

Contact:

See individual reports

Members' briefing pack

Wednesday, 24 December 2025

Items in this briefing pack:

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Environment and Sustainability Committee

The following 'to note' reports fall under the remit of the Environment and Sustainability Committee.

1.	Surrey Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy (Surrey Adapt)	1 - 8
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Committee is asked to note Surrey County Council's Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy.

2.	Green Horizon Programme Q1&Q2 updates	9 - 18
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Committee is asked to note the progress update for Q1 and Q2 against the delivery targets set out under the Green Horizon Programme.

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Committee Report Checklist

Please submit the completed checklists with your report. If final draft report does not include all the information/sign offs required, your item will be delayed until the next meeting cycle.

Stage 1

Report checklist – responsibility of report owner

ITEM	Yes / No	Date
Councillor engagement / input from Chair prior to briefing	No	23-10-2025
Commissioner engagement (if report focused on issues of concern to Commissioners such as Finance, Assets etc)	No	23-10-2025
Relevant Group Head review	Yes	23-10-2025
MAT+ review (to have been circulated at least 5 working days before Stage 2)	Yes	23-10-2025
This item is on the Forward Plan for the relevant committee	Yes	
	Reviewed by	
Finance comments	ASood	24-10-2025
Risk comments	N/A	N/A
Legal comments	LH	05/12/25
HR comments (if applicable)	N/A	N/A

For reports with material financial or legal implications the author should engage with the respective teams at the outset and receive input to their reports prior to asking for MO or s151 comments.

Do not forward to stage 2 unless all the above have been completed.

Stage 2

Report checklist – responsibility of report owner

ITEM	Completed by	Date
Monitoring Officer commentary – at least 5 working days before MAT	L Heron	05/12/25
S151 Officer commentary – at least 5 working days before MAT	Terry Collier	13-11-2025
Confirm final report cleared by MAT		

Environment and Sustainability Committee

8th January 2026

Title	Surrey Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy (Surrey Adapt)
Purpose of the report	To note (Briefing pack only)
Report Author	<i>Tim Snook, Sustainability and Flood Risk Officer</i>
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Exempt	No
Exemption Reason	N/A
Corporate Priority	Community Resilience Environment
Recommendations	Committee is asked to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Formally note Surrey County Council's "Surrey's Climate Change and Adaptation Strategy"
Reason for Recommendation	The Committee is asked to formally note Surrey County Council's Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy and its relevance to Spelthorne Borough. This will ensure Members are aware of the identified climate risks and the importance of embedding adaptation planning within future governance and service delivery arrangements arising from local government reorganisation.

1. Executive summary of the report

What is the situation	Why we want to do something
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surrey County Council published their Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy in 2024.• The Council has been asked to support this strategy by formally noting the strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This strategy is in keeping with the Council's own climate change commitments in declaring a climate emergency.• The strategy enables recognition of the impacts that irreversible climate change will have on residents beyond the end of the Council's political control in 2027.

This is what we want to do about it	These are the next steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To formally note the strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note this strategy and consider the need for climate change adaptation.

2. Key Issues

2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Councillors about Surrey County Council's Surrey Adapt – Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy (**Appendix A**), and to highlight the implications of this work for Spelthorne. The report seeks to ensure that Councillors recognise both the growing risks of climate change and the importance of preparing locally to adapt to these changes.

2.2 In 2024, Surrey County Council adopted its first dedicated Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy, known as Surrey Adapt. This strategy sets out a clear and structured response to the increasing risks associated with climate change across the county. It identifies the main climate hazards, assesses their likely impacts on people, infrastructure, natural systems and local services, and proposes actions to build resilience in both the short and long term.

2.3 The strategy takes a risk-based approach to adaptation. Rather than proposing a single set of solutions. It encourages each district and Borough to assess its specific vulnerabilities and to take proportionate and locally relevant action. It also recognises the need for collaboration across the county, with an emphasis on partnership working between local authorities, the Environment Agency, health bodies, infrastructure providers, and communities themselves.

2.4 Surrey Adapt identifies a number of key challenges that are expected to worsen as the climate continues to change. These include increased flooding from rivers and surface water, more frequent and intense heatwaves, drought pressures affecting water supply and green spaces, and the growing risk of storm damage to infrastructure and property. It calls for stronger integration of adaptation planning into local decision-making, land use planning, and community resilience programmes.

