



SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
Draft Climate Change Route
Map for the Scottish Borders

Briefing: 4 June 2021



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Scope of Route Map

Scottish Borders Council led document but absolute focus on partnership and collaboration

Two goals: a net zero Council; and a net zero region

Aligns with Scottish Government net zero emissions target of 2045, and interim targets for reductions of 75% by 2030, 90% by 2040

Route Map: a framework to support long term planning with phased definition and delivery



Rationale of Route Map

- 1. Acceptance of climate change evidence and projections**
- 2. Meeting legislative requirements**
- 3. Being in the Net Zero race to benefit the communities, organisations and businesses of the Scottish Borders**

A green recovery ‘which prioritises economic, social and environmental wellbeing, and responds to the twin challenges of the climate emergency and biodiversity loss’



Scottish Borders Emissions Baseline

Developed using nationally available BEIS (Dept for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) data and setting baseline year of 2010/11

Focus on per capita emissions/the two baselines approach

Sets out the required pathway for Scottish Borders to meet 2030 75% reduction target

Technological advances, behaviour changes, societal norms, and our understanding of climate change and GHG emissions will change throughout our journey

Baseline will be under constant review in terms of available data and methodology



Route Map Main Themes

Climate Change Route Map – Main Themes

- **Theme 1 - Resilience**
- **Theme 2 - Transport use**
- **Theme 3 - Nature Based Solutions**
- **Theme 4 - Energy**
- **Theme 5 - Waste management**

Introducing the themes and explaining the issues

Example: Transport use

Legislative drivers, transport hierarchy, cultural and behaviour change, modal shift, technical challenges – rurality and population dispersion; medium and heavy-duty vehicles



Route Map Themes and Milestones

Translating themes into milestones

- Theme 1 - **Building** resilience
- Theme 2 - **Decarbonising** our Transport Use
- Theme 3 – Nature Based **Solutions**
- Theme 4 - **Lowering** our Energy Consumption
- Theme 5 - **Decarbonising** our Waste Management

Each theme sets out a clear objective, purpose and 5 Milestones

Within the Milestones, actions identified by officer workshops are detailed to drive delivery

Actions will evolve, shaping a strategy and framework for the future



Route Map Milestones and Actions

Translating themes into milestones

EXAMPLE

Theme 2 - **Decarbonising** our Transport Use

TU1 Accelerate active travel to be the natural first choice for our daily activities including the provision of additional multi-use trails between towns and villages throughout the Scottish Borders.

TU2 Enhance modal shifts for passenger transport services, including new transport modes, alternative energy sources including electric and potentially hydrogen powered vehicles, through programmes such as the Switched-on Towns and Cities Programme.

TU3 Help decarbonise how we get our goods by infrastructural improvements including a wider electric vehicle charging network and 'last mile' delivery for the South of Scotland

TU4 Decarbonise SBC core and grey fleet (as priority) by supporting the promotion and purchase of both private and commercial zero emission alternative powered vehicles. By the early 2030s all our new cars and vans are low carbon. By 2040, so are all our new trucks.

TU5 Consider place-based solutions through Demand Responsive Transport and integration of Mobility as a Service (MAAS) through linking various forms of shared transport services into a single service that is accessible to people on demand.



Route Map Milestones and Actions

Translating milestones into actions

EXAMPLE Theme 2 - **Decarbonising** our Transport Use

TU2 Enhance modal shifts for passenger transport services, including new transport modes, alternative energy sources including electric and potentially hydrogen powered vehicles, through programmes such as the Switched-on Towns and Cities Programme

- Support the feasibility study for the extension of the Borders Railway
- Commission a feasibility study into bus connectivity and integration into the Borders Railway extension to maximise connections between bus and rail and increase passenger journeys on public transport.
- Review the current Home to School transport network using transport modelling software to reduce miles operated and journey times.
- SBC will lead on a Review of the existing transport network and work in partnership with communities, elected members, neighbouring authorities, and local transport providers to ensure that barriers to public transport connectivity and accessibility are removed and connections across boundaries and to communities that lie off key transport arteries are enhanced promoting modal shift away from private car use on to more sustainable modes of transport.
- Improve passenger information by implementing Real time information screens at key transport hubs across the region.
- Net Zero tender strategy for 'cleaner' passenger transport vehicles
- Car and E car sharing, cars available in more rural locations,
- Developer funding for new connections



Route Map Milestones and Actions

Translating themes into milestones

EXAMPLE

Theme 4 - **Lowering** our Energy Consumption

EC1 Reduce overall domestic and community energy consumption

EC2 Embed low energy outcomes in all new build and majority of retrofits across the SBC built estate where feasible

EC3 Encourage and incentivise reduced commercial consumption in buildings and processes

EC4 Adopt emerging low energy technologies as they become available and viable

EC5 Mitigate the social impact of lowering energy consumption



Route Map Milestones and Actions

Translating milestones into actions

EXAMPLE

Theme 4 - **Lowering** our Energy Consumption

EC1 Reduce overall domestic and community energy consumption

- Ensure procurement of an optimum renewable electricity tariff and green gas supply through the SBC utility supply contracts
- Support homeowner occupiers, eligible registered private sector landlords and RSLs to make energy and money-saving improvements to their homes. RSLs are required to retrofit all homes to a minimum of energy performance certificate (EPC) of B by 2032 and low-carbon heating should be in all homes by 2045.
- Service to provide support to small and medium-sized enterprises on energy efficiency with an aim to reduce energy consumption, resulting in fewer GHG emissions, financial savings and increase economic competitiveness



Engagement, Governance and Delivery

Public engagement is essential to incentivise sustainable consumption and pro-environmental behaviour at an individual, and community level

Active engagement with the public and stakeholders

Climate Citizens Assembly/Panel – a deliberative space and co-governance of our approach, particularly around ‘just transition’

Advisory Group – a high-level Group to provide external oversight and review and to consider additional interventions required to achieve net-zero. Membership likely to include SBC, SOSE, SW, SEPA, SPEN, Borders College, NHS Borders, Chamber of Trade, perhaps also reps from the Citizens Assembly/Panel. Chair role and secretariat to be a shared responsibility between members.

Advisory Group – a biennial conference - to involve interest groups, communities, local and national partners, and elected members in a review of climate change matters and our response in the Scottish Borders, as well as an opportunity to influence the direction, policy, and investment of partners.



Route Map Implementation

Commitment and action is required from all Council services

Staff training is critical to delivery

Need for effective engagement and participation with communities and individuals

Ongoing monitoring of delivery and agreed communications strategy.

Our assessment of actions, impact and what is required will increase overtime

Funding and resourcing of actions – investment to deliver actions

A shared endeavour, which will require #our part/your part