



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

Climate emergency update
Sustainable Energy & Air Quality Team

Summary: What's happening in your area?



Public Sector Decarbonisation

- Civic Hall and City Museum will receive LED lighting, radiator & BMS improvements, and will be connected to the PIPES network.
- Central Library and Gallery will receive radiator & BMS improvements and will be connected to the PIPES network.
- Town Hall will receive LED lighting, radiator & BMS improvements, double glazed windows and will be connected to the PIPES network.
- Tribeca House will receive LED lighting and solar panels.
- Rosebank Primary School will receive an air source heat pump and solar panels.

Improving the energy efficiency of housing

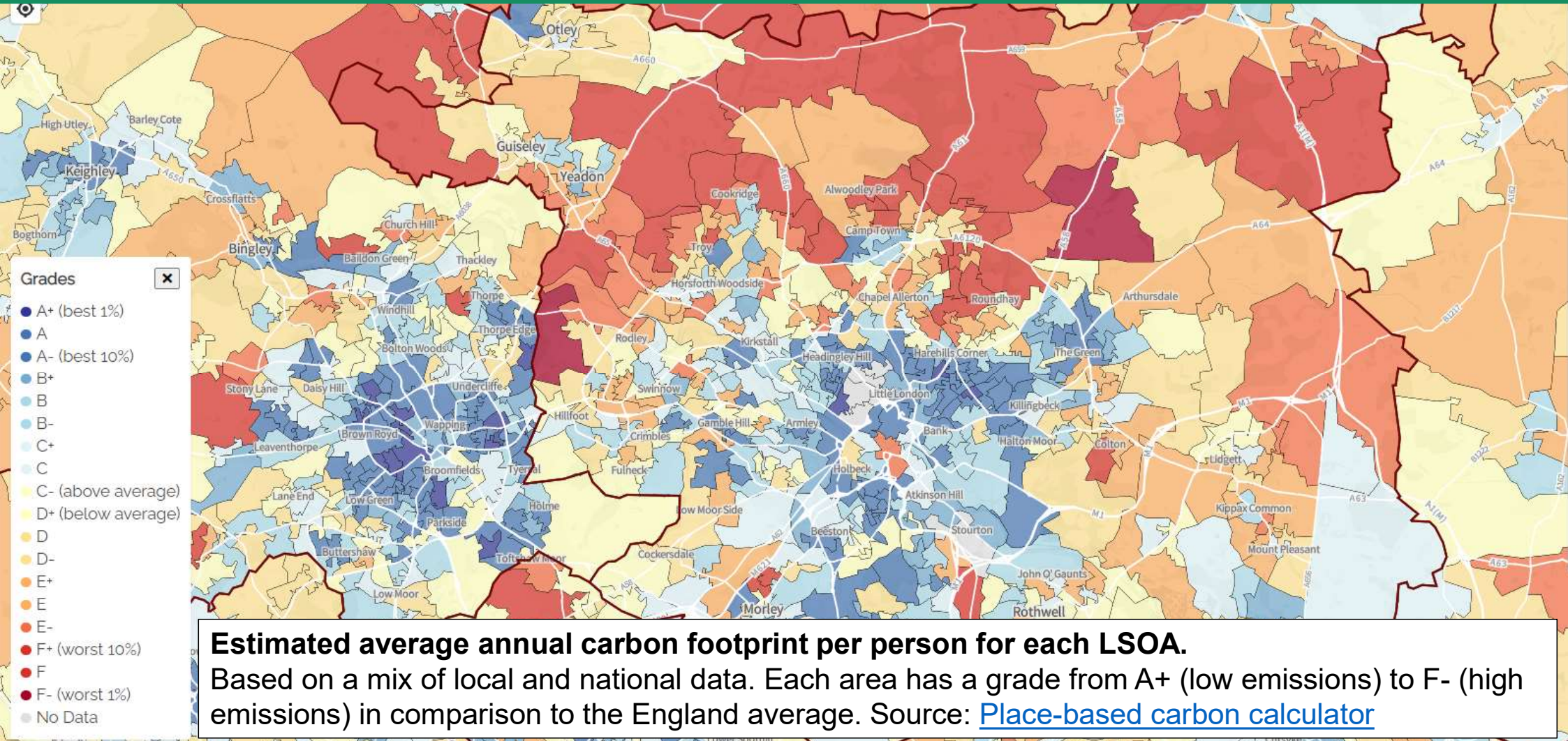
- Homeowners on low incomes are still eligible to receive free solar panels and/or insulation if they live in an inefficient home (EPC D or lower) and have a household income of £30,000 or less.
- Landlords with inefficient homes (EPC D or lower) can receive subsidies of two-thirds of the cost of installing solar panels and/or insulation (up to £5,000) if the property's tenants earn less than £30,000.

