Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport Committee

19 November 2025

Title	i) Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2025-2030 ii) Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2025 Annual Report iii) The Council's corporate greenhouse gas emissions report
Purpose of the report	To make a key decision
Report status	Public report
Report author	Ben Burfoot, Sustainability Manager
Lead Councillor	Cllr Ennis, Lead Councillor for Climate Strategy and Transport
Corporate priority	Healthy Environment
Recommendations	That the Committee: a) Adopt the Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2025 to 2030 on behalf of the Council. Note; b) the publication of the annual performance report for the current Climate Emergency Strategy 2020 to 2025 which shows progress in reducing Reading Borough's carbon emissions, which have fallen by 57% since 2005. c) the publication of the Annual Green House Gas Report for the Council (2024/25) which reports progress in reducing Reading Borough Council's corporate emissions, which have fallen by 73.4% since 2008/09. d) that while progress is being made, the Council and other partners will need to redouble efforts to reduce fossil fuel consumption and switch to electrically powered heat and transport to achieve net zero. e) that 2024/5 was the eighth wettest winter on record and the summer of 2025 was the warmest on record in the UK. The increased risks that climate change poses for both the Council and residents requires the implementation of adaptation strategies.

1. Executive Summary

This report presents:

1.1. The new 2025-2030 Reading Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan for adoption (Appendix 1&2)

1.1.1. The new Climate Emergency Strategy 2025-2030 is presented to the Committee for adoption by the Council. It sits alongside an action plan which is designed to accelerate progress towards 'a net zero town that is resilient to the impacts of climate change'.

1.1.2. The Strategy draws on the collective action of organisations but does not seek to replicate strategies which are held by those organisations and which are already helping to deliver these objectives. The Strategy acknowledges that work to achieve net zero will continue beyond 2030, albeit good progress has been made to date.

1.2. The 2024/25 Annual Report on the Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2020-25 (Appendix 3)

1.2.1. This report has been prepared by the Reading Climate Change Partnership and reflects activity by a range of partners across Reading, not just the Council. Examples of projects delivered during the period of the Strategy are detailed in the Appendix.

1.2.2. Emissions for 2023, the latest year for which data is available, fell once again compared to 2022. This shows a continuation of the year on year reductions which have now fallen to 57% below the 2005 baseline. This is the lowest that emissions have been in Reading to date. This represents the 12th largest reduction in emissions out of 374 UK local authority areas.

1.2.3. Modelling of Reading was carried out using of the latest report from the national committee on climate change (7th Carbon Budget report). This indicated that a 75% reduction towards 'net zero' could be possible by 2030 from our 2005 baseline if policy delivery keeps track with the recommendations in that report. The national target for 2030 is for a 68% reduction since 1990.

1.3. The 2024/25 Annual Report on the Council's corporate greenhouse gas emissions (Appendix 4)

1.3.1. This report is produced annually by the Council and tracks progress with implementation of the Council's Carbon Plan and the targets within it. The headline message from the report is that the Council's carbon footprint has been cut by 73.4% since 2008/09 (75% if all the renewable energy generated by our assets is considered). This remains ahead of the borough reductions showing that the Council is 'Leading by Example' and represents a small improvement on the previous year, albeit RBC emissions have plateaued over the last three reported years.

1.3.2. Assuming some emission reductions are achieved in the 25/26 year, the Council will likely achieve a 75-80% reduction in its carbon footprint against the current carbon plan target of 85% by the end of 2025/6.

1.3.3. A greater amount of investment in decarbonisation in the 2025 to 2030 period will be required if the Council's target of net zero by 2030 is to be realised.

1.3.4. The most effective way to reduce carbon emissions is to reduce energy consumption. The Council has been reducing its consumption and consequent emissions consistently since its baseline year. The cumulative avoided costs associated with this, set against the cost if no action had been taken, was estimated as £34.9m to date with the figure for 2024/5 alone at £6.4m.

