survey, which was completed by 252 residents. The key issues raised by respondents to this survey are summarised in Appendix 1 to this report.
 - 3 "Climate Change Forum" meetings between August 2020 and January 2021 with local environmental groups including Cambridge Carbon Footprint, Transition Cambridge, Cambridge Sustainable Food, Carbon Neutral Cambridge, and Friends of the Earth.

- Regular meetings with Cambridge Zero (the University of Cambridge's new climate change initiative) and meetings other University of Cambridge and Anglia Ruskin academics with climate change expertise.
- A workshop with key businesses and institutions in Cambridge on 28 January 2021.
- Producing a net zero carbon animation, which was used to promote the workshops and the survey on the Council's social media accounts. We also promoted the workshops and survey via all residents associations, members of local environmental groups, and to University of Cambridge staff and students.

4. Implications

a) Financial Implications

Funding for projects included in the Carbon Management Plan comes from a number of different funding sources, including the Council's Climate Change Fund and existing General Fund or Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budgets for delivering services. The Climate Change Fund was established in 2008 to fund measures that will reduce the carbon footprint of the Council's buildings, fleet and services. The Climate Change Fund has contributed a total of £1.4 million to projects delivered since 2008/09.

As noted in the new Carbon Management Plan, the schemes that the Council will need to invest in to reduce its emissions in future will potentially have a much higher capital cost, and the net savings on energy costs will not always cover the capital costs of some of the works

The Council will therefore make further allocations to the Climate Change Fund to deliver Carbon Management Plan projects through the Council's annual budget setting process. The Council will also seek Government funding for projects in the Carbon Management Plan, as opportunities arise. For example, in January 2021 the Council secured £1.7 million from the first round of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme for carbon reduction measures at Parkside Pools and Abbey Pools.

The actions contained in the wider Climate Change Strategy will be funded through primarily through existing budgets for delivering key services. These fall within the General Fund or the HRA depending on the services involved.

We will also seek Government and other external funding sources for specific climate change initiatives, where this is available. For example, the installation of 20 electric charging points for taxis is being delivered with a combination of funding Government, the Greater Cambridge Partnership. In January 2021, we led a £2 million Cambridgeshire-wide bid to the Green Homes Grant Local Delivery Scheme for energy efficiency work in Council homes, housing association homes and private homes.

In the Budget Setting Report for 2021/22, the Council committed to using a percentage of the Council's reserves to invest in innovative "green investments" to facilitate measures to offset climate change. The Council will announce the percentage during the course of the coming financial year when we have greater certainty as to our future financial position post Covid.

b) Staffing Implications

Lead officers have been identified for projects in the Climate Change Strategy and Carbon Management Plan who have the capacity to deliver the projects within the stated timescales.

The Climate Change Officer co-ordinates the overall delivery of the Climate Change Strategy and Carbon Management Plan, with support from the Environment Policy and Project Group, which is a corporate group that includes many of the lead officers. The BSR 2021/22 has provided for an additional Climate Change Officer post, to help progress policy, projects and community engagement initiatives.

c) Equality and Poverty Implications

An Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) of the Climate Change Strategy and Carbon Management Plan has been carried out and is published on the Council's website: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/equality-impact-assessments>

The EqIA did not identify any negative equality impacts from actions and projects identified in the strategy.

d) Environmental Implications

The Climate Change Strategy and the Carbon Management Plan will have a high positive impact on the environment by setting out a planned approach to:

reducing the Council's carbon emissions; setting high standards for residents, businesses and organisations to reduce their carbon emissions and manage climate risks; and working in partnership with, influencing and learning from other organisations to address the causes and effects of climate change.

e) Procurement Implications

Recent projects identified in the Carbon Management Plan (including LED lighting installations in car parks, the Guildhall energy efficiency works and the programme of solar PV installations) have been delivered through the national REFIT 3 framework. The Council signed access agreements to allow it to make use of the RE-FIT framework specifically designed for energy performance contracting. This allowed us to access Bouygues Group PLC as a contractor to identify and deliver energy efficiency projects. The principle benefit of this arrangement is that Bouygues have guaranteed the energy savings predicted for the projects they have delivered for the Council (subject to the new equipment being managed within defined limits).

In April 2020, Cambridgeshire County Council led a consortium of local authorities including Cambridge City Council to procure a partner for future energy efficiency and renewable energy schemes. Bouygues were appointed as the contractor through this process and will deliver future projects on an energy performance contracting basis.

Under this agreement, the Council commissioned Bouygues to carry out a high-level assessment to identify measures needed to reduce carbon emissions from its corporate buildings to as close to net zero carbon as possible. The Council has also procured a number of other studies from different companies which have informed the Climate Change Strategy, including a net zero carbon study for the new Local Plan, and studies looking at environmental standards for the Council's existing and new Council housing.

The Climate Change Strategy also identifies a number of specific actions to ensure that climate change issues are considered as part of the Council's procurement and contract management arrangements.

f) Community Safety Implications

The Climate Change Strategy and Carbon Management Plan have minimal impact on Community Safety

5. Background papers

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

- Bouygues Energies and Services, 2021, Cambridge City Council Net Zero Carbon Assessment report. The report is published on the Council's website here: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/carbon-management-plan>

6. Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Findings from public consultation and engagement on the draft Climate Change Strategy.
- Appendix 2 – Climate Change Strategy 2021-2026
- Appendix 3 – Climate Change Strategy Action Plan 2021-2026
- Appendix 4 – Carbon Management Plan 2021-2026

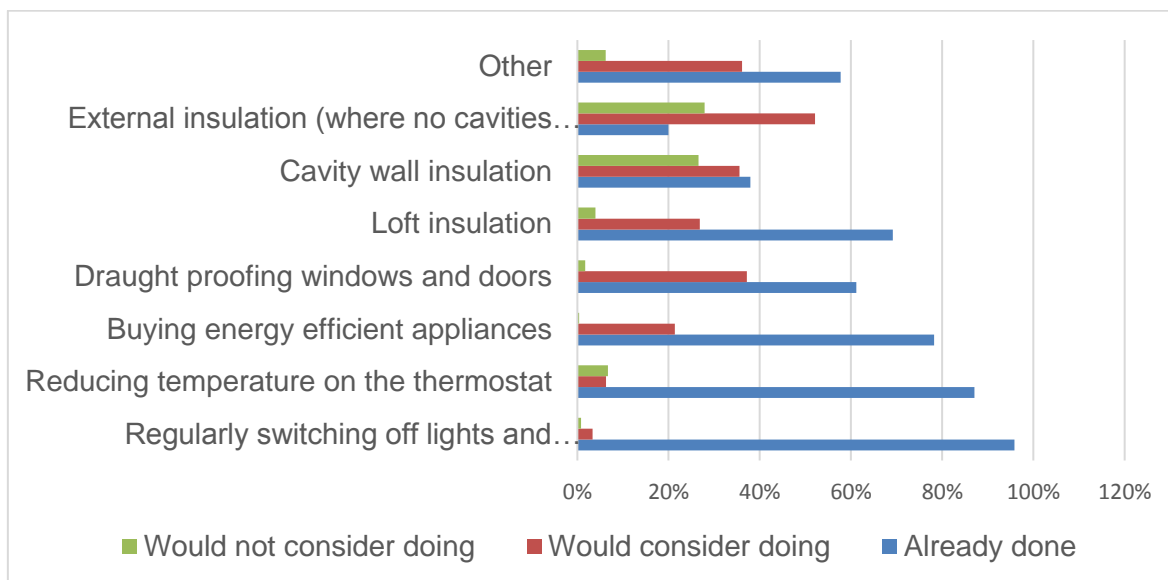
7. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact David Kidston, Strategy and Partnerships Manager, tel: 01223 457043, email: devid.kidston@cambridge.gov.uk