Electric vehicle trials

- Multiple businesses/charities in your area have already completed their trial of an electric van.
- Three rapid EVCPs have or will soon be installed at Burley Road Car Park (LL&W), Kirkstall Leisure Centre and Kirkstall Road Car Park (LL&W) thanks to a joint LCC/WYCA scheme in partnership with ENGIE.

Please note: The above summarises recent work led by SEAQ team. There are many other projects led by other council teams (e.g. Housing, Parks and Countryside) making a positive difference across the city.

Summary: Carbon emissions for your area



Air quality update



- Leeds' air quality at key points is now significantly below legal limits.
- The aims of the CAZ have been met early, without a single vehicle being charged. Businesses have upgraded to less polluting vehicles faster than expected as a result of the Clean Air Zone and other initiatives.
- A joint review between council, government and independent experts concluded that it is not likely to exceed legal limits for air pollution at key points ever again—even if traffic increased 5% beyond pre-pandemic levels.
- In July, Executive Board has approved a new Air Quality Strategy with an aim of meeting new, stricter air pollution targets based on WHO guidelines.
- Our strategy includes actions to tackle air pollution from transport, home, industry and agriculture.
- We will also work with the health and care sector to ensure that the most vulnerable residents understand how best to protect themselves from pollutants.



Summary: How you can support



1. Help promote free solar PV/insulation offer before funding runs out

Low income homeowners (and landlords with low income tenants) could be eligible for FREE solar panels and/or insulation. Hundreds are already benefiting, but we still have funding for another 100.

2. Help promote free electric bike trials scheme

Leeds residents can borrow an electric bike for up to a month if they make 3 regular journeys under 10mi each week. Scheme ends after March.

3. Help promote support for tree planting to large landowners/farmers

Landowners and farmers in Leeds can receive support and expert advice from the White Rose Forest partnership for tree planting schemes. Can you help us to make them aware?

4. Sign up for the Leeds Climate newsletter to find out what is happening in Leeds every month

We can't add recipients without their consent so please let us know if you'd like to subscribe.

5. Pilot Community Climate Action Training with Leeds DEC

Leeds DEC is piloting place-based Community Climate Action Training in Seacroft early next year. Would your area be interested in training?

Community climate action training



- Leeds DEC is piloting place-based Community Climate Action Training in Seacroft early next year. Would you area be interested in training?
- Training will bring together representatives from council, third sector, residents and local climate groups
- The projects aims -
 - To improve the confidence of people from all sectors by providing an overview of climate change and exploring how individual and collective local action can have a positive impact.
 - Bring people together from different sectors, to utilise local knowledge, power, infrastructure and passion in order to identify opportunities for positive action across the ward.
- Leeds Development Education Centre has a range of resources to help schools teach about climate change www.leedsdec.org.uk





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Follow us on Twitter: @LeedsCC_CEAQ
Email us at: climate.emergency@leeds.gov.uk



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End of presentation. Start of Appendix slides.