2. Policy Context

National Context

2.1. In 2019 the UK government committed to a national statutory target of 'net zero carbon' by 2050, having updated the Climate Change Act to aim for a 100% reduction in emissions compared to the 1990 baseline. The UK's 6th 'carbon budget' is designed to achieve a 68% reduction in UK emissions by 2030 and 78% by 2035.

2.2. The Climate Change Committee (CCC), the government's independent adviser on climate change, has, in its latest (2025) report to Parliament stated that they now have improved confidence that the UK is on track to meet its 2030 target of 68%. Approximately half of the policies are deemed to be credible, where this was previously around one third.

2.3. The Government is currently considering the 7th Carbon Budget with the Climate Change Committee having published its report setting out recommendations as to how a balanced pathway can be progressed to achieve net zero for the UK by 2050, with 87% reductions being achieved by 2040. A new Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) was submitted to the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) in January 2025 committing the UK to an 81% reduction by 2035.

2.4. The Committee has given the government credit for their clean power plan, but its key message is that there is a need to reduce the price of electricity to encourage the uptake of electric vehicles and heat pumps in particular. The government is taking a multifaceted approach to this as electricity prices remain linked to gas. Market reform is planned to lower electricity costs by linking prices to cheaper renewable energy, which is less than half the cost.

2.5. This ratcheting up of the UK targets and increase in credible policies will help to close the gap on future targets and leads directly to local opportunities for Councils to accelerate the transition in their areas.

2.6. **Local Policy Context**

2.7. Prior to the adoption of the national 'net zero by 2050' target, Reading Borough Council had declared a climate emergency at its meeting in February 2019, committing to the more ambitious aim of a carbon neutral borough by 2030 subject to national policies. In November 2020, the Council subsequently endorsed the new Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2020-25 (prepared by the Reading Climate Change Partnership, of which the Council is a founding member) based on the 'net zero by 2030' ambition.

2.8. At the same time the Council adopted its own corporate Carbon Plan for the period 2020-25, including an interim target to reduce the Council's own emissions by 85% by 2025 on route to net zero by 2030.

2.9. The Council continues to lead by example, reducing emissions more rapidly than the borough as a whole. By working with partners across the public and private sector and building access to support and communication with the public the Council will continue to play a leadership role.

2.10. It is clear, that the transition will take some time to achieve and we need to look to 2030 as a policy milestone to a renewed and extended policy trajectory to achieve this ambitious goal for the borough. Our model focusses on 2040 with the ambition to achieve close to 90% reduction against the 2005 baseline, provided national policies enable this.

2.11. The new Climate Emergency Strategy 2025-2030, remains a five-year plan, but focusses on laying the foundations for a faster transition and strengthening partnerships, helping member organisations contribute effectively and implement their own strategies.

2.12. The new strategy was developed by the Reading Climate Change Partnership in association with 'Dialogue Matters', who won a stakeholder CIWM award for

stakeholder engagement for their work in Reading. The process consisted of a series of workshops, questionnaires and stages of consultation. The final version of the Strategy is presented in Appendix 1 alongside the Action Plan and is recommended for adoption by the Council.

2.13. **The impacts of Climate Change on the Borough**

2.14. The last 10 years have been the warmest globally since records began. Global average surface temperature in 2024 was recorded between 1.51-1.57°C above the pre-industrial average – the low end of this range being above the 1.5°C threshold to which the Paris Agreement seeks to limit the rise in global average temperature. At the time of writing, 2025 was considered likely to become one of the three warmest years on record globally.

2.15. 2025 was officially the warmest summer on record for the UK with a mean temperature of 16.1°C. July was warmer than normal and June was the warmest ever recorded in England, according to the Met Office.

