

# Harborough District Council Climate Local Annual Progress Report 2018/19

May 2019

## Introduction

Harborough District Council decided to sign up to Climate Local, a Local Government Association initiative, in April 2013. The Council then worked to put in place the resources to develop a local action plan. The action plan was ratified by full Council in July 2015. This report is the fourth annual report on progress of the action plan, which highlights the achievements for April 2018 to March 2019.

#### **1.1** Where we are

Harborough District covers an area of 238 square miles of rural south and east Leicestershire. It is within the East Midlands Region, bordering Warwickshire to the west, Northamptonshire to the south and Rutland to the east. The District's population is estimated as 91,416 in 2017 mid year population<sup>1</sup>. The population is split between the two market towns of Market Harborough and Lutterworth (37%), large villages of Broughton Astley, Great Glen, Kibworth and Fleckney (27%) and Bushby, Thurnby and Scraptoft part of Leicester's Principal Urban Area (6%). The remaining 30% of the District's population live in the smaller rural settlements; 71 of which have a population of less than 500 (based on Census 2011 data).

#### **1.2** Carbon emissions

The emissions data for Harborough District from 2017 is the most recent data available for monitoring emissions<sup>2</sup>. Road transport remains the largest source of emissions, accounting for 55% of the overall emissions from the district, as shown in Figure 1. Transport has shown a steadily increasing proportion of the total emissions, as transport emissions have shown no significant decrease over the last nine years, whilst falling significantly for the industry and domestic sectors. The emissions from land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) have become negative, i.e. more carbon is stored than emitted. Overall emissions have decreased from 837.6 tonnes in 2005 to 627.6 tonnes in 2017. The emissions in 2017 have continued the gradual decrease.

<sup>1</sup> 

https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/middlesuperoutputareamidyearpopulationestimates published October 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015</u> published June 2019

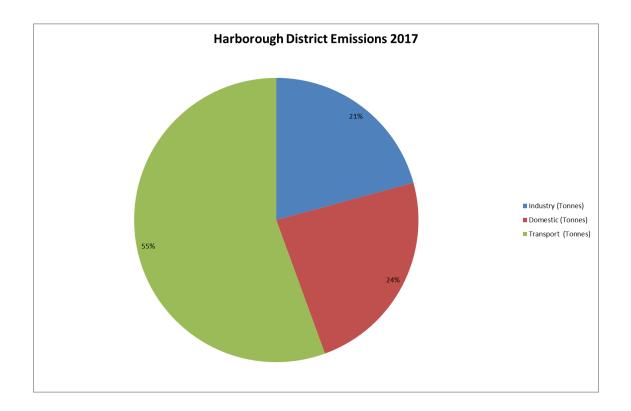


Figure 1 Harborough District Emissions by Sector 2017<sup>3</sup>

Harborough, with per capita emissions of 6.9 tonnes, ranks second highest in Leicestershire. The Leicestershire average per capita measurement is lower at 6.5 tonnes and the average for England is lower again at 5.1 tonnes, with UK average at 5.3 tonnes. The table below shows the emissions per capita for each of the sectors, from 2005 to 2017 (the latest date for which figures are available). Emissions from all sectors have fallen since 2005. Harborough emissions are about the same as the Leicestershire per capita average, as shown in Figure 2. Leicestershire emissions have declined by 34.3%, which is less than the England average (39.7%) or the UK average (39.0%), whereas Harborough District emissions have declined by only 34.1%. So progress in reducing emissions is not as effective as in some other areas in the UK.

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> LULUCF means Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry

Date	Industry (Tonnes)	Domestic (Tonnes)	Transport (Tonnes)	LULUCF (Tonnes)	Total (Tonnes)
2005	2.9	2.7	4.7	0.1	10.4
2006	2.8	2.7	4.6	0.1	10.2
2007	2.6	2.6	4.6	0.0	9.8
2008	2.6	2.6	4.2	0.0	9.5
2009	2.4	2.4	4.1	0.0	8.8
2010	2.4	2.5	4.0	0.0	9.0
2011	2.1	2.2	3.9	0.0	8.2
2012	2.3	2.3	3.8	0.0	8.4
2013	2.2	2.3	3.9	0.0	8.3
2014	2.0	1.9	3.9	-0.1	7.8
2015	1.8	1.8	3.9	-0.1	7.4
2016	1.6	1.8	3.9	-0.1	7.2
2017	1.4	1.6	3.9	-0.1	6.9