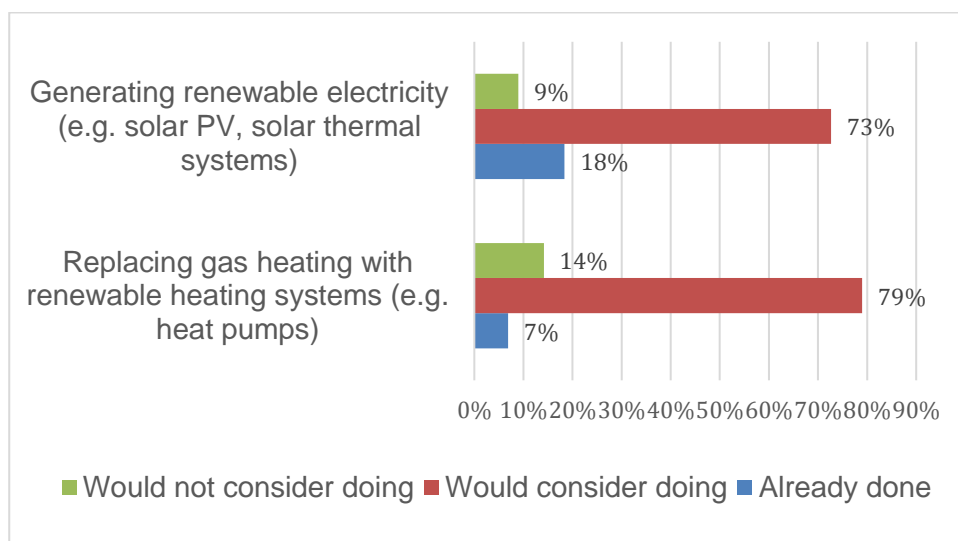
Appendix 1 – Findings from public consultation and engagement on the draft Climate Change Strategy

Reducing carbon emissions from homes

1. Which steps have you (or your landlord if you are renting your home) already taken to reduce energy usage from your homes, and which steps would you consider taking? (multiple choice question)



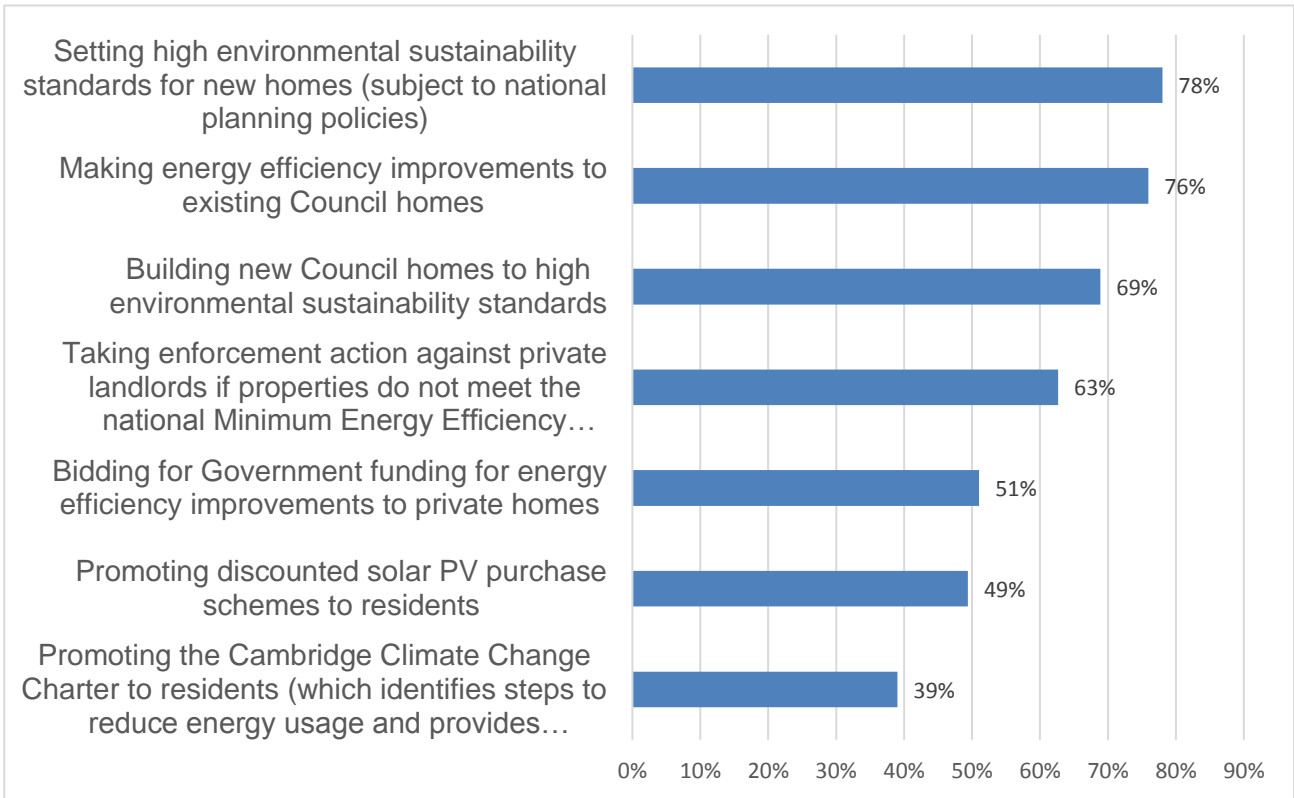
2. The national Committee on Climate Change advises that to get to net zero carbon emissions, most homes will need to switch to renewable sources of heating and electricity in the future. Have you (or your landlord if you are renting your home) considered installing renewable energy systems in your home? (multiple choice question)