2.5 As the Borough lies in a low-lying area alongside the River Thames, these challenges are already very real. The Borough has experienced a number of significant flood events and remains one of the most at-risk areas in Surrey for flooding. Rising temperatures and heatwaves also have growing implications for public health, local businesses, and the Borough's natural environment. The Council's services, housing stock, and infrastructure will need to adapt to these pressures over the coming decades.

2.6 The ongoing reorganisation of local government provides both a challenge and an opportunity. It will be essential that climate adaptation and resilience are embedded within the design, governance, and priorities of any new unitary authority. Building resilience into the foundations of new structures will help ensure that the authority can deliver sustainable, efficient, and equitable services in the face of a changing climate.

2.7 By noting this report and its findings, members acknowledge the significant local and regional risks posed by climate change and the need to ensure that adaptation planning remains central to the strategic goals and operations of any future authority.

3. Options appraisal and proposal

3.1 It is proposed that the Council formally notes Surrey County Council's Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy.

4. Risk implications

4.1 Although there are no direct risks arising from noting this report, climate change presents strategic and reputational risks that the Council will need to continue monitoring.

4.2 Strategic Risk

Failure to recognise and plan for the impacts of climate change could undermine the delivery of corporate priorities and long-term service objectives.

Mitigation: The Council will continue to align its strategic planning with Surrey County Council's Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy and integrate climate considerations into future corporate and service-level objectives.

4.3 Reputational Risk

Public awareness and expectations around climate action continue to rise. Failure to engage with adaptation planning could affect the Council's reputation as a responsible authority.

Mitigation: By noting Surrey County Council's strategy and recognising the importance of adaptation, the Council demonstrates a proactive commitment to sustainability and responsible governance.

5. Financial implications

5.1 At this stage, the act of noting the Surrey Adapt strategy and aligning with it does not in itself create a significant financial burden. However, as adaptation work progresses, there will be future resource implications. These may include the cost of risk assessments, staff time for policy integration, and funding for local adaptation projects.

6. Legal comments

6.1 **There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.**

Corporate implications

7. S151 Officer comments

7.1 The S151 Officer confirms that financial implications have been taken into account with respect to noting the strategy and that the recommendations are fully funded from within the current Budget. However, it is important to note the

7.2 potentially significant future implications of adaptations which will be a challenge for West Surrey

8. Monitoring Officer comments

8.1 The Monitoring Officer confirms that the relevant legal implications have been taken into account.

9. Procurement comments

9.1 There are no direct procurement implications arising from this report. The purpose of this paper is to note Surrey County Council's Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy and its relevance to Spelthorne Borough. Any future projects or adaptation measures resulting from this work would be subject to separate reports and, where applicable, the Council's standard procurement and contract procedures.

10. Equality and Diversity

10.1 Climate change impacts are not experienced equally across the population. Vulnerable groups such as older residents, people with health conditions, and those living in poor-quality housing are often at greatest risk from extreme heat, flooding, and other climate hazards. Adaptation work must therefore be planned and delivered in a way that considers and mitigates these inequalities.

10.2 The council should ensure that its engagement activities reach all sections of the community and that adaptation measures are distributed fairly across the Borough. Efforts should also be made to ensure that adaptation initiatives bring additional benefits, such as improved health, access to green space, and enhanced community wellbeing.

11. Sustainability/Climate Change Implications

11.1 By acknowledging Surrey's Adaptation and Resilience Strategy and embedding its principles locally, Spelthorne Borough Council will strengthen its commitment to sustainability and climate action. While much of the Council's existing work has focused on reducing carbon emissions, adaptation addresses the equally important need to prepare for the changes that are already occurring.

11.2 Adaptation measures can also deliver wider sustainability benefits. For example, creating more green infrastructure not only provides shade and cooling but also improves biodiversity, supports mental wellbeing, and enhances the Borough's appearance. Sustainable drainage systems can reduce flood risk while improving water quality and providing new habitats for wildlife. In this way, adaptation and sustainability are closely linked and mutually reinforcing

12. Other considerations

12.1 There are no other considerations

13. Timetable for implementation

13.1 As this report is for noting, there is no specific timetable for implementation. Any future adaptation planning or actions arising from Surrey County Council's Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy will be

developed in line with forthcoming decisions on local government reorganisation and incorporated into future work programmes as appropriate.

14. Contact

14.1 Tim Snook, Sustainability and Flood Risk Officer (t.snook@spelthorne.gov.uk)

Please submit any material questions to the Committee Chair and Officer Contact by two days in advance of the meeting.

Background papers: (*These are unpublished papers upon which you have relied in preparing this report*). If none state, There are none.