Citywide emissions

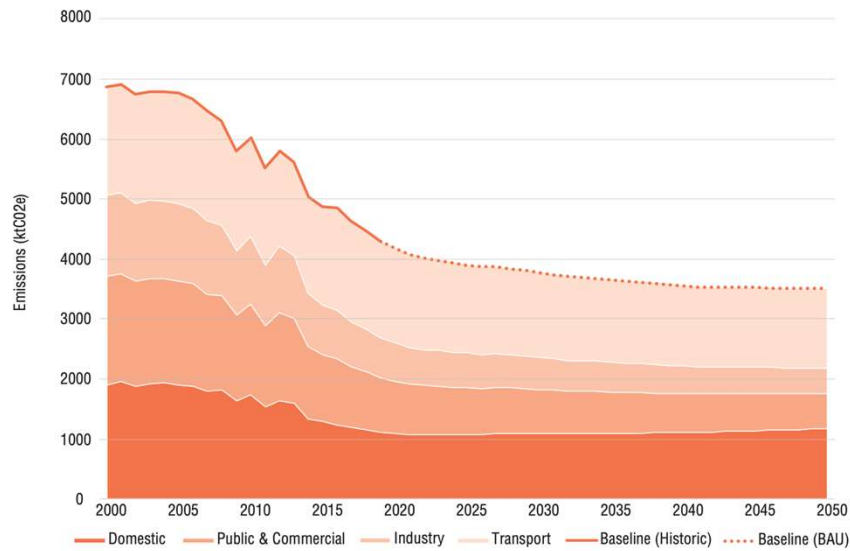


Figure 1: Leeds' Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions (2000-2050)

Source: Leeds Climate Commission

Note: Scope 3 emissions not included in charts

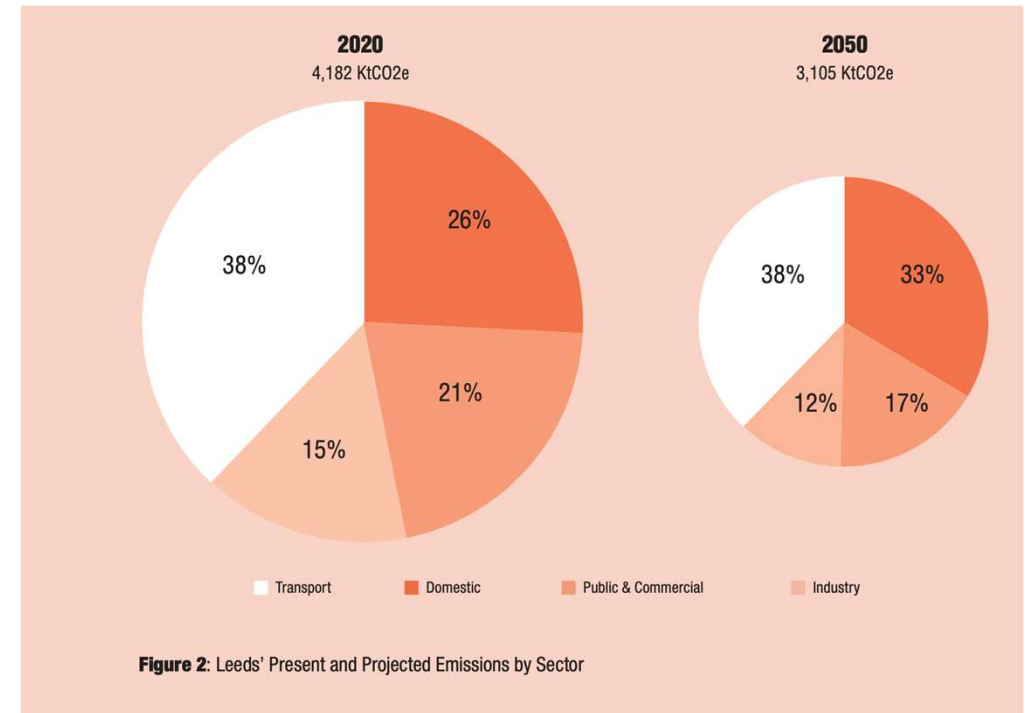


Figure 2: Leeds' Present and Projected Emissions by Sector

Citywide key aims



Becoming a carbon neutral city means working towards the following aims as quickly as possible—but more support from business, communities and national policy is needed:

1. Make buildings and technologies more energy efficient;
2. Phase out non-renewable heat and power sources in a resilient way;
3. Transition towards cleaner travel modes and technologies;
4. Pivot towards a more circular economy;
5. Clean industrial processes;
6. Protect, restore, and create green and blue spaces;
7. Offset or capture excess carbon emissions;

Whilst working towards stopping the worst impacts of climate change, Leeds should also ensure that the city is prepared and adapted for already ‘baked in’ effects of climate change.

Climate action plan: Buildings summary



- **Around half of the city's carbon footprint comes from heating and powering our buildings, particularly from those that are poorly insulated or heated by oil/gas.**
- LCC is retrofitting existing council-owned buildings by installing insulation, heat pumps, solar panels and LED lighting. We've committed to invest £100 million to improve council housing by 2025.
- We're also installing £25 million of green upgrades to install renewables and efficiency upgrades on public buildings and we're looking at ways to secure private investment to fund additional upgrades in publicly owned buildings.
- Our energy efficiency standards for new developments push sustainability and efficiency and our planning policy is currently being reviewed.
- However, national policy currently limits local authority powers and still allows developers to build inefficient buildings.



THE LEEDS LOCAL PLAN UPDATE SCOPING CONSULTATION 2021

YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD • YOUR CITY • YOUR PLANET



Topic Area	Policy Areas Covered
Carbon Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole life carbon costs for buildings • Reducing carbon emissions from buildings • Sustainable construction • Resilience to Heat • Renewable energy generation • Heat networks • Energy storage
Flood Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood risk • Functional floodplain • Sustainable Drainage Systems
Green Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Green Infrastructure • Trees • Green space • Biodiversity • Nature Conservation • Local Food Production
Place-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Place-making (incl. 20- Minute Neighbourhoods) • Local Place-making
Sustainable Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Speed 2 • Leeds City Station • Mass Transit • Leeds Bradford Airport • Digital Infrastructure



The Consultation Outcomes

- Material available at www.leeds.gov.uk/lpu
- Innovative on-line techniques used (narrated videos and webinars)
- Considerable reach (including through social media)
- Specific groups (older/younger) and areas (inner city) targeted
- Consultation with Climate Commission as well as Chamber and developers
- Report to DPP November



Next Steps

- Set options for policy development along lines of:
 - A: High impact on cutting carbon but challenging
 - B: Medium impact but deliverable
 - C: Current approach
- Evidence gathering and fit policy outcomes with Carbon Budget
- Continue to talk and engage with those who responded
- Continue to reach those who didn't
- Consult draft policies Spring 2022

Buildings and energy

- Improving the energy efficiency of buildings will save energy users money, help tackle fuel poverty and minimise cold-related illnesses.
- **However, councils do not have the powers or the resources to unilaterally retrofit existing privately owned buildings to the efficiency standard necessary to achieve net zero.**
- The UK's energy supply is getting greener every year and is the biggest market for offshore wind but renewables aren't expected account for 100% by 2030.
- Leeds City Council is committed to increasing the renewable energy supply by: installing solar panels on publicly-owned buildings and private buildings where resources allow; opening Leeds' first solar farm; entering a PPA for the council's own energy demand; expanding the low-carbon district heating network.