Table 1: Harborough District CO2 emission per capita by sector 2005 to 2017 (SOURCE: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2017">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2017</a>)

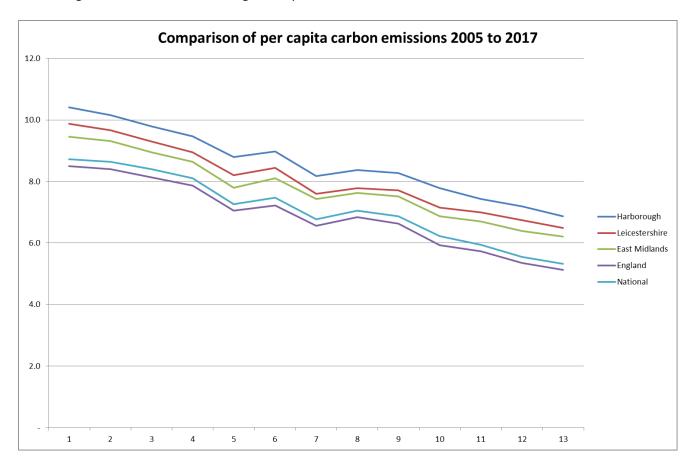


Figure 2 Harborough District Per Capita total emissions 2005 to 2017 (Source <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2017">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2017</a> )

# **1.3 Domestic Energy Consumption**

Based on data from Department of Energy and Climate Change the average domestic energy consumption across the district has reduced year on year. This trend is shown both for electricity consumption and gas consumption.

Year	Mean domestic electricity consumption (kWh)	Average domestic electricity consumption per household (kWh)
2005	5223	NA
2006	5087	NA
2007	5029	NA
2008	4804	NA
2009	4707	NA
2010	4716	NA
2011	4660	NA
2012	4612	NA
2013	4495	4600
2014	4472	4505
2015	4400	4518
2016	4316	4442
2017	4283	4417

Table 2: Harborough District Domestic Electricity Consumption (Source <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/regional-and-local-authority-electricity-consumption-statistics-2005-to-2011">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/regional-and-local-authority-electricity-consumption-statistics-2005-to-2011</a>)

Year	Mean domestic gas consumption (kWh)
2005	21,513
2006	20,524
2007	19,866
2008	19,170
2009	17,590
2010	17,468
2011	16,447
2012	16,425
2013	16,001
2014	15,561
2015	15,379
2016	15,292
2017	15,470

**Table 3: Harborough District Domestic Gas Consumption** (Source: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/gas-sales-and-numbers-of-customers-by-region-and-local-authority">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/gas-sales-and-numbers-of-customers-by-region-and-local-authority</a>)

There is an increase in mean domestic gas consumption this year following year on year reductions since 2005. 2017 data is subject to review in 2018.

Government statistics indicate that around 5,000 homes (or 14%) in the district, were not connected to the gas network in 2016

(<u>https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/sub-national-estimates-of-households-not-connected-to-the-gas-network</u>).

#### **1.4 Housing**

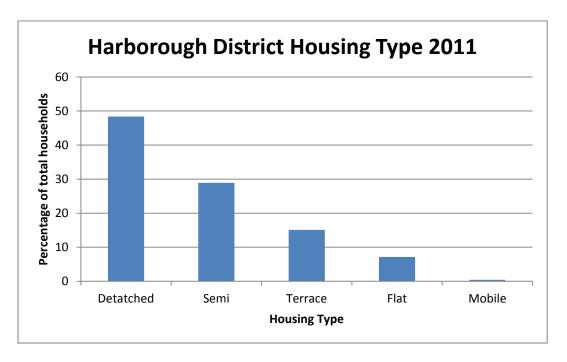


Figure 3: Distribution of housing types across Harborough District 2011 (Source Census 2011)

Harborough District has a very high proportion of detached homes, almost 50%. Many of the homes are also of older construction, as identified in the Housing Survey completed in 2010, often solid wall and so harder to keep warm. The table below identifies the number of households that meet the low income, high costs (LIHC) definition of fuel poverty.

