Stafford Borough Draft Climate Adaptation Strategy

For Consultation

Executive Summary

The Council agreed its new Climate Change and Green Recovery Strategy in November 2020 and one of the key objectives outlined in that strategy is to mitigate and adapt to climate change. We use the word ‘adaptation’ in the context of what measures need to be planned and taken in order to cope with the impact of climate change. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, adaptation has been used in the context of improving resilience and being able to respond effectively to a broad range of threats and it is exactly this phrase that describes our approach.

One of the main concerns about climate change is the increase in adverse weather events that are being experienced all over the world and the scientific evidence suggests that the earth has been steadily warming over the past 100 years and this has accelerated since the 1970’s. For the UK, climate change means hotter, drier summers (more heatwaves), milder winters, higher sea levels and an increased flood risk to coastal areas. Across the globe, there will be more intense heat waves, droughts and more flooding. There may be severe problems in regions where people are particularly vulnerable to changes in the weather. Population migration, water and food shortages and the spread of disease are commonly predicted. The social, environmental and economic costs of climate change could be huge.

Local impacts are harder to predict but flooding is a significant risk for Stafford. In addition, feeling safe and being able to live independently in your own home and surrounding area are vital to our wellbeing and ensuring the conditions to foster good health across the community is already a priority for the Borough Council. Addressing both the causes and impacts of climate change can bring about a number of improvements and we have an opportunity of working in partnership to further increase community resilience, enhancing the capacity of residents to mitigate their individual impact on the environment and collectively having better emergency and disaster-preparedness.

Councillor Jonathan Price

Cabinet Member for Environment

Climate Change

The Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) states that climate change represents an urgent and potentially irreversible threat to human societies and the planet[1]. Threats associated with a changing climate includes biodiversity loss, disruption to food supply systems and depletion of water resources. These impacts are already being experienced by communities around the world.

However, hope is not lost. Advances to a more sustainable future are being made every day. Each wind turbine that appears on our landscape, electric vehicle that drives down our roads and tree that is planted in our green spaces sees us move towards a greener, safer, and healthier future. We must all harness the current momentum which is gathering around climate awareness, work together to find solutions to the problems a changing climate poses, and invest in making the necessary preparations to increase resilience.

Climate Change Adaptation

The degree to which the climate continues to change depends on the extent to which greenhouse gas emissions are reduced. However, even if the emission of all greenhouse gases stopped tomorrow, the gases already in the atmosphere would continue to drive climate change for at least the next 30 years. In short, climate change is now unavoidable. Preparations to deal with its impacts must therefore be made. This process is known as climate adaptation.

There are many ways in which climate adaptation can be delivered. From large scale infrastructure projects such as flood defence barriers, to the provision of green space to prevent the formation of urban heat islands, climate adaptation plays a crucial role in enabling us to live with the impacts of climate change. In doing so, the resilience of our communities, built environment, and biodiversity increases.

Data from the Met Office shows that in the UK, climate change is likely to result in warmer, wetter, winters and hotter, drier summers. In addition, the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events such as storms and high winds are projected to increase. Climate adaptation should focus on increasing resilience to the likely impacts of these weather trends.

Stafford Borough and Climate Change Adaptation

In 2019 we declared a climate change emergency and pledged to become a carbon neutral authority by 2040. In 2020 we adopted our Climate Change and Green Recovery Strategy. Contained within this strategy are 4 objectives which we will achieve over the coming years to increase the sustainability of Stafford Borough as a whole. The four objectives are:

- CC1 - To reduce emissions from our own activities
- CC2 - To work in partnership with Government, elected bodies and members, partners, residents and businesses across the Borough to take action that contributes to carbon neutrality and sustainable development within communities and across the natural environment
- CC3 - To mitigate and adapt to climate change
- CC4 - To continue to implement our green recovery objectives

This document contributes to the delivery of Objective CC3.

Climate Risks in Stafford Borough

The Met Office has recently updated its climate projections for the West Midlands[1]. These projections show that the West Midlands is expected to experience warmer, wetter winters, and hotter, drier summers. Extreme weather events such as heatwaves and excessive rainfall are also likely to be experienced more frequently.

To ensure this strategy is as effective as possible, the above impacts have been considered alongside the risks and opportunities identified in a number of regional and local strategies and plans which are detailed in appendix 2 and also ensures that we are fulfilling our statutory duty outlined in legislative documents detailed in appendix 1.

Considering the outputs of these documents shows that the climate risks, and the adaptive measures needed to mitigate them, which are specific to Stafford Borough, can be categorized into the 6 categories below:

- Extreme Weather Events
- Natural Environment and Green Spaces

[1] About UKCP18 - Met Office

- Health and Wellbeing
- Supporting the Local Economy
- Planning and Regeneration
- Maintaining Stafford Borough Council Service Provision

This strategy identifies adaptive responses which the council, working in partnership, can deploy to help build resilience against these risk areas.

The final section of this document considers the opportunities and co-benefits which are likely to arise as a result of climate change.

How this Document Works

The following section of this document provides a breakdown for each of the climate risk area which are specific to Stafford Borough. Using the findings of the documents listed in the “Current UK Climate Adaptation Legislation and Research” in the appendix, the strategy seeks to identify which measures should be delivered by us, either on our own or in partnership, to build resilience to climate change in Stafford Borough.

The adaptive measures have been identified by Stafford Borough Council officers and the West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment. Where the identified measures cannot currently be delivered by the council, the resources or policy changes which would need to be achieved to enable delivery has been stated. Where possible, a timescale for the delivery of each measure has also been listed.

This strategy will be updated on an annual basis. This will enable the identification of further adaptive measures to be made, and the barriers delivery column to be updated. Where progress has been made, this will be detailed.