Going green

Only ten years ago, more than half of the UK's electricity came from coal. Now coal-free days are increasing and renewables account for more than 30 per cent of total supply

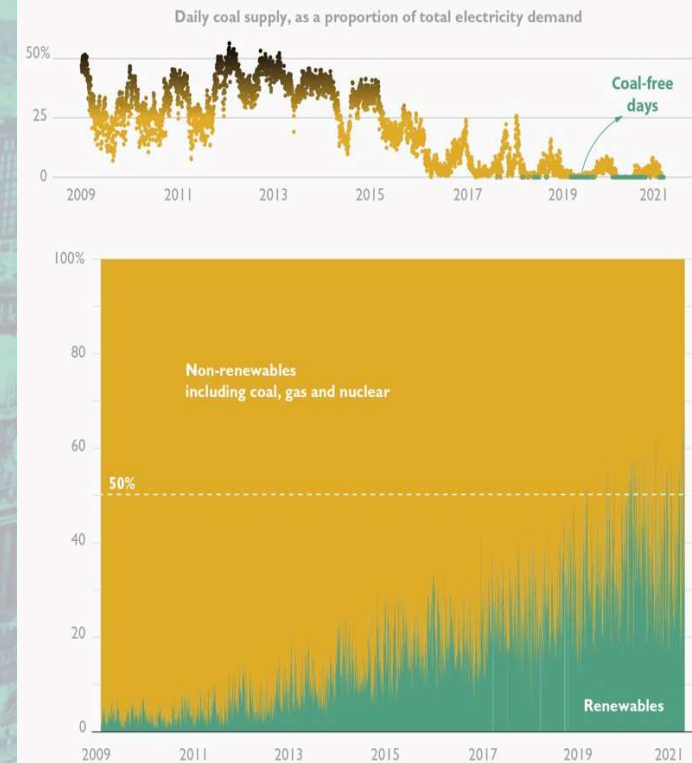


Chart: The Times and the Sunday Times • Source: Drax Electric Insights

Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme



- The council has secured £25.3 million from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme for green upgrades.
- We're upgrading around 40 public buildings that will cut Leeds' annual carbon footprint by c. 4,000 tonnes.
- This scheme has helped to directly create 27 skilled green jobs in Leeds in 2021, and hundreds more jobs will be indirectly supported.



What this means for your area:

- Civic Hall and City Museum will receive LED lighting, radiator & BMS improvements, and will be connected to the PIPES network.
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Funded solar and insulation for homeowners



- Low income homeowners and landlords with low income tenants can still apply for free (homeowners) or subsidised (landlords) solar panels and cavity or loft insulation.
- More than 150 households have already benefited. There is still time to apply, but act fast!
- As well as cutting carbon, the upgrades will cut energy bills and could increase property value.

This scheme could benefit your area:

- Property owners should apply if the total income of inhabitants (tenants or household) earns under £30,000 or receive certain benefits.
- Better Homes Yorkshire will then need to confirm that properties are both eligible (EPC rating D or below) and of suitable construction.
- www.betterhomesyorkshire.co.uk/leeds or call 08005 971500 to apply.



Climate action plan: Transport summary



- **More than a third of the city's carbon footprint comes from travelling for work and leisure** mostly from diesel and petrol cars. Frequent flyers have very large carbon footprints from international flights, however are only a minority of Leeds residents.
- We've set targets (in line with regional strategies) to increase uptake of cycling, rail and bus journeys and we're installing £200m infrastructure to make public transport more attractive and active travel more accessible.
- We've given free parking, free vehicle trials and we're installing public charge points to accelerate the transition to zero emission vehicles. We've given £7m to help local businesses switch to cleaner vehicles.
- Our fleet has more zero emission vehicles than any UK local authority already and we're purchasing our first electric refuse vehicles next year. LCC will also phase out staff payments for diesel and petrol miles.
- Leeds is working with WYCA to secure and deliver a modern mass transit system for Leeds and West Yorkshire.
- However, technological development is still needed to decarbonise larger vehicles such as freight, shipping and aviation. More rail investment is needed to phase out diesel trains.



Public transport



City centre



Active travel




Behavioural change

WALK IT. RIDE IT.