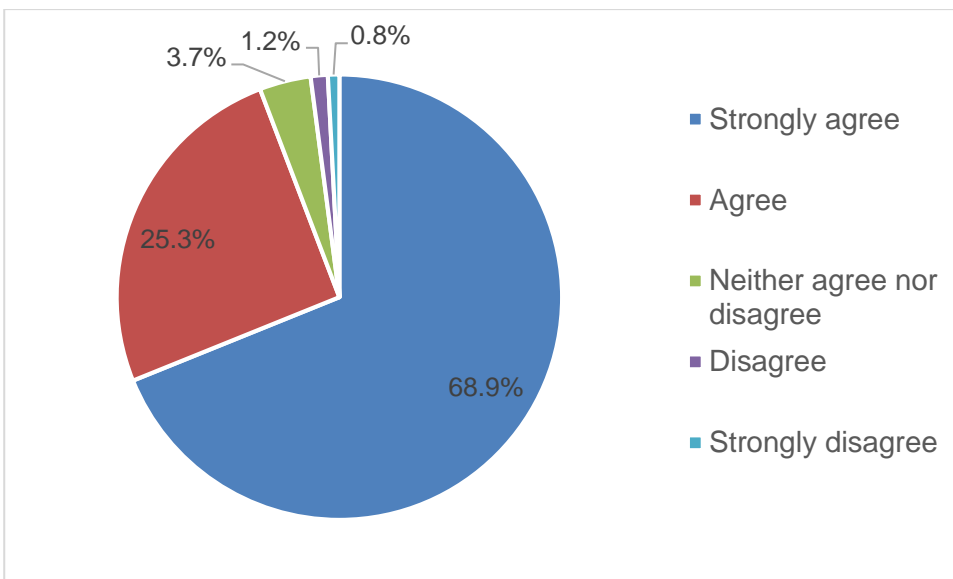
3. Are there any barriers or concerns that would make it difficult to reduce energy usage, install energy efficiency measures, or install renewable heating or energy systems in your home? (free text question)

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
<p>80% of respondents identified at least one barrier, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High cost of some measures (44% of respondents commented that cost was a barrier) • Viability of solar panels due to the shape or orientation of roofs • Solar panels seen as visually unappealing by some respondents • Difficulty of applying energy efficiency and renewable heating solutions in older homes, listing buildings and properties in conservation areas • Lack of information about technologies e.g. heat pumps • Availability of good, reliable renewable energy installers, including installers registered to deliver Green Homes Grant-funded improvements • Lack of knowledge of which green/renewable energy suppliers to contact - could the Council lists all the suppliers that supply energy from renewable sources? • Tenants whose landlords are not willing or able to make improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council is promoting the Cambridgeshire-wide Solar Together scheme, which enables residents to purchase solar PV panels and battery storage at significant discounts and from approved suppliers. • We will be commissioning a retrofit study to identify what energy efficiency and renewable energy and low carbon heating measures would need to be installed for different property archetypes in Cambridge to reach different carbon emissions standards. As part of the study, we will produce guidance for residents on measures would be most effective in different property types, including older homes, listed buildings and properties in conservation areas. • As energy suppliers and the sources of their supply change over time, it would be difficult for the Council to maintain up-to-date information on this. However, there are a number of commercial price comparison sites which provide information on different green energy provides and tariffs available.

4. As part of our new Climate Change Strategy, we are planning to take the actions listed below to help reduce carbon emissions from homes in Cambridge. Which ones do you think are most important? (multiple choice question)

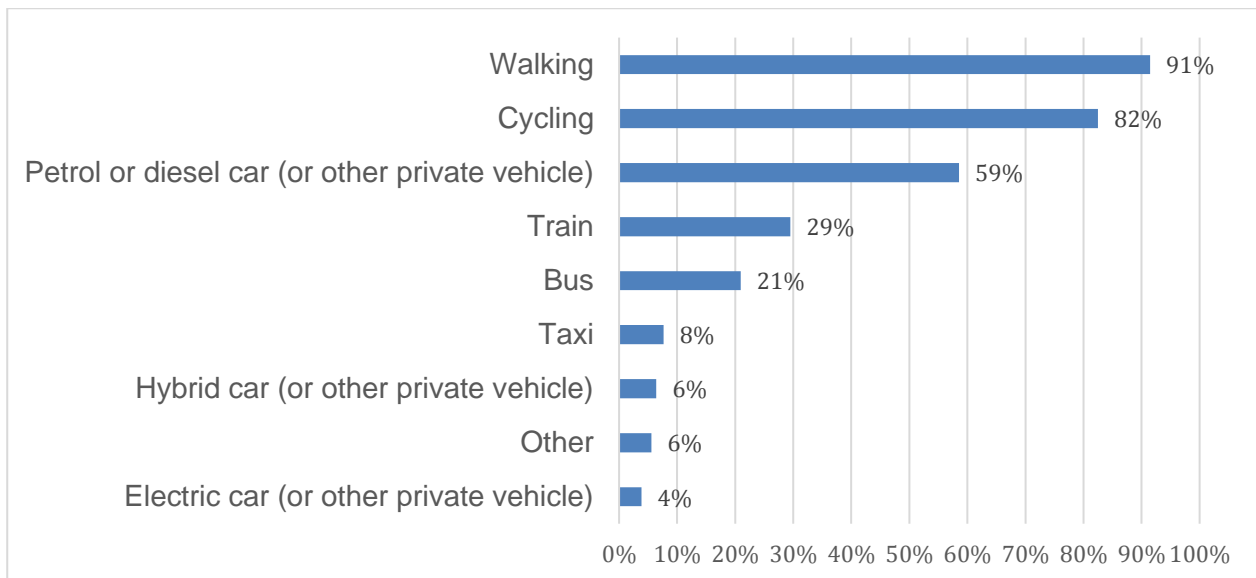


5. One of the five objectives for the Council’s current Climate Change Strategy is “reducing energy consumption and emissions from homes and businesses in Cambridge by promoting energy efficiency measures, sustainable construction, renewable energy sources, and behaviour change”. Do you think this should be retained as an objective for the Council’s new Climate Change Strategy for 2021-2026? (multiple choice question)



Reducing carbon emissions from transport

6. Which forms of transport do you or your family use regularly? (multiple choice question)

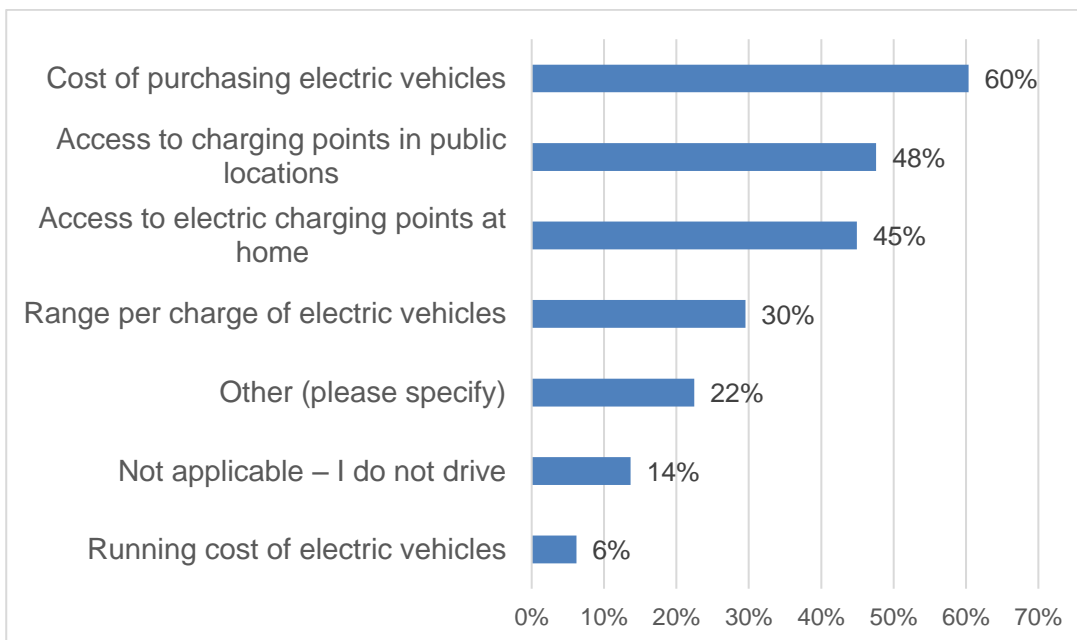


7. Are there any barriers or concerns that would make it difficult for you or your family to travel by active or lower carbon transport options, including public transport, cycling and walking? What are these?