Partnership Working

Delivering the adaptive responses identified in this strategy will involve the collective efforts not only of the council but also a range of partner organisations and stakeholders. Where this is the case, the relevant party has been identified for each adaptive measure. In addition to this, it needs to be recognised that some of the longer term adaptive responses will require national legislative changes.

Section 1 - Extreme Weather

The frequency and intensity of extreme weather events are expected to increase. Extreme weather events such as flooding, heatwaves and storms can have a wide range of impacts on the Borough.

We have recently updated the Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP) for Stafford Borough, which identifies 25 instances of extreme weather which were experienced within the Borough from 2016. A full breakdown of the types and frequency of extreme weather events is shown in Figure 1.

The LCLIP also identified a total of 10 types of impacts that the extreme weather events had on the local area and these were:

- Cancellation of events
- Closure of businesses
- Restrictions to the public realm through closure of green/amenity space and pedestrian routes
- Danger to life
- Travel disruption
- Severe ice warning
- Grassfires
- Adverse health effects
- Disruption to electric network
- Damage to vegetation

The next section will focus on how we will deliver adaptive measures across the Borough to help increase preparedness in the event of extreme weather.

1.1 Flooding

Flooding[2] is a recurring issue in Stafford Borough and this was a key finding of both the Stafford Borough LCLIP, and the Staffordshire County Council Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation report. The Met Office projections for the West Midlands show that the risk of flooding is likely to increase. Under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, County Councils are designated as Lead Local Flood Authorities. Therefore, Staffordshire County Council are the strategic leader for flood risk management within Staffordshire and their Local Flood Risk Management Strategy sets out how flooding will be managed in the local area. We will continue to work in partnership with them to further develop and implement the findings of the Risk Strategy.

[2] geho0609bqds-e-e.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)

The role of Stafford Borough Council in preventing and responding to flooding lies in three main areas; ensuring development is delivered in a manner which does cause flooding impacts to worsen, working with partner organisations to deliver habitat enhancements which act as natural flood management measures, and to provide an emergency response to periods of flooding.

How Will we Build Resilience Against Excess Rainfall and Flooding?

Please note that any reference to reducing flood risk through planning and development will be listed in the "Planning and Development" chapter of this document.

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 - 2026 Identified Adaptive Measures	None identified	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Stafford Borough Council Identified Adaptive Measures	Develop a system for issuing public advice around car parking issues during periods of heavy rainfall and flooding	Communications		2022 - 2023	N/A
	Work with partner organisations and stakeholders to increase the implementation of Natural Flood Management projects in the Borough	Ecology and Landscape	To continue to deliver habitat enhancements, sources of funding should continue to be identified.	Ongoing	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency
	Engage with drinking water supply and sewage companies to ensure that systems are robust to prevent cross contamination during prolonged flood events- audit of systems and preventative maintenance.	Environmental Health			Severn Trent Water
	Review flood defences with the Environment Agency around watercourses where impacts affect residents/businesses in the light of new risk evidence.	Environmental Health			Environment Agency
	Support the Lead Flood Authority in the distribution of sandbags as and when required.	Operations			Staffordshire County Council
	Develop alternative route plans in the event of flooding to minimise disruption to service.	Operations			N/A
	On site staff risk assess and monitor sites to determine actions required to minimise risk to staff and users.	Operations			N/A
	Develop alternative route plans in the event of flooding to minimise disruption to service.	Operations			N/A
	Implement Clean up requirements post flooding to ensure safe use.	Operations			N/A

How Can you Build Resilience Against Excess Rainfall and Flooding?

- Use permeable surfaces in your outside spaces wherever possible. For example, using gravel on driveways rather than concrete ensures that water can drain more freely, preventing the formation of standing surface water.
- If you have access to a garden, there are several ways you can make it more resilient to flooding. Laying live turf rather than artificial means that rainwater can drain more freely, digging a small pond can provide a holding area for excess water, and planting species which are better able to tolerate high water levels can all contribute to increased resilience during periods of extreme rainfall.
- Considering the flood risk of your property or business can enable better preparedness during periods of excess rainfall. The Environment Agency provides a template for personal and business flood plans and gives advice on how you can protect your property. For more information, visit: Prepare for flooding: Protect yourself from future flooding - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

1.2 High Temperature and Heatwaves

The World Health Organization identifies a range of indirect and direct impacts which can arise because of high temperatures[3] and heatwaves. Indirect impacts can include increased transmission of food and waterborne diseases, increased risk of accidents such as drowning, and a potential disruption to infrastructure. Direct impacts include health impacts on residents, disruption to food supply systems, and water supply issues.

The impacts of high temperatures and heatwaves on the health and wellbeing of communities are of particular concern. During the Summer of 2003, over 2,000 excess mortalities were recorded across the UK. These were attributed as being caused by extreme high temperatures. High temperatures and heatwaves aggravate existing health conditions including respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, and renal disease. For this reason, it is our most vulnerable residents who are most at risk of suffering during periods of extreme high temperatures. However, it can also cause new health conditions such as heatstroke, heat exhaustion and hypothermia. Cancer Research shows that, since the early 1990s, melanoma skin cancer incidence rates have more than doubled in the UK. Furthermore, incidence rates for melanoma skin cancer are projected to rise by 7% in the UK between 2014 and 2035[4]. Caution should therefore be exercised by everyone during periods of high temperatures.

[3] Heatwave Plan for England - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
[4] Melanoma skin cancer statistics | Cancer Research UK

Excess heat can also result in an increase in air and water quality concerns. During periods of high temperatures, the water supply in an area can decrease. Less water results in lower water quality. This can have an impact on agricultural processes and the health of residents. Air quality in an area can also decrease during periods of high temperatures. This is because of the formation of ground-level ozone. Ground-level ozone is formed when sunlight causes chemical reactions in pollutants emitted by sources such as vehicles and power plants. Ground-level ozone can have damaging effects on the health of people and wildlife alike.

