



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Tenterden Town Council

ABSTRACT

Climate Change is happening. We need to work together to lower carbon emissions, increase resilience and become more sustainable. This Climate Action Plan is Tenterden Town Council's proposed response to the Climate Crisis. We now want to hear your views.

CONTENTS

Mayor’s Foreword	2
Introduction	3
Our Vision and Commitments	4
Graphic representation	5
The Climate Action Plan	6
Putting Our Own House in Order	7
Supporting Change in the Community: Energy	9
Transport	10
Resource Management	12
Biodiversity and Nature	14
Climate Action Plan Governance	15
Annex 1 – Tenterden’s Carbon Footprint	16
Annex 2 – Tenterden Town Council’s Carbon Footprint	19
Annex 3 – Tenterden Town Council’s Higher-Level Commitments	20
Annex 4 – Tenterden Town Council’s Actions	21
Annex 5 – Glossary	23

A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN FOR TENTERDEN - SEPTEMBER 2022

Mayor's Foreword

The Climate Emergency is changing our world and we must change too. Our planet, our only home, is in great danger. It is not only global warming that is a threat, but also the mistreatment of our environment; landscape degradation, resource depletion and devastated wildlife are plain to see.

The Climate Change Act requires the UK to reduce its emissions by 80% by 2050. Individuals cannot be expected to make this reduction on their own. Society needs to change, and this requires action at a national and international level as well as local. Local councils like Tenterden Town Council also have a role. As local leaders, we aim to achieve outcomes beyond what can be achieved through our own legal powers and duties.

The good news is that there is much to gain from changing to low carbon living. Local government, local people, local businesses, can all benefit from working together to improve the sustainability and resilience of our shared environment. Individuals can change their own behaviour and can join with fellow citizens to establish environmental initiatives in the town. We have a vision of Tenterden thriving through sustainability.

Tenterden Town Council is already developing a Neighbourhood Plan with a particular emphasis on our environment. The council has begun the task of 'putting its own house in order' and has offered support to community groups like Plastic Free Tenterden to campaign for the reduction of single-use plastics in the town.

As a responsible Town Council, it is our duty to work tirelessly for our community to implement positive changes as a contribution to managing climate change. We invite you to join us in working on our most important and most immediate project.

Introduction

The UK's commitment to net zero and what it means

In common with most countries in the world, the UK is committed under international agreements to take firm action to avoid the worst consequences of climate change. In particular, the UK is committed by law to net zero carbon emissions by 2050. This means that all emissions of greenhouse gases will either need to be eliminated or offset by carbon negative measures.

This will involve many changes to the way we live our lives, including how we heat our homes, how and where we work and how we travel. Although the UK has made significant progress in reducing carbon emissions over the last thirty years, it is still the case that fossil fuels (mainly oil and gas) account for around three-quarters of all the energy we use. The scale of change needed over the next 30 years will be substantial and will affect everyone.

Tenterden Town Council's response

The scale of change needed to achieve net zero carbon by 2050 means that everyone will have to contribute, including individuals, businesses, the energy industry and government at all levels. That includes Tenterden Town Council and the people who live, work and shop in Tenterden.

Like councils of various shapes and sizes around the UK, Tenterden Town Council (TTC) has already recognised the scale of the climate emergency. In 2020 TTC committed to achieving carbon neutrality in its own operations by 2030 and it has set up a Climate Change Subcommittee to drive forward its response, both for the council and for the wider community.

As a part of this effort, TTC is developing a climate action plan to set out the steps it can take in response to the developing climate emergency. This document sets out the Council's proposed plan. The next step is for the Council to listen to the views of people and businesses in the Town and other stakeholders, including KCC and ABC and neighbouring villages.

We want to hear **your** view about the plan and what **you** think the Council should be doing in response to the climate emergency.

You will be able to make your views heard in a variety of ways. The Town Council will share information about the Consultation through its website and social media accounts, the Parish Magazine, My Tenterden, its own Council News Bulletin, a public questionnaire and having a physical 'Drop Box' for residents to submit their feedback and ideas.

This consultation phase will run from the beginning of October to the end of November 2022. The final Plan will then be submitted to the full council for approval at its March 2023 meeting.

There will also be two public meetings in November at the Town Hall to gather feedback in person.

- The first will be for businesses, charities and other stakeholders, and will take place at 10.30am-12.00 on Saturday, 5th November.
- The second will be for the general public and will take place at 10.30am-12.00 on Saturday, 19th November.

Residents, businesses and stakeholders can also write or email to us to let us know their response to the proposed Plan.

Write to: The Clerk, Tenterden Town Council, Town Hall, 24 High Street, Tenterden, TN30 6AN

Email: townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk

Our vision and commitments

The Climate Action Plan sets out the actions the Council intends to take to address the causes and consequences of climate change. It is rooted in a clear vision of what the council is trying to achieve and a strategy about how best to achieve it.

