

The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of several bright green leaves. The leaves are in sharp focus, showing their intricate vein patterns. They are layered, with some in the foreground and others slightly behind, creating a sense of depth. The lighting is natural, highlighting the vibrant green color of the foliage.

**Catherine Auld**  
**Assistant Director of Economic Regeneration**

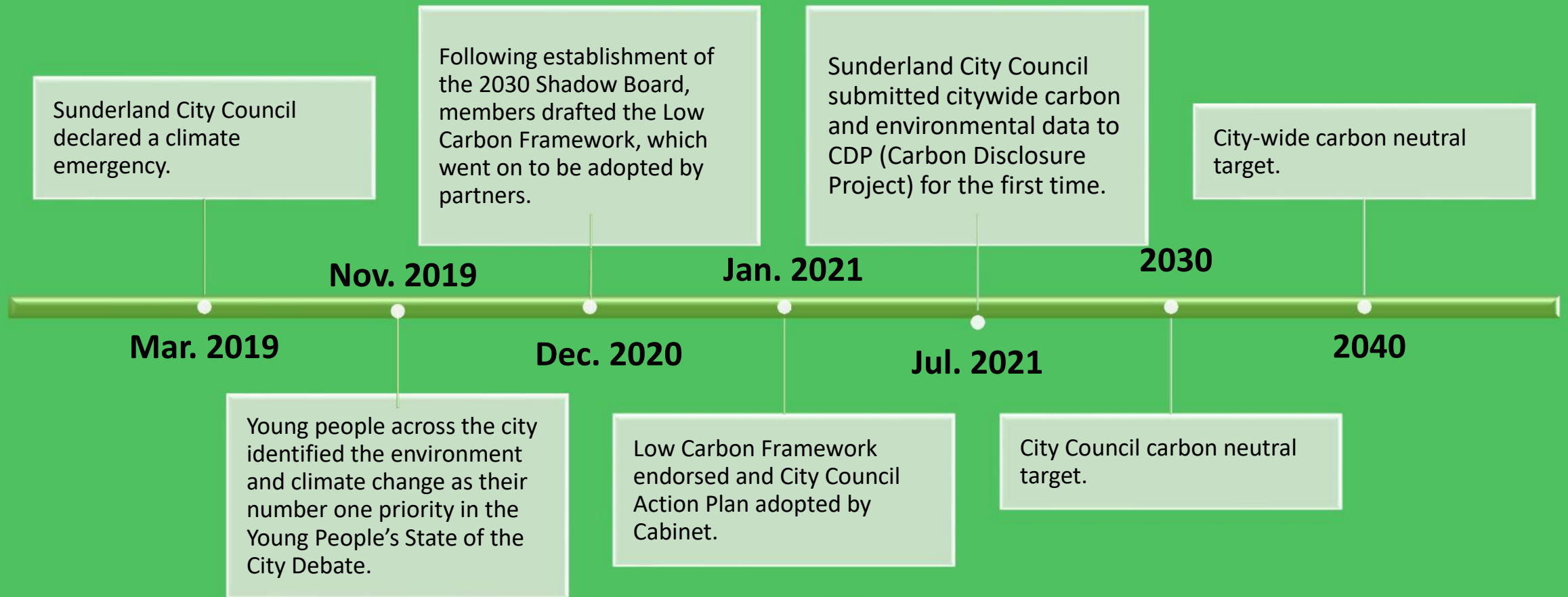
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**Sunderland**

# **Sunderland City Council Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee**

7 February 2022

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# Sunderland City's Commitment



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# Key Terminology / Definitions



## **Carbon Neutral:**

Carbon neutral means that while some carbon dioxide emissions are still being generated by a building/process, these emissions are being offset somewhere else making the overall net emissions zero.

(Council – 2030, City-wide -2040).



## **Zero Carbon:**

Zero carbon means that no carbon emissions are being produced from a product/service



## **Net Zero GHG Emissions:**

Net zero means that total Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions would be equal to or less than the emissions removed from the environment.

(UK Government – 2050 commitment and UK100 Pledge renewal – Council-2030, City-2045)

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# The 2030 Shadow Board

City-wide Leadership - this brings together organisations including:

**Sunderland City Council, Sunderland Youth Council, Together for Children, The University of Sunderland, Sunderland College, South Tyneside and Sunderland's NHS Foundation Trust, NHS Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group and Gentoo**

Alongside the **Police, Fire Service, Transport for the North**, and **business partners** through the North East England Chamber of Commerce, together with councillors representing each of the **political groups** within the Council.