Appendices:

List as Appendix A, B etc with a short description of each.

Appendix A - [Surrey's Climate Change and Adaptation Strategy](#)

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Committee Report Checklist

Please submit the completed checklists with your report. If final draft report does not include all the information/sign offs required, your item will be delayed until the next meeting cycle.

Stage 1

Report checklist – responsibility of report owner

ITEM	Yes / No	Date
Councillor engagement / input from Chair prior to briefing	Yes	03/10/25
Commissioner engagement (if report focused on issues of concern to Commissioners such as Finance, Assets etc)	N/A	-
Relevant Group Head review	Yes	20/11/25
MAT+ review (to have been circulated at least 5 working days before Stage 2)	Yes	20/11/25
This item is on the Forward Plan for the relevant committee	Yes	20/11/25
	Reviewed by	
Finance comments (circulate to Finance)		
Risk comments (circulate to Lee O'Neil)		
Legal comments (circulate to Legal team)	LH	19/12/25
HR comments (if applicable)	N/A	

For reports with material financial or legal implications the author should engage with the respective teams at the outset and receive input to their reports prior to asking for MO or s151 comments.

Do not forward to stage 2 unless all the above have been completed.

Stage 2

Report checklist – responsibility of report owner

ITEM	Completed by	Date
Monitoring Officer commentary – at least 5 working days before MAT	L Heron	19/12/25
S151 Officer commentary – at least 5 working days before MAT	T.Collier	21/11/25
Confirm final report cleared by MAT		

Environment & Sustainability

Thursday 8th January 2026

Title	Green Horizon Programme Q1&Q2 Updates
Purpose of the report	To note (Briefing pack only)
Report Author	Arthur Stokhuyzen: Climate & Energy Lead
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Exempt	No
Corporate Priority	Environment Services
Recommendations	Committee is asked to: To note the report
Reason for Recommendation	This report is for noting only

1. **Executive summary of the report** (*expand detail in Key Issues section below*)

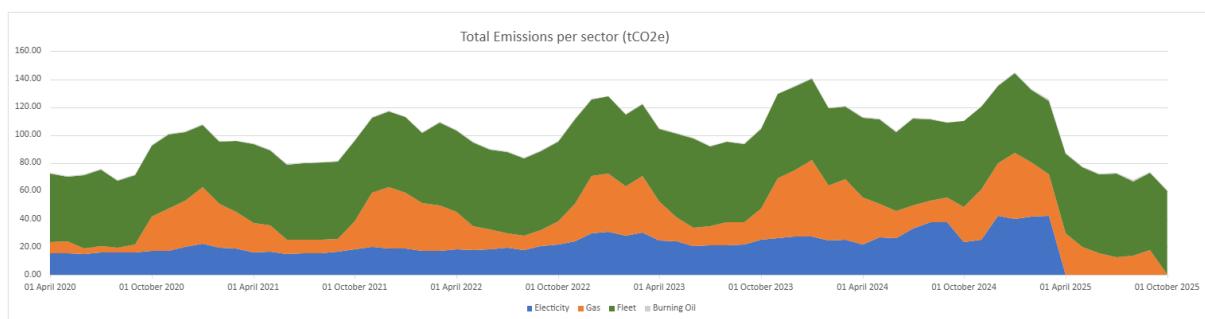
What is the situation	Why we want to do something
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Green Horizon Programme was approved as a workflow at Environment & Sustainability Committee (E&S) to deliver the Council's ambition to be Net Zero at Scope 1 &2 emissions.As a part of the approval, it was agreed to improve governance and accountability by providing consistent updates to E&S to demonstrate progress, opportunities and barriers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There are no immediate actions to take because of this update
This is what we want to do about it	These are the next steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none">There are no recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To note the report and understand the position of the Council's progress towards Net Zero and Green Horizon Programme delivery

