

Green Expectations Action Plan 2016/17

Objective Type
1 = Direct
2 = Indirect
Partnership

Action Reference	Action Name	2015/16 Baseline	2016/17 Action	2016/17 Action Status	Objective Type
A Energy and Climate Change					
Aim: To reduce energy use and emissions which contribute to climate change					
Objective 1 - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations.					
1.1	Improve Three Rivers House DEC rating	DEC rating 104 (E) valid until 30-9-2016	Aim to reduce DEC to below 100 (D)		1
1.2	Reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from council operations	2014/15 = 2118.64 t/CO2e (Tonnes of carbon equivalent). 2015-16 target 0% change in GHG	1% reduction in GHG		1
Objective 2 - Minimise greenhouse gas emissions from new developments in the District in line with our Local Plan.					
2.1	Reduce potential CO2 emissions from new developments	All applications considered against policy for new development to produce at least 5% less CO2 than Building Regulations Part L (2013).	Consider all planning applications against the policy for new development to produce at least 5% less CO2 than Building Regulations Part L (2013).		2
Objective 3 - Encourage the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from existing properties in the District in line with the priorities in our Home Energy Conservation Act report					
3.1	Promotion of energy efficiency	Promotion through projects and advice on websites and TRT. 423 ECO measures installed (June 14- June 15) including 116 homes externally insulated.	Encourage residents to install insulation to existing dwellings through provision of advice and information on available grants and funding. Expecting around 200 ECO measures due to changes in ECO funding.		3
3.2	Provision of energy efficiency visits through Herts Healthy Homes Scheme.	27 visits April 2015- March 2016	Promote home energy efficiency visits - Groundwork contracted until Dec 2016 to undertake home visits.		3

Appendix 1

B Biodiversity					
Aim: To maintain our natural habitats, green spaces and wildlife					
Objective 4 - Sustainably manage woodland sites, local nature reserves, and parks and open spaces owned by the Council for wildlife and people					
4.1	Retain Green Flag status	Green Flag status retained at 3 sites	To retain status at all 3 sites.		1
4.2	Retain UK Woodland Assurance Scheme	Audit passed	To pass the annual audit.		1
4.3	Local nature reserves and other open spaces	Well managed sites with 5 current action plans in place.	Annual review of management plans for local nature reserves.		1
Objective 5 - Continue to use our powers understand, maintain and improve biodiversity in the District					
5.1	Tree Preservation Orders	91.7% of Tree Preservation Orders were dealt with within the statutory timescales.	Officers will undertake to deal with 95% of all applications to carry out works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) within 8 weeks.		2
Objective 6 - Encourage residents to help enhance biodiversity and also to interact more with the natural environment in conjunction with the Countryside Management Service, the Local Nature Partnership and other relevant organisations					
6.1	Raise awareness of biodiversity in gardens	Green our herts - Green your garden guide, article in Environment Newsletter	Maintain awareness.		3
6.2	Raise awareness of local biodiversity	Local nature sites on Green our Herts, Activities such as bird and bug house building events, bat walk etc	Local nature sites information on Green our Herts. Activities such as bird and bug house building events, bat walk, butterfly walk and bug hunt etc.		3
6.3	Work with 'Friends of' groups at Local Nature Reserves	Annual work programme agreed	To agree annual work programme.		3
C Waste					
Aim: To reduce the amount of waste produced and manage it sustainably					
Objective 7 - Further reduce waste and increase recycling from Council buildings					
7.1	Recycling and composting at Three Rivers House	To be established	Once new comingled collection system is in place a baseline will be established and a target set.		1
Objective 8 - Provide services and work in partnership to minimise the amount of household waste sent to landfill and maximise the opportunities for recycling					
8.1	Recycling and composting of household waste	62%	63%		2
8.2	Recycling of business waste	35%	Establish baseline		2
8.3	Amount of waste sent to landfill	12,956 tonnes	15,000 tonnes		2
Objective 9 - Encourage householders and businesses to reduce their waste and recycle more in partnership with Wasteaware					
9.1	Waste reduction, recycling and composting awareness raising	Wasteaware 2015 - 118,000 tweet impressions and 34,000 reached by Facebook	Maintain social media presence. Food waste promotion.		3