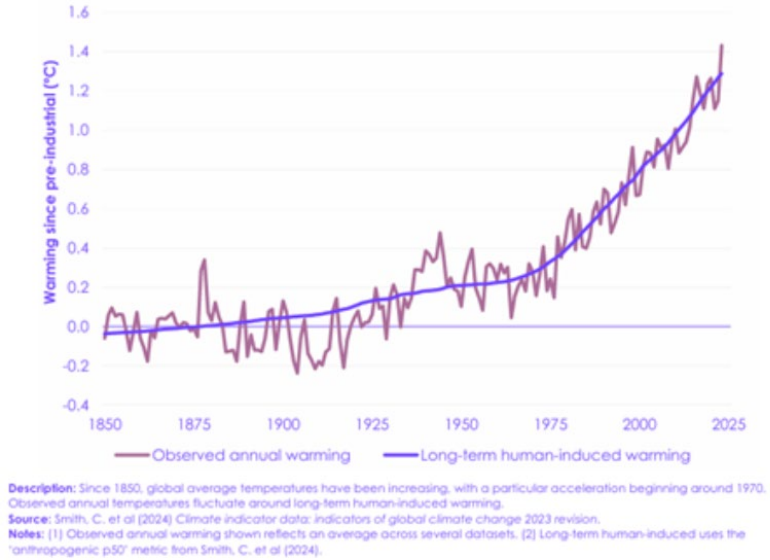
2.16. A tool for local impacts produced by the BBC and Met office shows that in Reading the maximum temperature between 1991 and 2019 was 35.7°C and by 2100 this could rise to 42.5°C if the world experiences 4°C of warming. (note this temperature record fell in 2022 when temperatures hit 36.4°C)

2.17. Warmer wetter winters are characteristic of the climatic changes we can expect in the UK. 2024/25 was the eighth wettest winter on record in the UK with eight of the ten warmest and wettest winters having occurred since the turn of the century.

2.18. These statistics are among many which illustrate the reality of global warming which is driving an increasing range of impacts, risks and costs at home and abroad including floods, heatwaves, storms and wildfires. The key risks facing the UK arise from warmer, wetter winters; hotter drier summers; and more extreme weather events. The warming trend will continue until 'net zero emissions' is reached and probably for some time beyond this due to the fact that some greenhouse gases remain in the atmosphere for decades. A 2021 study by UCL suggested that, by 2100, global GDP could be 37% lower when taking the effects of climate change on economic growth into account. It is well established that climate will have the greatest impacts on the most vulnerable in society as they are most exposed to these risks and have the least resources to adapt.

2.19. As a result there is a growing need for the Council, communities and partners to adapt to climate impacts. A Climate Change Adaptation Framework has been developed by the Council to integrate the increased risks from the changing climate into service planning.

Figure 1 - Global Average Temperature



3. Key Conclusions from the Annual Report 2024/25 on the Reading Climate Emergency Strategy (see Appendix 1)

3.1 The Annual Report has been prepared by the Reading Climate Change Partnership and is presented to SEPT Committee to meet the Partnership's commitment to transparent reporting on progress with Strategy implementation, and to ensure that it is widely available to the public. As such, the report describes activity by a range of partners who have committed to action within the Strategy.

3.2 The measure used to track progress towards the target of 'a net zero Reading by 2030' is a national (DESNZ) dataset for 'emissions within the scope of influence of local authorities', published annually. There is a lag in the national data collection exercise so the latest data, published in June 2025, relate to the calendar year 2023.

3.3 The 2023 data show a continued downward trajectory in emissions, building on the reductions made in 2022 which in turn had reverted to a downward trend after the pandemic in 2021:

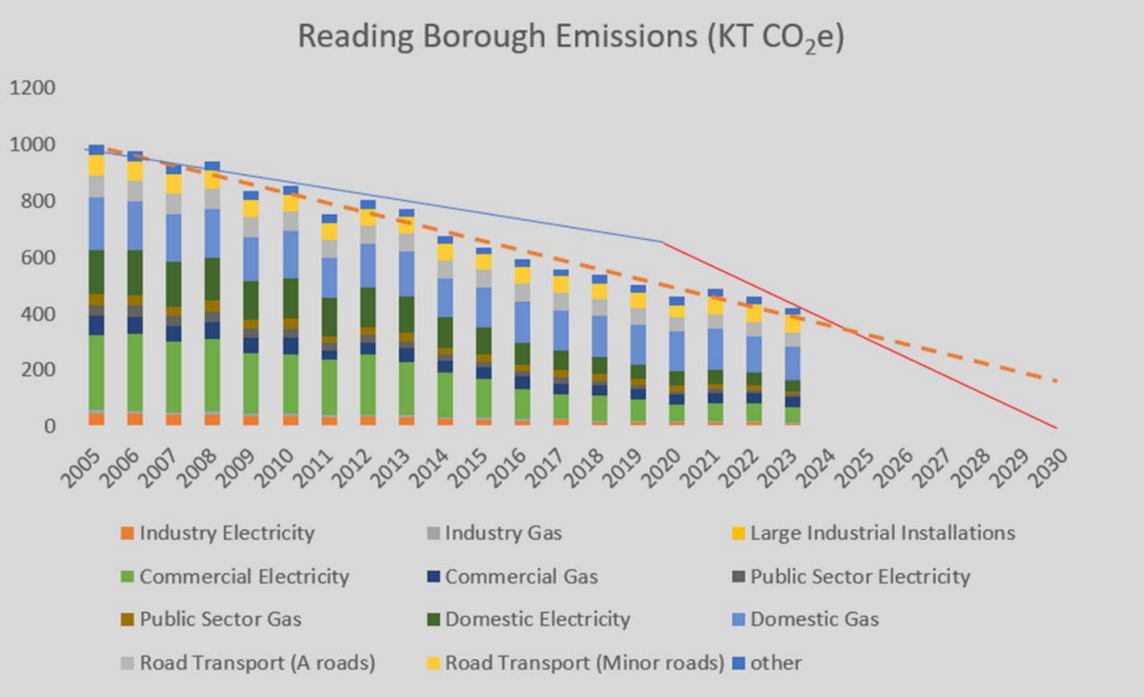
- Reading Borough's emissions of 427.3 kilo-tonnes of CO_2(e) reduced by a further 4% against the 2005 baseline year between 2022 and 2023.

- The emission trajectory for Reading has been generally downwards. This reflects the general pattern for the UK, largely attributable to the decarbonisation of the electricity grid over the 2005 to 2023 period. Reading's emissions have fallen by 57.3% since 2005, 10.1% more than the UK average for the same data and, once again the 12th largest reduction out of 379 UK local authority areas.

- Reading's per capita emissions remain the lowest in Berkshire and are also lower than the SE and UK average.

3.4 Reading's performance relative to other areas is therefore strong by this measure. Nationally and locally, emissions in 2023 were lower than the pandemic year of 2020, which until that point was the lowest that it had been in Reading. The 2023 data (published in June 2025) showed that since the year after the pandemic the long-term downward trend in emissions has resumed. (see figure 2).

Figure 2: Reductions in Reading Borough Emissions 2005-2023



3.5 The final performance report of the Climate Emergency Strategy celebrates the achievements which have been taken forward by partners in Reading over the Strategy period. These include several initiatives led by the Council:

3.6 **Zero Carbon Bus Travel:** Reading's award winning bus company is owned by the Council and delivers high quality bus services for its local and regional residents. In 2024 there was an increase of bus passengers to 19.5m which was an increase of 11% over the previous year. The bus depot has also undergone a major transformation with a fleet of 32 new electric buses due to begin service in autumn 2025. Plans are progressing for a major new solar array on the roof of the depot to accompany the array on the office roof. This is being delivered by Reading Community Energy Society and Reading Borough Council.

3.7 **Zero Carbon Depot:** In 2024, the Council completed the acquisition of its 13th and last electric waste vehicle in March 2024, effectively decarbonising 25% of its diesel emissions at a stroke. Expansion of solar through the installation of solar canopies at the depot site alongside heat pumps for the buildings and the electrification of the remainder of the vehicle fleets would see the depot come very close to net zero in its operations.