2. Key issues

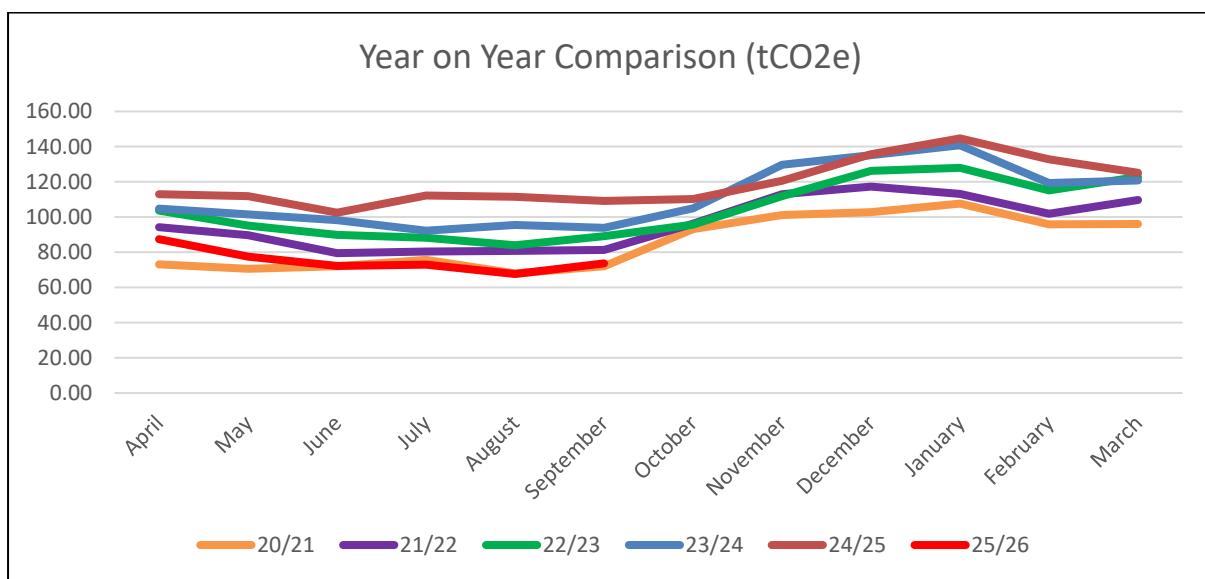
2.1 This report provides a progress update for Q1 and Q2 of FY 2025/26 against the delivery targets set out under the Green Horizon Programme (GHP). The GHP underpins the Council's commitment to achieving net zero carbon emissions following its Climate Emergency declaration. The programme remains on track across most key workstreams, with significant carbon and cost reductions achieved in the first half of the year. RAG scores across the 10 key workflows are as follows: 6 Green, 3 Amber & 1 Red.

2.2 The graph below highlights the breakdown of emissions by sector by month from April 2020 until October 2025. Note: the complete decline of electricity emissions from April 2025; major decline in gas and small decline in fleet emissions since the GHP began in April 2025.

2.3 The graph below highlights the breakdown of emissions by sector by month from April 2020 until October 2025.



2.4 The graph below shows total emissions by month compared to all previous recorded years.



2.5 All comparisons are made to Financial Year (FY) 24/25.

2.6 In Q1&Q2 the GHP has reduced emissions by 268.43tCO2e at a 37% reduction.

2.7 Cost savings total to £172,219 compared to Q1&Q2 FY24/25 which can be attributed to a reduction in energy costs and consumption.

2.8 Headlines: tCO2e Emissions

Quarter	Sector	24/25	25/26	Diff. tCO2e	% Diff.
Q1	Elec.	74.82	0.00	-74.82	-100.00%
	Gas	76.56	64.93	-11.63	-15.19%
	Fleet	174.66	170.41	-4.26	-2.44%
	Total	327.21	237.28	-89.94	-27.49%

Quarter	Sector	24/25	25/26	Diff. tCO2e	% Diff.
Q2	Elec.	108.09	0.00	-108.09	-100.00%
	Gas	49.98	43.93	-6.05	-12.10%
	Fleet	173.59	168.46	-5.13	-2.96%
	Total	332.81	214.27	-118.54	-35.62%

2.9 Headlines: Costs

Quarter	Sector	24/25	25/26	Diff. (£)	% Diff. (£)
Q1	Elec.	£132,552.29	£91,529.85	-£41,022.44	-30.95%
	Gas	£39,869.00	£21,340.00	-£18,529.00	-46.47%
	Fleet	£70,386.97	£71,060.99	£674.03	0.96%
	Total	£242,808.26	£183,930.84	-£58,877.41	-24.25%

Quarter	Sector	24/25	25/26	Diff. (£)	% Diff. (£)
Q2	Elec.	£177,226.95	£86,275.84	-£90,951.11	-51.32%
	Gas	£36,728.00	£16,402.00	-£20,326.00	-55.34%
	Fleet	£72,195.61	£70,129.80	-£2,065.82	-2.86%
	Total	£286,150.56	£172,807.64	-£113,342.93	-39.61%

2.10 Targets: below find a run down of progress of each target detailing a narrative and the relevant projects

2.11 [Increase building energy efficiency](#)

(a) Target: 20% reduction in energy (gas & electricity, kWh) by end FY 26/27 from 'SBC Climate Emissions 24/25'.