From November 2021 - joined by representatives from the city-wide young people's Environmental, Green and Sustainable (EGS) group

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**Low Carbon  
Framework**



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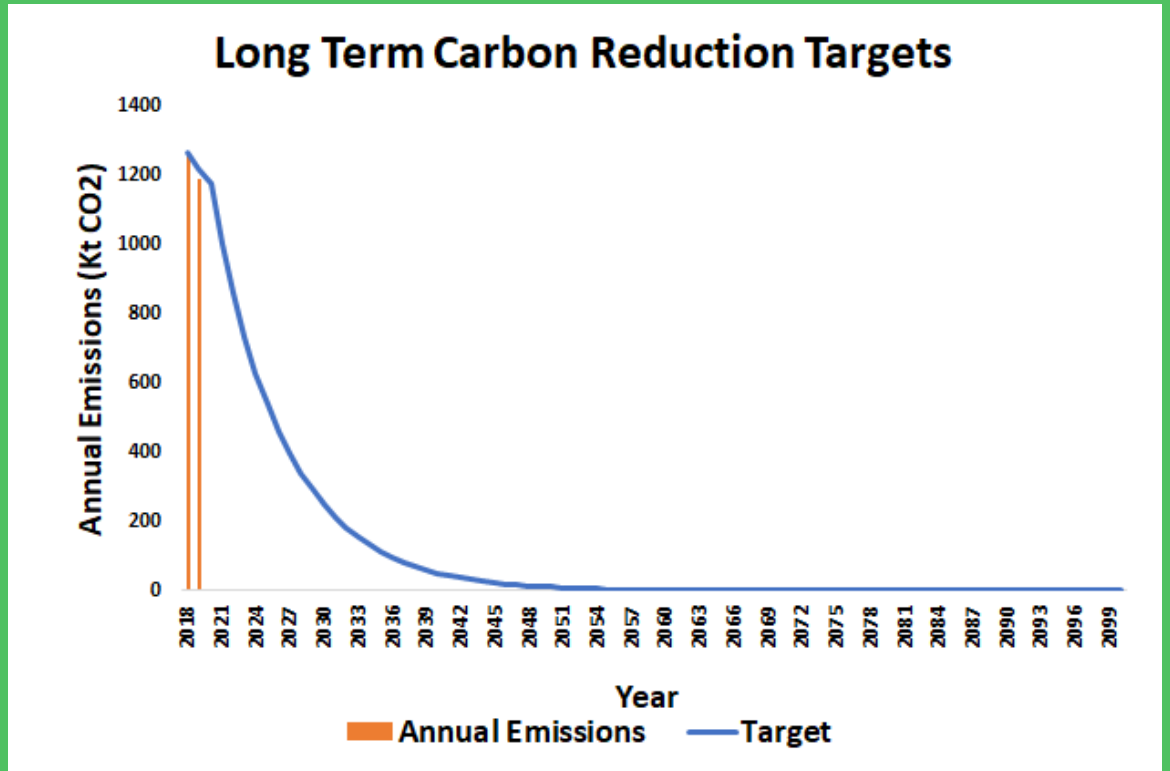
# City-wide Low Carbon Framework

## Strategic Priorities:

1. Our Behaviour
2. Policies and Operational Practices
3. An Energy Efficient Built Environment
4. Renewable Energy Generation and Storage
5. Low Carbon and Active Transport
6. Green Economy
7. Consumption and Waste

