

Kenilworth Town Council



Climate Emergency Actions – a Roadmap

**Approved by Kenilworth Town Council
27th February 2020**

Foreword

Following the hottest day and the hottest month ever recorded, on August 1st 2019, Kenilworth Town Council (KTC) declared a Climate Emergency. Warwickshire County Council (WCC) and Warwick District Council (WDC) had already made similar declarations, and the UK Parliament had also recently pledged that the whole country will reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. These actions are all part of the international effort to reduce the levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, especially carbon dioxide, that are heating-up the world.

KTC set up an environmental working group *“.....tasked with producing within the next six months, a detailed roadmap that will help to encourage and enable public and community-led carbon reduction schemes within Kenilworth.”*

Following announcements in local media, contact with local community groups, and invitations to personal contacts, a working group was established comprising five cross-party councillors and eleven local residents.

Town councillors:

Rob Barry
Michael Coker
Samantha Cooke
John Dearing (Chair)
Jack Worrall

Residents:

Michael Bullock - Risk Management; Director, Heart of England Community Energy
Jan Burnell – Sustainable communities; Kenilworth All Together Greener
Rachael Dimambro – Parent; Government Auditor
Sarah Kershaw – Local businesswoman; Chair, Kenilworth Chamber of Trade
Steve Krikler – Surgeon/Domestic renewable energy and electric vehicles
Caroline Kuzemko – Local authority energy transitions; Warwick University
Henry Lucas – Local farmer; Chair, Warwickshire Rural Hub
George Martin – Sustainable buildings; Chair, Sustainable Development Foundation
Dave Maxted – Local charities; Kenilworth Lions
Ivan Pointon – Local charities; Kenilworth Lions
Rebecca Warwick – Parent; Kenilworth Chamber of Trade

Introduction

The group met on five occasions between October 2019 and January 2020, with additional email conversations, to consider the content and structure of a Roadmap.

“A roadmap is a strategic plan that defines a goal or desired outcome and includes the major steps or milestones needed to reach it. It also serves as a communication tool, a high-level document that helps articulate strategic thinking—the why—behind both the goal and the plan for getting there¹”.

This Roadmap is a strategic plan for encouraging and enabling public and community-led carbon reduction schemes within Kenilworth. It comprises five main sections and appendices:

1. Reducing carbon emissions and footprints
2. Making change happen
3. A Roadmap for change
4. Establishing the Roadmap
5. A Vision for Kenilworth 2030
6. Appendices

This is an inclusive initiative that encourages all kinds of activities relating to the climate emergency - for children or adults, involving cycling or drawing, drama or gardening, retrofitting or cooking, energy generation or art, recycling or wild life..... It is an outward-looking invitation to the community to be part of something very varied, accessible and welcoming.

1. Reducing carbon emissions and footprints

In 2018, the average UK greenhouse gas emissions (calculated in terms of tonnes of the equivalent carbon dioxide – t CO₂e) were about 7 t CO₂e per person². For people living in Kenilworth, the largest contributions to the average emission figure are likely to be road transport, domestic gas, and electricity³ (Figure 1, and Appendix 1 and 2 for more details).

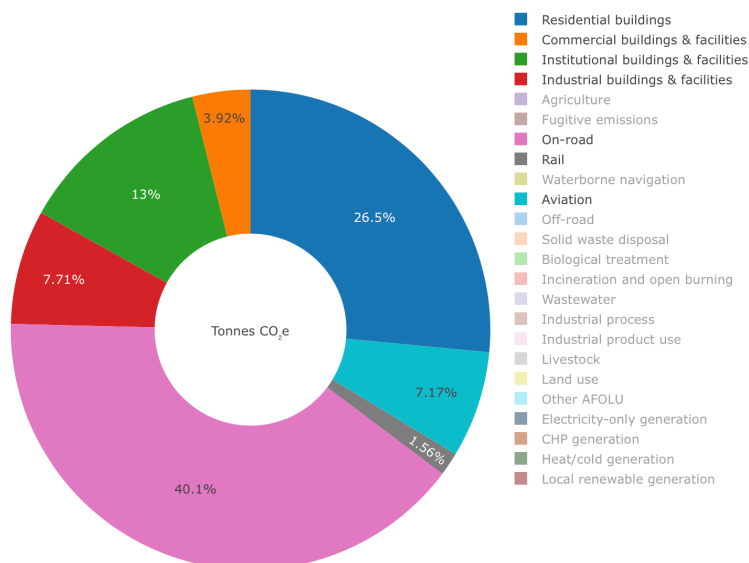


Figure 1 Greenhouse gas emissions (t CO₂e) from Warwick District showing the top seven largest sources by sub-sector: on-road, residential, commercial, institutional and industrial buildings, personal aviation and rail³.