Climate projections produced by the Met Office show thatan increase in average temperature is now inevitable and also show that extreme temperature events are likely to increase in the future. Preparations should therefore be made to ensure Stafford Borough, its residents, and its biodiversity are able withstand these high temperatures.

How Will We Increase Resilience to High Temperatures and Heatwaves?

Please note, preventing the formation of Urban Heat Islands is addresses in the Planning and Development and Natural Environment and Green Spaces chapters of this document.

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 - 2026 Identified Adaptive Measures	Take advantage of longer, drier summers by encouraging flexible lifestyle choices to enhance health and wellbeing. This could include changes to working patterns, promotion of use of outdoor spaces or encouraging uptake of outdoor past-times to boost local tourism and economic opportunities	Human Resources	N/A	Ongoing	N/A
	Assess areas that may be most prone to wildfires, and provide signage and guidance at these sites by encouraging users not to exacerbate the risk, for example by having barbecues or campfires.	Property Services	N/A	2022 - 2023	Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
Stafford Borough Council Identified Adaptive Measures	Consideration of adaptive work processes to minimise health risk to the workforce. For example, changes to work patterns and PPE.	Operations	N/A	2022	N/A

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
	Provision of sun protection and supply of drinking water for the streetscene workforce.	Operations	N/A	2022	N/A
	Continue to monitor air quality levels in fulfilment of Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 Local Air Quality Management, ensuring air quality remains at a safe level during periods of high temperatures.	Environmental Health	N/A	Ongoing	N/A
	Consider how high temperatures and heatwaves can cause an increase in public health concerns and ensure resource allocation takes this into account.	Environmental Health	Potential financial constraints		Public Health England
	Prepare advice for the storage and handling of foodstuffs domestically and commercially where extreme heat events may result in increased food borne pathogens. Increase inspections during such events.	Environmental Health	N/A	2022 - 2023	N/A
	Develop a tree planting strategy which will see trees being used for cooling purposes on designated wildlife sites.	Operations	N/A	2022 - 2023	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
	Prepare a resilience plan for controlling heat related vermin and insect infestations and invasive species.	Environmental Health	N/A		N/A
	Extreme heat is often combined with high pressure weather systems where pollution becomes trapped multiplying the respiratory risk associated with extreme heat- evaluate 'live' local poor air quality warning systems and mitigations.	Operations	N/A		N/A

How Can You Increase Resilience to High Temperatures and Heatwaves?

- Whilst summer days can be enjoyable, it's important to bear in mind the potential damage that can be caused if proper precautions aren't taken. Being mindful of how long you are spending in the sun, using adequate sun protection, and drinking plenty of water can all contribute to enjoying the high temperatures safely.
- Vulnerable people may find it more difficult to access critical services and facilities during periods of high temperatures and heatwaves, so checking in on any vulnerable family members or friends can help to build community resilience.

1.3 Emergency Response to Extreme Weather Events

Extreme weather[5] events are one of the most destructive examples of the impacts of climate change. Weather events such as heavy rainfall, drought, and heatwaves can cause damage to infrastructure, biodiversity loss and disruption to food supply systems. As mentioned, the frequency and duration of such events are all predicted to increase in the future.

Increasing resilience to extreme weather events can be achieved in two ways. Firstly, measures can be put in place which lessens the impacts. Secondly, a swift and effective emergency response is crucial in minimising the impacts of extreme weather on local communities. As the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events increase within the Borough, so too will the impacts experienced.

[5] Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (legislation.gov.uk)

How Will we Build Resilience Against the Impacts of Extreme Weather Events?

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 - 2026 Identified Adaptive Measures	Ensure waste management practices, storage and treatment facilities are robust to withstand future climatic conditions, including flooding and heatwaves.	Operations	N/A	Ongoing	
	Rollout advice and guidance on what to do if residents are affected by an extreme weather event (e.g. flood, heatwave etc.), prioritising vulnerable communities, so that they can respond quicker in the event of extreme weather.	Communications and Corporate Business	N/A	2022/2023	
Stafford Borough Council Identified Adaptive Measures	Increase public awareness around the council's role in responding to climate based emergencies.	Communications and Corporate Business	N/A	2022 onwards	N/A
	Retain links with partners such as PHE and the NHS formed during the Covid-19 pandemic to increase resilience when dealing with future emergencies.	Environmental Health	N/A	Ongoing	Public Health England and the National Health Service
	Continue to develop a Hybrid working model which will enable members of staff to work from a range of locations, enabling the continuation of service delivery during periods of extreme weather	Human Resources	N/A	Ongoing	N/A
	Embed flexibility of working into the standard working practice of the council to enable staff to work around periods of extreme weather	Human Resources	N/A	Ongoing	N/A
	Develop a notification process of high wind risk between SBC and Stafford Castle, and consider the subsequent actions required due to large quantity of trees on site.	Operations	Financial resources may be an issue	2023 - 2024	Freedom Leisure
	On site staff risk assess and monitor sites to determine actions required to minimise risk to staff and users.	Operations	N/A	2022 - 2023	N/A
	Tree survey process ongoing to determine works required to minimise risk.	Operations	N/A	Ongoing	N/A

Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
Continue to work with key partners to ensure services are still provided to the best of our ability.	All service areas	N/A	Ongoing	
Ensure management plans are in place to deal with any emergency incidents that may occur to ensure services continue to be provided wherever possible.	All service areas	Staffing resources may be an issue	2022 - 2023	
When allocating resources, both financial and staffing, the surplus needed to respond to future climate related emergencies whilst ensuring the continuation of service delivery will be considered.	All service areas	N/A	2022 - 2023	
Consider what essentials the council should keep in storage to distribute to local residents in the event of a climate related emergency. Subsequently build up a stock of essentials to be kept on site so that they are available for immediate distribution in the event of an emergency.	Corporate Business and Partnerships	Financial resources may be an issue	2022 onwards	
Consider which service areas are likely to be most heavily impacted during periods of climate related emergencies. Produce an Emergency Response Manual which sets out the role of each service area during periods of climate related emergencies.	All service areas	Staffing resources may be an issue	2022 - 2023	
Develop a communications plan focusing on how waste collection will be impacted during periods of inclement weather	Operations and communications	Staffing resources may be an issue	2022 - 2023	
Ensure climate risks are embedded into corporate risk assessments	Corporate Business and Partnerships	N/A	Ongoing	
Survey trees and structures that are vulnerable to high winds and which may pose a risk of harm should they collapse/fall during high winds. Preventative measures should then be prioritised.	Operations	N/A	Ongoing	
Ensure management plans are in place to deal with any extreme weather incidents that may occur to ensure services continue to be provided wherever possible	Operations	N/A	2022 - 2023	

How Can you Build Resilience Against the Impacts of Extreme Weather Events?

