

Potential Climate Change Projects to call upon the Climate Action Fund (CAF)

i) Helping to reduce household energy bills and fuel poverty by improving the energy efficiency of houses

- Develop a grants scheme for a District wide retro fit and upgrade of energy conservation to EPC C and examine the potential for renewable energy systems in existing private dwellings throughout the District which will improve air quality and reduce the dependency on fossil fuels;
- Encourage Housing Associations and private landlords to bring their properties up to EPC level C as a minimum;
- Set out new and higher standards for energy efficiency in new homes;
- Grant scheme to also support community group to invest in renewable energy projects.
- Installation of water harvesting and 'grey water' systems to reduce water consumption.

ii) Introducing a Sustainable Transport Strategy to reduce congestion and improve air quality

- Park & Ride/Stride projects on the south, north, east and west sides of the Districts towns to alleviate traffic congestion and improve air quality; that will also act as hubs for charging of vehicles, transfer of goods to smaller vehicles, bike hire served by electric or other fuelled buses;
- Develop rail stations as transport interchange hubs, especially Leamington;
- Install a comprehensive EV charging infrastructure throughout the Council's car parking and other assets to encourage adoption of electric vehicles which will improve air quality and reduce carbon emissions; and seek further charge point installations on street and at key journey points of arrival/destination e.g. stations; major employers, tourist attractions; etc.;
- Pump prime or incentivise EV hiring/pool car/car share schemes to reduce short-haul car use in urban areas;
- Roll out bike hire schemes to encourage cycle use and encourage electric bikes in particular;
- Implement a dedicated cycleway system to reduce car dependency and improve the towns' air quality e.g. University to Kenilworth to Leamington cycle superhighway and a Warwick to Draycote Water cycle superhighway; Europa Way e-cycle network to Warwick and Leamington town centres;
- Cooperate with others to install an electric taxi infrastructure to improve the towns' air quality;
- Cooperate with others to install an electric bus infrastructure to improve the towns' air quality;
- Electric buses introduced on key routes, including between the University and Leamington;
- Encourage and incentivise all taxis to become electric;
- Implement a differential free car parking regime for electric cars to encourage their use and improve the towns' air quality.

iii) Helping to improve health and well-being through better housing standards and encouraging more active lifestyles

- Improve waste collection services to increase recycling proportions and reduce the amount sent to landfill;
- Develop a grants scheme for a District wide retro fitting of energy conservation to EPC C or above and encourage renewable energy and heating systems replacement in existing private dwellings throughout the District to improve air quality and reduce the dependency on fossil fuels;
- Encourage Housing Associations and private landlords to bring their properties up to EPC level C as a minimum;
- Set out new and higher standards for energy efficiency in new homes;
- Encourage walking and cycling in the Districts parks and open spaces, e.g. Warwick to Draycote Water cycle superhighway.

iv) Helping to improve the natural 'green' environment by improving the area's biodiversity through tree planting and creating new habitat areas

- A comprehensive 168,000 tree planting programme throughout the District to improve carbon sequestration throughout the District;
- Extend Tach Brook Country Park to create new habitats;
- Create a continuous green park between Warwick and Leamington to include a new Commonwealth Park
- Create other new habitats wooded or otherwise;
- Undertake a comprehensive 'Green Spaces' planting project with self-seeding and drought tolerant plants to improve the District's carbon capture and significantly reduce maintenance journey requirements;
- Encourage permeable surface water surfaces to assist in water management and address potential flooding;
- Installing an urban 'Green Roof' and 'Green Barrier' system within the District's towns' to improve carbon sequestration;
- Phasing out the use of peat to ensure that existing peat beds remain intact to remain as natural carbon sequestration domains.

v) Helping to improve the local economy and create more jobs and businesses by helping companies to reduce energy costs and encouraging a cluster of "environmental enhancing industries and companies" in the District

- Introduce a grant scheme to assist SME's to undertake energy conservation schemes;
- Promote area as a cluster for companies involved in carbon reduction markets e.g. create a "net zero carbon" business park;
- Extend the 'Water Refill' scheme to reduce the use of single use plastics;
- Investment and installation of renewable energy facilities to significantly reduce the use of fossil fuels and improve the District's air quality, including solar farms;
- A LED luminaire replacement project on all of the District's lighting installations to reduce the consumption of fossil fuel and maintenance journey requirement and maintenance costs.