Fuel poverty has reduced in the district to 6.9%. It is now lower than the England average (10.9%), which has remained round 10 to 11% since the new LIHC statistics have been recorded. Harborough District figures have reduced from above the England average to considerably below. Leicestershire wide figures show a similar pattern, as do those for the East Midlands.

Year	Estimated number	Number of Households in Fuel	%	
Teal	of Households	Poverty	70	
2011	35,280	4,046	11.5	
2012	35,646	3,794	10.6	
2013	35,616	2,799	7.9	
2014	35,756	2,993	8.4	
2015	35,804	3,546	9.9	
2016	35,919	3,176	8.8	
2017	36,677	2,517	6.9	

Table 4: Numbers of Households in Fuel Poverty<sup>4</sup>

In addition there are a large number of homes that rely on oil or electricity for their heating needs. Over 20% of homes do not have gas central heating. This is due to the rural nature of the district, with some villages having little or no access to the national gas grid. Gas remains the cheapest fuel for heating homes and lack of access to gas can increase the risk of fuel poverty.

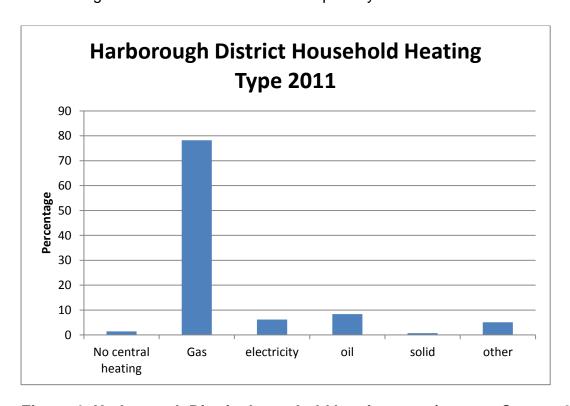


Figure 4: Harborough District household heating type (source: Census 2011)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/annual-fuel-poverty-statistics-report-2018</u> published June 2018

# **1.5 Renewable Energy**

There are a number of renewable energy installations across Harborough District. There are two commercial wind farms, Low Spinney 8MW and Swinford at 22MW. In addition there are a number of smaller on farm turbines that contribute to a total of 32.2MW of installed capacity, which has not increased since 2014. There are 1,467 solar photovoltaic installations; including two large (>1MW) field-based solar installations, giving a total capacity of 14.4MW, which is over double the capacity of 5.6MW in 2014<sup>5</sup>. There is one anaerobic digestion (499 kW) and two landfill gas sites with capacity of 5.6MW. There is 4.5MW installed capacity of plant biomass. Harborough has no hydropower capacity due to a lack of resource.

From April 2014 to October 2018, 37 accredited non domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) projects have been deployed. This has delivered an increased capacity from 5.8MW to 8.2MW. Harborough has the third highest installed capacity in Leicestershire, behind Melton and Hinckley and Bosworth. Harborough has 244 accredited domestic RHI installations<sup>6</sup>; which is the highest number in Leicestershire.

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics</a> Renewable electricity by local authority updated September 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/rhi-monthly-deployment-data-october-2018">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/rhi-monthly-deployment-data-october-2018</a> data for RHI deployment updated October 2018

#### 2. What we have achieved so far

This is the fourth annual progress report since formally adopting the Climate Local Action Plan in July 2015. This report gives an overview of the achievements in 2018/2019. There are detailed tables of the progress against each commitment included as Appendix A. The headline achievements are described under two main areas of work: low carbon pathways and ensuring our Communities and Places are resilient to the possible impacts of climate change.

#### 2.1 Low Carbon Pathways

The Environment Co-ordinator post enables climate change projects to be coordinated across the whole council. The Environment Portfolio holder is the lead member, but there is recognition that climate change is important in other areas too, especially planning, assets and health and wellbeing.

Corporate emissions have continued to be monitored and have shown a slow downward trend. However, there is now more detailed quarterly monitoring, that has helped to identify areas where further improvements could be achieved and this is feeding into the assets management plan. The emissions from the council's own estate (scopes 1 and 2 of the inventory) in 2018/19 financial year were some 41.5% lower than the 2008 baseline<sup>7</sup>.