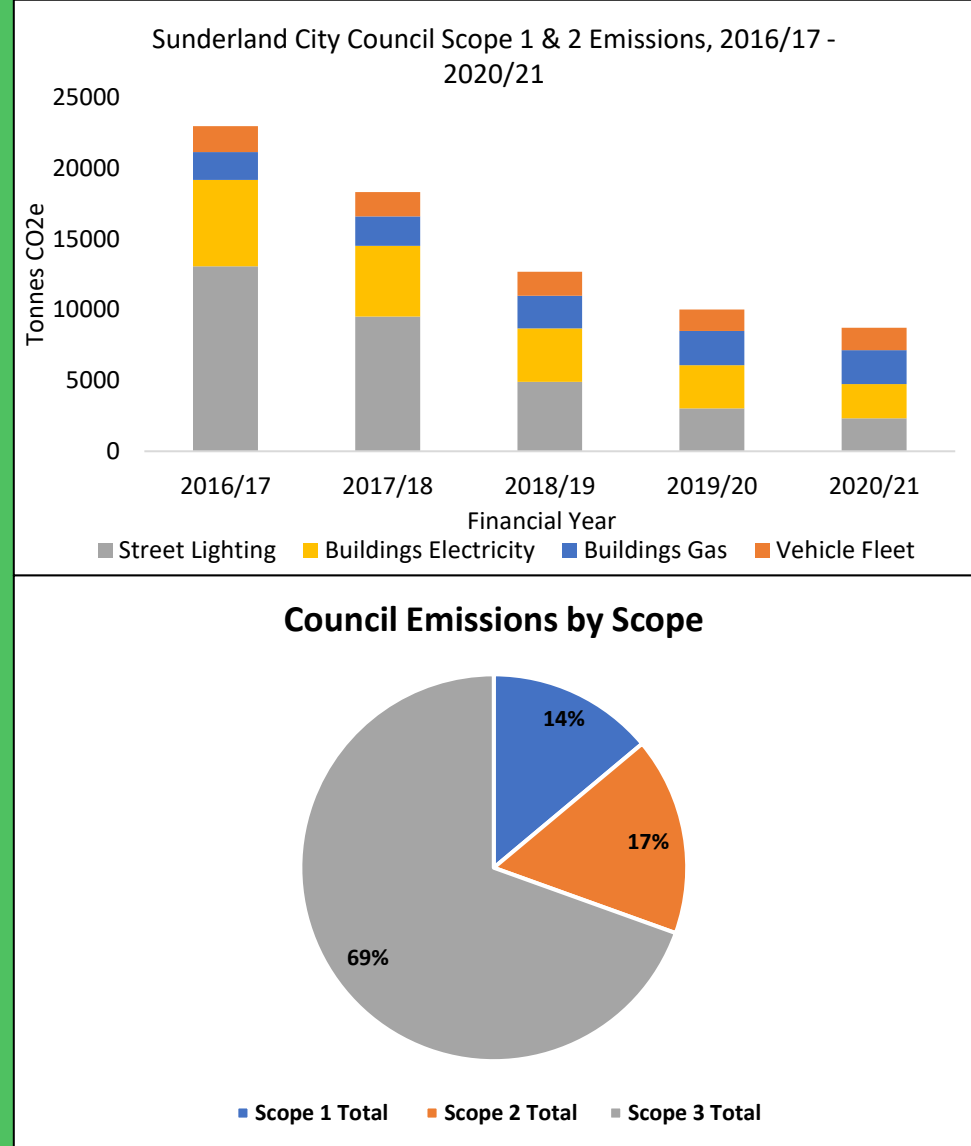
# CO2 Citywide Emissions Targets

- Sunderland aim to become a carbon neutral city by 2040.
- We have a carbon budget of **8.2 million tonnes CO2** for the period 2020 to 2100, to keep global warming well below 2.0°C (and pursuing 1.5°C).
- At 2017 levels, Sunderland would use this entire budget by 2026.
- The next decade is critical to make sure we hit our city-wide 2040 carbon neutral target and stay within the carbon budget.
- From 2020, we must reduce our carbon emissions by **14.4% per year**.