A climate vision for Tenterden – Thriving Through Sustainability,
Achieving net zero carbon will require action in all areas of life. The costs involved in restructuring the way we live so that people can thrive without causing damaging climate change should be fairly distributed throughout the whole community. It is incumbent upon the Town Council to ensure that any actions it takes has proper regard for those who are most vulnerable to change. The Town Council believes it is possible to address climate change and address people's quality of life at the same time.

The Town Council will enable access to a broad range of information to help residents in making changes to their lifestyles that can increase sustainable living. We aim for a 'win-win' outcome where individuals and households benefit economically and improve their well-being, whilst reducing their use of the earth's resources.

The Town Council aims to position Tenterden as a leading community in sustainable living, boosting the quality of life for all its citizens and making the town a shining example for others. The Town Council will endeavour to ensure the costs and benefits of any changes it has influence over are fairly distributed throughout the population. The Town Council has a vision of a prospering Tenterden – a town developing as a sustainably better place, thereby becoming an increasingly attractive and desirable place to live and work.

Tenterden Town Council recognises its role as a hub for people in neighbouring villages who use the town for shopping, employment and public services. Part of Tenterden's carbon "footprint" will be from people driving into the town from nearby communities as well as outlying parts of Tenterden. It is important that the Town Council liaises with and involves neighbouring parishes to develop this wider vision.

We want Tenterden and the people who live and work in it to flourish, by becoming the one of the most sustainable places to live, work and play.

To support our vision, Tenterden Town Council has agreed to several commitments.



Tenterden Town Council: Our commitment to addressing the climate crisis.

The Climate Action Plan

There are two distinct elements of the plan.

- **Putting our own house in order.** This is about reducing TTC's own carbon footprint and enhancing its resilience in the face of climate risks. It is about achieving TTC's own target of carbon neutrality by 2030.
- **Supporting change in the community.** This is about helping the local community, including local businesses, third sector organisations and citizens, reduce their own carbon footprint.

Each aspect will require thinking not only about the carbon emissions in the town itself but also the emissions embedded in the things we consume and the services we use.

- Energy.** This is mainly about reducing carbon emissions arising from heating and powering our homes and businesses.
- Transport.** This is about reducing carbon emissions arising from people moving around within, to and from the Town.
- Sustainable sourcing and resource management.** This is the carbon emissions embedded in the goods, materials, and services we buy and the way that these can be reduced by repair, re-use, recycling and sustainable waste management such as composting.
- Nature.** This is both about the impact of changes to nature and land use on climate as well as the way that we can ensure that nature and biodiversity continues to thrive, despite the impact of climate change.

The scope of the Climate Action Plan needs to focus on actions available to Tenterden Town Council, recognising the limits to its functions, powers and resources. TTC can act in the following ways.

- **As a principal**
 - Actions that the Council can take using its own resources, facilities and functions, such as reducing its own carbon footprint, investing in local facilities/amenities and providing support and funding for local groups.
- **As a facilitator**
 - Including educational, information and signposting actions - helping local people and businesses make greener choices.
- **As a partner**
 - Partnering with other bodies, including KCC, ABC, national government, neighbouring parishes, community groups, charities and others to bring their resources, skills and knowledge to support the vision.
- **As an influencer**
 - Lobbying and pressurising other bodies to bring about positive change in support of the Plan's objectives (perhaps where partnership approaches may have proved unsuccessful).

The next sections describe the plan for each of these categories and then specifies the detailed actions that the TTC proposes, in the short (before 2025), medium (2025-2030) and longer term (after 2030).

PUTTING OUR OWN HOUSE IN ORDER

This section is primarily about emissions arising from the use of fuel and power in Tenterden Town Council (TTC) buildings, machinery and vehicles and minimising the carbon emissions associated with the goods and services used by the town council.

As part of its commitment to be carbon neutral by 2050, the objective is for energy use in TTC buildings, machinery and vehicles to be carbon neutral by 2030.

This will be achieved by

- 1) Reducing energy use in TTC buildings as far as is practical.
- 2) Eliminating all emissions from the use of gas and oil on council premises by 2030.
- 3) Replace all petrol and diesel vehicles and machinery with electric equivalents by 2030.
- 4) Reducing emissions associated with electricity use to a level that can be offset.
- 5) Implement carbon negative measures to offset remaining emissions by 2030.

Reducing energy use

- Insulate all TTC buildings to the highest level practically possible without causing harm to heritage value or function.
- Replace inefficient appliances with modern, energy efficient equivalents.
- Encourage efficient behaviour and practices by users of the buildings.
- Consider rooftop solar thermal panels to displace energy used in water heating.

Eliminating gas and oil use by 2030

- Replace all gas and oil space and water heating systems with the best available electric or low carbon alternatives.
- Replace all petrol- and diesel-powered plant, machinery and vehicles with the best available electric or low carbon alternatives.

Reducing emissions associated with electricity use

- Where practical and economic to do so, consider installing solar PV panels or other means of renewable electricity generation.
- Over time unit carbon emissions from grid electricity is expected to fall. Current plans are for the UK power grid to reach net zero by 2035.
- It will become increasingly valuable to reduce carbon emissions and cost by shifting electricity use to the most favourable times of the day. Consider the installation of battery storage and additional hot water storage to allow greater load shifting. Adopt flexible charging of electric plant and vehicles.

