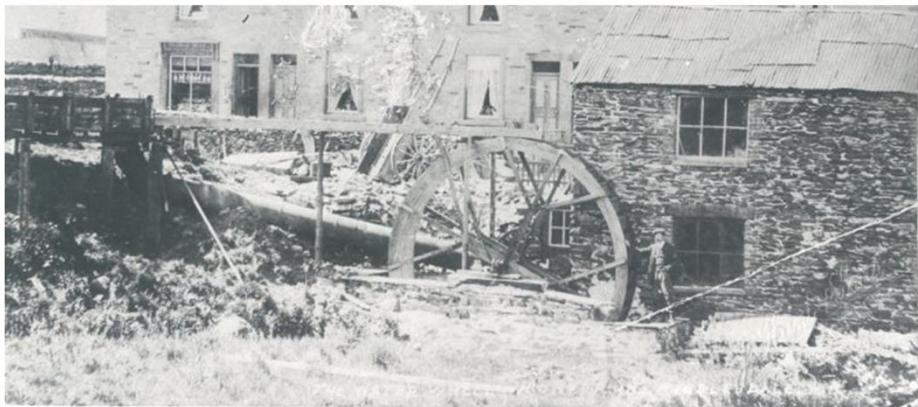




# Craven's Plan for Carbon Neutrality

Rob Atkins  
Craven District Council



## Our renewable energy past...

Craven District, and the Yorkshire Dales, have a grand tradition of ingenuity in renewable energy generation. This image shows Horton Mill water wheel, converted to provide electricity to Horton in 1935 by Jim Ward.

From the Dales Community Archives:

<https://www.dalescommunityarchives.org.uk/content/get-involved/articles/horton-posts/horton-mills>

# Our Carbon Neutral future...



Craven District Council  
**Climate Emergency Strategic Plan**  
2020-2030

Updated 17/01/2020

Contact:

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In August 2019, Craven District Councillors declared a Climate Emergency, tasking Officers with the creation of a Strategic Plan that describes how the District of Craven could achieve Carbon Neutrality by 2030.

A plan was completed in January 2020, and adopted as policy by the Council in February 2020.

The first 6-month review of progress against the plan was presented to the Council's Policy Committee in August 2020.

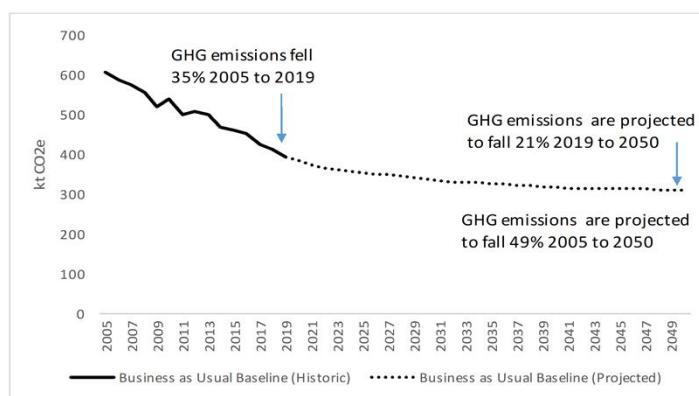
## Craven District Council - Emissions Pathway



There are two sets of actions within the plan. Some actions aim to reduce or mitigate the Council's emissions from its own operations. Some actions describe the work that we need to complete together with partners across the District.

The chart in this slide shows the expected Carbon reduction pathway for Council operations.

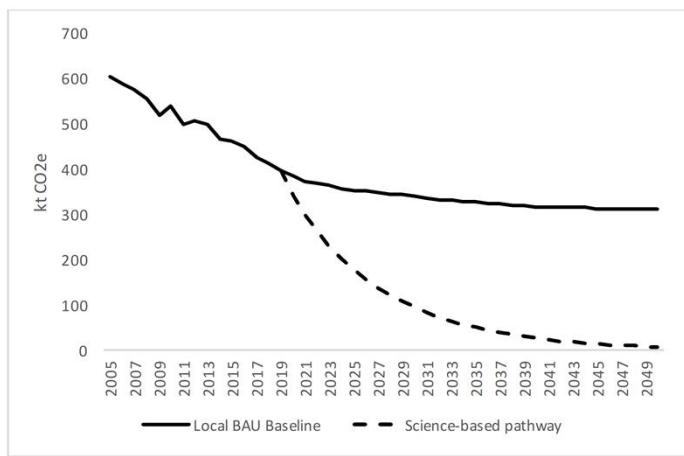
## GHG emissions pathway - projected



Leeds University's Sustainability Research Institute provided the Council with a report showing expected and required emissions reduction pathways for the District.