# Annual Report - Council Emissions

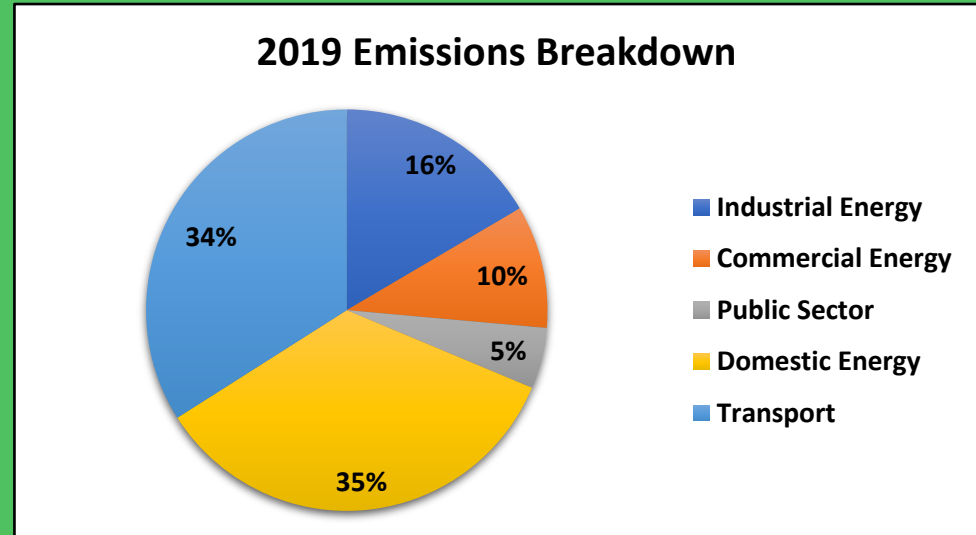
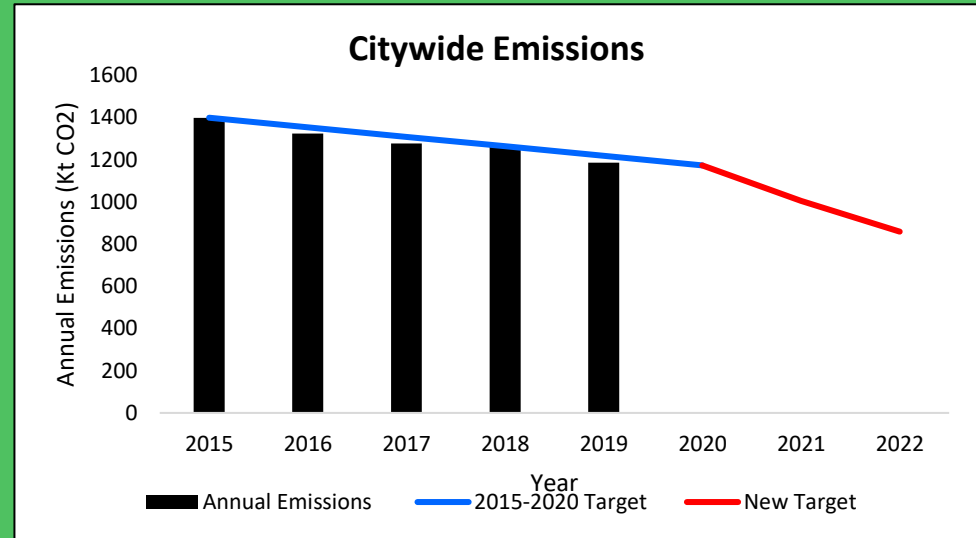
- Recently prepared a Low Carbon data report for 2020/21, and 2019 city-wide.
- Council's scope 1 and 2 carbon footprint - 8,546 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e - this represents a **13.2% reduction since 2019/20**.
- Greatest challenges for scope 1 and 2 decarbonisation - gas consumption in buildings, vehicle fleet.
- For the first time - estimated scope 3 Council emissions - estimated to account for 20,061 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020/21.
- Quarterly data – to be published routinely





# Annual Report - Citywide Emissions

- In 2019, 1.186 million tonnes CO2
- Natural offsetting saved 8,700 tonnes.
- Therefore, in 2019, Sunderland emitted net 1.177 million tonnes of CO2.
- This represents a **5.8% decrease since 2018 levels** – **on track for 16.1% 5 year target (2015-2020)**
- Domestic energy and transport - main causes of CO2 emissions – followed by industrial and commercial energy
- Annual target moving forward – 14.4% reduction



# CDP – Outcome and Feedback

- First submission – July 2021, announced in November – A list city
  - 1 of 11 cities in the UK and 1 of 95 globally to receive this recognition
- CDP feedback – including recommendations, tools and resources for each element
  - food (sustainable food places)
  - opportunities / business (sharing information, experience; business leadership)
  - vulnerability and adaptation
  - transport (sustainable transportation)
  - waste (circular economy)
- Partner organisations and individual businesses can also submit to CDP
- UK 100 Pledge Renewal - agreed



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# Overview - Our Behaviour

- Environmental, Green and Sustainability (EGS) Group established
  - named by the young people at its first meeting in October 2021
  - social media hashtag selected #wearsustainable
  - initial focus on food, local and community growing
  - reviewed MySunderland low carbon website development
- Communications activity ongoing drawing on calendar of key dates
  - internally, externally, with schools and college; continuing to broaden
- MySunderland website – dedicated low carbon pages – partnership-wide focus
  - [www.mysunderland.co.uk/LowCarbon](http://www.mysunderland.co.uk/LowCarbon)
- Wider community engagement – International Day of Older People, VCS Alliance launch, U3A (University of the Third Age)

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# Overview - Policies & Operational Practices

- Continuing to strengthen our collective commitment to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and our ambition
  - Cities Race to Zero and Cities Race to Resilience campaigns
  - Renewal of UK 100 Pledge
- Actively considering most effective means of ensuring low carbon is embedded into decision making across the Council
- New North East Community Forest (NECF) - successful collective bid by six local authorities
  - to be launched early February 2022 - will see 500 hectares across NE planted by 2025 – initial planting at Sunningdale School, Hetton Park, Elemore (Trees for Cities); 15 hectares targeted for 2022/23
- Further green infrastructure / tree planting - including through the Local Authority Treescapes Fund, Queen's Green Canopy
  - Elemore tree planting – December – 60 learners, 6 schools (nursery, primary, secondary), 420 trees
- International Partnership engagement – EU Covenant of Mayors / Eurocities peer learning project; young people's projects