The Market Hall building's solar photovoltaic (PV) array has been monitored and, together with the LED lighting, is indicating a reduction in energy usage. The electricity usage in 2018/19 was almost 24% less than the electricity usage for the financial year 2014/15 prior to the installation of the PV (July 2015) and LEDs (October 15). In total, in the current year, the PV generated 37,477 kWh of electricity, worth over £7,000, from both savings and the Feed in Tariff.

11

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Available at https://www.harborough.gov.uk/directory\_record/579/carbon\_inventory

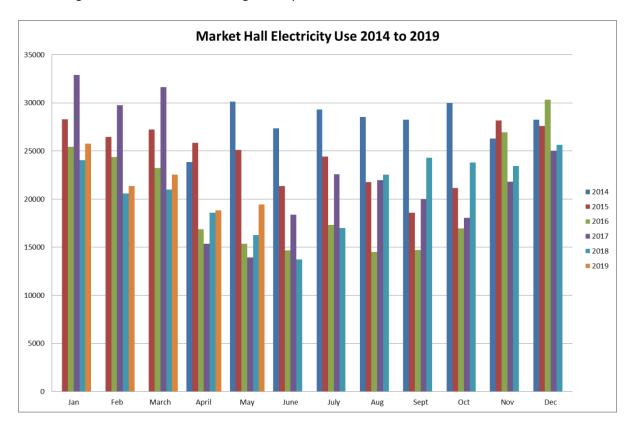


Figure 5: Improvements in Market Hall electricity consumption following the installation of PV and LEDs

Harborough District Council committed to helping residents reduce their own emissions. This has been challenging given the many changes to the domestic energy efficiency market and progress was delayed due to new Government guidelines on ECO funding. However, the Council has been able to work with the Harborough Energy, a social enterprise set up through the Sustainable Harborough Challenge, to signpost residents to opportunities for grant funded energy efficiency measures through ECO3.

In total, 509 homes have had energy efficiency measures, loft or cavity wall insulation, installed during 2018/19. These measures correspond to carbon savings of over 15,800 tonnes of carbon over the 20 year lifetime of the measure. The project will continue into 2019/20. In addition, the council has drafted an ECO help to heat flexibility criteria statement of intent, which was published early in 2018. This allows for those who are identified as vulnerable to fuel poverty to be included in the ECO fuel poverty free measures.

	Number of				Total Carbon
Month	Homes	Number of lofts	<b>Number of Cavities</b>	Total measures	Savings (Tonnes)
Apr-18	37	7	33	40	1366.03
May-18	66	14	60	74	1891.918
Jun-18	28	14	19	33	732.459
Jul-18	64	18	61	79	1960.196
Aug-18	41	13	35	48	1422.86
Sep-18	23	4	22	26	894.5
Oct-18	43	16	30	46	997.09
Nov-18	27	6	22	28	550.39
Dec-18	21	11	15	26	503.07
Jan-19	20	9	14	23	660.2
Feb-19	85	18	76	94	2687.1
Mar-19	54	13	49	62	2136.17
Total	509	143	436	579	15801.99

Table 5 Summary of Carbon Savings from the Domestic Energy Efficiency Project (2018/19)

Harborough District Council has also worked in partnership with other Leicestershire Councils and public health to enable energy efficiency signposting through First Contact Plus. First Contact plus received 191 requests for information on warmer homes, via the website. Fifty referrals received additional help, from either a home visit or telephone consultation. In addition, Leicester City Council is co-ordinating the Health through Warmth project, which provides heating systems for those with no system or a broken system. The project covers older people or those with long term illness. During 2017, the project has been extended to cover oil systems. Two residents have benefited from referral to this scheme during 2018/19.

Harborough District council has also carried out a project to provide two homes on a small council owned plot of land at Padgett Road. These homes have been built to a high standard, including a wheelchair accessible bungalow. The project specifically used local contractors, with all contractors used coming from within a 20 mile radius, thus reducing the emissions during construction. The homes are built with sustainable timber. Harborough District Council is investigating further opportunities for homes and local business provision.

The importance of communities taking charge of their own energy future has been recognised as an important area to act. Harborough Energy has delivered two community owned solar PV roof installations, and a field based system.