Implement carbon negative measures to offset residual carbon emissions

- The most direct means of offset would be to export renewable electricity to the grid.
- If that is not sufficient, the Council could consider implementing carbon reduction measures in third-party premises (such as other community buildings) or land use changes, such as tree planting.
- As a last resort consider purchasing high-quality, independently verified commercial offsets.
- As green, zero carbon and 100% renewable electricity tariffs do nothing to reduce overall carbon emissions, these should not usually be included as a part of carbon reduction efforts. Some of the better green tariffs may be considered as indirect means of purchasing commercial offsets.

Minimising carbon emissions embedded in purchased goods, materials and services

- Review current procurement approaches with a view to minimising the embedded carbon and likely lifecycle emissions (including energy use, lifetime and recycling options).
- Consider options to source goods, materials, and services locally, to minimise carbon emissions and support the local community.
- Develop a plan to reduce carbon emissions embedded in bought-in goods and services to 2030 to a level that can be offset with carbon negative actions.
- Review the scope for increasing the efficiency of water usage and waste-water discharges and implement improvements. Consider ways of reducing the harm caused by discharges of wastewater by, for example, switching to more sustainable cleaning products.

Ensuring TTC practices reduce waste and maximise reuse and recycling.

- Review current processes for recycling and waste management and identify immediate and medium-term improvements. Include time specific targets for reduction, replacement, or elimination.
- Promote good practice guidelines for electronic services and digital 'paperwork'. Recycle all TTC's technological assets using WEEE and ADISA directives.

Embedding climate impacts in all TTC policies and decisions

- Review current Council procedures and policies to assess their climate impact and make changes where necessary.
- Require all council decisions and policies to take explicit account of the impact on carbon emissions and sustainability more generally, including the impact of emissions in the wider community.
- Incorporate carbon accounting into the Council's procedures, including setting annual carbon budgets and incorporating a valuation of carbon emissions or savings into decision making.

SUPPORTING CHANGE IN THE COMMUNITY

A. ENERGY

This section is primarily about helping the residents, workers and users of local shop and services reduce their carbon emissions from the use of energy in their homes and businesses.

The overall policy objective is at the minimum, for homes and businesses in Tenterden to be carbon neutral by 2050 in line with the targets in the Climate Change Act. However, in line with its overall vision, the Town Council would like Tenterden to be one of the most sustainable places in the region to live and work.

Any action by Tenterden Town Council will be in the context of national energy and climate policy. It will be for individuals, businesses and community groups to minimise and (eventually) eliminate their carbon footprints. Tenterden Town Council aims to work with partners to make more sustainable choices easier.

The actions needed to de-carbonise homes and businesses in Tenterden are similar to those needed to achieve carbon neutrality in TTC's own premises.

- 1) Reducing energy use as far as practically possible through energy efficiency measures, behaviour change and solar thermal panels.
- 2) Replace the gas and oil heating systems with low- or zero-carbon alternatives, such as electric heat pumps or other low carbon alternatives.
- 3) Consider investing in energy storage (batteries, hot water storage) and control systems to enable load shifting to help reduce costs and carbon footprints.
- 4) Consider investing in renewable electricity generation where practical and economic.

In addition, there may be a role for community energy schemes, involving collective action by residents and businesses to produce and distribute affordable, sustainable energy. Examples might include community investment in renewable energy generation (such as a solar farm), district heating systems using communal or shared heat sources, (such as a ground source heat pump supplying heat to a block of flats) or community investment in battery storage to take advantage of periods of low cost or low carbon electricity.

Tenterden Town Council could support residents and businesses in the following ways.

- Provide information about how best to reduce energy use, signposting organisations and companies that can help.
- Provide advice and support to the owners of the many heritage buildings in Tenterden, using experience gained during the town hall refurbishment.
- Provide information about incentives, charges, grants and subsidies available to homes and businesses and how to take advantage of them.
- Liaise with local energy network companies and other energy service providers to help ensure they invest to support the pace and scale of change in energy use in the town.
- Provide practical support and advice to any community energy initiatives that might emerge.

B. TRANSPORT

This section is primarily about supporting residents, workers and users of local shops and services reduce and eventually eliminate carbon emissions from transport.

The overall policy objective is for transport in Tenterden to be carbon neutral by 2050 in line with the targets in the Climate Change Act. However, in line with its overall vision, the Town Council would like Tenterden to be a leader in sustainable transport in small towns.

It should be recognised that public transport, roads, and public footpaths in the town are primarily the responsibility of Kent CC, while all public car parks are owned and operated by Ashford BC. The overall policy framework for zero emission vehicles (such as EVs), the phase out of ICE vehicles and the overall policy context for public transport are matters for national government. **The Town Council will need to work in partnership with other bodies to achieve its objectives.**

Utilising a widely accepted approach for considering decarbonisation of local transport, Tenterden Town Council recognises the following approach:

Avoid or reduce the need for travel where practical, by working to increase the level of services and employment provided close to where people live.