But these figures ignore the embedded carbon in consumption, including shipping, aviation and imports. If all the carbon that we use in our home energy, travel, food and the 'other stuff' we buy is added together, the average carbon emissions rise significantly. In 2016 this figure was about 12 t CO₂e per person with about 45 % coming from imported food, clothes, vehicles etc⁴.

According to Friends of the Earth⁵, Warwick District's performance on climate change is average compared to other similar local authority areas. All local authorities, even the best performing, need to do much more if climate catastrophe is to be averted. Warwick District particularly needs to improve the use of public transport, cycling and walking, home insulation, and renewable energy.

The UK net zero carbon emission target by 2050 is based on the lower figure from emissions and not the higher figure based on consumption. This distinction is important for our Roadmap which is primarily aimed at consumers in households and local businesses. Thinking about carbon through consumption rather than emissions gives many more personal options to reduce our carbon footprints.

We can all get an estimate of our carbon footprints based on consumed carbon from free online calculators e.g. Carbon Footprint⁶ or World Wildlife Fund⁷. They are not fully accurate but do help to show how any lifestyle change we choose to make reduces our carbon footprint.

2. Making change happen

'Net zero carbon' means achieving a balance between carbon emissions produced and carbon emissions taken out of the atmosphere. Reaching net zero carbon can be achieved by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels (e.g. less consumption), replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy (e.g. solar and wind power), and capturing or storing carbon (e.g. in soil and trees).

Growing more trees has many benefits that reach beyond balancing carbon emissions, like increasing amenity and biodiversity. But carbon offsetting schemes reliant on growing trees are criticised for being inadequate to reduce carbon emissions over the required timescale. From 2021 the EU will stop allowing offsets to be counted towards emissions reductions targets⁸.

Thus, actions to reduce carbon emissions focus on initiatives across many sectors of society: energy, food, transport, waste, recycling, water, finance, housing, building, manufacturing, land management, institutions and consumer patterns. Actions need to be developed using all sorts of knowledge skills and talents in all sorts of initiatives.

Achieving national targets for carbon emissions in many of these different sectors will require new legislation and policy, and possibly funding, that can come only through principal authorities and the UK Parliament. In contrast, town and parish councils have no legislative power and limited funds.

In terms of local governance, WCC has responsibility for roads and transport, energy plans and strategy, education, businesses, environment and planning, and waste management, while WDC has responsibility for council housing, planning applications, rubbish collections and recycling. WDC aims to achieve for the District as close to net zero carbon by 2030 as possible through facilitating decarbonisation by local businesses, organisations and institutions (e.g. schools, NHS) and residents⁹.

The role of KTC in reducing carbon emissions is therefore:

- to use influence, encouragement, and persuasion to find solutions in areas where it has no direct authority (e.g. district-level sustainable development).
- to support and cooperate with other community groups, schools, businesses, individual initiatives etc.
- to develop an effective communication policy on carbon reduction and community actions.
- to provide a working group tasked with assessing progress and steering future actions.
- to generate, encourage and promote ideas for actions, events, etc, (with long term and short term delivery times), leaving the door open to the working group to seize opportunities if and when they appear.
- to co-operate with and to lobby other councils where this is likely to be fruitful.