Appendix 1

D Reducing Water Use					
Aim: Use water efficiently					
Objective 10 - Reduce the Council's water use					
10.1	Monitor the Council's water use	Individual managers monitor use through bills.	Baseline to be established.		1
10.2	Reduce the Council's water use	Collection of greywater and rainwater at Batchworth depot and rainwater at TRH.	Set a target to reduce water use.		1
Objective 11 - Support development where efficient use is made of water resources in line with our Local Plan					
11.1	Efficient water consumption in new homes	All new dwellings to potentially consume no more than 125 litres per person per day	All new dwellings to have the potential to consume no more than 125 litres per person per day.		2
Objective 12 - Promote water efficient in homes and businesses in the district					
12.1	Promote efficient water consumption in homes	Green your Garden leaflet encouraged collection of rainwater, dry planting and water efficiency.	Advice on water reduction Green our Herts Website, Environment Newsletter, Three Rivers Times and other media as appropriate.		3
12.2	Promote efficient water consumption in businesses	n/a	Advice to be provided.		3
E FLOODING					
Aim: Mitigate increasing flood risk					
Objective 13 - Use sustainable drainage systems such as permeable surfacing and planting to slow water flow, and manage our riparian sites to mitigate flood risk					
13.1	Manage our sites to not increase, and where possible mitigate, flood risk	Sites managed responsibly and balancing pond project completed at the Withey Beds to help manage peak river flows in the River Colne	Maintain and where possible improve riparian sites to mitigate flooding.		1
Objective 14 - Work in partnership with Hertfordshire County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority. Ensure that new development is not subject to unacceptable risk of flooding, does not unacceptably exacerbate flooding elsewhere and where practicable reduce existing flood risk					
14.1	New development should not increase the risk of flooding	All planning applications considered against Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, advice from the Environment Agency and the Lead Local Flood Authority as appropriate.	Consider all planning applications against Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, advice from the Environment Agency and the Lead Local Flood Authority as appropriate.		2
Objective 15 - Raise awareness of the need to prevent and reduce the impact of local flooding. Signpost Building Futures and promote sustainable practices.					
15.1	Raise awareness locally of flood risk and issues.	Information on website with links to relevant authorities and general advice in case of flooding.	Maintain and improve advice.		3

Appendix 1

F SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT					
Aim: To reduce the impact of local transport on air quality and carbon emissions					
Objective 16 - The Council will seek to reduce the impact of carbon emissions and local air quality of travel associated with Council operations					
16.1	Promote sustainable staff travel to work	Review 2008 travel plan and establish baseline and target	Monitor and implement travel plan. Smart targets to be determined.		1
16.2	Encourage sustainable travel for staff on business	2014-15 = 30.26 tCO ₂ e Review 2008 travel plan and establish baseline and target	Monitor and implement travel plan. Smart targets to be determined.		1
16.3	Minimise the impact on the environment from council vehicles	2014-15 = 937 tCO ₂ e	To maintain fuel consumption.		1
Objective 17 - In conjunction with the Government, Hertfordshire County Council, Parish Council, schools, local interest groups, and other key stakeholders the Council will develop and improve local cycling and walking routes and actively facilitate sustainable travel through the provision and promotion of new infrastructure.					
17.1	Cycling and walking	2.4km of shared cycling and walking off road routes being installed	Investigate 15 cycle routes, report to SDPT and implement as appropriate.		2
17.2	Support bus routes	3 routes supported to connect local residents with major retail areas and stations	Maintain support for 3 bus routes.		2
Objective 18 - The Council will promote local passenger transport and work with the statutory transport providers including Hertfordshire County Council, bus and rail operators as well as other partners to encourage sustainable and healthy forms of travel.					
18.1	Effective local bus networks	Member of Intalink HCC partnership arrangement intended to coord and improve bus services across Herts.	Maintain membership of Intalink.		3
18.2	Metropolitan Line Extension	Government approved funding	Works by MLX partnership to commence.		3
G SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT AND FAIR TRADE					
Aim: To reduce the impact of procurement on the environment					
Objective 19 - To procure goods and services sustainably taking into account whole life costs, disposal costs and where appropriate Fair Trade.					
19.1	Sustainable Procurement	Environmental and sustainability considerations are referred to within procurement guidance	Review documentation (specifically the evaluation criteria and specification guidance) to assess potential to improve guidance on sustainable procurement.		1
Objective 20 - The Council will only buy recycled, certified or sustainable and legal timber products					
20.1	Buy recycled, certified or sustainable and legal timber products across all of our departments	Paper products sustainably sourced.	Sustainably source paper and timber products.		2
Objective 21 - Promote sustainable procurement and Fair Trade to homes and businesses in the District.					
21.1	Promote sustainable procurement and Fair Trade	Information on website and Green our Herts.	Raise awareness of sustainable procurement and Fair Trade through the Green our Herts website and other media.		3

Appendix 1

H CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION					
Aim: To Improve resilience to the impacts of, and enable adaptation to, a changing climate					
Objective 22 - Commit to taking action in changing climate by signing the Local Government Association Climate Local Commitment, set out our actions and report on progress.					
22.1	Climate Local Commitment	Climate Local Commitment signed March 2015	Continuous improvement in line with Action Plan.		1
Objective 23 - Ensure through planning and building regulations that buildings meet standards for sustainability which will continue to evolve in response to emerging risks and issues.					
23.1	All development to contribute to the sustainability of the District.	All applications considered against policy and Building Control certification in line with regulations	All applications to be considered against sustainable development policy and Building Control certification in line with regulations		2
Objective 24 - Improve the understanding of residents and businesses about what a changing climate could mean for them and encourage action to become resilient to climate risks.					
24.1	Improve understanding of residents regarding climate change	Green Your Garden guide advises on permeable surfaces and planting for drought which will both help towards climate adaptation.	Promote climate change actions and resilience to residents through Green our Herts and other media.		3
24.2	Improve understanding of local businesses regarding climate change	Information on Green our Herts	Host Carbon Trust SME Climate Change training seminar and promote climate change adaptation and mitigation actions to businesses through Green our Herts and other media.		3