Shift towards more energy efficient and lower carbon modes of transport, including promoting a reduction in the use of private vehicles to travel to, from and around Tenterden, through

- a) Encouraging greater use of existing public transport.
- b) Exploring options to introduce or support a small 'convenience' bus around town.
- c) Aiming to stimulate greater use of active travel, including cycling and walking.

Improve, by adopting more efficient and lower carbon technologies, including the electrification of public transport and encouraging use of private electric vehicles.

Local transport issues

There are a number of specific local factors that need to be taken into account:

- Tenterden has a higher proportion of elderly people compared to the national average (~30% over-65 compared to ~17% for England and Wales).
- It will be necessary to work within the limitations of the existing road network due to the limited availability of land and the cost and disruption of significant changes.
- Tourism, which necessarily involves travel, is an important part of sustaining the commerce of Tenterden and its capacity to thrive.
- Tenterden is a hub for retail, employment and services for surrounding villages.

It is also important to recognise that the way that people travel is a matter of personal choice and convenience. Tenterden Town Council aims to work with partners to make sustainable choices easier. Potentially, this could be achieved through

1. Lobbying for low cost, frequent bus services connecting
 - a. nearby villages and outlying parts of Tenterden and St. Michaels to the Town Centre.
 - b. Tenterden to major towns, railway stations and hospitals.

2. Provision of EV charge points for residents without access to off street parking and for people who need to drive to work in the town. Some provision of rapid EV charging for visitors passing through on tour of the wider area.
3. Surveying the local area to determine where existing pathways could be improved for cycling and walking. Reviewing the Sustrans audit of walking and cycling facilities (a) available and (b) potentially available in Tenterden. The link to the document can be found [here](#).
4. **Consider development of 10-year plan on sustainable transport linked to carbon reduction, to enable application for government funding when these become available.** Liaise with ABC, KCC to negotiate parameters. Initial research to be conducted locally.
5. A strategy for Town Centre parking focused on resident and visitor need, with an expectation that private car use will reduce as viable sustainable options are introduced.

In addition, TTC will need to consider its approach to electric bikes and scooters as national policy develops. Such technologies could form a valuable part of a sustainable transport policy as well as risks that need to be managed.

Tenterden Town Council will commence development of its vision and strategy for sustainable transport in the town for the 2030s and beyond as resources become available. This vision will form the basis of engagement with residents, local businesses, neighbouring parishes, the third sector, transport service providers and the higher tiers of government.

Tenterden Town Council will also explore what it is able to do within its resources and powers to promote improved community transport services, EV charging and local active travel infrastructure. For example, is it able to provide enhancements of walking or cycling infrastructure on its own land?

C. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – supply to disposal

The overall objective is to achieve a decrease in the amount of carbon embedded in bought-in goods and services as well as decreasing the use of non-sustainable materials consumption. This takes steps towards a circular economy with the aim of building a more resilient community.

This will be achieved by

- 1) Raising awareness of the lifecycle of materials, products and services; origins to ends.
- 2) Working with all sectors of the community to embrace localism.
- 3) Encouraging all sectors of the community to use less resources more sustainably and reduce waste.

Raising awareness of the lifecycle of materials, products and services; origins to ends.

- Promote the elements of a circular economy: switching consumption habits, reducing consumption, reusing, repairing, upcycling, recycling and composting.
- **Develop a TTC webpage with information to raise awareness and increase understanding of the sourcing of materials and processes involved in providing utility services to the community; link to digital resources advising on reducing consumption and reusing where possible, egs., water/grey water.**
- **Promote awareness of waste processing in general through social media – how much waste/rubbish do we create? How can we reduce it? What happens to general waste? What is recycled kerbside? What more can be recycled – when & where? What happens to recycled waste?**
- **Develop a practical online Information Guide about reducing the use of materials, re-use, repair and recycling (ABC has useful information/tips that can be “rebranded” for TTC CAP webpages.)**
- **Publish a Spring Edition of the Council News bulletin re-presenting the online information for those without digital access. This is more like to be retained and referred to than a series of individual leaflets. Deemed cost effective regarding outcomes over time.**
- **Provide info/links to local sustainable suppliers etc. for a range of goods and services.**

Working with all sectors of the community to embrace localism.

- **Support localism through working with the Town Co-ordinator on local schemes.**
- **Signpost schemes supporting business to increase sustainable practices, including local Special Schemes.**
- **Develop guideline criteria for a ‘Preferred Sustainable Business Certificate’.**
- **Develop guideline criteria for a ‘Sustainable Markets/Events Charter’.**
- **Lobbying at national level; make more goods more repairable and reusable.**

Encouraging all sectors of the community to increase sustainability & reduce waste.