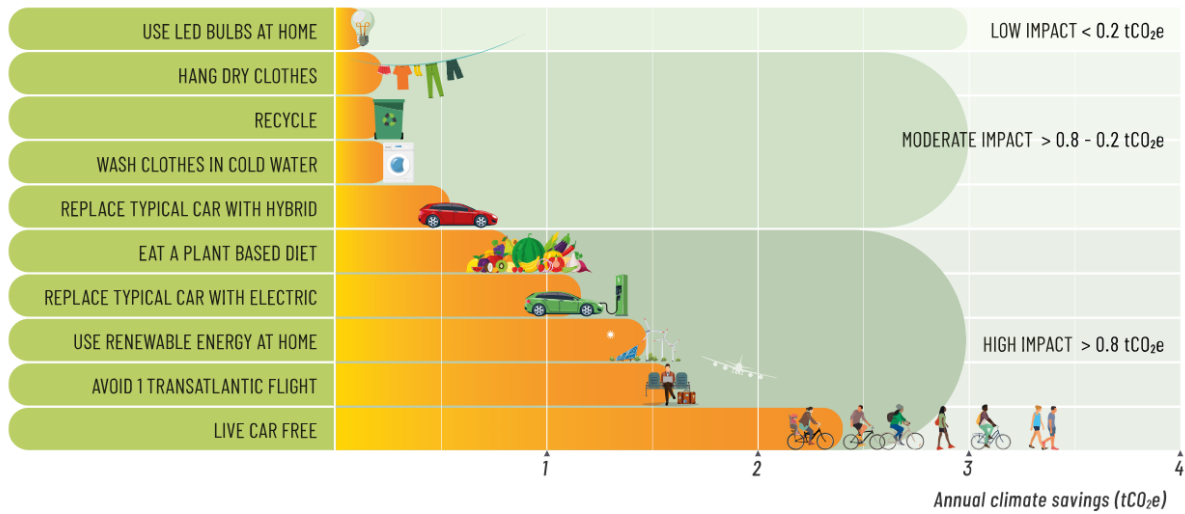
The Roadmap builds on previous KTC plans, reports and strategies, such as the Neighbourhood Plan and Cycling Strategy, which already refer to aspects of sustainable development.

3. A Roadmap for change

The aim of the Roadmap is to enable residents, businesses and the town council's own operations to reduce their carbon footprints as a contribution to regional and national zero carbon targets.

In many areas carbon reduction requires change in social behaviour and norms (Figure 2). But the working group were keen to avoid being judgemental or prescriptive about social behaviour. Behavioural changes are made in the context of market prices, new laws, information, products, and fashions but are often achieved through 'bottom-up' actions undertaken by individuals making independent and positive choices.

PERSONAL CHOICES TO REDUCE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE
Average values for developed countries based on current emissions.



This graph was developed by GreenFaith and is adapted from Wynes and Nicholas, 2017, Environmental Research Letter.

Figure 2 Some ways of reducing personal contributions to greenhouse gas emissions

Therefore, the main challenge for the working group was to identify the local actions that can help this process. After much discussion, the working group came up with a Roadmap comprising four streams of activities for promoting change.

Work stream 1. Providing information to residents and businesses

“Inform Kenilworth residents and businesses directly or indirectly about the climate emergency and the personal choices that we can all make. In particular:

- *Target personal ‘win-win’ choices where making a change actually improves the wellbeing of the individual or other benefits (e.g. energy costs savings, and improved health and wellbeing).*
- *Target people who are limited in their ability to make change, for example through disability or low incomes. The most obvious issue is in tackling fuel-poverty.”*

The working group considered how best to disseminate information. Top of the list were dedicated web sites/pages and social media platforms, such as Kenilworth Vibes or other Facebook/Instagram sites, but also Kenilworth Weekly News and house leafleting. Within the outlets it was suggested that there could be ‘a calendar of roadmap events’, ‘story-telling experiences’, ‘information about grants and support’, etc.

It is proposed that the newly formed ‘Communications Working Group’ in KTC considers creating a dedicated set of web pages to fill this need. In addition, there should be discussions with Kenilworth Vibes and Kenilworth Weekly News in supporting the initiative. Items for publication would be reviewed according to KTC policy on public notices. Possible topics for early dissemination are:

- What happens to Kenilworth’s recycling?
- Local re-use charity-supporting activities (e.g. Lions second-hand shop)
- 5 Simple Ways to Save the Planet
- Renewable energy for heating and providing power for houses
- Engaging with builders to build to high energy efficiency standards
- Engaging with companies involved in retrofitting older houses

Work stream 2. Supporting existing groups and projects

“Encourage and promote other Kenilworth groups that are involved with environmental and climate change initiatives. In particular, engage with children and young people”.

Kenilworth has a rich and diverse range of community groups and some are already involved in ‘environmental initiatives’ relevant to the Roadmap or may become involved in the future. Such groups should be encouraged, supported and highlighted in terms of their contributions to the Roadmap. Examples include Kenilworth All Together Greener¹⁰ which already holds frequent meetings to discuss sustainable living, and the Finham Brook Flood Action Group¹¹ which monitors the Environment Agency website for river levels and flood alerts along Finham Brook, but also provides a residents’ forum for raising awareness about local flooding and its possible mitigation. Kenilworth’s charity shops play a vital role in facilitating a great deal of reuse in the town, hence reducing both its recycling and waste burden.