- One way in which you can increase your own resilience to extreme weather is to be aware of when events are likely to affect your area. The Met Office website publishes weather warnings here: UK weather warnings - Met Office
- Plan in advance. If a storm is forecasted, make sure you have enough supplies to avoid having to travel during periods of adverse weather.

Section 2 - Healthy Communities

It is now acknowledged that climate change is the single biggest health threat facing humanity[6]. Extreme weather events, air pollution, forced displacement, food insecurity, disease and pressures on mental health can all impact an individual's health and wellbeing. These factors are all likely to worsen as the climate continues to change.

There are multiple adaptive measures which can be used to safeguard the health of our local communities. These include the installation of water conservation devices, activating the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol during periods of inclement weather, and creating community groups which support those suffering from climate and ecological grief. Adopting a holistic approach to embedding climate adaptation measures which seek to safeguard the health of local community members is a crucial consideration when planning for our future.

2.1 Health and Wellbeing

The World Health Organization states that climate change is adversely affecting human health[7] by increasing exposure and vulnerability to climate related stresses. The level to which an individual's health is impacted by climate stresses is dependent on several factors including existing health conditions, poverty levels, and age. However, climate change is likely to impact the health and wellbeing of all members of society to some extent. The health and wellbeing of our residents is already a key priority for us. It is for this reason that we have committed to take a "Health in All We Do" approach across our activities and we will ensure that this translates across to our climate adaptation agenda.

How Will we Help Improve the Health and Wellbeing of Local Residents as the Climate Changes?

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 - 2026 Identified Adaptive Measures	Prioritise adaptation measures, such as improved drainage, green infrastructure integration and cooling station, such as water fountains and shaded benches, on the most popular walking	Corporate Business and Partnerships and Operations	Staffing and financial resources may be an issue	2023 onwards	Staffordshire County Council

[6] fast-facts-on-climate-and-health.pdf (who.int)

[7] COP26 Special Report on Climate Change and Health (who.int)

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
	and cycling routes across the region				
	Establish community resilience programmes in areas where climate risks and demographic vulnerabilities intersect (see Map 1, page 6), to ensure these areas are better prepared for more frequent and intense extreme weather events (flooding, heatwaves, storms), and can respond and recover more effectively.	Corporate Business and Partnerships and Health and Housing	Staffing resources may be an issue	2023 - 2024	
	Build on and scale-up existing plans to reduce air pollution in the region, factoring in the impact that climate change could have on this progress.	Operations	N/A	Ongoing	
	Capitalise on local food and growing initiatives to reduce the need to import food from countries where there may be an increase in food safety, availability and quality due to climate change.	Corporate Business and Partnerships	N/A	2022 onwards	

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
	Ensure home retrofit programmes that are required alongside the delivery of Net Zero targets integrate adaptation measures where possible, such as installation of water efficiency measures, shading options, better ventilation to reduce the overheating risk and to improve indoor air quality, etc.	Health and Housing	Financial resources may be an issue	2023 onwards	
	Ensure all sectors and businesses which require environmental permits, such as for activities involving potentially harmful substances, cement works, petrol stations assess all impacts of climate change on their operations.	Environmental Health	N/A	2023 onwards	
Stafford Borough Council Identified Adaptive Measures	Develop and run a communications campaign which details the impacts climate change can have on an individual's health and wellbeing. Ensure this signposts resources which are available to residents which may help to improve their health and wellbeing	Corporate Business and Partnerships and Communications	N/A	2022 onwards	
	Environmental Health to engage in the planning consultation process to ensure impacts on water availability and	Environmental Health, Strategic Planning and Placemaking	N/A	2022 onwards	N/A

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
	air quality are considered at the planning application stage.				
	Continue to activate the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol during periods of extreme weather, ensuring homeless people have access to shelter.	Health and Housing	N/A	Ongoing	
	Allocate staff time to allow Environmental Health staff to participate in the development of the Climate Change Strategy. This will enable public health issues that are becoming more apparent because of climate change to be identified, and mitigation measures to be implemented.	Environmental Health	Potential staffing resource constraints	2022 - 2023	N/A
	Prepare a plan to identify and deal with harmful invasive species, particularly those that pose a public health risk	Environmental Health	Potential staffing resource constraints	2023 - 2024	Natural England

How Can you Improve Your Health and Wellbeing as the Climate Changes?

- During periods of inclement weather, it is important that you take the necessary precautions to safeguard your health. Wherever possible, stay indoors during storms and high winds, enjoy sunny days safely by sticking to shaded areas, wearing SPF, and staying hydrated, and stay safe during instances of excess rainfall and flooding by familiarizing yourself with the relevant emergency plans for your area.
- Food borne diseases increase in prevalence during periods of high temperatures. Ensure that you are following the recommended food hygiene practices to minimize your risk of illness.

2.2 Water Supply

Stafford Borough has been identified by the Environment Agency as falling within an area of serious water stress[8][9]. As the population continues to grow and the climate continues to change, it is likely that this problem will worsen. Ensuring everybody has access to an adequate water supply, particularly during heatwaves and droughts, requires the implementation of water saving measures, as well as the behaviour change of consumers.

