

Alton Town Council
Climate Change Strategy Action Plan 2026 - 2030

Line No.	Objective	Action			Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Method of Measurement	Status (RAG)	Q1 Update	Q2 Update	Q3 Update	Q4 Update	Commentary
		Detail	Who By	Deadline Date					January to March	April to June	July to September	October to December	
1.1	To understand ATCs progress towards achieving its net-zero target	Calculate annual carbon footprint using GHG protocol methodology and compare with previous years	WS	Annually by 31/12	Greater understanding of overall carbon footprint and progress towards target	GHG calculation	GHG Protocol and UK government approved conversion factors		Data collected and presented to January Climate Change meeting	Working with Alan Williams to calculate the carbon emissions and quarterly data for Climate Change meetings.			The gas and electricity meters are all smart meters so readings on each invoice are accurate.
1.2	Reducing fuel emissions from ATC state and operations	Change suitable vehicles and tools to electric with solar charging support	WS	31/03/2029	Replacement of one of the three Grounds Team vehicles with electric or hybrid each year. In addition solar panels and battery storage will be installed at the Jubilee Barn and Public Garden's Compound to enable recharging.	Reduced diesel and petrol use	GHG Protocol and UK government approved conversion factors		Investigate make and models of suitable vehicles	Set up test drives and investigate solar and battery storage for charging			It is believed that two charging locations will be sufficient as the vehicles won't need charging every evening.
1.3	Reducing gas consumption at Town Hall.	Improve insulation and heating efficiency including investigating underfloor heating and better zoning of system		30/09/2026	Decrease in gas consumption following the secondary glazing at the Town Hall	Reduced gas use	GHG Protocol and UK government approved conversion factors		Use of gas down on Q1 2025	Use of gas down on Q2 2025			The secondary glazing at the Town Hall has reduced the heating requirements
1.4	Reducing gas consumption at Finnimore Pavilion	Investigate gas boiler used to heat water for showers in changing room facilities		31/12/2026	Decrease gas consumption	Reduced Gas use	GHG Protocol and UK government approved conversion factors		Use of gas down on Q1 2025	Use of gas down on Q2 2025			Full assessment to be carried out on Finnimore Pavilion as current delivery methods not efficient.
1.5	Reducing energy consumption in ATC properties.	Reduce the use of electricity across ATC owned and occupied buildings		Annually by 31/12	Decrease in electricity consumption by 10% per year.	10% reduction in electricity use across ATC owned and occupied buildings	GHG Protocol and UK government approved conversion factors		Electricity use at Compound, Finnimore and MUGA down on Q1 2025. Electricity at the Jubilee Pavilions and Town Hall are up, 16 Market Square is significantly increased.	All electricity use up on Q2 2025 except Compound and Harry Baker Pavilion			16 Market Square is used by Citizen's Advice Monday to Wednesday and electricity consumption has increased due to electric heaters
1.6	Reduce the carbon footprint of the ATC properties	Negotiate new energy contracts to include the Climate Change Levy	WS	20th July 2027	By including the Climate Change Levy on all the gas and electricity contracts the carbon emission will be zero	Climate Change Levy on all energy contracts	GHG Protocol and UK government approved conversion factors		No action taken	Contacting brokers and EON to get prices for renewals (see attached spreadsheet).			All the gas and electricity contracts are due for renewal, the earliest being October 2026 and the final one in July 2027. All utility contracts for Edgar Hall, the Assembly Rooms and Foodbank to be handed over to the tenant.
1.7	Retrofit existing Council owned properties	Agree on actions to improve the efficiency of the Town Hall heating		30/09/2026	Improve the efficiency and reduce energy use for heating the Town Hall	Reduced gas use	GHG Protocol and UK government approved conversion factors		No action taken	No action taken			New project manager to be involved with possible solutions
1.8	To make the two pavilions at Jubilee carbon neutral as part of renovation work	Solar panels, rainwater harvesting and possibly heat pumps had been included in the plans, as well as better insulation through the re-cladding and lining of the walls.		31/03/2028	Both pavilions are carbon neutral	GHG calculation	GHG Protocol and UK government approved conversion factors		Plans have been drawn up, waiting for \$106 funds to be drawn down	New Project Officer to pick up this project in August.			Investigate heat pumps, solar panels, external drinking water tap, bike racks, etc.
1.9	To install solar panels on ATC owned and operated building	In addition to Jubilee Pavilions, look at Finnimore Pavilion	KR	31/03/2027	Reduce carbon emission from Finnimore Pavilion	GHG calculation	GHG Protocol and UK government approved conversion factors		No action taken				Jubilee Pavilions have solar included on plans, the barn at Jubilee and the Compound at Public Gardens included in plans to provide electricity for Grounds vehicles
1.10	To help reduce the carbon footprint of our open spaces through the installation of pollutant absorbing hedgerows along entrances into the town and encouraging more spaces for wildlife to grow and thrive	Continue to install additional tree planting and Hedgerows on public open spaces; creation of more wildflower and wilderness areas		31/12/2030	Increased number of trees planted across ATC area	200 trees planted before the end of 2030	Total number of trees planted and still alive annually		15 new disease resilient Elm trees and 840 hedging whips planted in January 2026				
1.11	Create a welcoming, colourful High Street to welcome visitors as they come into town whilst reducing the carbon footprint of the displays and creating sustainable alternatives to annual bedding plants.	Seasonal planting extended to all year-round perennial planting to reduce watering and help absorb pollutants.		30/06/2026	Cut the volume of water required by 10% per year.	10% drop in water needed each year	Water meter readings from Public Gardens		No action taken	Town Centre planting chosen to be hardier and need less watering			

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1.12	To encourage residents to grow their own produce.	Introduction of "incredible edible" planting around the town using fruit and vegetables in place of traditional schemes.		30/06/2026	Encourage residents to volunteer to tend and consume the fruit and vegetables	Community engagement	All allotments rented out		Planting in the Community Grow beds started.	Community Grow beds in the Public Gardens full of produce			Fruit trees at Windmill Hill which were planted as part of the Queen's Canopy in 2022 are producing fruit. All allotments are rented and there is a waiting list.
1.13	Improving accessibility to Walking and Cycling routes, through clear mapping, signage, and publicity.	Monitor the signage for the Walking and Cycling route across Alton	CC	Ongoing	As new developments are added to the Town, Walking and Cycling routes are included.								
1.14	Increase areas for secure cycle parking across Alton	Identify areas where cycle hoops are required	CC	Ongoing	Encourage more cyclists to use their bicycles to come into the town centre				Cycle Hoops installed in Open Spaces	Cycle Hoops installed on High Street			
1.15	To enable residents to try out e-bikes for active travel.	Provide e-bike hire available at Alton town hall and bookable through ATC.	WS	Ongoing					The e-bikes were booked for 50% of the sessions available.	Both e-bikes are fully booked until end of September			
1.16	Encourage residents to purchase electric bikes and reduce car journeys in Alton	Provide money off voucher to those hiring e-bikes for the first time to support purchase of their own bike from A-Z Cycles		Ongoing	Increase footfall and trade for A - Z Cycles and purchase of e-bikes from them	Vouchers encashed and e-bikes purchased	No of vouchers issued and no of bikes purchased						Alan Williams suggested this action.
1.17	Provide more opportunities for refilling water bottles in the town.	Reduce the purchase of water in disposable plastic water bottles and ensure the availability of tap water especially in heatwaves		30/09/2026	More access to water in the Town		Less plastic/recycling waste		The water fountain in the Public Gardens is fixed	Stickers created for businesses in Town Centre to promote that they will refill water bottle			