The working group has made a first step towards networking with Kenilworth community groups. The following groups have already (Feb. 2020) provided a ‘climate action’ contact - but we would like more groups to join:

- 41 Club
- Castle Sixth Form Student Council
- Finham Brook Flood Action Group
- Friends of Abbey Fields
- Heart of England Organic Group
- Kenilworth All Together Greener
- Kenilworth Chamber of Trade
- Kenilworth Lions
- Kenilworth Methodist Church
- Kenilworth Rangers
- Kenilworth Runners
- Kenilworth U3A
- Primary School Heads Forum
- Soroptomists International
- St John’s Church (‘Eco-Church rep’)
- The Kenilworth Centre
- Warwickshire Wildlife Trust

Work stream 3. Town Council actions

“Achieving net zero carbon within Town Council operations including the events and activities it promotes and funds”.

The working group met with the WDC Portfolio for Environment and Business to discuss interactions between the two councils. The KTC will work with WDC to help deliver the WDC Climate Emergency Action Programme¹² which directly impacts on the carbon footprint of the council and the town.

KTC can contribute directly to the Roadmap by reducing the carbon footprint of its own activities, especially the operation of Jubilee House. The immediate priority should be to work with WDC (the landlord) to raise the Display Energy Certificate rating from the lowest grade G.

Other KTC actions include driving complementary strategies through Town Council initiatives (e.g. the Mayor’s Plastic-Free Kenilworth initiative, and the Cycling Strategy) and lobbying higher tier councils on improving housing energy performance in new developments, making our roads safer for cycling and walking, and investing in the town centre to promote local shopping.

Work stream 4. Self-sustaining working group¹

“Create a working group that can disseminate and receive information to and from other bodies, monitor progress in Kenilworth, and steer new actions in the longer term according to the feedback on previous actions, new legislation and new opportunities”.

The working group was keen to ensure that commitment to the Roadmap continues beyond the initial activities. The group dismissed the idea of planning events too far ahead because at least a year will be needed to gauge public reactions. It is therefore proposed that after the Roadmap document is accepted by the KTC (early 2020), the working group should continue to operate in order to steer its development.

The main role of the group would be to meet regularly (2-3 times/yr) in order to collate new information on carbon reduction, monitor progress, review opportunities, and plan or steer events for the next months and years. It would especially encourage young people to join the group and lead activities. Community groups/organisations and businesses are eligible to apply for KTC funds for community initiatives related to the climate emergency.

The working group considered many possible initiatives and events that demand further consideration by the working group (Appendix 3).

¹ This text was amended by full council (27/2/20) to confirm the continuation of the working group as a KTC-constituted working group reporting regularly at council meetings.

4. Establishing the Roadmap

The working group considered events and actions that could establish the initiative in the short term, in 2020-2021 (Figure 3).

Roadmap Launch Event

It is proposed to have an initial event in 2020 to launch the Roadmap. The Royal Society for the Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA) have a scheme in Warwickshire called ‘Creating a Low-Carbon Community’ and have agreed in principle to fund an event in Kenilworth. An event in Spring 2020 possibly held at the St Francis of Assisi Church, is planned. A few short talks would include the need for actions, details of the roadmap, the experience of other towns, etc. Much of the meeting would comprise facilitated discussions by residents on the roadmap and possible actions in the town (akin to citizens’ assemblies). The date, venue and speakers all to be confirmed. (Key contact George Martin)

Zero Carbon 2030 Event

Talks with Warwick University are ongoing about them supporting a late summer/autumn event to highlight technologies for a zero-carbon world, such as electric vehicles. This would be funded from their Global Research Priorities programme. The date, venue and activities all to be confirmed (Key contact Caroline Kuzemko)

Kenilworth Eco-Fayre 2020

This annual event¹³ is organised by Churches Together in Kenilworth and District to inspire local people to engage with environmental issues. Local groups and businesses who share this ethos are invited to take part. The Climate Emergency and Roadmap could be highlighted at this event, which takes place on Saturday 3rd October.