CYCLING



"The trick is to make cycling the easy option every morning"

[Read Charlotte's story](#)


CYCLING



"For me, the biggest benefit is that I feel I'm doing myself good"

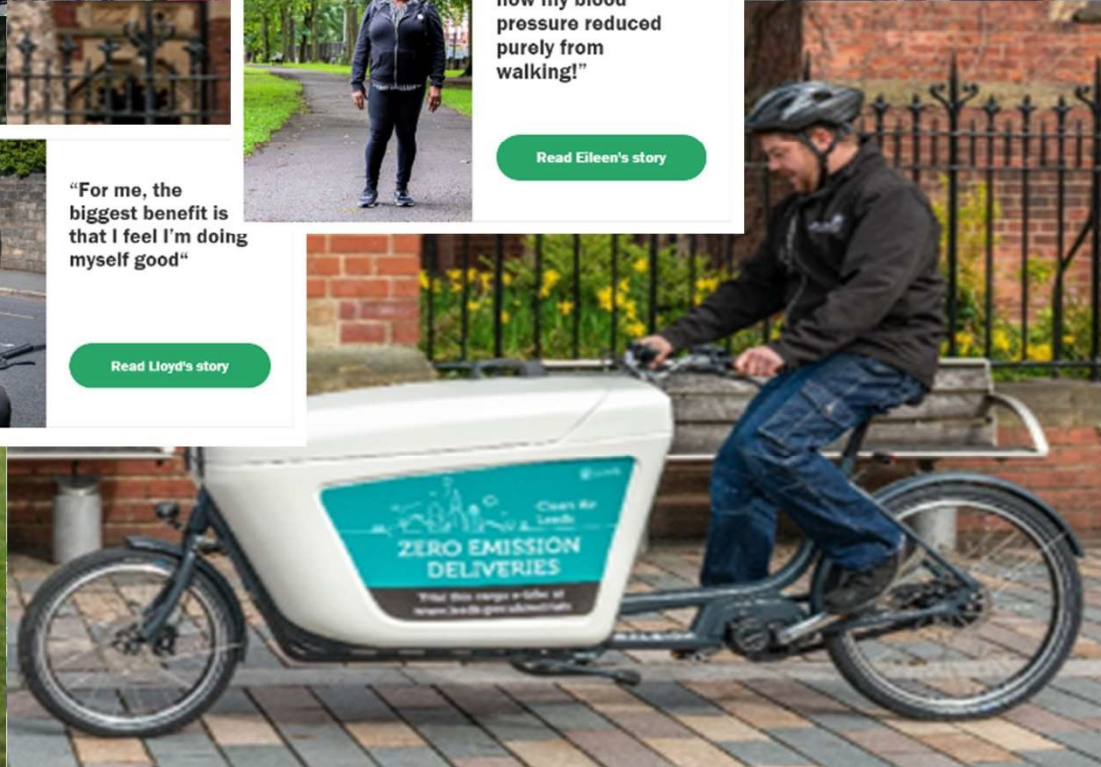
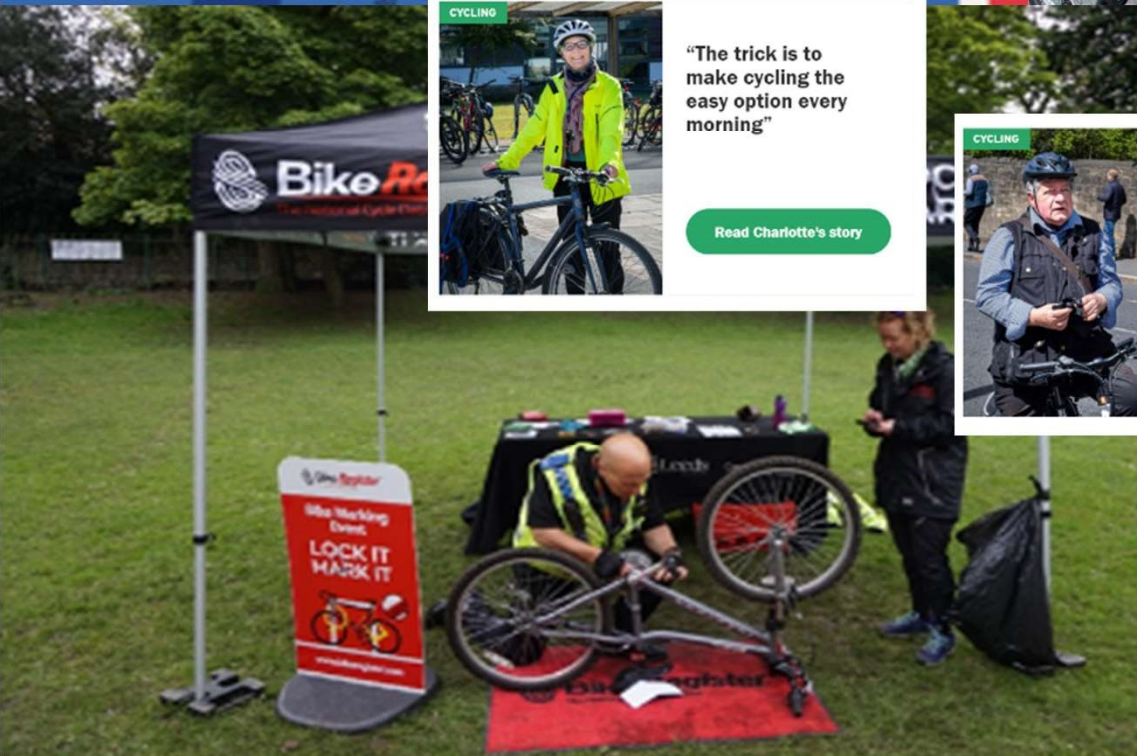
[Read Lloyd's story](#)