- Continue support for Plastic Free Tenterden.
- Engage with Tenterden Schools Trust to explore Youth Involvement in a Climate Conversation to inform, educate and lead to positive action on climate change issues.
- Support establishment of Plastic Free shops.
- Welcome initiatives to establish social enterprises with waste reduction objectives from a variety of providers. (Egs. Edventure: Frome – Library of Things, Repair Café scheme, etc.).
- Develop TTC area (behind Leisure Centre) to correctly store and treat land maintenance waste – in conjunction with ABC and/or other partners.

- Consider situating Terracycle Bins at the above area for residents' use. Coordinate collection with ABC.
- Investigate the potential to site recycling bins around the town together with general waste bins. Consult with ABC to examine and review options.
- Publicise waste schemes available to local businesses through ABC, egs. EMR.

D. BIODIVERSITY AND NATURE

The overall objective is to maximise the sustainability of the management of Council land and contribute to enhancing and extending biodiversity and sustainable land practices with partners.

This will be achieved by

- 1) Raising public awareness of the countryside, both productively and for leisure/well-being.
- 2) Scrutinising and ensuring Council operations protect and enhance biodiversity in its areas of responsibility.
- 3) Conducting partnership working to facilitate local biodiversity projects with non-governmental organisations, whether business or the third sector.
- 4) Consulting with ABC and KCC on land management and use beyond TTC's direct control.

Raising public awareness of the countryside, both productively and for leisure/well-being.

- **Providing a digital hub where individuals and organisations can improve their understanding of how to use and care for the countryside.**
- Compiling a map of local footpaths from the town where people can walk for health and pleasure, which can be downloaded and/or printed from TTC website.
(There may already be something like this, but if not, there should be!)

Scrutinising and ensuring Council operations protect and enhance biodiversity in its areas of responsibility.

- Reviewing monitoring of chemical/pesticide use. *(Very little used, control register).*
- Consulting with ABC on site improvement and treatment of land management waste. (Area behind Leisure Centre – potential for TerraCycle recycling bins and/or storage facility for onward transit of collected additional recycling).
- Liaising with ABC to secure delivery of garden compost for residents.

Conduct partnership working to facilitate local biodiversity projects with non-governmental organisations, whether business or the third sector.

- **Fostering collaboration with local groups (egs. Tenterden Wildlife), and county wide groups (egs. Kent Wildlife Trust), and others to promote and support their work. (Expert group contacts established.)**
- **Supporting school biodiversity initiatives for learning objectives of future citizens.**
- **Hosting wider public information events drawing on local expert speakers in relevant areas and inviting experts from the University of Kent at Canterbury and similar.**
- Developing a new Council Grants Scheme for local group initiatives with established or proven, wildlife and/or biodiversity outcomes. (£150? - 3 awarded per annum?)

Consult with KCC and ABC on land management and use beyond TTC's direct control.

- **Recognising the key stakeholders in land management are KCC and ABC, TTC should promote open dialogue between all continuously.**
- **Developing its own position on a range of issues, in addition to planning, to contribute to policy formation and decisions affecting our wider area.**
- Invite key stakeholders to address public meetings at the Town Hall, when and as required.

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN GOVERNANCE

At the Climate Action Plan Working Group meeting on 14th July 2022, it was decided to propose the following approach to governance of the Climate Action Plan:

1. The Climate Change Subcommittee (CCS), will review progress on the Plan and proposed actions at every second monthly meeting
2. The CCS will provide a status report on progress to the Town Council each quarter
3. The CCS will develop a set of criteria against which to measure progress and agree these with the main council.

The Climate Action Plan will focus on actions pertaining to the upcoming 5-year period. It will be viewed as a “living document” that will be revised to reflect progress to date and changes in our knowledge about climate change and developments in technology.

It will be reviewed and amended (as appropriate) by the Council once every four years at a minimum.

Annex 1: Tenterden's Carbon Footprint

Tenterden's carbon footprint is approximately **70,000 tonnes** of carbon dioxide (CO₂) a year. This is the amount of CO₂ released into the atmosphere because of all the activities of Tenterden residents.

This amounts to approximately **10 tonnes of CO₂ per person** or an average of 21 tonnes for each household.

The chart below shows the breakdown of Tenterden's carbon footprint. Almost half of the town's footprint relates to bought in goods and services, such as food, clothing, services and recreation. Flights accounts for another fifth of the Tenterden's carbon emissions.

The remainder of emissions are the result of heating our homes (25%) and driving cars and other vehicles (15%).