Figure 3 Indicative Roadmap timeline 2020-21

Business Climate Breakfast

The Kenilworth Chamber of Trade has offered to organise a business breakfast networking event with speakers/presentations to advise and motivate local businesses on how they can contribute towards this initiative and what changes they can make to reduce their carbon footprint. Can they gain 'eco-certification'? (Key contacts Sarah Kershaw/Rebecca Warwick).

Energy and Repair Cafés

Experience in other towns points to regular meeting sessions as a successful means to engaging with the public about a particular issue. Organised around experts or informed volunteers, the Cafés offer a place to come and discuss a particular problem. At Energy Cafés, people receive advice, information and support on a range of issues, including: how to engage in the energy market to reduce energy bills, how to deal with fuel debt, and how to reduce energy consumption and energy costs by cutting unnecessary energy use and energy loss from their properties¹⁴.

At Repair Cafés, visitors may bring items for repair by volunteers or they may be offered advice and tools to make the repairs themselves. There are over 1500 Repair Cafes worldwide and the local one in Leamington meets once a month¹⁵. One major benefit of cafés is the likely engagement with people who are less well-connected (via social media, newspapers) and the opportunity to offer further support or advice on a range of issues, such as reducing energy bills (priority 3 above). The working group looked into the possibility of starting up one or both of these in Kenilworth in 2020. Discussions are ongoing with local charities and community groups about setting-up a service organisation for this purpose and the first two Repair Cafés are already planned. (Key contact Sharon Maxted).

COP 2020

The next UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP 26) takes place 9-19 November 2020 in Glasgow¹⁶. Italy will organise a pre-COP youth event to recognise the role of youth climate strikes in raising climate ambitions across Europe. One idea is to use the conference as a basis for engaging with Kenilworth's children and young people. (Key contacts Rebecca Warwick/John Dearing).

Fact-finding visits

Visits to local sustainability/energy initiatives serve to raise awareness about possible 'green solutions'. We already have an invitation to organise a fact-finding visit to Heart of England Community Energy - the largest community solar farm in the UK¹⁷. The 15 megawatt array just outside Stratford-upon-Avon is made up of around 60,000 solar panels and has been operating since 2016. The society recycles its profits back into the Heart of England area by supporting local charities and projects with a positive social and environmental impact. It also supports initiatives to tackling climate change and poverty in developing countries. (Lead contact Michael Bullock).

Plastic-free Kenilworth

Plastic is among the most carbon-intensive materials to produce, extremely slow to decompose and where disposal for recycling is an important local issue. The 2019-20 Mayor's plastic-free Kenilworth initiative¹⁸ has been successful in raising awareness about the

unnecessary use of plastic, especially single-use plastic. It is hoped that this initiative may continue in the years ahead (Lead contact Alison Firth).

5. Kenilworth - a vision for 2030 and beyond

Climate change will likely amplify inequality and disproportionately affect the most vulnerable. Climate change in England, even up to 2030, is projected to bring hotter and drier summers, milder and wetter winters, and more frequent heavy rainfall¹⁹. In Kenilworth, this could mean more frequent and intense heatwaves that affect health especially in the elderly and the young. More intense droughts could change the appearance of our gardens and open spaces, like Abbey Fields, and local farming may have to modify its land use. More high pressure weather events would intensify the concentrations of air pollutants at the kerbside. More intense rainfall is likely to bring more flood events along the Inchford and Finham Brooks and even flash rainfall floods elsewhere in the town.

We can choose to accept these changes and adapt to them, or we can contribute to mitigating the changes through reducing carbon emissions – or both. Addressing climate change can therefore improve lives in ways that matter to residents. Our vision combines adaptation and mitigation. It imagines Kenilworth as an even more pleasant town to live and work – with more people adopting healthier lifestyles, with cheaper energy bills, more comfortable homes and work places, and more attractive urban and rural landscapes:

- as a town that has less busy, quieter and safer roads with more children walking and cycling to school along fume-free routes;
- with easier and safer travel across the town through electric cars, low emission vehicles, bus services connecting with the railway station, and electric bicycles connecting to the Greenway and K2L cycle routes;
- where a more visually attractive and viable town centre than present is supported by increased numbers of local shopping trips;
- where higher numbers of visitors and tourists to the town and Castle come by improved public transport;
- where new and retrofitted houses provide more healthy and comfortable environments to live in and come with cheaper energy bills resulting from improved energy efficiency and lower, possibly zero, carbon emissions;
- where retrofitting insulation and energy efficient appliances make fuel poverty a thing of the past;
- and where the town and its surrounding countryside includes more trees, wetlands and wild areas raising biodiversity, stored carbon and giving natural downstream flood protection.