3.8 **Levelling Up – Decarbonising the Library, Civic Offices and Theatre:** Over the past year, projects have advanced on these three buildings. The Civic Offices had new heat pumps installed and these are now operational, completely removing all gas supplies. . Boreholes are now drilled at the Hexagon Theatre and ready to connect to new ground source heat pumps which will extract heat from the aquifer to heat the theatre. This will enable gas to be removed from this building also.

3.9 **A Green Events Code of Practice for Reading Festival and Reading Climate Festival:** Reading Festival took part in phase 2 of the GECoP pilot in 2025. The principles are *1. Act urgently on the climate crisis in line with scientific evidence and best practice. 2. Commit to knowledge sharing within the industry; we are in this together. 3. Transparent measurement and reporting of impacts annually. 4. Ambitious commitment to improve year-on-year, with a commitment to innovation, accepting that not all climate-positive decisions will provide cost-benefits in the short term. 5. Communicate actively for positive change, acknowledging our events have a unique power to amplify solutions-based messaging around the climate crisis.* Readings Climate Festival was successfully run once more in 2025 with over 1000 participants taking part in online and in person events across the town over the two week period.

3.10 **12 Years of Model Climate Conferences:** The children of Reading schools have participated in Reading's annual model international climate conference since 2013. The Conference Of the Parties allows the delegates of each team (country) to negotiate their targets and participate in the real issues of the day that are being experienced in the global conference taking place at the same time, this year in Brazil.

3.11 **Rewilding and Nature:** Reading has changed the way it manages the mowing regimes for roundabouts, verges and areas within public parks to improve biodiversity and extend corridors through the town. Additional areas of public space have been surveyed for extending carbon storage and biodiversity, and changes to management proposed. In addition, volunteers have planted new mini community orchards in Caversham, central Reading, and the restoration of the old orchard at Prospect Park. Another scheme that has been successful has been the introduction of sedum roofs to bus stops around Reading.

3.12 **'A' Rated for Climate**: in September 2025 the Council submitted its fourth annual return to the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) whose international reporting platform is

regarded as the 'gold standard' in climate reporting for local authorities. In 2025 CDP confirmed that Reading had retained its place on their 'A' list of cities taking bold climate action, one of only 122 cities across the world and 20 in the UK to achieve this level.

4. Key conclusions from the Council's annual greenhouse gas emissions report (see Appendix 2)

4.1 This report has been produced annually by the Council since 2008/09 to track progress with implementation of the Council's Carbon Plan and its publication meets our obligations to report transparently on corporate emissions in line with the relevant emissions reporting protocols. Although the Council's emissions represent only 1.2% of the total for the Borough, they assume greater significance due to the need for the Council to lead by example in setting and delivering ambitious carbon reduction targets.

4.2 The headline conclusion of the report is that the Council's carbon footprint for the 2024/25 business year has been cut by 73.4% since 2008-09, a decrease of 0.7% in emissions from 2023/24. This plateauing of emissions puts the Council significantly above its annual target level for meeting an 85% cut in corporate emissions by 2025/6. (See Figure 3.)

4.3 The Council, at the time of this report only has one year remaining (the current financial year) in which to achieve this target, meaning a reduction of 11.6% would be required. We would expect to see some improvement based on projects and our understanding of grid carbon projections but this would not be likely to achieve the target levels. It therefore looks more likely that a reduction of 75-80% would be achieved.

4.4 Despite a plateauing of emissions in recent years, there are a number of projects currently being delivered as detailed above which, going forward, have the potential to deliver additional cuts in emissions although they are not all scheduled to be complete until close to the end of, or beyond the Strategy period. Some projects which will be completed after the end of the strategy period are:

4.5 **Completion of the decarbonisation of the Hexagon campus:** Using ground source heat pumps to utilise water extracted from Reading's aquifer, to replace gas heating. This project will form part of the LUF project which will add a new performance space to the existing Hexagon. Expected in 2026/7

4.6 **Disposal of Central Library:** As part of the LUF programme, expected in 2026/7.

