

South Somerset Environment Strategy

Annual Parish Meeting
October 2019

Priority Outcomes

The Strategy identifies four priority outcomes and how we will deliver our aims. The four priority outcomes are:



We will Reduce our Reliance on Fossil Fuels; by

- harnessing natural resources, for example by harvesting rain and grey water
- switching to renewable sources of energy
- raising expectations of developers, through our Local Plan policies
- making sustainable procurement choices,
- investigating in additional green energy investments
- reducing our energy consumption



We will Reduce Emissions; by

- reducing our business mileage
- decreasing reliance on the car
- facilitating the growth of electric vehicles for both personal and operational use
- reducing the level of particulates in the district
- facilitating non-motor vehicle modes of transport



We will Minimise Waste and Increase Recycling;

- we need to generate less waste, and encourage the use of sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics
- we will encourage reuse and recycling and savings in the use of natural resources
- we need to look at opportunities to improve our existing housing stock and ensure that new homes are built with recycling in mind



We will Offset carbon emissions; by

- increasing our tree canopy
- increasing biodiversity across our own land holdings
- working with local food producers to accelerate the production of environmentally friendly food stuff
- minimising the environmental impact of food production
- investing in offset where we are not able to deliver it ourselves; i.e. as a last resort

How we will deliver our aims?

The Strategy sets out our plan to tackle climate change in two clear pathways:

- For our own estate and operations and what actions we can take to become carbon neutral;
- Our responsibilities in respect of the wider geography that comprises the South Somerset District.

Identifies a series of actions and targets that are achievable in the short-term

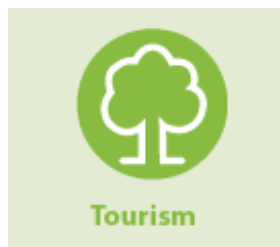
Also details how we will develop our longer term plans.

26 changes for across SSDC operations / land holdings in 1-2 year timeframe

18 commitments to enable change through others or support others to deliver

Developing our longer-term plans

- Detailed delivery plan – setting out what, how and when we will deliver our Priority Outcomes and Vision
- Detailed business cases and appropriate assessment for other possible interventions
- Establish an appropriate baseline and benchmark framework to measure continuous environmental improvement.



Enabling change through others

Commitments include:

- Develop tree planting network & work to increase tree canopy
- Nature Recovery Networks
- Support the growth of community allotments
- Support local food markets and local food production
- Encourage businesses to be greener / reduce carbon footprint
- Map out and celebrate existing 'green' businesses

How do we move this forward?

Work with our stakeholders

Tell us if there are any aspects of the strategy that you want to work with us to deliver.

Email us at:

Strategy@SouthSomerset.Gov.Uk