These are all possible as we wean ourselves off fossil fuel energy: as we decarbonise our lives. It's an attractive prospect and there are several signs that it is already starting to happen but from a low base. The transition to electric vehicles has started with new, more functional models released each year which will accelerate in the light of a ban on new diesel and petrol forms from 2035. New homes will have EV charging points and more public charging points across Warwick District have already been agreed. New cycle routes across the town are already sketched out and the Kenilworth to Leamington route is scheduled for 2021-22. St

Augustine's Cycle Bus is already making cycling to school a normal, safe travel option²⁰. There is a proposal that gas boilers in new homes will be banned from 2025. Existing and new homes will increasingly replace gas boilers by heat pumps or electric heating. These will be accompanied by retrofitting insulation to a far higher level than currently exists so reducing heat loss and insulating against high temperatures. Air quality in homes will improve as cooking becomes electric. Enhanced national building regulations (as early as 2021) will push developers to build homes with better energy efficiency. As in Stratford-upon-Avon, local community groups are already creating local community solar farms¹⁷. And as exists in Harbury now, there could be electric vehicle sharing schemes²¹. Shops are gradually reducing the use of plastic waste and they could offer food lines that are locally produced with smaller carbon footprints.

There are many positive signs pointing towards a decarbonised future: our Roadmap is to ensure that we get there - and on time!

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 The UK response to the climate crisis

The independent Committee on Climate Change (CCC)²² advises the UK Government on emissions targets and reports to Parliament on progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for climate change. As a result, in June 2019, the UK became the first major economy in the world to pass laws to end its contribution to global warming by 2050. The target will require the UK to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, compared with the previous target of 'at least 80% reduction' from 1990 levels. Nevertheless, the Government has implemented only one of the CCC's 25 recommendations from 2018. The "net zero" law promises to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 but the CCC's prediction is that the 2025 and 2030 targets will be missed by large margins. Achieving net zero emissions by 2050 is thus a major challenge that clearly requires new government legislation to incentivise carbon reductions.

Using official statistics, the UK has already significantly cut the emission of greenhouse gases. In 2018, total UK greenhouse gas emissions were 42 % lower than in 1990 and 3% lower than 2017, mainly due to changes in the fuel mix used for electricity generation, away from coal and towards natural gas, nuclear and renewables. But these figures ignore the embedded carbon in consumption, including shipping, aviation and imports. The UK carbon footprint for consumption in 2016 comprised 45% from imports (with China the biggest source), 36% from UK production, 10% from household heating and 9% from household road transport⁴. For the average UK household in 2017 (Figure A1) the carbon footprint comprises heating (31%), transport (27%), food (18%), aviation (12%), electricity (9%) and waste (3%)³.