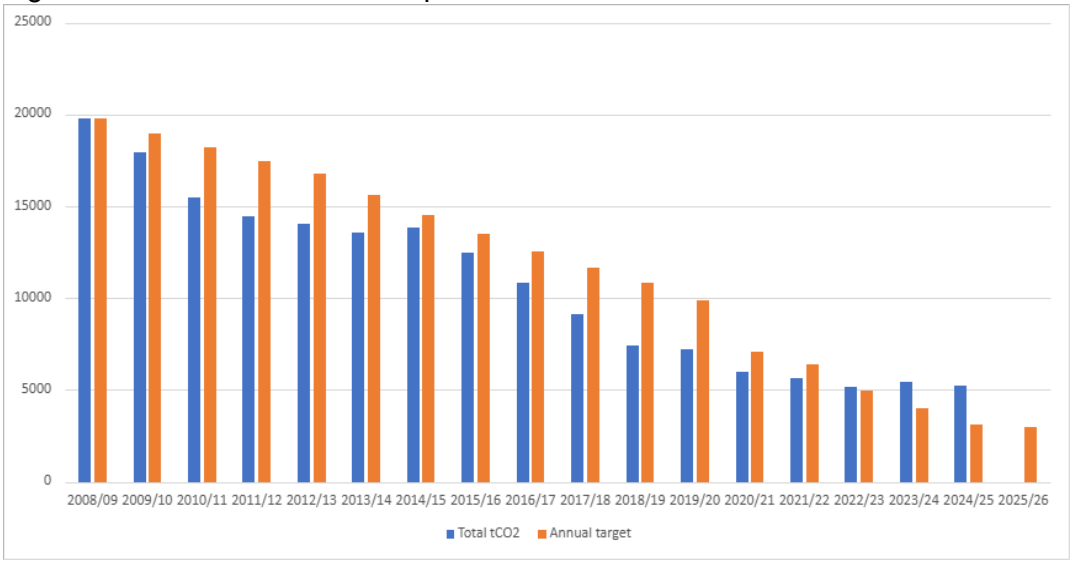
Further investment in solar panel installations: At the Council's depot, car parks and other sites.

4.7 These projects will make a significant contribution towards our targets, but further projects and investment will still be needed in order to meet net zero. Work is underway to identify these investment needs. A new carbon plan will come forward in 2025/6 which will include details of the pathway to net zero for Council emissions for the years 2025 to 2030.

4.8 The overall trajectory of Council emissions since 2008/09 is shown in figure 3, along with notional annual benchmarks aligning to the interim target of an 85% cut by 2025. These benchmarks were based on assumptions made in 2020, at the start of the current Carbon Plan period. The impact of different interventions can be seen in this document. Figure 3 shows that the recent reductions have fallen short of the trajectory set out. This reflects the fact that the Council has set very ambitious targets, and that, with many of the easier and lower cost carbon reduction measures having already been

taken, each remaining percentage point of emissions reduction is inevitably more challenging and emissions reductions are dependent on many factors, many of which are outside the Council's control.

Figure 3: Reductions in RBC corporate emissions 2008/09 to 2024/25



4.9 In addition to measuring our corporate GHG emissions as summarised in the figures above, we also measure and report on the gross emissions of the Council's 'wider influence', taking account of other factors outside our direct control but within the scope of our influence. This is explained further in Appendix 3.

4.10 The UK electricity carbon emissions intensity factor is prone to fluctuate from year to year as the generation of renewable energy, fuel mix consumed in UK power stations (and auto-generators) and the proportion of net imported electricity changes. The increase in emissions in RBC in 2023 was largely attributable to this factor increasing. In 2024 the carbon emissions intensity factor remained broadly similar to that of 2023.

4.11 The financial cost of energy provides a further incentive to reduce its use, particularly in the light of the current high prices and the volatility of wholesale markets. In this regard, it is estimated that the cumulative costs avoided by the Council from reduced energy consumption since 2008/09 are c.£34.9m (excluding standing charges and other contract charges) compared to if no action had been taken. In 2024/25 alone these avoided costs were estimated at £6.4m.