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
<p>Respondents identified the following barriers to cycling and walking in Cambridge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety around cycling and insufficient car-free cycle lanes (noted by over 20% of respondents). • Poor maintenance of footpaths and cycle lanes • Vehicles obstructing pavements and poor road design • Secure parking for bikes • Heavy/bulky shopping • Health, disability and age 	<p>The City Council has limited direct responsibility for cycling and walking infrastructure in Cambridge. The Council works with partners who have a direct role in relation to cycling and walking infrastructure, including the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, Cambridgeshire County Council and the Greater Cambridge Partnership.</p> <p>The Council is one of the key partners in GCP, which is making major improvements to the cycling and walking network in Cambridge, including: public transport and active travel corridor schemes, 12 cycling and walking ‘greenways’, and cross-city cycling routes,. These schemes include a mixture of off road routes and segregated cycle lanes.</p> <p>In recent years the Council has invested in increased cycling parking, both on street and in Council car parks, and is currently working in</p>

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
	partnership with Cambridge County Council to provide 30 electric cargo bikes (with Government funding) for use by residents, businesses and organisations when transporting bulky goods.
<p>Overall, 30% of respondents identified at least one of the following barriers to bus and other public transport usage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor frequency and reliability of buses • Long journey times for buses • Limited network/insufficient routes • High cost of travel by public transport (still cheaper to buy and run a car than use public transport) • Lack of multimodal transport • Heavy/bulky shopping 	<p>The City Council does not have direct responsibility for cycling and walking infrastructure in Cambridge. The Council works with partners who have a direct role in relation to cycling and walking infrastructure, including the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, Cambridgeshire County Council and the Greater Cambridge Partnership.</p> <p>The Council is a key partner in the GCP, which is implementing a major programme of public transport improvements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 public transport corridor schemes linking growing communities to the north, south east, east and west • Improvement schemes at Milton Road and Histon Road • improving park and ride bus connections to walking and cycling networks, allowing sustainable, multi-modal travel • A City Access project promoting measures to encourage commuters away from cars, reduce city centre congestion, and improve access by sustainable transport to the city centre and key employment sites • A Future Bus Network vision for a competitive, reliable future network.

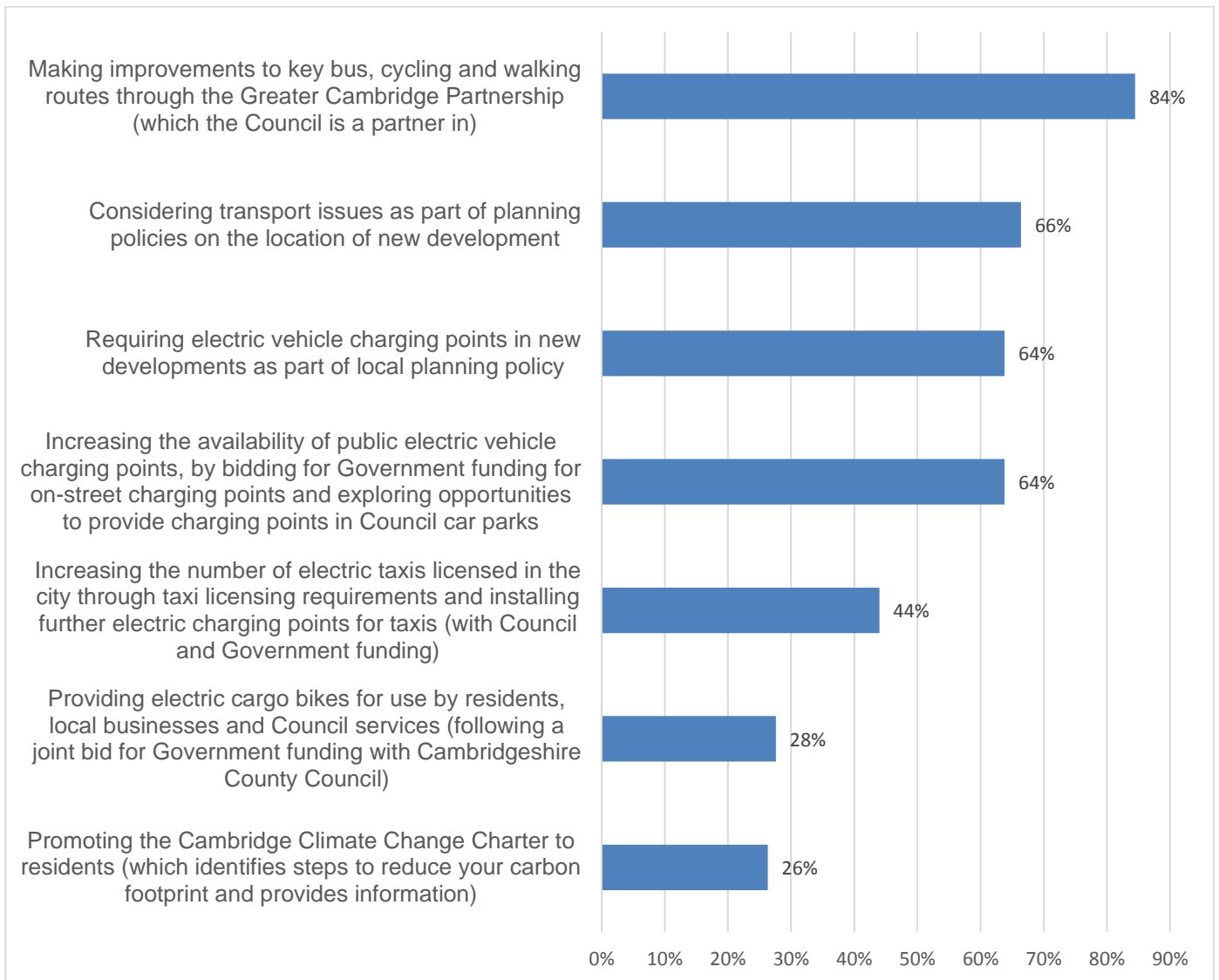
8. The national Committee on Climate Change advises that to get to net zero carbon emissions, most vehicles will need to be electric in the future. If you do not currently travel by electric or hybrid vehicle, are there any barriers that would discourage you or your family from switching to an electric vehicle?