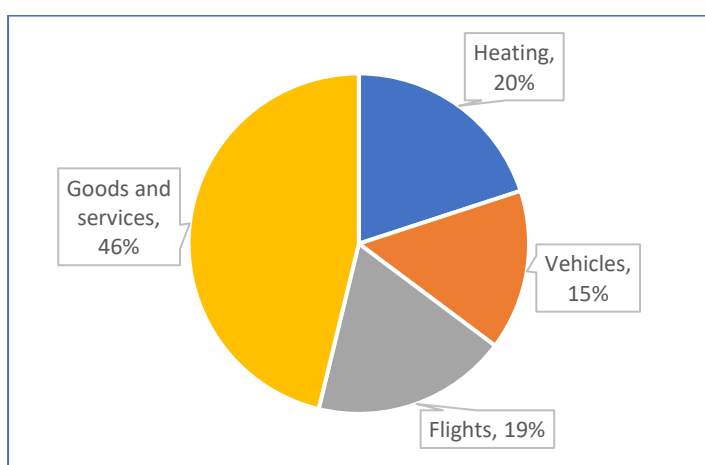


Chart 1: The breakdown of Tenterden carbon footprint by activity type. Source: CREDS placed based carbon calculator.

What is a carbon footprint and how have we calculated it?

A carbon footprint is the amount of carbon dioxide emitted because of the activities of a person, an organisation, a town or a country.

Tenterden's carbon footprint is the amount of carbon dioxide emitted because of all the activities of the people who live in the town. It is calculated on a **consumption basis**.

In other words, it includes emissions that occur anywhere in the world because of the activities of people in Tenterden. It does not include emissions that occur in Tenterden meeting the consumption of people who live outside of Tenterden.

We have calculated Tenterden's carbon footprint using the Place Based Carbon Calculator, developed by the Centre for Research into Energy Demand Solutions (CREDS). This is available free online at www.carbon.place. This tool estimates the carbon footprint for every local neighbourhood (LSOE) in England, using census data and other official statistical data sources.

Two of these LSOEs cover the urban heart of Tenterden. The other three cover the outlying parts of the town and the surrounding rural parts of the parish. These LSOEs are shown in the graph on page 15.

Tenterden's carbon footprint per person is approximately 20% higher than the average for England. There are several reasons for this.

Carbon emissions from heating are about 25% higher than for England as a whole. There are more detached houses in Tenterden (46% of all houses versus 22% for England) and fewer terraced houses and flats (29% vs 46%), so more energy on average is used to heat homes. Also, more houses are heated using oil and fewer houses heated using electricity, particularly in the outlying parts of the parish. Oil is a more carbon intensive form of heating.

Carbon emissions from car use are about 37% higher than for England as a whole. Tenterden residents own more cars per household (+26%) than the national average and they use their cars more (emission per car +11% vs England). This is most likely because of the rural location of the town and lack of alternatives, such as low-cost public transport or safe cycling and walking routes.

Emissions from flights and bought-in goods and services are around 17% above the average for England, which reflects the relative affluence and other demographic characteristics of Tenterden residents (such as age, household size, numbers of children).



Chart 2: Tenterden's average carbon footprint per person (kgCO₂e) compared to England as a whole. Source: CREDS placed based carbon calculator.

It is important to remember that these statistics are averages and there will be a wide variation in the carbon footprints between individuals, households and even between different areas within Tenterden. The difference between individual carbon footprints within Tenterden are likely to be greater than any differences between Tenterden and the rest of the country.

This is illustrated when looking at the difference between the data for different areas in Tenterden. The estimated carbon footprint for the central part of Tenterden is slightly lower than the national average, whilst the outer areas have an estimated footprint that is 50% higher than the national average.

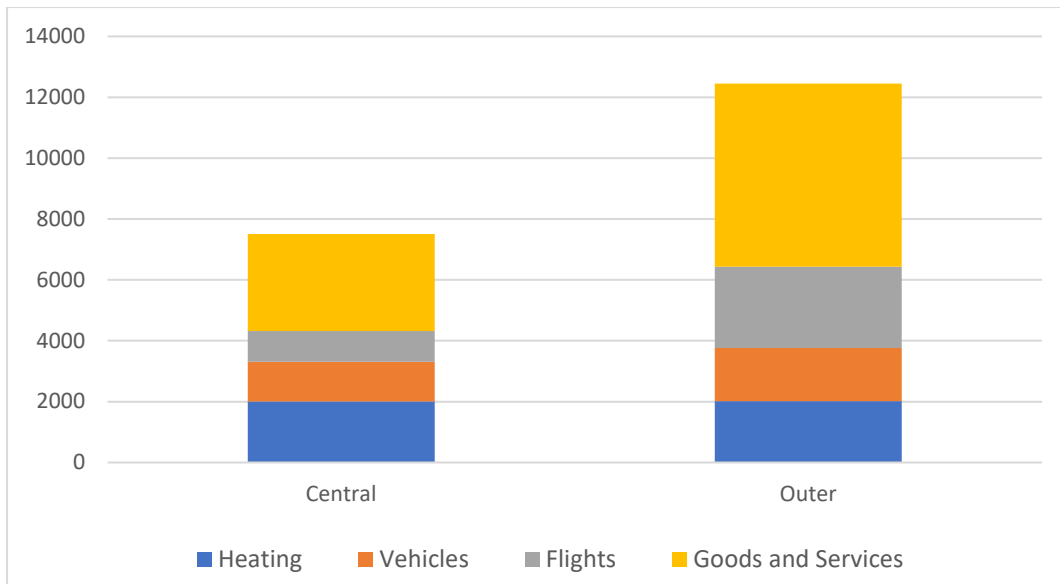


Chart 3: The average carbon footprint per person (kg/CO₂e) for Tenterden's central area compared to the more outlying areas. The average for Tenterden is around 10,000 kg per person. Source: CREDS placed based carbon calculator.

