



Carbon Neutral 2030

Brighton & Hove City Council

Carbon Neutral 2030

Annual Report summary

July 2022



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

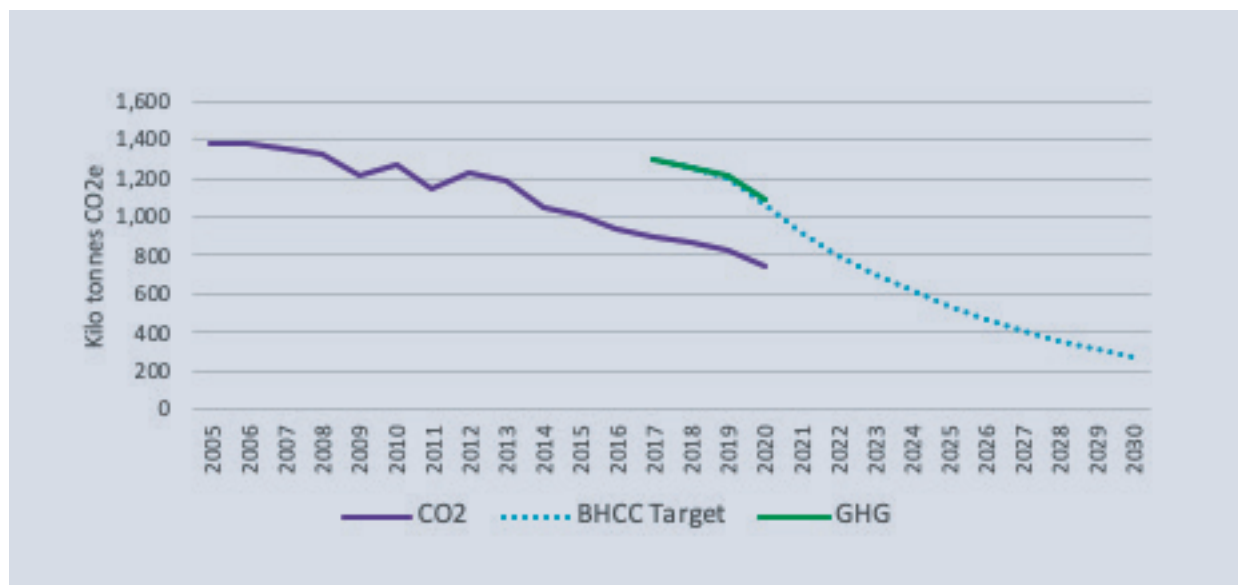
The council-led Carbon Neutral 2030 Programme sets the city’s direction for action on climate change and biodiversity loss to 2030, focussing on actions to reduce emissions, improve health, create social justice, and protect nature.

Actions in the 2030 Carbon Neutral programme

Carbon reduction	Travel & transport	Increase active travel, cycling, walking and public transport use. Electric vehicle charge points. ECargo bikes. BikeShare rentals. Air quality.
	Energy & water	Renewable electricity. Energy efficiency in council buildings and housing. Street lighting upgrades. Improve water supply efficiency, reduce demand.
	Waste	Reduce waste and food waste. Increase recycle, reuse, composting.
	Built environment	High-quality, low-carbon new council homes. Planning policies and guidance for sustainable development. Energy efficiency and solar energy in housing.
	Circular economy	Reduce consumption of high carbon products. Reuse electrical items. Reduce food waste.
Carbon removal	Nature, biodiversity, food	Improve habitats in parks, tree planting. City Downland Estate Plan. The Living Coast Biosphere. Reduce environmental impact of food system.
	Carbon offsetting	Offset emissions e.g. tree planting, improve land management. Framework for local investment in carbon-cutting “insetting” projects.
Behaviour & culture change	Communication & engagement	News and social media. Engaging with communities. Carbon literacy training for all staff. Monitoring and reporting.
	Procurement	Prioritise Social Value and Environmental Sustainability when the council buys goods and services.
Adaptation		Reduce flood risk. Services adaptable to climate change. Impact of extreme weather on vulnerable citizens. Sustainable Urban Drainage schemes.
Jobs, education & skills		Environmental education in schools. Greener Sussex skills development.
Financing climate action		Carbon Neutral Fund. Capital funding and grant funding.

Brighton & Hove city greenhouse gas emissions

Brighton & Hove city CO2 and GHG emissions 2005-2020



City carbon dioxide emissions (CO2 - purple line) reduced by 48% between 2005 and 2020 – exceeding the council’s previous target of a 42% cut over this period.

Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG - green line) are estimated to fall by 9.5% to 1.087 million tonnes between 2019 and 2020.

The council’s current target (blue dotted line) is to cut greenhouse gas emissions to around a quarter of current levels by 2030 and compensate for remaining emissions through nature-based projects such as tree-planting.

BHCC corporate carbon footprint 2020-21

School heating
4,055 tonnes, 22%



Housing heating
3,307 tonnes, 18%



Fleet fuel
2,375 tonnes, 13%



Corporate heating
2,259 tonnes, 13%



Total: 18,081 tonnes CO2e

Corporate electricity
1,936 tonnes, 11%



Street lighting
1,633 tonnes, 9%



School electricity
1,525 tonnes, 8%



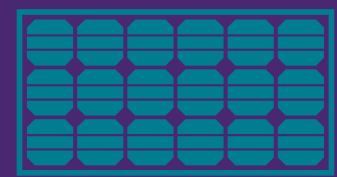
Housing electricity
991 tonnes, 6%



The council's greenhouse gas emissions fell by 52.6% over the last decade, with an average annual reduction of 7.63%. The council's emissions are less than 2% of the city's emissions.

2021-22 highlights

Purchased renewable energy guarantees for **100%** of the electricity used by the council



Trialled installation of heat pumps and solar panels in council-owned housing

Introduced new planning policies on carbon emissions, circular economy, tree planting, active travel, biodiversity, sustainable drainage



Reduced the amount of waste sent to landfill to



only **1.2%** of the total collected

Enabling more reuse and recycling by installing additional infrastructure and re-use schemes for textiles and electrical items



Planted **3,000** trees

City-wide engagement on the City Downland Estate management, including biodiversity, carbon sequestration in soils, and sustainable farming



Installed over **300** electric vehicle charge points, plus 3 rapid charging hubs for taxis and public use



Continued plans for a zero carbon council fleet by 2030, introducing two all-electric refuse lorries, with **22** electric vans due to be introduced in 2022



Streetlight replacement programme estimated to save nearly **3,000** tonnes CO2 every year



Supported Brighton & Hove schools to launch Our City, Our World, the new sustainability, climate change and environmental education strategy



Key developments in 2022-23

Develop carbon reduction pathways to help drive strategic planning, and investigate better ways of showing the impact of our actions and projects



Focus on protecting biodiversity, keeping money in the local economy, and the social benefits of climate action such as tackling the cost-of-living crisis and health benefits of clean air



Commission a Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment for evidence on the local impacts of climate change and priorities for adaptation

Invest £14 million in projects to protect Brighton & Hove's climate and biodiversity



Explore options for a city climate action partnership to build and coordinate a collaborative city-wide response with businesses, institutions, and communities