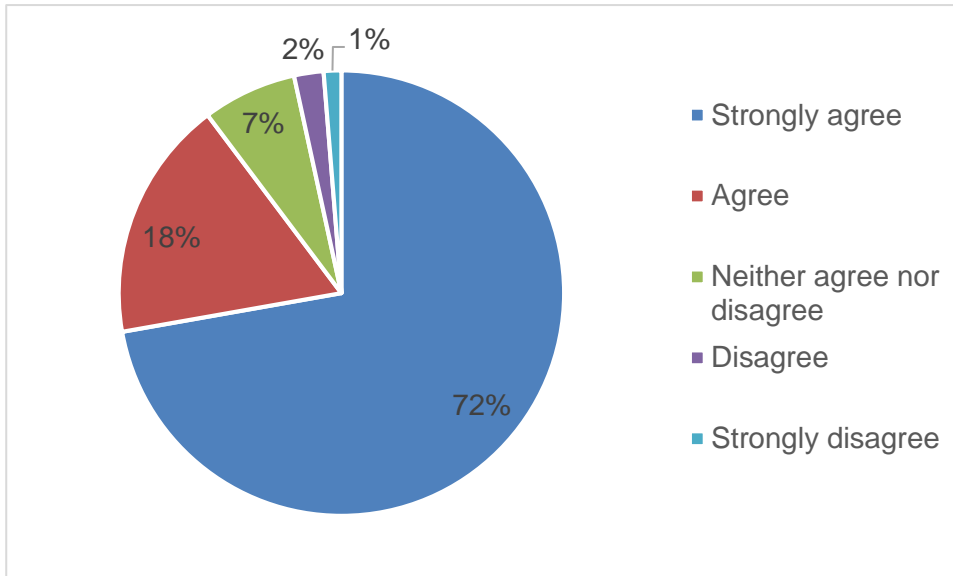
In addition to the list in the survey, 22% of respondents identified a number of additional barriers to switching to electric vehicles (EVs), including:

- Sustainability of EVs: electricity generation, manufacture and disposal of cars and batteries (this issue was the most frequently raised)
- Embedded carbon in current car (which discourages purchase of a new vehicle)
- Recharging time
- Lack of information on EVs, including range, costs, battery life and future taxation
- Lack of availability of electric-only car clubs

9. As part of our new Climate Change Strategy, we are planning to take the actions listed below to help reduce carbon emissions from transport in Cambridge. Which ones do you think are most important?



10. One of the five objectives for the Council’s current Climate Change Strategy is “reducing emissions from transport by promoting sustainable transport, reducing car travel and traffic congestion, and encouraging behaviour change.” Do you think this should be retained as an objective for the Council’s new Climate Change Strategy for 2021-2026?



Reducing consumption of goods, promoting sustainable food and reducing waste

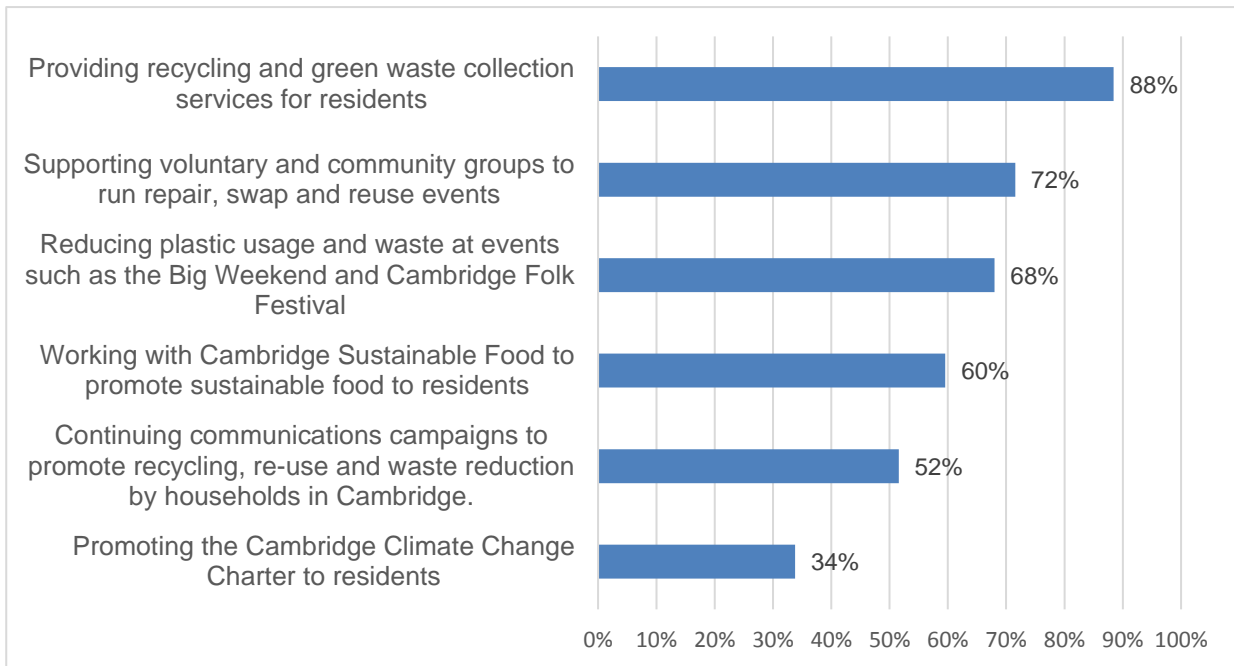
11. Have you or your family considered taking any of the following steps to reduce consumption of goods and waste?



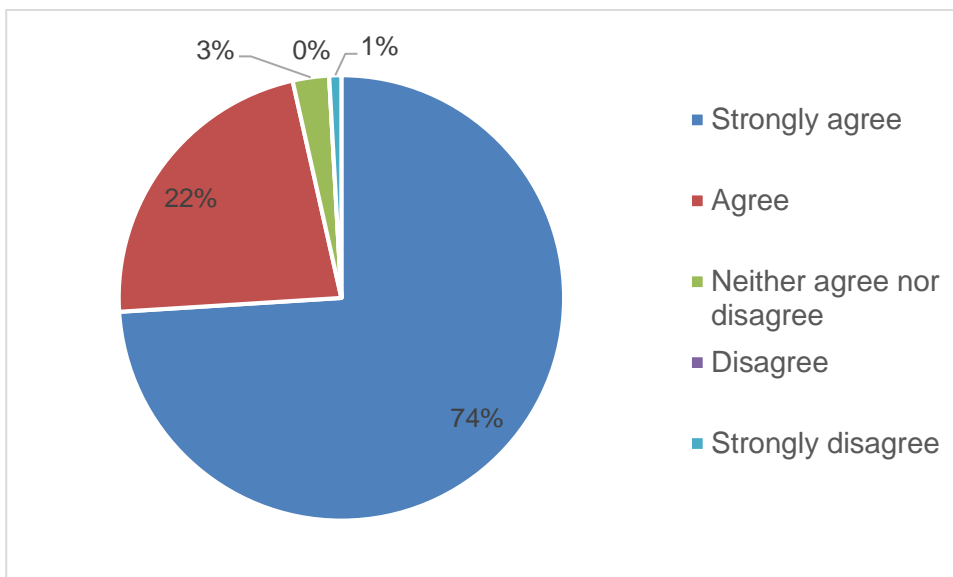
12. Are there any barriers or concerns that would make it difficult for you or your family to reduce consumption of food and other goods, or recycle waste?