How Will we Conserve Water in Stafford Borough?

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 - 2026 Identified Adaptive Measures	None identified	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Stafford Borough Council Identified Adaptive Measures	Environmental Health to engage in the planning consultation process to ensure impacts on water availability and air quality are considered at the planning application stage.	Environmental Health	N/A	2022 onwards	N/A
	Develop a communications plan which seeks to inform residents as to how they can reduce their water use, helping to conserve water.	Corporate Business and Partnerships and Communications	N/A	2022 onwards	Severn Trent Water

[8] JBA Consulting Report Template 2015 (staffordbc.gov.uk)
[9] Water stressed areas – 2021 classification - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

How Can you Conserve Water?

- Being aware of how much water you are using is the most effective way you can contribute to water conservation efforts in the local area. Small actions such as turning the tap off whilst you are brushing your teeth, taking shorter showers and using shorter washing machine cycles can all help to reduce your water usage. Having a water meter installed can make it easier for you to track your water usage.
- Installing water butts in your outdoor spaces harvests rainwater, reducing your reliance on mains water. Harvested rainwater can be used for things like watering plants and washing the car. Not only will this save you money, but it will help to conserve water.
- A dripping tap wastes at least 5,500 liters of water a year, that's enough to fill 30 bathtubs! Fixing any leaks is a simple way to reduce your water use, saving you money and ensuring there's enough water for all.
- Reducing you water use is even more important during periods of high temperatures and heatwaves as the demand for water increases. Avoid using jet washers, hoses and cover paddling pools so that the water can be reused multiple times.
- Severn Trent Water offer water saving freebies, meaning you can install devices to help save water around the home for free. Take a look at their website for more information: Get Water Fit | Save water | Wonderful on Tap | Severn Trent Water (stwater.co.uk)

Section 3 - Natural Environment and Green Spaces

The natural environment and climate change are intrinsically linked. The future survival of our natural environment is at risk, and one of the main drivers of this is climate change. Sea level rise, melting ice caps, the spread of invasive species, habitat destruction, and a change in environmental conditions are all either directly caused by, or are exacerbated by, climate change. There exists no ecosystem which is unlikely to be impacted by climate change. However, one of the best possible solutions to combat, and to adapt to, climate change is nature itself.

Working to restore and create new habitats has a wide range of benefits, including acting as a climate adaptation measure. This is known as a nature-based solution. A nature-based solution is defined by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as "action to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits". Take tree planting, for example. Trees absorb water from the ground. Therefore, in areas where tree cover is greater, there is likely to be less risk of flooding. Not only this, but trees provide important habitats for a wide range of species. By planting more trees, not only do we help to increase biodiversity levels, but we also help to reduce the risk of flooding. Nature based solutions can range from small-scale measures, such as planting a tree, to large-scale measures such as the restoration of flood plain meadows within a river corridor. Using them wherever possible is one of the most effective ways in which we can prevent the worst impacts of climate change from being experienced.

3.1 Biodiversity

Global biodiversity is being placed under extreme pressure[10] by climate change. In fact, such is the scale of the problem that the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) states that climate change poses a serious threat to species conservation and identifies climate change as the biggest potential threat to natural World Heritage sites[11].

Stafford Borough is home to a wide range of habitats. The Borough contains 15 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), four Special Areas of Conservation, three internationally important Ramsar sites, and many Local Wildlife Sites which are of county-wide importance. The Borough is home to many protected species including otter, barn owl, great crested newt, and farmland birds. To ensure their future survival, we must work in partnership to deliver measures which will see local biodiversity become more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

[10] Nature Positive 2030 Evidence Report (jncc.gov.uk)
[11] Our work - Climate Change | IUCN

How Will we Work to Increase Biodiversity Resilience?

Please note that any reference to enhancing biodiversity through planning and development will be listed in the "Planning and Development" chapter of this document.

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 - 2026 Identified Adaptive Measures	Continue the implementation of Natural Flood Management projects in areas where they would be of most benefit.	Ecology and Landscape	External funding would have to be secured to enable the continues delivery of NFM	Ongoing	Environment Agency, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
	Embed climate adaptation into any natural environment / capital working groups operating Borough wide	Corporate Business	N/A	Ongoing	
Stafford Borough Council Identified Adaptive Measures	Seek opportunities to increase tree planting efforts in the Borough. Where tree planting is undertaken, ensure that it is delivered in a manner which is beneficial for biodiversity, whilst increasing carbon sequestration	Corporate Business, Operations, Ecology and Landscape	The extent to which tree planting can be delivered is partially dependent on the acquistion of external funding	Ongoing	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
	Work with partner organisations and stakeholders to increase the implementation of Natural Flood Management projects in the Borough	Corporate Business, Ecology and Landscape, Strategic Planning	Some external funding would have to be secured	2022 onwards	Environment Agency, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
	Use the Nature Recovery Network to provide a spatially explicit assessment of the Borough's priority habitats, to target action which will build biodiversity resilience	Ecology and Landscape	N/A	2022 onwards	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
	Encourage adaptation of habitats and natural colonisation by species suited to changing climatic conditions through the Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan	Ecology and Landscape	External funding would have to be secured	2022 onwards	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
	Use of habitat creation in strategic locations to reduce the risk of soil erosion	Corporate Business and Ecology and Landscape	The extent to which habitat creation can be delivered is partially dependent on the acquisition of external funding	Ongoing	Environment Agency
	Develop and adapt a Green Infrastructure Strategy to ensure delivery of more and improved habitats	Ecology and Landscape, Strategic Planning	N/A	2022 - 2023	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
	Protect and enhance green open space, habitats and ecological corridors via landscape scale projects	Ecology and Landscape, Strategic Planning	The extent to which habitats can be enhanced is partially dependent on the acquisition of external funding	2022 onwards	
	Develop and adopt a Landscape Strategy to ensure strategic landscape design considers climate change	Ecology and Landscape	N/A	2022 onwards	

How Can you Work to Increase Biodiversity Resilience?