While it is believed that these measures are consistent with the schemes and scales used by ABC and KCC, steps will be taken to liaise on this point to ensure parity of use across all authorities.

Annex 2: Tenterden Town Council's Carbon Footprint

Tenterden Town Council owns several buildings around the town, including the Town Hall, three toilet blocks, the sports pavilion on the sports ground. It undertakes a range of activities, including maintenance of open spaces and other public facilities, and supporting the work of the councillors.

An organisation such as Tenterden Town Council's carbon footprint is usually considered in three parts.

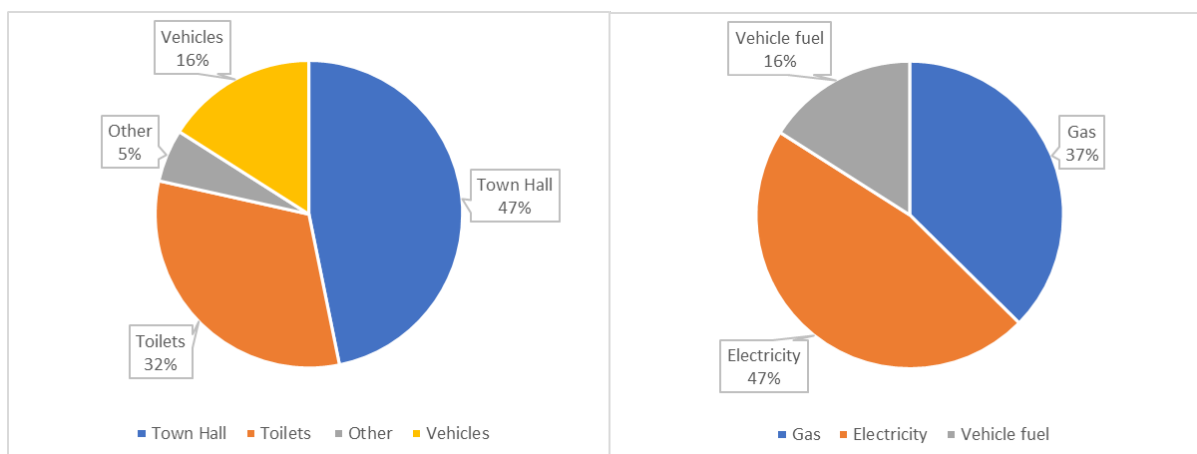
- Scope 1 emissions are the Council's direct emissions from the use of gas, petrol and other fuel.
- Scope 2 emissions are the indirect emissions from the Council's use of electricity and bought in heat.
- Scope 3 emissions are the indirect emissions arising from bought in goods and services, including waste disposal and water use.

Scope 1 and 2 emissions are reasonably easy to calculate from utility bills and fuel purchases. Scope 3 emissions are more difficult to measure but are an equally important part of a council's footprint.

The Council's scope 1 and scope 2 emissions (gas, electricity and vehicle fuel) for 2019/20 were 34 tonnes of carbon dioxide, equivalent to perhaps four of five typical residential households.

The town hall accounted for almost half (47%) of all scope 1 and 2 emissions. The three toilet blocks accounted for around a third of all emissions (32%), vehicle emissions account for 16% of emissions and the sports pavilion and various stores account for the remainder (6%).

Electricity use accounts for around half of all Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions, gas 37% and petrol and diesel the remaining 16%.



Tenterden Town Council's Scope 1 and 2 emissions for 2019/20 (a) by source (b) by fuel. Total Scope 1 and 2 emissions are 34 tCO₂e. Source: Tenterden Town Council,

According to the Local Government Association, Scope 3 emissions usually represent about 70-80% of a local authority's carbon footprint. However, this may be less for a parish council. Even so, it is likely that Scope 3 carbon emissions are around 60-70 tonnes of carbon dioxide, making the council's total carbon footprint around 100 tonnes.

This is equivalent to the footprint of around 10 average Tenterden citizens and represents about 0.15% of the Town's total emissions.

ANNEX 3: TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL’S HIGH-LEVEL COMMITMENTS

1	<i>Tenterden Town Council will minimise its own carbon footprint in the short term and achieve net zero carbon in its own operations and supply chain by 2030 at the latest</i>
2	<i>The Council will assess the impact of all its decisions and action on the climate and on the environment more generally and will always endeavour to make greener choices</i>
3	<i>In carrying out its functions, TTC wants to help make it easier for residents, businesses and users of the town’s facilities make low carbon and sustainable choices. We commit to doing this in the following ways.</i>
a	We will work with businesses, charities & others to help reduce their carbon footprint, bringing them together to develop sustainable initiatives for the area.
b	We will welcome visitors and investors in tourism & leisure, promoting Tenterden as a showcase thriving through sustainability.
c	We will support local people to reduce their carbon footprint, by providing information, suggesting solutions and signposting to sources of support and funding.
d	We will work with those involved in land use for food production, biodiversity, wildlife protection, leisure & well-being to enhance sustainable practices.
e	We will consult with experts in land management, energy, transport, recycling & waste management to ensure our views and actions are informed by best practice in each area.
f	We will endeavour to become an exemplar; showing how to combine net zero carbon ambition with opportunity, fairness, well-being and flourishing in a vibrant market town.