- (b) Reporting: Q1 Energy consumption decreased by 12.88%. Q2 Energy consumption decreased by 30.30%.
- (c) Projects: Solar Expansion Project is in pre-development.
- (d) Narrative: FY 25/26 Q1&Q2 Update
 - i) Q1: Energy consumption decreased by 12.88% largely attributed to a 15% reduction in gas consumption and 12% reduction in electricity. This can be attributed to a warmer Q1 as well as works involving the 'Building Decarbonisation' Action Plan including upgrading Building Management Systems (BMS) to improve operational efficiency.
 - ii) Q2: Energy consumption decreased by 30.3%, attributed to a 40% reduction in electricity and 12.10% reduction in gas. Some legacy billing consumption from electricity at Eclipse leisure centre has skewed these figures a little. Although the Hydromx pilot project has been delivered and is demonstrating savings, however, it is too early to assess the project.
 - iii) Co-operation with building services is ongoing and continued co-operation with the assets team has demonstrated clear reductions. Work will continue to build on these gains moving forward
- (e) Due to energy costs and consumption decreasing we have seen a dramatic decrease in operational costs. As highlighted in headlines table above.

2.12 Reduce Gas Usage

- (a) Target: 30% reduction in emissions from gas CO2e by end FY 26/27 from 'SBC Climate Emissions 24/25'
- (b) Reporting: gas emissions decreased by 15.19% in Q1 and by 12.1% in Q2.
- (c) Projects: The Hydromx project was delivered in Q2. Early reporting of Hydromx is promising a full Hydromx review will be delivered to E&S Q1 FY26/27. Narrative: The gas reduction is likely to be attributed to Building Decarbonisation action plan, involving works such as boiler scheduling changes delivered around April, some BMS improvements, mild weather and consistent engagement with site managers.

2.13 Deliver 100% Green Electricity Tariff

- (a) Target: Deliver 100% renewable energy tariff for our electricity supply by FY 26/27
- (b) Reporting: Delivered
- (c) Narrative: The SBC REGO tariff was certified at the beginning of Q1. This ensures that all our electricity comes from a renewable energy source and has an emission factor of 0. By the end of Q1 this had reduced our reported emissions by 133.3tCO2e and by a total of 241tCO2e by the end of Q2.
- (d) Moving forward LASER is looking to provide an updated option for renewable energy tariffs. This would be in the form of a cPPA (corporate Power Purchase Agreement) which would improve the robustness of

reporting between us and the generator. This option has been offered – it is being explored alongside the Property Accounts and Building Systems Manager.

2.14 *Deliver HVO*

2.15 Target: Deliver Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) fuel for operational internal combustion engine (ICE) fleet by FY 26/27

2.16 Reporting: In Q1 the project received approval to begin with Corporate Policy and Resources Committee (CPRC). In Q2 the project team (Neighbourhood services) returned to CPRC to request approval to procure. This was approved – Project is in procurement, hoping to be delivered by FY 25/26 Q4.

2.17 *EV Transition*

(a) Target: 20 EVs added to the fleet by FY 26/27

(b) Reporting: In Q1, we received 2 new electric vans as part of the Spelride community fleet. No new vehicles in Q2 and we are forecasting 7 more vehicles for the Nursery in Q3.

(c) Narrative: Neighbourhood services are replacing required non-waste fleet vehicles with EVs, which is a promising development moving forward. Consistent and ongoing communication is demonstrating that the EV transition is being embedded into future service plans.

2.18 *Improve Efficiency of Fleet*

(a) Target: Reduce fuel use of fleet by 10% from 'SBC Climate Emissions 24/25'

(b) Reporting: In Q1 we saw a 2.54% reduction in fuel consumption and in Q2 we saw a 3% reduction in fuel consumption. Saving 9.53tCO2e across Q1&Q2 this year.

(c) Narrative: Very few resources have been put into this, Neighbourhood Services are unsure as to why this has consistently decreased.

2.19 *EV Infrastructure Improvements*

(a) Target: Increase EV Infrastructure across the operational estate by 30 chargers by FY 26/27

(b) Reporting: No Q1 or Q2 developments.

(c) Projects: there are two major projects in the pipeline for delivering and improving the EV infrastructure across our estate. The first is the GIF funded EV charging infrastructure improvements across Fordbridge, Greeno and the White House Depot. This will be delivering 5 further chargers.