Providing a space for biodiversity in your own outdoor spaces is one of the best ways you can personally help protect our biodiversity. Some great ways to do this are:

- Plant a tree. The average tree absorbs around one ton of carbon dioxide a year, preventing it from further driving climate change. Trees also provide habitats for a range of species, including birds and invertebrates. By planting trees in your garden, you are contributing to the reduction of carbon in an area whilst providing space for biodiversity.
- Plant drought resistant flowering plants in your outdoor space. This will ensure that pollinators are encouraged to an area, even during periods of dry weather and heatwaves. Some examples of pollinator friendly plants which require little water to grow include foxglove, cosmos and sunflower.

Think about how you can integrate micro-habitats in your garden. Creating log and rock piles are great ways of providing a space for invertebrates, providing nesting boxes will encourage birds to the area, whilst maintaining and planting hedgerows increases habitats which can be used by small mammals.

3.2 Green Spaces

Green spaces play an important role in climate adaptation. They provide multiple adaptive measures, including the absorption of flood water, and the provision of urban cooling. They can also provide an outdoor space for residents to enjoy, which can help improve health and wellbeing.

We are responsible for the management of over 300 hectares of open space across the Borough. There are several ways in which areas of public spaces can be altered so that this can be achieved. These can range from integrating drought resistant flowering species into planting regimes, to integrating flood alleviation measures into the design of landscaped parks.

Areas of green space also provide climate adaptation through the role it plays in urban cooling. Research shows that temperatures are higher in more built-up areas. The reason for this is that the surfaces of buildings can absorb heat, warming the surrounding areas. Green spaces counter this process. Therefore, not only should we protect our existing green space network, but ensure new development integrates sufficient levels of green space.

How Will we Use Green Space as a Climate Adaptation Measure?

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 - 2026 Identified Adaptive Measures	Capitalise on the rollout of local tree-planting programmes by ensuring that all schemes contribute to climate adaptation objectives, e.g that they help to reduce flood risk and contribute to urban cooling.	Operations, Ecology and Landscape, Corporate Business and Partnerships	External funding may have to be secured to enable tree planting efforts to continue	2022 onwards	Environment Agency, Natural England
	Assess the resilience of Stafford Borough urban parks and green spaces, considering both the biodiversity within and the users. Integrate adapation measures where appropriate such as strategic tree planting, water meadows, changing mowing regimes, installing drinking water fountains and planting more drought-resistant species.	Corporate Business, Operations, Ecology and Landscape	Some external funding would have to be secured	2022 onwards	
Stafford Borough Council Identified Adaptive Measures	Establish management regimes for parks, green spaces and semi-natural habitats to maintain and enhance biodiversity	Corporate Business, Operations, Ecology and Landscape	N/A	2022 onwards	
	Protect and enhance green open space, habitats and ecological corridors via landscape scale projects	Ecology and Landscape, Strategic Planning	The extent to which habitats can be enhanced is partially dependent on the acquisition of external funding	2022 onwards	

Section 4 - Supporting the Local Economy

Climate change has the potential to impact the local economy in multiple ways. Extreme weather events can prevent residents from accessing services and facilities in town centers, which could reduce revenue, and could result in the cancellation of leisure and tourism events. Climate change could also alter the types of industry which continue to prosper due to a reduction in consumer demand. Therefore, consideration needs to be given to how we can support local business as the climate continues to change, whilst also considering how the economy is likely to change in the future.

How Will we Increase the Resilience of the Local Economy?

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 - 2026 Identified Adaptive Measures	None identified	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Stafford Borough Council Identified Adaptive Measures	Produce a communications campaign which seeks to teach local businesses about the importance of climate adaptation	Corporate Business & Partnerships, Economic Development	N/A	2022 onwards	Stafford Chamber of Commerce, LEP
	Factor the potential delay extreme weather events could cause if they occurred during regeneration projects	Economic Development	N/A	2023 onwards	
	To work in partnership with Stafford Chamber of Commerce and the LEP to ensure businesses which will increase resilience to climate change are promoted	Corporate Business & Partnerships, Economic Development	N/A	2022 - 2023	Stafford Chamber of Commerce, LEP

Section 5 - Planning and Regeneration

We are the local planning authority for the Borough[12][13]. As such we are responsible for the production of the Local Plan, which provides the framework for the delivery of development within the area. The Local Plan is a far-reaching document which considers factors such as flood risk, biodiversity enhancement, the allocation of sites for development, and the provision of new areas of green space. Specific climate change adaptation policies can also be included. This would see development having to be delivered in a way which includes the provision of climate adaptation measures. This could include the provision of multi-functional Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, the usage of permeable paving or the integration of green spaces into new development.

Stafford Borough currently has an adopted Local Plan, the Plan for Stafford Borough[14], but is currently progressing the production of a New Local Plan. The New Local Plan provides an opportunity to increase climate adaptation efforts being delivered throughout the Borough.

How Will we Ensure New Development Contributes to Climate Change Adaptation?