Harborough District Council committed to helping businesses to reduce their carbon

emissions. Green Belle<sup>8</sup> is an ERDF funded scheme to support energy efficiency and low carbon measures in SMEs in Leicester and Leicestershire. Funding of up to £10,000 is available, with businesses expected to find matched funding. There have been 8 LED projects in Harborough District, 3 for heating projects, and one double glazing project, with a total grant of £48,532.05. Apart from Leicester City, Harborough has the highest grant allocation. This project has now reached the end of the funding.

# 2.2 Ensuring our Communities and Places are resilient to the possible impacts of climate change

In addition to actions to reduce emissions, there has also been action to ensure that our communities are prepared for climate change. Working with the Resilience forum Harborough District Council has continued working with parishes to support them in drawing up resilience plans. Thirteen parishes already have emergency plans in place, with a further eight under development.

Harborough District Council is also working with the Catchment Partnerships for the Soar and Welland rivers. The Welland River, following the very successful naturalisation project in Market Harborough, is now the focus for upstream small scale water retention projects. On the Soar, the Willow brook project is engaging with rural and urban communities to improve the brook, which joins the Soar in Leicester. The community at Houghton on the Hill are actively involved in citizen science on the brook. In addition there have been small scale flood alleviation measures, such as field storage systems put in place along the brook through collaboration with local farmers. Further natural flood defence schemes have been developed on the Burton Brook, upstream from Burton Overy. The renowned Allerton project has been showcasing good practice on water friendly farming http://www.gwct.org.uk/allerton/.

There is an Environment Agency natural flood management pilot project based in the upper Soar. The scoping for potential sites has been ongoing in 2018/19 and a number of sites have been identified in Harborough District, which have moved on to more detailed scoping. This project will be reported nationally to DEFRA.

The Local Plan includes a number of mitigation and adaptation policies, including sustainable drainage Harborough District Council are working towards a Sustainable

8

Food Cities award, in partnership with local groups and Leicestershire County Council, this builds on the excellent work done by the Sustainable Harborough Challenge Project. There are a number of new community growing projects, one at Waterloo Cottage Farm and another at a care home. There is a local food click and collect service. Generally the awareness and knowledge of local food has grown over the last two or three years. The local food offer is an important aspect of Harborough Tourism and the Taste Harborough brand, started by Sustainable Harborough Challenge, is now an important part of this strand.

## **Next Steps**

In the next year Harborough District Council are committed to continuing to deliver on their Climate Local commitments. The particular focus for action includes better management of assets, improving domestic energy efficiency, installing additional electric vehicle charging points. Specific actions include:

- Declare a Climate Emergency (achieved in July 2019) and develop a Climate Emergency Plan
- Investigate opportunities for energy saving in the Symington Building through more detailed monitoring
- Investigate the case for electric taxis
- Ensure energy saving is a clear part of the new leisure contracts, including refurbishment of the leisure centres
- Collaborate with partners to deliver natural flood management projects on the river Soar and tributaries
- Continue to promote domestic energy efficiency, particularly to those in or at risk of fuel poverty and with private landlords
- Work toward and Sustainable Food Cities Bronze award

# **Climate Local Commitments: Low carbon pathways**

Commitment: Demonstrate political and corporate commitment to acting on climate change.

**Justification:** Action on climate change helps the Council deliver its corporate goals and Harborough DC wishes to show leadership to residents and businesses within the district.

Specific action(s)	Measure	Progress
Lead Member to be appointed and staff resource allocated	Completed - Environment Co- ordinator appointed	The Environment Portfolio holder has responsibility for Climate Change, although the cross cutting nature is recognised and the Environment Co-ordinator sits in Regulatory services and works closely with strategic planning team, Corporate Assets and Health and Wellbeing Partnership.
Specific information on website	Ongoing	Climate change is a specific area and is being continually developed.
Regular information on website including information on carbon emissions in the district	Ongoing - DECC carbon data and other information reported locally (annually)	Annual Progress Report on Climate Change published on Website. Information on projects is reported. Social media used for specific campaigns

Commitment: Manage our assets in a resource efficient manner.

**Justification:** The Council is committed to providing the public services that are value for money. Reducing waste and using energy efficiently are crucial to delivering on this priority.