4.12 Reading Borough Council's absolute (gross) corporate GHG emissions for 2024/25 were 5,260.1 tCO_2, a reduction of 73.4% compared to the 2008/09 baseline. This represented a year-on-year decrease of 2.7% against 2023/24 (5,403.3 tCO_2) emissions, or 143 tCO2.

4.13 When renewably generated electricity, exported to the grid, or sold to third parties is netted off against this gross figure, to the sum of 325 tCO_2, this gives a net corporate carbon emissions figure of 4,935.3 tCO_2, 2.4% lower than 2023/24 emissions.

4.14 Reading Borough Council owns over 500 solar PV arrays and has shareholdings in a community renewable energy generation scheme in the borough operated by Reading Community Energy Society. In total these generated 1,636,118 kWh of electricity in 2024/25, of which over 414,737 kWh was deemed to have been exported to the National Grid. Twenty-three systems generated and self-supplied 194,474 kWh to RBC sites, whilst the remaining arrays generated and supplied 986,810 kWh to schools, housing

tenants and other parties in 2023/24. The renewably generated electricity leads to 325 tCO_2 carbon emissions savings, which can be 'netted off' against the RBC gross emissions (excluding those 'self-supplied').

4.15 The Council produced the equivalent of 8.25% of its total energy consumed in buildings from renewable sources in 2024/25. This represents 16.1% of its electricity consumption. While this is some way short of the ambitious Carbon Plan target of 50% of our energy needs to be met from renewables by 2025, as energy and fossil fuel use continues to come down, and as further capital investment in renewables comes on stream, the gap should begin to close.

4.16 Significantly, the Carbon Plan includes a secondary target to reduce the Council's fossil fuel use to 50% of its 2008/09 level by 2025 through removal of fossil fuel heating and electrification of vehicles. The council used 345,459 litres of fuel/oil, and 10,464 MWh of natural gas in 2024/25. The Carbon Plan includes a target to reduce this to half of this level by 2025 through removal of fossil fuel heating and electrification of vehicles. This target has now been achieved two years early – the Council's gas use is currently 60.7% lower than 2008/09 and oil/fuel is 64.1% lower than 2008/09.

5. Contribution to strategic aims

5.1 The Council's efforts to respond to climate strategies and reduce greenhouse gas emissions both for its own operations and for the wider borough are summarised in this report and support the following Corporate Plan priorities:

The strategy's vision is for a *"happier, healthier, climate friendly and climate resilient town' that has chosen to respond to climate change by creating a stronger, more connected community and better quality of life for all."*

5.2 **The Strategy meets the Council Plan Objectives as follows:**

Promote more equal communities in Reading
Various actions in the Climate Strategy and Carbon Plan are designed to help reduce energy use and thus reduce the exposure of households and businesses to high energy bills, which have been a major source of concern as energy prices have escalated.

Secure Reading's economic and cultural success
Policies within the strategy seek to protect businesses and householders from suffering financial loss and towards building on the economic benefits of a sustainable and climate resilient economy of the future.

Deliver a sustainable and healthy environment and reduce our carbon footprint. The Policy has a strong focus on the health and environmental benefits of climate action and has strong ambitious targets for reducing our carbon footprint at its heart.

Safeguard and support the health and wellbeing of Reading's adults and children. The policy seeks to help to protect Readings adults and children from the impacts of climate change as well as creating opportunities for engagement, new skills and a sustainable future for everyone.

Ensure Reading Borough Council is fit for the future. A secure and sustainable future for the borough depends significantly on how well the town adapts to the impacts, challenges and opportunities of climate change. This includes how well it protects its natural capital; how sustainable its organisations and population are; and how they take

advantage of the low carbon economy. The policy introduces many projects and programmes which will aim to build a stronger more resilient future for Reading.

5.3 **TEAM Reading:** The corporate Carbon Plan and Climate Emergency Strategy also contribute to all of the TEAM Reading values, including working **T**ogether across departments and with partners, working **E**fficiently in our use of natural resources, being **A**mbitious in our climate action and **M**aking a difference to our community.