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 - 2026 Identified Adaptive Measures	Ensure that large-scale conversion of brownfield sites across the region integrate adaptation measures, such as natural flood alleviation, SUDS and greening initiatives that benefit climate adaptation, and ensuring all new builds contain rigorous climate resilient standards. Where such sites are not suitable for development, consider appropriate site greening options (urban forests, wetlands, parks etc).	Strategic Planning	This would need to be embedded as a policy in the New Local Plan to secure delivery. Viability is potentially a barrier to delivery	2024 onwards	
	Ensure planning decisions adhere to the NPPF, which states that new developments avoid flood risk in accordance with the sequential test in the NPPF and inappropriate development directed away from areas of existing or future flood risk. New development should not cause flooding elsewhere and be resilient to the impacts of climate change.	Strategic Planning	N/A	Ongoing	

[12] National Planning Policy Framework - Guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
[13] Planning practice guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
[14] The Plan for Stafford Borough | Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
	Ensure there is a requirement for all new commercial developments to include a SUDS. Ensure the guidance builds on existing resources, is based on best practice and includes case studies.	Strategic Planning	N/A	2024 onwards	
	Ensure all existing and new SUDS schemes are subject to regular monitoring and maintenance procedure to ensure continued, long-term effectiveness.	Strategic Planning	It is unclear as to who should be responsible to deliver this. The council does not have a member of staff with the relevant expertise, whilst it is unlikely that developers would be willing to do this once the development was complete.	2024 onwards	
	Establish Borough-wide supplementary planning guidance that requires the need for SUDS in all new home and developments across the West Midlands. Ensure the guidance builds on existing resources, is based on best practice and includes case studies	Strategic Planning	There is already guidance available which addresses the implementation of SUDS in new development. Therefore, consideration should be given as to whether this would provide any added value.	2024 onwards	

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
	Ensure climate adaptation standards are a requirement of new homes, alongside measure to achieve Net Zero. This could include natural ventilation to improve thermal performance and comfort during heatwaves, natural greening, roof reflectivity, permeable paving and rainwater harvesting to reduce freshwater use. Design guidelines should be produced for large capital investment projects, which set out how to use regionally specific climate projections and adaptation options.	Strategic Planning	We are looking into the feasibility of enforcing this through the New Local Plan. However, viability is potentially a barrier to delivery.	2024 onwards	
Stafford Borough Council Identified Adaptive Measures	Ensure the New Local Plan mandates the protection and enhancement of natural spaces	Strategic Planning	N/A	2024 onwards	
	Ensure green spaces are embedded in new development to prevent the formation of Urban Heat Island effects	Strategic Planning	We are looking into the feasibility of enforcing this through the New Local Plan. However, viability is potentially a barrier to delivery.	2024 onwards	
	During the masterplanning phase of major regeneration projects, ensure the risk of flooding is considered and mitgated for	Economic Development	We are looking into the feasibility of enforcing this through the New Local Plan. However, viability is potentially a barrier to delivery.	Ongoing	
	Develop a local strategy to deliver 10% Biodiversity Net Gain in new development	Strategic Planning	We are looking into the feasibility of enforcing this through the New Local Plan. However, viability is potentially a barrier to delivery.	2022 onwards	

Section 6 - Maintaining Council Service Provision

A crucial part of our climate adaptation strategy is considering how climate change is likely to impact on the delivery of our services. Extreme weather events are likely to have the greatest impact on the service provision of the council. Therefore, to ensure we can continue to maintain a high level of service delivery, the following measures will be implemented:

	Adaptive Measure	Responsible Service Area	Barriers to Delivery	Timescale for Delivery	Delivery Partners
West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 - 2026 Identified Adaptive Measures	Undertake research into the extent which the digital infrastructure, telecoms and ICT within the council is considering future climate change projections.	ICT	Potential staffing constraints	2023	
	Ensure climate risks are embedded into corporate risk assessments.	Corporate Business & Partnerships	N/A	2022 onwards	
Stafford Borough Council Identified Adaptive Measures	Develop and roll out a climate adaptation training programme, ensuring all members of staff and elected members are aware of its role in the delivery of climate action.	Corporate Business & Partnerships	N/A	2022 onwards	
	All staff will be set up to work from home, enabling most services to be maintained when adverse weather conditions make travelling to the offices difficult.	Human Resources	N/A	Ongoing	
	Staff who are required to work outdoors during extreme weather events, for example the Streetscene team, will be provided with full Personal Protective Equipment.	Human Resources	N/A	Ongoing	
	Staff who are required to work outdoors may have their working patterns revised during extreme weather events. This will enable services to be provided, without compromising the health and wellbeing of our teams.	Human Resources	N/A	2022 onwards	
	Communications systems will be developed which will alert the public of any impacts to our service delivery, should it be impacted by extreme weather events.	ICT and Communications	Potential financial constraints	2023 onwards	
	We will ensure our own estate is subjected to continuous risk assessment of potential damage to on site infrastructure such as the solar panels at Riverway Nursery.	Corporate Assets	Potential financial constraints	2022 onwards	

Opportunities and Co-Benefits

Whilst the impacts of climate change are likely to be overwhelmingly negative, there are some more positive opportunities which are likely to arise. One of the ways we can increase our resilience to climate change is by taking advantage of these wherever possible. The West Midlands Adaptation Plan identifies four opportunities, and three factors that could be both a risk and an opportunity. Implementing measures to build upon these are an important part of adapting to a changing climate. The identified opportunities are:

Risks and Opportunities	Extreme events and changing climatic conditions (including temperature change, water scarcity, wildlife, flooding, wind) could potentially impact on the landscape character of the Borough, and the agricultural and forestry sectors. Whilst this might sound like a risk, a change in climate might, for example, enable the growing of species which would previously have been unable to thrive.
	Higher winter temperature changes could potentially reduce household energy demand. However, this is likely to be countered by an increased need for cooling in the summer months.
	Migration to the UK and effects on the UK's interests overseas are likely to be impacted by climate-related international human mobility.
Opportunities	Climate change could result in new terrestrial and freshwater species being able to colonise in the UK. However, caution should be taken that this does not result in the spread of invasive species.
	Drier, warmer summers could lead to more opportunities to use outdoor spaces. This could provide a boost for outdoor leisure/tourism industries.
	Long term climate change effects could result in changes in demand for goods and services. This could result in certain industries becoming more prosperous in the future.
	Increases in productivity and areas suitable for agriculture could increase UK food availability and enable greater exports overseas.