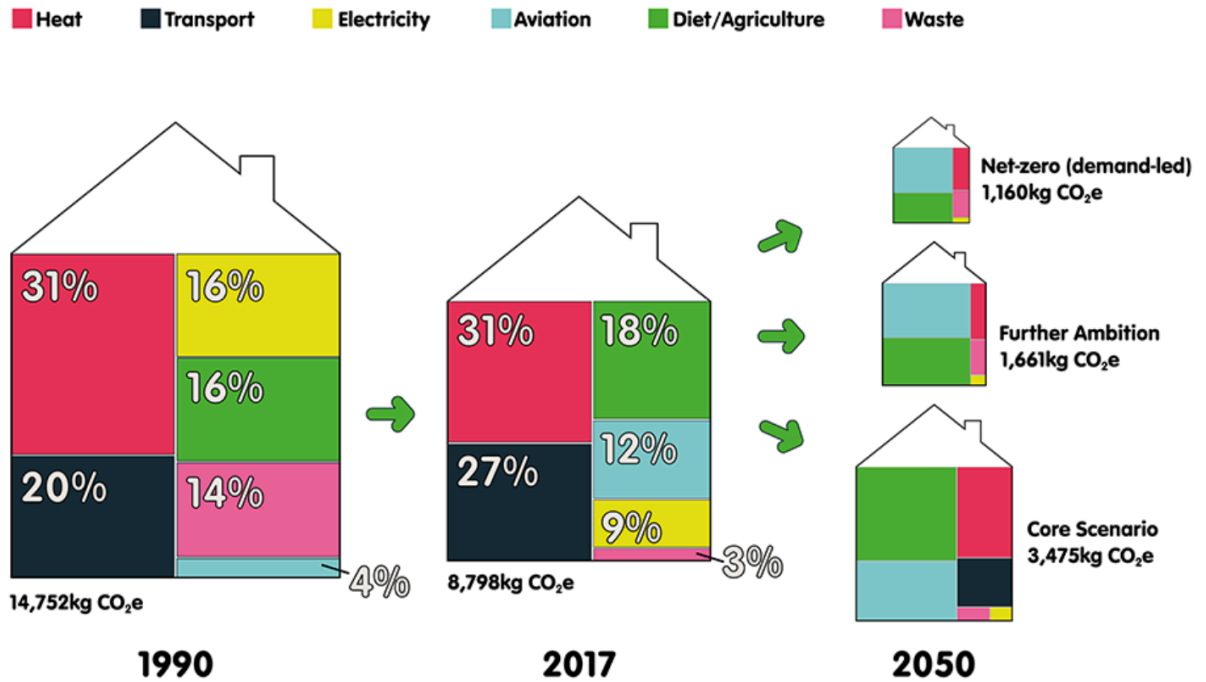


Figure A1 What a net zero target may mean for households²³

Appendix 2 Carbon footprints for Kenilworth/Warwick District

The full carbon footprint (2018/19) for Warwick District has been estimated by the SCATTER tool³ for Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions at approximately 1,060 kt CO₂e (Figure A2).

- Scope 1 – All Direct Emissions from the District’s residents, businesses and organisations (e.g. vehicle fuel, gas heating).
- Scope 2 – Indirect Emissions from grid-based fossil fuel electricity purchased and used by the District’s residents, businesses and organisations.
- Scope 3 – All Other Indirect Emissions from residents, businesses and organisations, occurring from sources that they do not own or control. These are usually the greatest share of the carbon footprint, covering emissions associated with personal travel, procurement, waste and water. But these do not cover all other carbon emissions embedded in imported goods from other UK regions or other nations.

The principal components of the footprint are transport (39.2%) and residential buildings (25.9%). Institutional buildings contribute 12.7% to the footprint.

Summary greenhouse gas emissions (metric tonnes CO ₂ e)		Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	
Sector	Sub-sector	Total tCO ₂ e	Total tCO ₂ e	Total tCO ₂ e	Total tCO ₂ e
		DIRECT	INDIRECT	OTHER	TOTAL
Stationary energy	Residential buildings	146,182.18	88,187.45	38,852.42	273,222.05
	Commercial buildings & facilities	19,340.73	14,877.40	6,185.68	40,403.81
	Institutional buildings & facilities	40,777.20	75,178.63	17,958.56	133,914.39
	Industrial buildings & facilities	24,004.96	43,579.66	11,847.39	79,432.02
	Agriculture	4,097.99	1.53	978.52	5,078.05
	Fugitive emissions	-	-	-	-
Transportation	On-road	413,738.62	IE	-	413,738.62
	Rail	16,077.97	IE	3,833.51	19,911.48
	Waterborne navigation	11.89	NO	2.83	14.72
	Aviation	-	IE	73,888.08	73,888.08
	Off-road	-	IE	-	-
Waste	Solid waste disposal	6,668.51	-	-	6,668.51
	Biological treatment	-	-	-	-
	Incineration and open burning	-	-	-	-
	Wastewater	8,716.89	-	-	8,716.89
IPPU	Industrial process	0.03	-	NE	0.03
	Industrial product use	0.00	-	NE	0.00
AFOLU	Livestock	5,142.82	-	NE	5,142.82
	Land use	-	0.01	-	0.01
	Other AFOLU	NE	-	NE	-
Generation of grid-supplied energy	Electricity-only generation	-	-	-	-
	CHP generation	-	-	-	-
	Heat/cold generation	-	-	NE	-
	Local renewable generation	-	NE	NE	-
Total (ALL)					1,060,131.46
Total Optional					1,046,271.72
Total Optional (Excluding Agriculture, Fugitive Emissions, Waterborne Navigation, Aviation, All Waste)					940,710.88
Total Stationary Energy					532,050.31
Total Transportation					507,552.91
Total Waste					6,668.51
Total IPPU					8,716.89
Total AFOLU					5,142.82

Figure A2 SCATTER tool calculations of total t CO₂e for sectors and subsectors in Warwick District

Appendix 3 Possible initiatives and events for future consideration

Engagement with younger people. The main beneficiaries of climate action are the younger generation. The working group was very keen that younger people in the town should not only engage with the current roadmap but should also take the lead for its future direction. The steering group should make all efforts to involve younger people through interactions with schools and community groups (e.g. Church Groups, Guides and Scouts). Initial contacts (Feb 2020) have been made with the Kenilworth Consortia Heads, and Chair of the Kenilworth Sixth Student Council.