Specific action(s)	Measure	Progress
Continue to upgrade Council owned buildings to reduce energy use, water use and waste created.	Ongoing - Monitor energy usage and water and waste data where available (Quarterly and Annually)	Symington building more detailed monitoring procured and being used to identify savings.  Quarterly gas and electricity consumption reported.  An annual inventory of emissions is compiled and placed on website.
Encourage staff to use resources efficiently through targeted campaigns, based on monitored data	Ongoing - Specific events and programmes (linked to national programmes)	Initial contact with other building users has commenced
Promote sustainable transport through the green travel plan	Ongoing -Monitor transport modes (bi-annually)	Green travel plan has been updated and implementation group meets regularly.

**Commitment:** Work with households to promote the uptake of energy efficiency measures to reduce household carbon footprints and alleviate fuel poverty

**Justification:** Harborough DC is committed to working with communities to develop places were people wish to live and to support the vulnerable within those communities. Reducing fuel bills and helping communities be more environmentally conscious is vital to delivering our priorities.

Specific action(s)	Measure	Progress
Work with partners to encourage the uptake of all schemes for improving energy efficiency in homes of all tenancies	Ongoing - Contribute to the Leicestershire carbon reduction target for housing stock (Proportion of 75K tonnes).  Ongoing - Record Number of Measures installed (monthly)	Partnership with Harborough Energy has led to energy efficiency measures being installed in 199 homes in 2017/18 and 509 homes in 2018/19. Saving of over 22,000 Tonnes of carbon will be achieved over the lifetime of the measures (20 years). The Eco help to heat flexibility statement of intent has been published.
Work with partners to access health funding to support vulnerable people in fuel poverty	Ongoing - Access funding maintain and develop programmes	Leicestershire CC and public health have embedded energy efficiency advice signposting as part of First Contact Plus. 50 residents have received additional support with energy efficiency or switching supplier.  Npower help to heat has been extended to the district and now includes oil boilers. 5 boilers have been replaced.

Develop programmes with partners for rural areas, especially off gas.	Ongoing - Develop projects with funding via the Local Economic Partnership via Leicestershire Together	Discussions with the local social housing providers and parish councils have taken place. Opportunities to work with the Midlands Energy Hub are being investigated.
Work with partners to encourage residents across the borough to reduce their own carbon footprint.	Completed - Sustainable Harborough project will promote and engage residents in and around Market Harborough including through ECO house project	Sustainable Harborough Challenge Project complete.

**Commitment:** Support local businesses to become more resource efficient and encourage businesses in the low carbon/ green technology sector

**Justification:** Harborough District Council is committed to supporting business in the district. Reducing costs is vital for all business. The green technology sector is growing rapidly and could be an important growth area in the district. The Leicestershire Carbon Reduction Strategy aims to reduce carbon emissions from business by 90k tonnes across the county.

Specific action(s)	Measure	Progress
Support development of an Business Resource Club in Market Harborough	Ongoing - Waste and energy advice offered	Green Belle offers grants for energy efficiency measures to SMES. A number of firms have benefitted with 8 LED installations, 3 heating installations, 1 double glazing installation and 2 destratification fan installations (some businesses have benefitted from more than one measure). Grants of over £48,000 were received. HDC provide a business waste recycling service, which is well used by local businesses.
Promote green travel plans via planning	Ongoing - Green Travel Plans required for all business development	New local plan continues to promote green travel in new development.
Promote local food economy with partners	Completed - In conjunction with Sustainable Harborough - Food forum established	Sustainable Harborough Challenge Project completed, but delivery on a local food offer continues, with through Taste Harborough, which was set up through the legacy work of Sustainable Harborough Challenge.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> https://www.greenbelle.org.uk/statistics/

Harborough District is working with Leicestershire
County Council on a Local sustainable Food plan, with
the aim of meeting Sustainable Cities accreditation.

Commitment: Support communities to take advantage of the financial opportunities offered by community energy projects.

**Justification:** Harborough DC is committed to working with communities to develop places were people wish to live. Supporting communities to be more resilient to economic change is an important part of this, particularly encouraging an entrepreneurial approach to energy.