WALKING



"I was amazed at how my blood pressure reduced purely from walking!"

[Read Eileen's story](#)



Transport strategy & action plan update

Consultation

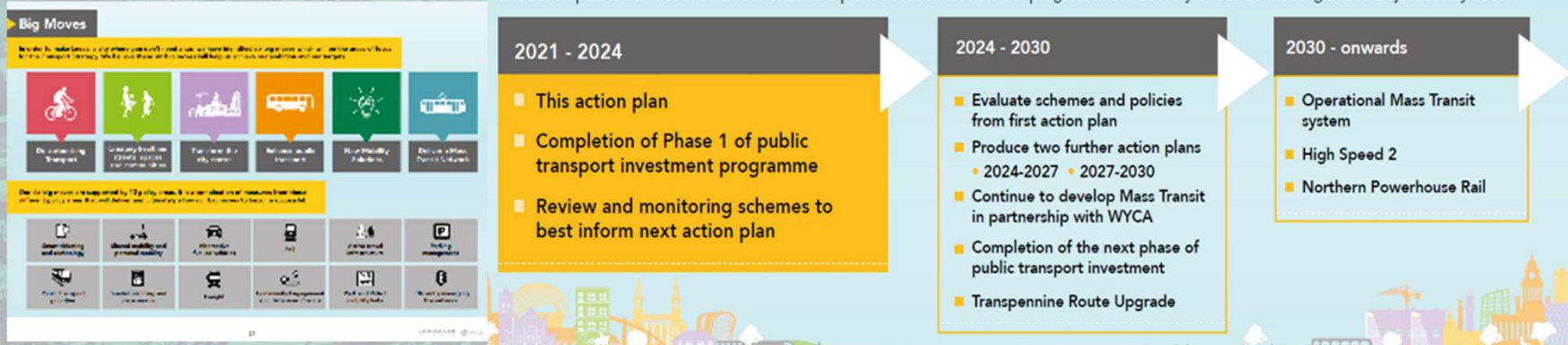
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71% considered the targets to be ambitious or very ambitious.