# Overview – An Energy Efficient Built Environment

- Digital Catapult Internet of Things pilot project – ongoing with Evolve and Leechmere as pilot locations
- Successful Levelling Up Fund bid to support new Housing Innovation Construction Skills Academy (HICSA)
- Local Authority Delivery Phase 2 (LAD2) funding secured – almost £2m – retrofitting of approx. 250 properties
- Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funding secured - £2.2m – to enable air source heat pumps in 8 Council buildings; University decarbonisation scheme implemented at St Mary's Building
- Continued roll-out of the LED Streetlighting project; Air source heat pumps fitted in the City Hall.
- Additional funding bids continue to be developed for submission – by the Council and partners

# Overview – Renewable Energy Generation & Storage

- £2.2 million of solar PV and battery storage works - through the Sunderland Energy Storage and Efficiency Project (SESEP) part-funded through ERDF – across range of Council operational premises.
- Design work for solar PV installation completed for - St Mary's, Farrington Row, Bunny Hill and Holmeside car parks - combined these will provide approximately 3-4 MW of energy.
- Development of renewable energy microgrid at IAMP - to bring together energy generation, consumption and storage – supporting decarbonisation of manufacturing and transport, expected to save 55,000 tonnes of CO2 annually.
- Ongoing development of mine water heating proposals - £2.22m funding from BEIS secured, Pilot Boreholes

# Overview – Active & Low Carbon Transport

- Continuation of Cycle to Work scheme - 130 orders, 7,000 kg of carbon saved
- Mobility Hub at Riverside Sunderland – to establish a 100% electric fleet car-pool and increase active travel (with wider health benefits)
- £1m secured from the Department for Transport Active Travel Fund - to improve cycle infrastructure
- E-Scooter trial ongoing - with Neuron - 31.8% of trips have been instead of car journeys (9,920 kg of carbon saved)
- £69,300 awarded from OZEV On Street Residential Charging Scheme – to support on-street residential parking at 4 locations in the city.
- New high-level pedestrian walking and cycling bridge – to be built at Riverside Sunderland

# Overview – Green Economy

- £600,000 investment through Eco3 and Eco3-Flex – insulation and gas boiler upgrades in 287 fuel poor households
- NISSAN 36Zero EV Hub – announced in July 2021 - Nissan to build new electric vehicle in Sunderland, Envision AESC to build a new giga-factory at IAMP.
- Recent investments at the Port of Sunderland – focus on recycling technologies
- North East region-wide BEST Scheme – 55 SMEs in the city have been helped to install cost-effective energy-efficiency improvements into business premises across its lifetime, with carbon savings of approximately 614 tonnes.
- City-wide BREEZ project ongoing to June 2023 – project recently extended by one year; additional funding now available for grants to SMEs to improve energy efficiency.



# Overview – Consumption & Waste

- New Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2021-25 - approved by Cabinet – closely aligned with European Waste Framework
  - municipal waste recycling target of 55% by 2025, 60% by 2030 and 65% by 2035, in-line with the European Commission ‘Circular Economy Package’
- 24 month trial – Council’s first electric Refuse Collection Vehicle (RCV) - expected to save approximately 13 tonnes of CO2e annually.
- New Pallion Household Waste Recycling Centre – opening beginning of February, with re-use facility to follow
- Focus on food by young people’s Environmental Green & Sustainable (EGS) Group – encouraging partners to consider their food carbon footprint

# Interesting Facts...



In the Council we send approx 6.5 emails for every 1 Teams chat. A standard email produces at least **4g CO<sub>2</sub>**, and an email with an attachment produces at least **50g CO<sub>2</sub>**.



If everyone turned their heating down by 1 degree Celsius in the UK, it would save **1.18 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>**.



Walking or cycling could realistically substitute for **41%** of short car trips, saving nearly **5% of CO<sub>2</sub>** emissions from car travel.

## COP26 Sunderland School Grants:

- Supported ideas from 8 schools, getting young people involved in environmental projects in November - 2 Primary and 6 Secondary
- Activities included:
  - starting eco teams, and COP26 assemblies
  - planting trees, and starting school gardens and orchards
  - setting up water butts
  - increasing recycling points on school sites.





# City of **Low Carbon** Sunderland





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**#wearsustainable**

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