Specific action(s)	Measure	Progress
Develop community renewable energy project in District	Completed - Feasibility study for community owned PV on Market Hall.	Harborough Energy two projects in operation.  PV on Market Hall was installed by council in 2015
Promote community owned renewable energy through neighbourhood plans	Ongoing - Renewable energy included in emerging neighbourhood plans	Communities that are progressing Neighbourhood Plans are supported by HDC. Advice on climate change is given as required.
Promote awareness of Renewable Heat Initiative opportunities in off- gas areas	Ongoing - Information at Parish Engagement Event	Continued engagement with parishes, as well as social housing providers.

## Climate Local Commitments: Ensuring our Communities and Places are resilient to the possible impacts of climate change

Commitment: Encourage Communities to build their resilience to climate change

**Justification:** Harborough District Council recognises that we cannot avoid the impacts of climate change, so we must build resilience. Harborough District Council recognise the distress that can be caused by weather related risks and also the costs to homes and businesses that can be incurred. Building resilience will support better places.

Specific action(s)	Measure	Progress
Include climate adaptation in neighbourhood plans, especially flood resilience, but policies for well designed adaptive buildings and multifunctional green space.	Ongoing - Information and guidance available throughout neighbourhood planning process	Communities that are engaged in Neighbourhood Plans are supported by HDC staff and advised where appropriate on climate change adaptation. Many seek higher standards for Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS)
Incorporate specific risks within parish emergency plans	Ongoing - Information for parishes at parish engagement event. Parishes engaged with directly	HDC and the resilience forum have worked with a number of parishes on preparing emergency plans. Members of parish councils have taken part in simulation emergency events for training.
Encourage Community management of green space to maintain multifunctional value for leisure, water management, possible food and wood supplies	Ongoing - Parishes supported to take over green space Green space plan for major development in Market Harborough	HDC has developed a greenspace strategy that feeds into the local plan. HDC is encouraging local parishes to be involved in local green space management. Many parishes have taken control of the management of green space.  Great Glen Wildspace has supported some other groups

	developed	and also offers outdoor activity projects on behalf of HDC. Waterside care groups are engaged in citizen science on the Willow brook.
Promote flood protection for at risk business and homes.	Ongoing - Reduced risk of financial loss	Natural Flood management project led by the EA will install measures on the upper soar. Soar Catchment Partnership has installed measures on Willow brook and Burton Brook. Welland River Trust working on schemes in the upper Welland.

# **Commitment: Promote good water management across the district**

**Justification:** Rivers are an important aspect of a place and can contribute to the attractiveness and biodiversity of a place. Harborough District Council recognises the importance of working with partners to maintain rivers and waterways and promote sustainable drainage.

Specific action(s) <sup>ii</sup>	Measure	Progress
Support Welland River Restoration project	Completed - Improved river attractiveness, enhancing the town. Improved biodiversity	The Market Harborough Environment Group do regular litter picks around the river to maintain the benefits of the re-naturalisation project on the Welland.
Promote sustainable drainage systems within local plan and neighbourhood plans for new developments	Ongoing - No increase in flood risk from new development  Enhanced green infrastructure	Sustainable drainage is required in new development through planning. New studies have been completed to help understand the flood risk issue and ensure SUDS are embedded in the emerging local plan.
Support partners working with landowners to improve water quality of rivers	Ongoing - Improved biodiversity	HDC engages with the Welland Catchment Partnership and the Soar Catchment Partnership. Work on the Welland has included a range of work rural pollution, including septic tanks. In the Soar Catchment work is ongoing to improve the storage of water in the rural catchment working with landowners and communities.

**Commitment:** Encourage climate resilient design

**Justification:** Harborough District Council recognises that good quality buildings are essential for the wellbeing of residents. Climate change may mean that some buildings are not fit for purpose. As the local planning authority Harborough District Council recognises it has an important role in future-proofing development.

Specific action(s)	Measure	Progress
Promotion of climate resilient buildings through the revised Local Plan policy	Completed - Robust policy in Local Plan, supporting development.	Information on overheating in new buildings and opportunities for low carbon buildings has been embedded in local plan policy.
Working with partners to bring forward local exemplars, including ECO House with Seven Locks Housing Association.	Completed - Families engaged in adapting to climate change in house and garden	Sustainable Harborough worked with families on green homes open days for 3 years. Now completed.
Investigating the development of low carbon and resilient community buildings with partners	New exemplar buildings developed  Local business engaged	HDC is constructing a new "move on space" for business to meet BREEAM excellent.

26