Consultation

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Timeline

This action plan is the first in a number of actions plans which will review our progress in the delivery of our Connecting Leeds Objectives by 2030.



Electric vehicle trials

- Around 150 businesses, charities and organisations in West Yorkshire have trialled an electric vehicle free of charge for up to two-months since January 2020.
- The scheme has directly replaced 130,000+ diesel/petrol miles with zero emissions and has inspired half of participating organisations to consider switching to electric vehicles.
- Individuals can also take part in our e-bike trial scheme to find out whether an e-bike could conveniently and enjoyable replace some of their journeys by car.
- The number of plug-in vehicles in Leeds has doubled over the last 12 months.

What this means for your area:

- Multiple businesses/charities in your area have already completed their trial of an electric van.
- Two rapid EVCPs have or will soon be installed at Burley Road Car Park (LL&W), Kirkstall Road Car Park (LL&W) thanks to a joint LCC/WYCA scheme in partnership with ENGIE.



Climate action plan: Wildlife summary



- **The UK's biodiversity is under threat, in large part due to habitat destruction. Our greenest, wildest spaces help us capture atmospheric carbon. Protecting wildlife can help us to reach net-zero.**
- We've committed to working with communities, businesses and landowners to practically double the city's tree canopy cover from 17% to 33% by 2050 as a contribution to the White Rose Forest. Last year we planted 200,000 trees on council land.
- We're also planting more wildflower meadows and using relaxed mowing where possible to support pollinating insects. We're introducing new signs explain what these are, funded by sponsors.
- As part of our Flood Alleviation Scheme, we're delivering ambitious natural flood management measures. FAS has already planted 300,000 trees in the River Aire Catchment to reduce the risk of flooding.



New signage for wildlife friendly schemes



- SEAQ has worked with Parks and Countryside and Communications to develop new signage and make relaxed mowing more visible.
- Parks and Countryside are leading on securing sponsorship and installing signs.
- Similar signs will also be installed in wildflower areas that were formally planted with floral bedding
- Signs are to be installed along the main primary networks.
- Local businesses will be approached to work in partnership with Parks and Countryside.



Help us grow the White Rose Forest



- We've committed to working with communities, businesses and landowners to increase the city's tree canopy cover from 17% to 33% and ensure that no resident lives more than 500m from green space by 2050.
- Woodland and green space captures carbon, provides habitat for wildlife, is linked to improved health and wellbeing, reduces flood risk.
- LCC will plant new trees on council-owned land every year as part of our 'Woodland Creation Scheme'. Last year we planted 200,000 trees on council land.
- We'll support private landowners access funding and advice to help them plant trees on their land and grow the WRF.
- **The White Rose Forest will soon launch its landowner engagement work. We'll need your help to make them aware of the opportunity and support available.**



Climate action plan: Food and Waste

- **The average household in Leeds wastes 200kg of food each year and as a city we throw away 600,000 tonnes of other stuff.** We need to reduce the amount we waste, find ways to shop and eat sustainably and move towards a more circular economy.
- Leeds City Council has committed to cut the carbon footprint of our average meal served or sold by the council in half by 2030. We'll do this by sourcing more food from Yorkshire and surrounding regions, ending air-freighted food imports, making our menus tastier but greener, and cutting kitchen emissions.
- We've virtually eliminated household waste going to landfill. Instead, non-recyclable waste that can't be recycled is used to power our flagship district heating network. This is now providing affordable, low-carbon heat to almost 2,000 homes, businesses and public buildings—cutting emissions from landfill and heating.
- Businesses, waste industry and local organisations came together to trial a new approach to recycling on-the-go in 2018. Our Leeds By Example bins have collected and recycled over 600,000 coffee cups, 55,000 plastic bottles, and 65,000 cans across 124 recycling points. We've recently introduced new ones in town centres.
- We've supported 3rd sector and community organisations introduce innovative recycling schemes for school uniforms, laptops and more.





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