Zero carbon farming. The UK's net zero carbon target will involve modifying non-urban land use towards net zero carbon. This may include reducing emissions in livestock farming or through minimal cultivation, and increasing carbon storage by re-wilding and planting more trees. In the near term, WDC have pledged to plant 160 000 new trees before 2023. The working group considered the challenges of finding local land for new plantings. In this respect, the steering group needs to continue the dialogue already started with WDC, local farmers and land-owners. Re-wilding opportunities to enhance native biodiversity and raise carbon storage should also be identified.

A Kenilworth Green Travel plan. Rather like the Cycleways²⁴ group, there is a need for a group to continuously review integrated sustainable travel across Kenilworth and to and from other towns using cycles and electric bikes, mobility scooters, electric cars, car sharing, bus services and trains.

Carbon footprints. It is worth considering measuring individual and business carbon footprints to inform carbon reduction options and to monitor progress in achieving targets. Carbon footprint tools are available for individuals^{6,7} and small businesses²⁵ but members of the group found them rather time-consuming. It was felt that more time and effort would be needed before recommending a specific tool or using the calculated results as the basis of carbon reduction pledges.

Climate and environment themed activities. Local charities and organisations could be encouraged to engage with the roadmap through their annual events. For example, given enough lead-in time, the Carnival, the Lions Show and others could plausibly have a climate change or environmental theme.

Air Quality. Kenilworth has two Air Quality Management Zones²⁶ along Warwick Road and in New Street. Monthly measurements of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) are made at different locations using diffusion tubes. Annual reports show that NO₂ levels lie just below or just above permissible levels. Key questions include: Should other measures of air quality, such as fine particulates (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) be taken? Will new pedestrian safety schemes and a rise in electric vehicles result in better air quality?

References and notes

- ¹ <https://www.productplan.com/roadmap-basics/>
- ² https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/790626 Figure 1 shows 449 Mt CO₂e (2018) for total GHG – divided by 66.44 million people (2018) gives 7.76 t CO₂e/person
- ³ <https://scattercities.com>; <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-to-2017>
- ⁴ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/790626/2018-provisional-emissions-statistics-report.pdf
- ⁵ <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/climate-friendly-communities>
- ⁶ <https://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>
- ⁷ <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>
- ⁸ <https://www.responsibletravel.com/copy/carbon-offsets>
- ⁹ https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20468/sustainability_and_climate_change/1437/climate_emergency_declaration
- ¹⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Community/Kenilworth-All-Together-Greener-331940026990994/>
- ¹¹ @FinhamBkFloodGp
- ¹² [WDC Climate Emergency Action Programme ~ MAIN REPORT ~ 31.1.2020](#)
- ¹³ <https://www.facebook.com/KWEcoFayre/>
- ¹⁴ <http://www.cied.ac.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Energy-cafes-policy-brief-web.pdf>
- ¹⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/RepairCafeLSpa/>
- ¹⁶ <https://sdg.iisd.org/events/2020-un-climate-change-conference-unfccc-cop-26/>
- ¹⁷ <https://www.sustainabilitywestmidlands.org.uk/news/heart-of-england-community-energy-people-powered-energy/>
- ¹⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/plasticfreekenilworth>
- ¹⁹ <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/climate-change/effects-of-climate-change>
- ²⁰ <http://staugustinescyclebus.co.uk>
- ²¹ <https://ecarclub.co.uk/locations/warwickshire/harbury/>
- ²² <https://www.theccc.org.uk>
- ²³ <https://es.catapult.org.uk/news/net-zero-living-carbon-free/>
- ²⁴ <https://www.cycleways.org.uk>
- ²⁵ <https://www.carbontrust.com/resources/tools/carbon-footprint-calculator/>
- ²⁶ https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/details?aqma_ref=57