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
<p>Issues with recycling included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too much packaging (this was the most common concern) • Unclear recycling labelling • Reducing green bin collections in winter or insufficient green bins • Issues with recycling in flats, including lack of space in flats for multiple bins and lack of access to a full range of recycling options • Lack of garden/garden too small for composting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Greater Cambridge Shared Waste service will work with industry bodies and individual businesses to reduce packaging and make products more re-useable and recyclable. • The Council provides information on which materials can be recycled in leaflets, on its website and in Cambridge Matters. The Government's forthcoming National Strategy on Recycling and Waste is likely to set out more consistent standards for recycling label nationally.
<p>Issues with reducing consumption included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lack of information/advice on range of topics to help reduce consumption and waste • high cost of repairing and scarcity of repairers compared to buying new 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council has produced a Greening Your Home Guide which includes advice on steps to reduce consumption and waste. As part of the new strategy we will revise, update and promote the guide. The new Cambridge Climate Change Charter also includes commitments and advice to reduce waste and consumption. • The Council has provided funding for Cambridge Carbon Footprint to run a number of repair cafes and support other community organisations to set up repair cafes.
<p>In relation to sustainable food, some respondents identified the higher cost of local or more seasonal and/or sustainable food as a barrier.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council recognises that some sustainable and local foods can be more expensive, and that this may influence consumer choices, but does not have any control or influence over prices set by producers and retailers.

13. As part of our new Climate Change Strategy, we are planning to take the actions listed below to help reduce consumption of goods, promote sustainable food, and encourage recycling. Which ones do you think are most important?



14. One of the five objectives for the Council’s current Climate Change Strategy is “Reducing consumption of resources, increasing recycling and reducing waste.” Do you think this should be retained as an objective for the Council’s new Climate Change Strategy for 2021-2026?



Additional comments on reducing carbon emissions in Cambridge

15. Bearing in mind the funding, powers and influence available to Cambridge City Council, are there any other actions that we should prioritise to help reduce carbon emissions from homes, transport, food and other goods, and waste in Cambridge?

Respondents suggested a large number of additional actions that the Council could prioritise (many of which are outside the City Council’s control). We have summarised the most frequent suggestions in the table below.

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
<p>71 respondents suggested actions relating to transport, including a wide range of measures to support cyclists and pedestrians, and improve public transport. The most frequent suggestions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more pedestrian only areas • improve footpaths • blanket speed limit of 20mph across city to make all roads safe for cycling and walking • reduce city centre parking and increase parking charges • support better cycling infrastructure including cycle racks and cycle paths • expand residents parking areas across city • periodic closure of streets to motorised traffic • encourage train companies to use electric trains’ • work with Stagecoach and other bus operators to make all buses electric or hydrogen • Use more cargo bikes • Use more electric vehicles 	<p>The City Council does not have direct responsibility for cycling and walking and public transport infrastructure in Cambridge. The Council works with partners who have a more direct role.</p> <p>The Council is one of the key partners in GCP, which is making major improvements to the cycling and walking network in Cambridge, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • public transport and active travel corridor schemes. • 4 public transport and active travel corridor schemes linking growing communities to the north, south east, east and west • 12 cycling and walking ‘greenways’, and cross-city cycling routes. • Improvement schemes at Milton Road and Histon Road • improving park and ride bus connections to walking and cycling networks, allowing sustainable, multi-modal travel • Investing in piloting electric buses • A City Access project promoting measures to encourage commuters away from cars, reduce city centre

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent motorised access to areas of city • More car free developments 	<p>congestion, and improve access by sustainable transport to the city centre and key employment sites</p> <p>The Council has taken, or is taking, the following actions directly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing 20 mph zones on a range of streets across the city. • investing in increased cycling parking, both on street and in Council car parks. • working in partnership with Cambridge County Council to provide 30 electric cargo bikes (with Government funding) for use by residents, businesses and organisations when transporting bulky goods. • purchasing 12 electric vans and 1 electric refuse collection vehicle (RCV) to date. • committing in June 2020 to procure Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEV) when replacing vans and trucks in the Council's fleet (where there is a suitable ULEV alternative and the infrastructure allows) • seeking to replace all Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs) with low carbon alternatives (electric or hydrogen) at the point when they are due for replacement. • taking a range of actions set out in the Climate Change Strategy to increase EV charging infrastructure for residents. • build new Council housing developments with a target of less than one car parking space per home to encourage travel by walking, cycling or public transport, subject to individual development requirements.

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
<p>23 respondents suggested actions relating to homes and other buildings: including measures to support energy efficiency and renewables. The most frequent suggestions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce lighting and heating of public buildings. • improve doors and windows and increase insulation and renewables and on council properties. • encouraging home retrofits to improve energy efficiency. • work with landlords to improve energy efficiency of rental properties • use local, low embodied carbon materials for refurbishments. • new housing developments to be run on renewables 	<p>The Council has taken, or is taking, a range of action relating to the points raised by respondents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through its Carbon Management Plan, the Council has invested £1.4m in carbon reduction projects to its building, including LED lighting installation and heating improvements. As part of the new carbon Management Plan, the Council has identified a number of low carbon heating projects. • Investing £4.3 million in improving energy efficiency of Council properties under previous Climate Change Strategies, and committing a further £2.5 million from 2020/21 for improvements. • Bidding for funding to retrofit private homes. In December 2020, we led a successful £3.2 million Cambridgeshire-wide partnership bid to the first round of the Government's new Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery (LAD) scheme. • Taking enforcement action from April 2021 against landlords and property managers whose properties do not meet the national Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) for privately rented homes. • A number of recent Council housing development schemes have included renewable energy provision, including solar panels and heat pumps, and in January 2021¹, the Council committed

¹ For further information, see the report to the Council's Environment and Community Services Committee: <https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/s54468/HSC%20new%20programme%20update%20report%20Jan%202021i.pdf>

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
	to build homes in its new 1000 homes programme to Passivhaus standards,
<p>19 respondents suggested actions relating to waste and recycling, covering both domestic and business waste. The most frequent suggestions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • motivate better segregation of waste by residents • set up community composting facilities • publish annually the amount of food waste sent to landfill by residents • better access to recycling points, for example for electrical goods • more information about recycling especially for visitors (both longer-stay students and short-stay tourists) • provide more waste and recycling bins in public places 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are two ways of motivating better segregation of waste by residents: education and physical collection of different items. During 2020 the Shared Waste Service has carried out trials of separate food waste collections from selected households to encourage segregation of food waste. We hope to be able to expand this. In addition to this, the service runs at least two campaigns a year to motivate and inspire resident to sort their rubbish and recycle, and regular reminders are sent via Cambridge Matters magazine about 4 times a year. • The Council has previously funded composting workshops for residents through the Sustainable City Grants. • There are 25 recycling points across Cambridge providing access for a range of materials. Although only 4 of these collect electrical items at present, we have plans to extend this service. Electrical goods can be also be recycled at household recycling centres provided by Cambridgeshire County Council. The nearest centres to Cambridge are in Milton and Thriplow. • The Council provides list of what can be recycled on its website and a cut-out and keep guide in most editions of Cambridge Matters. The Council also runs regular communications campaigns on recycling issues and delivers an updated service leaflet to all households once a year, in the autumn to help educate the new influx of