The council will consider how best to take advantage of the potential changes listed above.

Communications and Engagement

We have already said that climate change and green recovery is not something that we are able to tackle on our own and this can also be said about climate change adaptation. Some of the measures will need a multi-partnership approach if we are to achieve what has been set out and identified. This adaptation plan forms part of a bigger agenda on climate change that is built on the need for collective borough-wide action that will involve everyone, it places an emphasis on two-way communications – using relevant channels to share and capture information that residents, businesses, partners and other organisations within our communities need to know. And listening to residents, customers, businesses and others through both formal and informal consultations.

Monitoring and Review

This Adaptation Strategy will run for a period of two years 2022 – 2024 and will be refreshed in line with the Climate Change and Green Recovery Strategy but the risk assessment process will be reviewed on an annual basis. Progress againse the plan will be proactively managed through our senior management team and elected members by the Council's Cabinet and the Scrutiny Committees.

As part of this process we will ensure that progress is reported to our residents via:

- Publishing progress on the website, social media and the local press
- Sharing our progress with our partners

We will be open and transparent in how we work and conduct consultation and engagement activities for all of our major projects so that we can ensure our residents are able to have their say and be part of the process.

Appendix 1

Current UK Climate Adaptation Legislation

There are a number of policy frameworks which set out the risks climate change poses to the UK, and how climate adaptation measures can be deployed to minimize the impact. Whilst not all apply directly to local authorities, they can be used as a guide to ensure adaptive responses are effective. Some examples of these policy frameworks are:

UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022[15]

Under the 2008 Climate Change Act, the UK Government is required to update and publish a Climate Change Risk Assessment every five years. This document has been updated and published this year and is called the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022. This document identifies eight priority risk areas which require the provision of the most urgent adaptive action. These were identified as:

- Risks to the viability and diversity of terrestrial and freshwater habitat and species from multiple hazards
- Risks to soil health from increased flooding and drought
- Risks to natural carbon stores and sequestration from multiple hazards, leading to increased emissions
- Risks to crops, livestock and commercial trees from multiple climate hazards
- Risks to supply of food, goods and vital services due to climate-related collapse of supply chains and distribution networks
- Risks to people and the economy from climate-related failure of the power system
- Risks to human health, wellbeing and productivity from increased exposure to heat in homes and other buildings
- Multiple risks to the UK from climate change impacts overseas

All the risks identified were assessed as needing “more action” to enable adequate preparations to be made.

National Adaptation Programme (NAP)[16]

The second National Adaptation Programme sets out a response to the Climate Change Risk Assessment. The NAP recognizes the role that local authorities play in delivering climate adaptation, identifying the main areas of focus as infrastructure, planning, emergency planning and biodiversity.

[15] UK Climate Change Risk Assesment 2022 (publishing.service.gov.uk)
[16] national-adaptation-programme-2018.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)[17]

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England, and how they should be applied. As a local planning authority, we need to ensure its contents are embedded in our Local Plan.

Paragraph 154 states that "new development should be planned for in ways that avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change. When new development is brought forward in areas which are vulnerable, care should be taken to ensure that risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures, including through the planning of green measures". The New Local Plan for Stafford Borough will include policies that enforce this.

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)[18]

Planning Practice Guidance forms a further part of the planning system in England and is intended to add further context to the NPPF. The PPG includes further direction as to what should be included in the policies of a Local Plan.

The PPG states that "when preparing Local Plans, local planning authorities should pay particular attention to integrating adaptation approaches and looking for 'win-win' solutions that will support sustainable development". It also states that local planning authorities should "be aware of and avoid the risk of maladaptation". Maladaptation refers to the occurrence of adaptation which becomes more harmful than helpful. As with the contents of the NPPF, the New Local Plan for Stafford Borough will be guided by the contents of the PPG.

[17] National Planning Policy Framework - Guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
[18] Planning practice guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Appendix 2

Climate Change Adaptation Research

Alongside the policy and legislation which refer to climate change adaptation are several research papers. Climate adaptation actions which fall within the sphere of influence of a local authority are identified. To increase its effectiveness, the Stafford Borough Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy will be guided by the contents of these documents.

The main documents which will be used as a steer are:

Stafford Borough Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP)

We have recently updated the Local Climate Impact Profile for Stafford Borough. This document identifies extreme weather events which have been observed as having occurred within the Borough and identifies any impacts that arose from their occurrence. T

The Climate Change Committee Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risk[19]

As mentioned above, every five years the UK Government is required to update its Climate Change Risk Assessment. Informing this document is an independently produced assessment of UK Climate Risk. Produced by the Climate Change Committee, the document sets out the level of adaptation which is needed to ensure the country is equipped to deal with the potential impacts of climate change. It then assesses the current level of adaptive action which is being taken to establish whether sufficient efforts are being made. Worryingly, the most recent version of this report demonstrates that the gap between the level of risk we face and the adaptive response is widening. This reinforces the need to level up our adaptive efforts.

West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 - 2026[20]

Developed by Sustainability West Midlands, the West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021- 2026 takes a closer look at the climate risks and opportunities which are specific to the West Midlands region. Recommendations are then made to identify actions which local authorities can take to increase adaptation efforts.

[19] Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risk - Climate Change Committee (theccc.org.uk)
[20] WMCA Sustainability Benchmarking Report Sep 2018 Final.docx (sustainabilitywestmidlands.org.uk)

Staffordshire County Council Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Final Report[21]

Produced by external consultants, the Staffordshire County Council Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Final Report was commissioned to form part of the New Local Plan evidence base. It was produced in collaboration with Staffordshire County Council and its eight district and borough councils. The report details the measures which need to be delivered in Staffordshire to enable the transition to decarbonization, and prepare for the now unavoidable impacts of climate change.

[21] Report Final Report 2020-06-17 (staffordbc.gov.uk)