The chart in this slide shows the projected reduction in emissions without further intervention, across the District.

## GHG emissions pathway - required



Also from the Leeds University report, the chart in this slide shows the additional reduction in emissions required to meet our commitments under the Paris Agreement.

## Carbon Neutral Energy



Ensure that the net impact of energy used by Craven District Council reaches Carbon Neutral by:

- ▶ Ensuring that the design and use of buildings owned by Craven District Council minimises energy use
- ▶ Ensuring the use of renewable energy both by the Council and by our suppliers

Support residents and partner organisations to reduce the use of energy across the District, with a particular focus on residential energy use.

### What have we done so far?

As a Council – Writing and submitting the ‘Decarbonising Skipton’ bid with substantial energy efficiency measures across the Council’s estate; designing renewable energy into our new affordable housing projects; Replacing traditional lighting with low energy LEDs.

Across the District – Masters Student placement working with the Malhamdale Environment Group to assess energy generation options and prepare a framework for further assessments in rural locations;

### What are we doing next?

As a Council – Improving the renewable energy mix in our energy contracts, with a phased approach to 100% renewables

Across the District – Preparing a bid for the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme to increase efficiency and sustainability in public buildings across the District

## Carbon Neutral Development

- ▶ Maximise the use of our planning and development powers to ensure that the energy efficiency of development in the District is as close to carbon neutral as possible



What have we done so far?

Run a RIBA competition to design an affordable low carbon housing unit suitable for the Dales

What are we doing next?

Preparing a Good Design Supplementary Planning Document which includes energy efficiency and generation measures; Preparing a masterplan for the Skipton Station Triangle area to enable low carbon living and better access to public transport



## Travel & Transportation

Reduce the carbon impact of travel and transportation across the District by improving and promoting reduction in travel and take up of zero and low carbon transport options.



### What have we done so far?

As a Council – Issued homeworking kits and part-time parking permits to staff; increased the profile and uptake of CycleScheme; started replacing CDC vehicles with Low Emissions models.

Across the District – Installed our first EV charging points in Skipton's High Street car park; worked with the Canals and Rivers Trust to upgrade the canal towpath between Gargrave and Kildwick to provide an accessible walking and cycling route.

### What are we doing next?

As a Council – Introducing licensing incentives for low emissions taxis; installing EV charging points in CDC affordable housing developments.

Across the District – Reviewing options for further EV charging installations in CDC car parks.



## Low Carbon Waste

Ensure that the impact of our activity to collect, manage and dispose of waste is minimised by:

- ▶ Identifying and acting on opportunities to reduce the volume of waste we collect
- ▶ Ensuring that opportunities for re-use and recycling are designed in to council activities
- ▶ Reviewing our waste collection and management arrangements to ensure that our operations are as low-carbon as possible

Work with residents and partner organisations to reduce waste and the impact of waste across the District

### What have we done so far?

Revised collection routes to increase fuel efficiency; improved availability of recycling facilities to staff

### What are we doing next?

Purchasing smaller compaction vehicles with electric components as part of our vehicle replacement programme; rolling out a Waste Education Programme to reduce waste, improve reuse and increase recycling rates

## Land and Nature



- ▶ Work with partners across the District to ensure that our extensive natural resources are used in a carbon-efficient way, sequestering carbon wherever possible and with consideration for adaptation measures and biodiversity improvement.

### What have we done so far?

As a Council – Exceeded our tree planting target, planting 9,000 trees across the Council's estate.

Across the District – Partners in the DNAIRE scheme to return Salmon to the River Aire

### What are we doing next?

As a Council – Identifying further opportunities for tree planting; finding and development a suitable woodland memorial site.

Across the District – Working with partners including the Environment Agency to increase tree cover across the District

## Use of Materials



Take conscious steps to reduce the environmental impact of the material resources we use, and in particular single-use plastics.

The Council has reviewed the use of single use plastics across all operations and are actively seeking opportunities to further reduce them (for example, via our procurement processes).

Reducing single use plastics across the District through education activities supported by our Waste Management team.

## Our Council



Ensure that our policies and procedures result in the most efficient use of Council resources, including carbon-efficient procurement and investment activity.