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
	<p>students, in particular, that arrive at that time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are litter and recycling bins at numerous locations across the city. If residents think there are not enough bins in a street or park, they can suggest a location for a new bin via the Council website: https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/litter-and-dog-bins
<p>11 respondents suggested actions relating to on communication and engagement, primarily around the provision of information on low carbon goods and services as well as the impact they have. The most frequent suggestions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • carry out a behaviour change/public education campaign to promote sustainable behaviours/ways of living • share messages from individuals who are making a difference • awareness building campaigns on impact of climate change • provide better information/data to support residents in taking action • focus on promoting changes that will have the most impact on carbon emissions • host an educational eco-fair on Parkers Piece 	<p>Communicating and engagement is a key theme of the new Climate Change Strategy. We will also explore innovative ways of communicating and engaging with residents and businesses to encourage positive behaviour change and low-carbon living.</p> <p>Action to date has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using social media, Cambridge Matters and Open Door, and the Council website to highlight steps that residents and businesses can take. • Communications campaigns on specific issues, including recycling and reducing food waste. • Producing a Greening Your Home Guide to encourage low-carbon living. • Launching and promoting the Cambridge Climate Change Charter, which enables residents and businesses to calculate their carbon footprint, access resources and make specific pledges to reduce their emissions. • Producing bite-size films and animations, including a recent net zero animation

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding voluntary and community groups to hold a range of community events to encourage home energy improvements, sustainable food, and circular economy activities.
<p>10 respondents suggested actions relating to sustainable agriculture and food. The most frequent suggestions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase allotments, plant more fruit trees and supporting a local food growing culture support the establishment of community farms exclude beef and lamb from food served in council venues' ensure tenders for council events give priority to those with sustainable catering policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council directly manages 120 existing allotments at 8 sites, and there are a further 14 sites managed by allotment societies. The Council also supports meanwhile growing spaces and take-up of new allotments and community gardens in new housing developments to encourage residents to grow their own food. The Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to encourage developers to incorporate food growing in new housing and non-residential development (e.g. providing fruit trees, roof top gardens and growing space as part of landscape design). The Council has supported the Co-Farm community farm, providing grant-funding during the Covid-19 response. As a district Council, we procure limited amounts of food (principally in sheltered housing schemes, and some community centres and leisure centres). Where possible, we incorporate sustainable food principles in food procurement, but we do not exclude meat. We encourage providers at events in Cambridge, where we have an influence, to use sustainable food practice, where appropriate. The Cambridge Folk Festival has won the Green Festival award, and the Council has reviewed its approach to

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
	sustainability at the Big Weekend and Corn Exchange events.

16. As part of our Climate Change Strategy, the City Council will seek to influence other organisations. What actions should other organisations (including national Government, local government, universities, local companies and employers) take to help reduce carbon emissions from homes, transport, food and other goods, and waste in Cambridge?

Those organisations most frequently referenced included: central government, businesses and universities. Some respondents also suggested actions that they saw as the responsibility of “everyone”.

Actions for central Government included:

- incentives to drive positive change and carbon taxing to penalise high carbon emissions
- set baseline and targets for every government department
- reduce electricity costs for heating
- funding land purchases to protect from development

Actions suggested for businesses included:

- Large companies taking responsibility and playing their part in reducing carbon emissions
- Identifying a plan to reduce/eliminate fossil fuel usage for their business
- A network of businesses and other organisations to promote joint effort and share ideas
- Providing incentives for cycling/walking to work and working from home

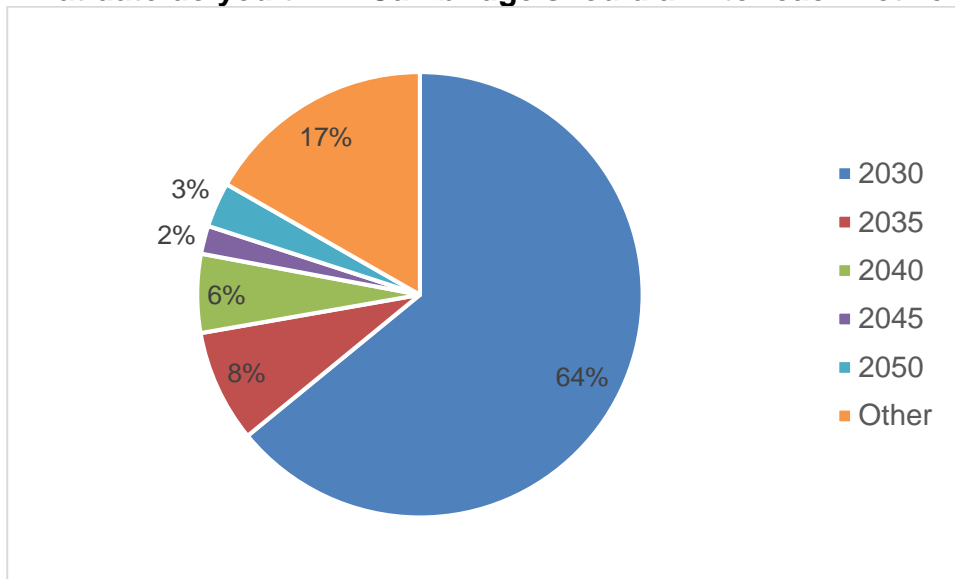
Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
<p>Some respondents suggested actions relating to partnerships with other organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with other organisations to have a greater impact at city level • Greater collaboration with local authority partners to achieve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperating and collaborating with businesses and institutions is a key theme of the new Climate Change Strategy. • Since July 2017 the Council convened 6 meetings of a City Leaders Climate Change group, which brought together businesses, universities, public sector organisations and voluntary and

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
<p>economies of scale for low carbon projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with other councils to lobby government for funding, for example in relation to public transport, planning and building control measures to secure decarbonisation, and engagement with residents and businesses on decarbonisation • Establish an award scheme for sustainable local businesses • Establish a 'rent-a-roof' solar power scheme 	<p>community groups to explore how emissions in the city can be reduced. We also organised a consultation workshop with major businesses and institutions on 28 January 2021 as part of the development of the new strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council works collaboratively with other Councils and institutions, and will seek further opportunities to do so, as part of the new Climate Change Strategy. For example, we are working with Councils and other partners in the Greater Cambridge Partnership to deliver a range of sustainable transport improvements. We have previously worked with Councils across Cambridgeshire to deliver retrofit activities through the Green Deal, and have led a successful partnership bid for funding from the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme. • As part of the new strategy, we will collaborate with other Council through groups such as the UK 100 to lobby government collectively on climate change issues.

17. The Council’s current Climate Change Strategy for 2016-2021 includes an aspiration for the Council to be net zero carbon by 2050. This is consistent with the national target set by Government, and the advice of the national Committee on Climate Change and the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

In February 2019, the Council declared a climate emergency. In its climate emergency declaration, the Council called on government, industry and regulators to implement the necessary changes to enable Cambridge and the rest of the UK to reach net zero carbon by 2030.