(d) In addition, the Eclipse Leisure centre car park will be delivering 32 new chargers which can be used for any expansion to the EV fleet and is also being funded through the GIF.

(e) Narrative: Promising, however, the extended new governance processes are severely hampering the ability to deliver these chargers. Particularly when the operational capacity for EV infrastructure is

increasing. There have been numerous cited incidents with the new EC Spelride vans and the lack of charging capability.

2.20 *Identify & Measure Current Offsetting Assets*

- (a) Target: Deliver a report to identify and measure the current offsetting assets of SBC operationally managed land by FY 26/27
- (b) Reporting: Pre-Project Development
- (c) Narrative: At the end of Q2 this project was initiated and has moved into the project development phase looking to go to E&S in January to ideally deliver by the end of Q4 25/26.

2.21 *Tree Planting*

- (a) Target: Plant 2,000 trees by FY 26/27
- (b) Reporting: 76 trees planted in Q1&Q2, 3.8% of the way towards the target.
- (c) Projects: In Q1, we went through project development to build an application for Trees Outside Woodland Fund in Q2. Pending response. Update for this can be given in Q3. Q3: application for funding was unsuccessful looking for alternative funding streams
- (d) Narrative: having moved away from a broader tree management plan approach due to the resource constraints and an officer departure. We have moved to a project-based approach to deliver on this target.

2.22 The only outstanding project not included under this progress is the Sustainable Procurement of goods target. It is not possible to analyse this data on a quarterly basis. Additionally, there has been no interaction with the Procurement team due to ongoing resource constraints.

2.23 Outline of objectives, targets and current status

Theme	Objective	Target (by FY 26/27)	Current Progress (Q1–Q2)	Status (RAG)
Energy	Building Energy Efficiency	20% reduction in total energy use vs 24/25 baseline	Energy use ↓ 12.88% Q1 & ↓ 30.30% in Q2	● On Track
	Reduce Gas Usage	30% reduction vs 24/25 baseline	Gas ↓ 15.19% in Q1 & 12.10% in Q2	● On Track
	100% Renewable Electricity	100% REGO-certified supply	Delivered in Q1	● Achieved
Fleet	Deliver HVO Fuel	100% of operational ICE fleet using HVO	Project approved; in procurement phase	● On Track

	Transition to EVs	20 EVs in fleet	2 EVs delivered; 7 expected Q3	 Amber / In Progress
	Improve Fleet Efficiency	10% reduction in fuel use	2.5% (Q1) + 3% (Q2) = 5.5% total	 On Track
	Expand EV Infrastructure	+30 chargers across estate	0 delivered; 35 in pipeline	 Amber / Delayed
Procurement	Reduce Emissions from Procured Goods & Services	10% Reduction in procured goods and services compared to 24/25 baseline	No engagement with procurement or viable reporting framework	 Off Track – Not Started
Offsetting & Biodiversity	Identify & Measure Offsetting Assets	Baseline report delivered by FY 26/27	Project initiated Q2; in development	 On Track
	Tree Planting	2,000 trees planted	Funding application submitted Q2	 Amber / Early Stage

3. Options appraisal and proposal

3.1 Not applicable as this report is for noting only.

4. Risk Implications

4.1 All relevant risks associated with the Green Horizon Programme have been detailed under the project narratives. As there are no risk implications with this report there are no risk comments

5. Finance Comments

5.1 All relevant financial information associated with the Green Horizon Programme have been detailed under the project narratives. As there are no finance implications with this report there are no associated finance comments.

6. Legal Comments

There are no specific legal implications arising directly from this report, but it should be noted that Spelthorne Borough Council had declared a climate emergency and set target for achieving net zero status. All associated workstreams must be undertaken in compliance with all relevant legislation, rules and regulations.

Corporate implications

7. S151 Officer comments

- 7.1 As a briefing item no decision is being made. However, positive to note the financial savings being made as well as the environmental benefits.

8. Monitoring Officer comments

- 8.1 The Monitoring Officer confirms that the relevant legal implications have been taken into account.

9. Procurement Comments

- 9.1 There are no procurement arising directly from this report. All appointments relating to the associated workstreams must be in accordance with the Council's contract standing orders and all applicable legislation.

10. Contact

- 10.1 Please contact Arthur Stokhuyzen: Climate & Energy Lead
a.stokhuyzen@spelthorne.gov.uk

Please submit any material questions to the Committee Chair and Officer Contact by two days in advance of the meeting.

Background papers: There are none.