### What have we done?

- Introduced a compulsory 'carbon reduction' question into our procurement process
- Co-ordinated and support the Craven Climate Action Partnership

### What will we do next?

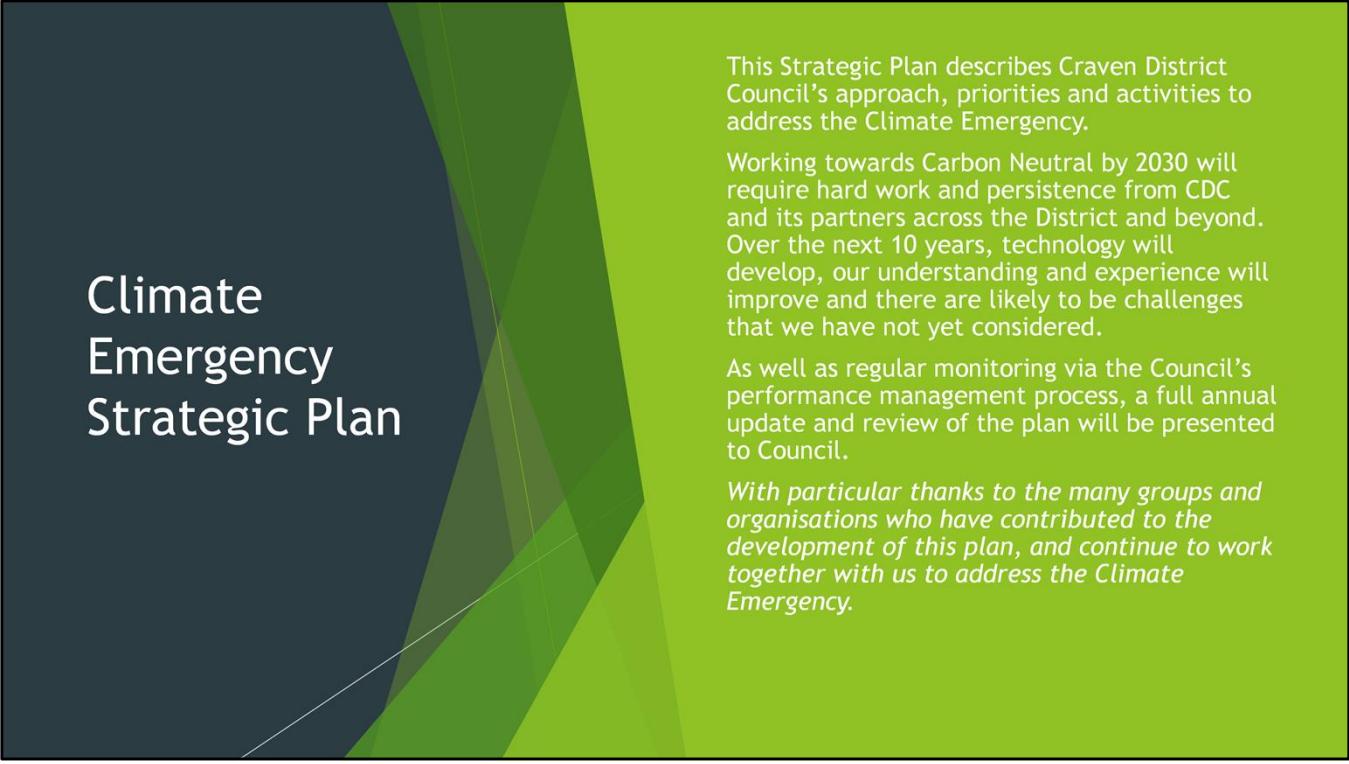
- Review our investments to identify greener investment opportunities
- Co-ordinate a programme of online events to further improve partnership work and shared understanding on issues related to the climate emergency

## Adaptation

- ▶ Even if the global increase in temperatures is restricted to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels, this is likely to present serious risks to the lives and livelihoods of our residents. Our strategy for adaptation is based on the national adaptation programme.



The Council is continuing its programme of improving flood defence management, working with others (and particularly the Environment Agency) to ensure that vulnerable areas are protected from flood risk.



# Climate Emergency Strategic Plan

This Strategic Plan describes Craven District Council's approach, priorities and activities to address the Climate Emergency.

Working towards Carbon Neutral by 2030 will require hard work and persistence from CDC and its partners across the District and beyond. Over the next 10 years, technology will develop, our understanding and experience will improve and there are likely to be challenges that we have not yet considered.

As well as regular monitoring via the Council's performance management process, a full annual update and review of the plan will be presented to Council.

*With particular thanks to the many groups and organisations who have contributed to the development of this plan, and continue to work together with us to address the Climate Emergency.*