ANNEX 4: TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL'S ACTIONS

PUTTING OUR OWN HOUSE IN ORDER

1		Refurbishment of the town hall	
	a	Finalise plans for refurbishment of the town hall and obtain planning approvals	Short term
	b	Insulate the building to the highest standards consistent with heritage status	Medium term
	c	Install and state-of-the-art heating systems and controls	Medium term
	d	Consider installation of solar panels if they are economic and practical	Medium term
2		Energy efficiency	
	a	Develop plan and policies for replacing inefficient appliances	Short Term
	b	Implement plan and policies for renewal of appliances	Medium term
	c	Identify best practices changes to policies and behaviour to drive energy efficiency	Short Term
3		Electrification of TTC vehicles and plant	
	a	Develop plan and policies for replacing petrol vehicles and plant	Short Term
	a	Implement plan and policies for vehicles and plant	Medium term
	b	Develop facilities for charging TTC and employee EVs and electric plant	Medium term
4		Net zero and offset	
	a	Calculate likely 2030 scope 1 and 2 emissions (water and electricity)	Short term
	b	Calculate likely 2030 scope 3 emissions (bought in materials, services, waste)	Short Term
	c	Develop strategies for carbon negative measures and offset	Short Term
	d	Develop a full TTC plan for achieving and sustaining carbon neutrality by 2030	Short Term
5		Reducing waste and recycling	
	a	Review council activities and processes for waste production and management	Short Term
	b	Introduce measures to minimise waste including targets	Short Term
	c	Introduce measures to maximise recycling including targets	Short Term
	d	Adopt good practice guidelines for electronic services and 'paperwork'	Short Term
	e	Ensure staff training in sustainable practices including procurement, use, disposal	Short Term
	f	Engage with ABC to improve storage facility behind Leisure Centre - green waste	Short Term
6		Nature - Biodiversity and Land Use	
	a	Establish network of experts to ensure quality information and advice.	Short Term
	b	Develop policies and practices for promoting nature in all council-owned spaces	Short Term
	c	Review monitoring of use of chemicals/pesticides to identify improvements.	Short Term
	d	Survey biodiversity in public spaces and develop plans for enhancement	Short Term

SUPPORTING CHANGE IN THE COMMUNITY

1	Energy use in Buildings		
	a	Develop information materials about reducing energy use and carbon in buildings	Short term
	b	Provide information about available grants, subsidies and incentives	Short term
	c	Signposting to relevant organisations providing support, including KCC and ABC	Short term
	d	Establish good working contacts with local energy networks on decarbonisation	Short term
	e	Establish the capability to provide practical support to community energy	Short term
2	Travel and transport		
	a	Develop a transport vision and strategy for 2030s in consultation with local people	Short term
	b	Establish TTC and residents' preference for bus transport to, from and within the town	Short term
	c	Lobby KCC and others for improved public transport services	Short term
	d	Work with ABC, KCC and others to enhance EV charging facilities in the town	Medium term
	e	Determine opportunities to enhance walking and cycling routes	Short term
	f	Review opportunities to develop useful active travel routes on TTC land	Short term
3	Biodiversity and the Countryside		
	a	Raising public awareness of the Countryside Code	Short term
	b	Provide information on Good Practice when in the countryside in general.	Short term
	c	Provide information on Good Practice when in farmland.	Short term
	d	Carry out Youth Climate Consultation - pilot scheme - Homewood School	Short term
	e	Provide "Doorstep Walks" leaflet and online info.	Short term
	d	Conduct partnership working to facilitate enhanced biodiversity with area NGOs.	Short Term
	e	Liaise with ABC to secure compost delivery for residents.	Short Term
	f	Promote open dialogue on green spaces with stakeholders, KCC, ABC.	Short Term
	h	Host Public Information events with Experts and Key Stakeholders	Short Term
4	Waste and Recycling		
	a	Raise awareness of issues in managing waste and recycling	Short term
	b	Promote options to reduce waste and increase recycling	Short term
	c	Support community events with the above aims.	Short term
	d	Endorse Plastic Free Tenterden initiative.	Short term
	e	Welcome initiatives from providers of schemes with waste reduction objectives.	Short term
	f	Publicise waste schemes available to local businesses through ABC and KCC.	Short term
	g	Develop guidelines for "Sustainable Markets/Events Charter"	Short term
	h	Develop guidelines for a "Sustainable Business Certificate"	Short/Medium

ANNEX 5: GLOSSARY