

Draft Milton Keynes Sustainability Action Plan (City)

2025-2050

v 0.1 for consultation – June 2025







Milton Keynes Sustainability Action Plan - City

Milton Keynes adopted its first Sustainability Action plan in 2019.

Since then, significant progress has been made on the climate agenda in the city, both on the City Council's own activity and the wide work the authority does within the city.

This is the second iteration of a Milton Keynes Sustainability Action Plan. This document updates and condenses our previous action plan, outlining the major city focussed projects that will be undertaken on each theme.

It should be read in conjunction with the Milton Keynes Sustainability Action Plan (Council) which details the Council's work and actions on its own emissions.

Quarterly monitoring of this Action Plan will take place, and an annual report to Cabinet on progress will be provided each January. The Sustainability Strategy and both Action Plans will be reviewed in 2028.



City of Milton Keynes Sustainability Action Plan

Economy		
Action ref	Action	Responsible service
C1.1	Enable circular economy initiatives working with the third sector (voluntary or not-for-profit sector, comprises organisations that are neither public nor private) and MKCC direct delivery (reuse centres, library of things, repair cafes.)	Environment and waste
C1.2	Continue engagement and action with businesses on the green agenda and circular economy, working in partnership with business networks across this city, and encouraging business participation in any City Climate Contract that may be developed.	Economic Development
C1.3	Ensure the Council's Smart City and Innovation programme contributes towards the City Council's net zero ambitions. Promote the City as a Testbed approach to innovative companies with solutions to contribute towards the City's net zero ambitions.	Economic Development



Energy		
Action ref	Action	Responsible service
C2.1	Explore the creation of a Local Area Energy Plan for Milton Keynes	Environment and Waste
C2.2	For new build Council Housing, make use of lower carbon and renewable technologies.	Housing
C2.3	Review and deliver potential battery storage across Milton Keynes	Environment and Waste
C2.4	Support the creation and delivery of a District Heating Network. To include encouragement of businesses and organisations to participate.	Environment and Waste
C2.5	Support the creation and delivery of a Renewable Energy Hub and link to potential AI Growth Zone/ Hub.	Environment and Waste



Emissions		
Action ref	Action	Responsible service
C3.1	Explore how freight transport can reduce its carbon footprint, such as alternative fuels, freight consolidation, cargo bike.	Transport and Highways
C3.2	To develop a new high quality public transport network for the city to deliver a step change on current public transport provision.	Transport and Highways
C3.3	Develop and deliver school travel planning and sustainable pupil travel including the Schools streets programme.	Transport and Highways
C3.4	Develop and monitor travel plans for new areas of development against targets.	Transport and Highways
C3.5	Explore decarbonisation of transport including assets and infrastructure owned by MKCC at every opportunity (including green roofing/PV's.)	Transport and Highways
C3.6	Develop new MKCC Electric vehicle strategy.	Transport and Highways



C3.7	Enabling and encouraging active travel initiatives (from providing skills and confidence through training to physical improvements to the infrastructure) throughout the City	Transport and Highways
C3.8	Explore all opportunities to secure funding for and to promote suitable retrofit and renewables programmes for housing and commercial spaces in Milton Keynes.	Property
C3.9	Secure funding from developments in Milton Keynes to be put towards carbon offsetting in public sector, third sector, and not for profit organisations.	Planning



Environment			
Action ref	Action	Responsible service	
C4.1	Produce and deliver a Biosecurity Action Plan for Milton Keynes over summer 2025. Drive creation of Marshland, Bogs and Peatland with the Parks Trust. Locate and plant a Milton Keynes Carbon Sink Forest in Old Wolverton with the Parks Trust.	Environment and Waste	
C4.2	Engage external partners throughout the City in the delivery of the Environment Action Plan and the Urban Tree Action plan to increase biomass, urban cooling and Biodiversity	Environment and Waste	
C4.3	Deliver on the Nature Recovery Strategy for Milton Keynes.	Environment and Waste	



Engagement		
Action ref	Action	Responsible service
C5.1	Engagement and signposting for Milton Keynes' Council tenants, on energy efficiency and use of new technologies to help them make cost effective and sustainable decisions.	Housing
C5.2	Work with schools, Milton Keynes College, and educational establishments across Milton Keynes to raise awareness of, and encourage participation in schemes that make contributions to the City's climate ambitions.	Economic Development
C5.3	Investigate establishing a City climate partnership/charter for Milton Keynes for all organisations committed delivering to delivering action towards the City's climate ambitions, including the City Council's work with anchor institutions. This work will allow organisations to showcase their work, work together to achieve MK's climate goals, and connect with likeminded organisations.	Economic Development
C5.4	Work with the residents of Milton Keynes to raise awareness of and signpost to schemes that help them to deliver on the city's green aims and improve citizen's lives. This will include initiatives to support fuel poor households, and that reduce emissions, energy use, and resource consumption and to provide information on improving climate impact (e.g. through greater levels of recycling.)	Economic Development