What date do you think Cambridge should aim to reach net zero carbon by?



Of the 17% of people who selected ‘other – please specify’, the most common responses were:

- As soon as possible (4.9%)
- 2025 (4.5%)
- I don’t know what’s realistic (1.6%)
- The trajectory is more important (0.8%)
- Net zero is impossible or unnecessary (0.8%)

18. Why do you think Cambridge should aim to reach net zero carbon by this date?

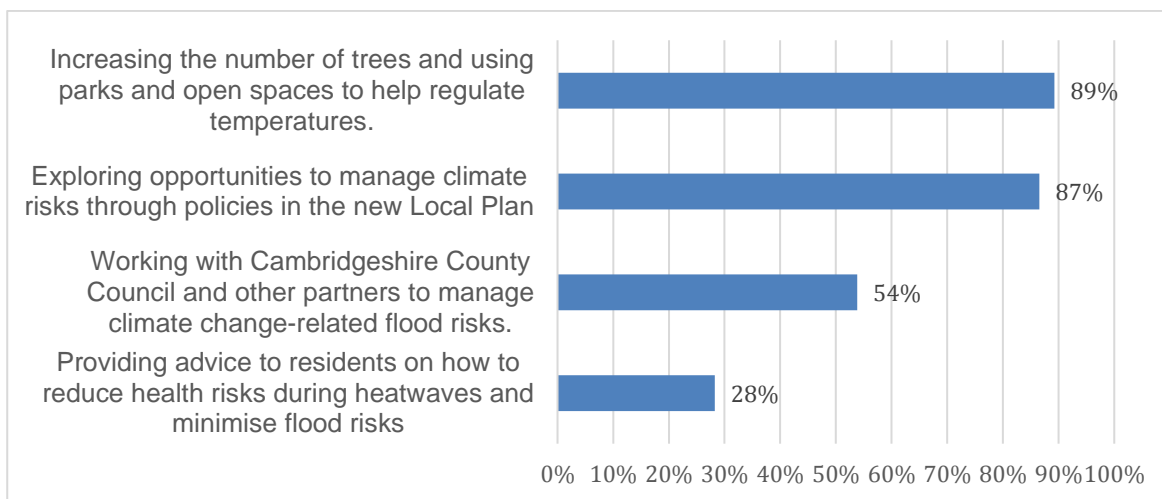
Of the 211 responses to this question, the most common were:

- Time is running out, the planet/our/our children’s lives depend on it (23.9%)
- Cambridge should be a leader (11.3%)
- The date needs to be (or is) realistic or achievable (10.4%)
- Because the costs of delay are too high/damage is already great (9.0%)

- Cambridge has declared/it is a climate emergency (8.0%)
- It should be easier for Cambridge than other places (individual wealth/strong economy/type of economy/ university/research/ innovation/etc) (7.1%)
- Ambitious/short timescales drive faster change (5,2%)
- Cambridge should aim high and be ambitious (3.8%)

Managing the effects and impacts of climate change

19. In addition to reducing carbon emissions, as part of the Council’s Climate Change Strategy, the Council will also take action to manage the predicted impacts of climate change on Cambridge. Which of the actions listed below do you think are most important?



20. Bearing in mind the funding, powers and influence available to the Council, are there any other actions that we should take to manage the impacts of Climate Change in Cambridge?

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
<p>Many of the responses to this question related to increasing vegetation and enhancing the natural environment. The most common responses were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plant more trees and protect trees, particularly so fewer are lost to development • consider re-wilding green space and creating sustainable ecosystems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council is implementing its tree strategy, which focuses on managing over 30,000 trees on Council land sustainably and protecting and enhancing the 210,000 trees that exist on private land. The Council is increasing the number of trees through tree planting activities, and has launched a major project to significantly increase the tree canopy in Cambridge.

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • put more funding into parks, green spaces and wild places (to increase biodiversity) • plant drought resistant bedding • reduce/limit verge and grass cutting – promoting biodiversity and soil quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council manages 12 Local Nature Reserves to protect the best wildlife habitats in the city, and has created long grass and meadow areas across 15 acres of formal parks to create habitats for wildlife. • The Council has increased planting of perennial plants, which require less watering, on Council-owned and maintained parks and open spaces. • The Council will be using a new “cut and collect” machine to maintain road verges, which will reduce cuttings left on verges and improve the fertility of the soil for wildlife
<p>Many of the responses to this question related to promoting water efficiency, water quality and flooding. The most common responses were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote water efficiency measures and rainwater harvesting • catch rain runoff on sunken verges before draining into sewers • install sustainable drainage schemes • encourage retrofitting of green walls and roofs • tighter controls/prevention on new development in flood-risk areas or on flood plains • promote drought-tolerant planting • focus on water quality, particularly protecting the River Cam and the aquifer • 	<p>The current Local Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • requires major developers to prepare a sustainability statement which includes focus on efficient water use, water re-use and recycling, and water management and conservation. • includes a water efficiency policy requiring new housing developments to meet a standard of 110 litres/person/day or lower. Some developments are going beyond this standard using rainwater harvesting systems to further reduce potable water use. • Policies on surface water management to reduce flood risk from new developments, including requirements for Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs), permeable paving and surfaces, and green and brown roofs on all flat roofs, which can help slow down surface water run-off and reduce the risk of flooding.

Comments from consultation survey	City Council response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies on flood risk to ensure that new developments are not at risk from flooding, and that they do not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere. <p>Measures to increase water efficiency (including the potential use of communal rainwater harvesting/reuse schemes) are included in the Cambridge Sustainable Housing Design Guide, which sets standards for new Council homes and is promoted to private developers.</p> <p>The Council is also undertaking watercourse restoration projects to improve their flow and storage capacity and deliver wider biodiversity benefits, and will be delivering a major project to improve chalk streams.</p>
<p>Some of the responses to this question related measures to reduce overheating in buildings. The most common responses were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • retrofit or replace council homes at risk from overheating • promote passive cooling 	<p>Measures to reduce overheating are included in the Cambridge Sustainable Housing Design Guide, which sets standards for new Council homes and is promoted to private developers</p>

21. As part of our Climate Change Strategy, the Council will seek to influence other organisations. What actions should other organisations (including national Government, local government, universities, and businesses) take to help manage the impacts of climate change in Cambridge?

Those organisations most frequently referenced included: central government, businesses and universities. Some respondents also suggested actions that they saw as the responsibility of “everyone”.

Actions for central Government included:

- committing to maintain flood defences
- comprehensive strategy for heatwaves to protect vulnerable people
- Tighter rules around removal of trees

Actions suggested for businesses included:

- Landowners to plant more trees using local volunteers

Actions suggested for Universities included:

- Supporting community research into climate change issues
- Rewilding University land, including lawns

22. One of the five objectives for the Council’s current Climate Change Strategy is “Supporting Council services, residents and businesses to adapt to the impacts of climate change.” Do you think this should be retained as an objective for the Council’s new Climate Change Strategy for 2021-2026?