6. Environmental and Climate Implications

6.1 The Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2020-25, the new Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2025-2030 and the Council's Carbon Plan for 2020-25 align with this goal, setting more ambitious targets for reducing emissions compared to the Council's previous plans. The programmes for improvement to nature and wider environmental impact will be positively impacted by this policy. The changes within these policies seek to improve all the climate implications categories set out in the Climate Implications Assessment meaning that the proposal will have a net Positive impact.

7. Community Engagement

7.1 Section 138 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 places a duty on local authorities to involve local representatives when carrying out "any of its functions" by providing information, consulting or "involving in another way".

7.2 The Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2025 to 2030 was developed through an extensive programme of community engagement. Winning an award for its work on Climate Engagement, its facilitator 'Dialogue Matters' guided the process, including 3 inclusive engagement workshops and a stakeholder review process. This led to publication of an initial draft of the strategy for a period of six weeks for public consultation on the Councils 'Go Vocal' platform before a final draft version was posted for a seven week period of consultation on the same platform. The final version is submitted for adoption to this committee.

7.3 While there is no requirement to consult on the Annual Reports which are the subject of this report, they will be made public via the Reading Climate Action Network website and the Council's website.

7.4 This document will undergo further graphics and design including more accessible and shortened versions.

8. Equality Implications

8.1. An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required for this report, although individual projects and programmes referred to within the Reading Climate Emergency Strategy may require this in due course.

9. Other Relevant Considerations

9.1. Consideration has been given to other issues of relevance to this report, the key one being risk management implications. 'Failure to meet net zero carbon commitments' and 'Failure to adapt to the risks of climate change' in relation to both Borough emissions and the Council's own operations, are included as high

level risks in the Council's Strategic Risk Register, and the likelihood and impact of this risk is assessed on an ongoing basis.

10. Legal Implications

10.1. There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. Local Authorities do not have a statutory duty to take general action on climate change or net zero, albeit specific programmes within the strategy may relate to a series of more specific powers and statute, with some examples below.

10.2. Modifications to policies, procedures and processes may be made under the General Power of Competence set out in the Localism Act 2011 and/or other statutory powers as detailed below. It is anticipated that a range of actions could also be delivered under a number of other statutory powers such as the those which fall under the Climate Change Act, the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards Regulations, the Energy Performance in Buildings Regulations, the Heat Network Regulations, the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, the Clean Air Act, the Environmental Protection Act and other local authority powers. It is also anticipated that projects and programmes will be required to comply with the Council's Standing Orders including the Contract Procedure Rules as set out under in the Council's constitution.

11. Financial Implications

11.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report although Appendix 3 quantifies the cumulative and annual costs avoided as a result of efforts to reduce energy use and thus carbon emissions within the Council's estate and operations, under the auspices of the corporate Carbon Plan. This suggests that the cumulative costs avoided by the Council from reduced energy consumption since 2008/09 are c£34.9 million (excluding standing charges and other contract charges) compared to if no action had been taken. In 2024/25 alone these avoided costs were estimated at c£6.4m million. With energy prices still at a high level, the value at stake from reducing our energy consumption in line with Carbon Plan aspirations is likely to increase in future years. The report also highlights the need for the Council to make further investment to achieve its ultimate target of net zero by 2030. Work is underway to quantify these investment needs and will be taken forward through the normal budget setting process.

12. Timetable for Implementation

12.1. 19th November – Adoption of Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2025-2030 by the Council.

12.2. Years 2025 to 2030 inclusive. Implementation of policy.

13. Background Papers

13.1 **Climate change - Reading Borough Council (declaration and other information)**

13.2 **The Seventh Carbon Budget - Climate Change Committee**

14. Appendices

- Appendix 1. Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2025-2030
- Appendix 2. Reading Climate Emergency Action Plan 2025-2030
- Appendix 3. RCCP Annual Report 2025
- Appendix 4. RBC GHG Report 2024/5 (Reading Borough Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions)