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RECOMMENDED – WIDER INFLUENCE

OTHER NOTABLE REPORTABLE ACTIVITY

Public Sector Report on Compliance with Climate Change Duties 2022

PART 1 Profile of Reporting Body

1a Name of reporting body

West Lothian Council

1b Type of Body

Local Government

1c Highest number of full-time equivalent staff in the body during the report year

6784

1d Metrics used by the body

Specify the metrics that the body uses to assess its performance in relation to climate change and sustainability.

Metric	Units	Value	Comments
Population size served	Population	185,580	https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates/mid-2021

1e Overall budget of the body

Specify approximate £/annum for the report year

Budget	Budget Comments
£538,322,000	Net service budget expenditure

1f Report Type
Specify the report year type

Report Type	Report Year Comments
Financial	Waste emissions data is calendar year

1g Context
Provide a summary of the body's nature and functions that are relevant to climate change reporting

As a local authority in an area with an expanding population of over 185,000, West Lothian Council provides services such as Education, Social Services, Planning, Housing, Economic Development, Highways, Street Lighting and Cleansing. It also works closely with other public bodies such as police, fire and health through its Community Planning Partnership. There are, however, four main areas where the nature and functions of the organisation make a significant contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and are therefore relevant. These are: the operation of over 250 buildings including offices, partnership centres, schools, sheltered housing and depots; street lighting and other road furniture (signage etc); operation of the council's fleet of vehicles; and waste collection and disposal throughout the area. In addition, the council's Planning function shapes future policy to ensure that mitigation and adaptation to the impacts of climate change are considered in the Local Development Plan and associated planning guidance.

PART 2 Governance, Management and Strategy

Governance and management

2a How is climate change governed in the body?

Provide a summary of the roles performed by the body's governance bodies and members in relation to climate change. If any of the body's activities in relation to climate change sit outside its own governance arrangements (in relation to, for example, land use, adaptation, transport, business travel, waste, information and communication technology, procurement or behaviour change), identify these activities and the governance arrangements. Provide a diagram / chart to outline the governance structure within the body.

Climate change and sustainability is embedded within the governance structure of West Lothian Council. Council Executive has overall responsibility for ensuring the council's compliance with the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and is responsible for the approval of all climate change strategies, policies, action plans and monitoring reports. The Environment & Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel (PDSP) is comprised of elected members who develop new policies for the council and review existing policies to identify where changes are required. The panel does not make decisions, but it makes recommendations to the Council Executive. The Environment & Sustainability PDSP has responsibility for consideration of the Climate Change Strategy and associated Action Plans and climate change reports, including the annual Climate Change Duties report. The Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Steering Group has responsibility for monitoring performance against the Environment outcome of the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2013-2023 (LOIP) including targets for climate change and sustainability. The chair of the Climate Change & Sustainability Working Group (CCSWG) reports quarterly to the Steering Group. The minutes of the CCSWG / Environment Forum are submitted to the Steering Group for scrutiny and minutes from the Steering Group circulated to CCSWG members.

2b How is climate change action managed and embedded in the body?

Provide a summary of how decision-making in relation to climate change action by the body is managed and how responsibility is allocated to the body's senior staff, departmental heads etc. If any such decision-making sits outside the body's own governance arrangements (in relation to, for example, land use, adaptation, transport, business travel, waste, information and communication technology, procurement or behaviour change), identify how this is managed and how responsibility is allocated outside the body. Provide a diagram to show how responsibility is allocated to the body's senior staff, departmental heads etc.

The council's principal corporate decision-making body is its Executive Committee which is chaired by the Leader of the council. The Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration has direct responsibility for climate change and chairs the Climate Change and Sustainability Working Group (CCSWG). In support of the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration's role, each Head of Service is a lead officer for climate change with responsibility for climate change actions and targets within their service area. Heads of Service may delegate their responsibility to a direct report

to ensure that day to day management responsibilities are clear and that delegated decision making is undertaken at the appropriate level. All activities relating to climate change are set out in the council's Climate Change Strategy and associated Action Plans, and are coordinated by the Energy & Climate Change Manager through the CCSWG. Lead officers for specific actions provide quarterly progress reports through the council's performance management system (Pentana). The Emergency Planning Service is located in the Chief Executive Office. The service is responsible for ensuring that the council has emergency response arrangements in place to enable it to respond effectively in times of crisis. The impact of climate change has also been identified in the council's Corporate Risk Register and progress against actions to address climate risk is monitored by senior management through the appropriate service management team. Climate Change is also embedded throughout the organisation in a number of ways:- Corporate Induction includes a section on energy and climate change awareness;- When new projects or plans are being developed, the Strategic Outline Business Case includes a section on Sustainability which must be considered and completed in all cases;- The council's Corporate Procurement Strategy sets out the vision to "achieve superior procurement performance through advanced sustainable procurement practices for the benefit of the council and its stakeholders" and quarterly reports on progress against the council's Climate Change Strategy actions are reported to the Environment & Sustainability PDSP. One of our key LOIP outcomes is that "We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment".

Strategy

2c Does the body have specific climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives in its corporate plan or similar document?

Provide a brief summary of objectives if they exist

Wording of objective	Name of document	Document Link
The council aims to develop a strong, inclusive and sustainable West Lothian. We want to build communities and services that are well designed and protect the built and natural environment for current residents and future generations.	Corporate Plan 2018-2023 (P.33)	https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/19574/West-Lothian-Council-Corporate-Plan-2018---2023/pdf/West_Lothian_Council_Corporate_Plan_2018-2023.pdf
Improving waste recycling rates across West Lothian by implementing the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Strategy.	Corporate Plan 2018-2023 (P.34)	https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/19574/West-Lothian-Council-Corporate-Plan-2018---2023/pdf/West_Lothian_Council_Corporate_Plan_2018-2023.pdf
Protecting the environment through a range of regulatory and enforcement activities that will protect the health, wellbeing and safety of local people.	Corporate Plan 2018-2023 (P.34)	https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/19574/West-Lothian-Council-Corporate-Plan-2018---2023/pdf/West_Lothian_Council_Corporate_Plan_2018-2023.pdf

<p>Engaging with the community and commercial operators to deliver a cost-effective public transport network and active travel options.</p>	<p>Corporate Plan 2018-2023 (P.34)</p>	<p>https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/19574/West-Lothian-Council-Corporate-Plan-2018---2023/pdf/West_Lothian_Council_Corporate_Plan_2018-2023.pdf</p>
<p>Continue to maintain and protect the local environment for residents, visitors and future generations by maintaining public spaces, gardens and provision of country parks and encouraging community to play a more active role in looking after their local environment.</p>	<p>Corporate Plan 2018-2023 (P.34)</p>	<p>https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/19574/West-Lothian-Council-Corporate-Plan-2018---2023/pdf/West_Lothian_Council_Corporate_Plan_2018-2023.pdf</p>
<p>The council is committed to working with its partners on mitigating and adapting to climate change and promoting sustainable development. This will be achieved through a range of activities relating to:- -Waste - minimising the amount of waste that is sent to landfill and increasing recycling; -Transport - promoting sustainable and active modes of transport and increasing access to sustainable transport; -Sustainable use of resources - reducing energy use through the introduction of renewable technology and energy efficiency measures in buildings and encouraging behavioural change to reduce energy consumption; and, -Measures to adapt to both current and future changes in the climate.</p>	<p>Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2013-2023 (P.48)</p>	<p>https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/17003/West-Lothian-Local-Outcomes-Improvement-Plan-2013-2023/pdf/West_Lothian_Local_Outcomes_Improvement_Plan_2013-2023.pdf</p>
<p>The council's assets will be managed to ensure that their useful operational life meets expected life expectancy, as well as minimising the potential adverse impact on the environment. Sustainability should make sure that council assets are available to support ongoing service delivery in the long term.</p>	<p>Corporate Asset Management Strategy (Outcome 7) 2018-2028 (P.13)</p>	<p>https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/viewDoc.aspx?c=e%97%9Dg%8Fpy%88</p>

2d Does the body have a climate change plan or strategy?

If yes, provide the name of any such document and details of where a copy of the document may be obtained or accessed.

West Lothian Council Climate Change Strategy 2021-2028:

https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/52423/Climate-Change-Strategy-2021-2028/pdf/WLC_Climate_Change_Strategy_2021-28_FINAL.pdf?m=637816379267070000

2e Does the body have any plans or strategies covering the following areas that include climate change?

Provide the name of any such documents and the timeframe covered.

Topic area	Name of document	Link	Time period covered	Comments
Adaptation	Adaptation Action Plan	https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/viewDoc.asp?c=e%97%9Di%94my%8F	2022 – 2028	
Business travel	Green Transport Policy and Procedure Note	https://intranet.westlothian.gov.uk/article/73315/Green-Transport	2017 -2023	The policy and procedure notes were developed to assist employees meet the objectives of an internal transport review project and set out employee responsibilities and the procedures that should be followed in relation to how they approach business travel.
Staff Travel	Green Transport Policy and Procedure Note	https://intranet.westlothian.gov.uk/article/73315/Green-Transport	2017 -2023	The policy and procedure notes were developed to assist employees meet the objectives of an internal transport review project and set out employee responsibilities and the procedures that should be followed in relation to how they approach business travel.

Energy efficiency	Climate Change Strategy	West Lothian Council Climate Change Strategy	2021-2028	
Fleet transport	Operational Services Management Plan	https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/53920/2022-23-Management-Plan-Operational-Services/pdf/Management_Plan_2022-23_Operational_Services.pdf?m=637914860744570000	2022 - 2023	
ICT	Corporate Asset Management Strategy	Corporate Asset Management Strategy	2019-2028	
Renewable energy	Climate Change Strategy	West Lothian Council Climate Change Strategy	2021-2028	
Sustainable /renewable heat	Climate Change Strategy	West Lothian Council Climate Change Strategy	2021-2028	
Waste management	Operational Services Management Plan 2022/23	https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/53920/2022-23-Management-Plan-Operational-Services/pdf/Management_Plan_2022-23_Operational_Services.pdf?m=637914860744570000	2022- 2023	Operational Services Management Plan 2022/23, provides our activities and actions for 2022/23.

Land Use	West Lothian Local Development Plan	https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/LDP	2014 - 2024	The council's Local Development Plan sets out in its aims that it will "Help achieve climate change objectives by minimising the area's carbon footprint through promoting development in sustainable locations and supporting mitigation and adaptation measures."
Water and sewerage	Climate Change Strategy	West Lothian Council Climate Change Strategy	2021-2028	
Other (please specify in comments)	Local Housing Strategy	https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/18527/West-Lothian-Council-s-Local-Housing-Strategy-2017-2022/pdf/West_Lothian_Local_Housing_Strategy_2017-221.pdf?m=637314667792200000	2017-2022	

2f What are the body's top 5 priorities for climate change governance, management and strategy for the year ahead? Provide a brief summary of the body's areas and activities of focus for the year ahead.

Fleet

A working group to tackle the decarbonisation of the council's fleet and to look at how the council will meet the targets set by the Scottish Government in relation to a move to alternatively fuelled vehicles from 2025 onwards was established and produced a report to the council's Executive Management Team. The report recommended ways in which the council could meet the targets detailing timelines and finance options. The Executive Management Team agreed the recommendations in principle and work will commence going forward to plan and implement recommendations.

Housing

Net Carbon Zero Targets

The paper “The Integration of Net Carbon Zero Targets In Housing Strategy” was presented at PDSP in February 2021 which detailed the actions that Housing Strategy & Development plan to take to meet our targets. These detailed actions are being integrated into procedures and processes for both new build and existing housing stock

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/viewDoc.asp?c=e%97%9Dh%97m%82%8E>

New Build Housing

Reduction in energy to run the houses to meet “The Committee on Climate Change” recommendations of ‘ultra-high’ levels of energy efficiency. As part of our Housing Strategy & Developments ongoing review of targets and our aim to achieve as close to Net Zero is possible we have committed to carry out a study within financial year 2022/23 which will investigate the feasibility of implementing The Committee on Climate Change recommendations that new homes must achieve ‘ultra-high’ levels of energy efficiency consistent with a space heat demand of 15-20 kWh/m²/yr. This figure is similar to the space heating demand of a Passivhaus Building which is currently ≤15 kWh/m²/yr.

Active Travel to be integrated into all New Build Developments

HS&D will be engaging with all our consultants on new developments with the aim to include improved cycling routes, public transport links and non-car methods of travel within new developments in line with West Lothian Active Travel Policy. This is an ongoing consultation with the level of engagement varying per individual site.

Electric Vehicle Charge Points for New Buildings

On a wider scale, for reducing the use of carbon fuels for travel, we now require all new houses to be provided with the means for Electrical Vehicles Charging Points to be installed at the point of construction for all new houses with a dedicated parking space. For houses without a dedicated parking space we install a dedicated electrical circuit terminating at a plate close to the parking area for the house, where an EVCP can be connected at a future date. This should allow for changes and upgrades to points as charging equipment develops and improves over the coming years. This is expressed in our Design Guide.

Investing in Current Housing Stock

West Lothian Council have an ongoing programme to improve the energy efficiency of our existing housing stock which includes upgrading existing domestic boilers to more energy efficient models, replacing windows and external doors with upgraded thermally efficient products, and installing External Wall Insulation on appropriate properties. All these actions are to meet our Statutory Compliance with EESSH2 and to help move the existing stock towards Carbon Zero.

Home Energy Efficiency Programme

The 2022/23 proposed Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland (HEEPS) programme will be the tenth year that HEEPS: Area Based Scheme (ABS) funding has been available to West Lothian Council. The HEEPS:ABS programme has now been successfully managed in-house since January

2016. By May 2022 a total of 1,272 privately owned properties have received External Wall Insulation (EWI) through HEEPS funding, whilst an additional 751 Council properties have received EWI as part of Capital Investment programmes.

KPI'S for Carbon Emissions & EESSH II

During 2022-23 HS&D are working towards setting a baseline figure for carbon output from our domestic stock to allow targeted investment in the stock and allow accurate reduction figures to be reported.

Training Staff

Staff are training towards becoming retrofit co-ordinators to allow efficient and effective Project Management of whole building retrofit projects to meet the requirements of PAS 2035.

Nets, Land & Countryside Services

- 1) To implement step 2 of the Grounds Maintenance participatory budgeting exercise, for communities to vote on levels of maintenance and to change maintenance practices accordingly.
- 2) Three new Ecology and Biodiversity Officers are now in post, with a focus on updating the West Lothian Local Biodiversity Action Plan; creating policy, inputting to Planning where appropriate and implementing actions to improve biodiversity and ecosystem services, with climate change mitigation and adaptation as a key driver.
- 3) A Natural Capital Assessment of West Lothian – as part of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan mapping process – October/Nov 2022

Waste

Introduction of Twin Stream recycling to reduce contamination in recycling bins and to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill

2g Has the body used the Climate Change Assessment Tool (a) or equivalent tool to self-assess its capability / performance?

If yes, please provide details of the key findings and resultant action taken.

(a) This refers to the tool developed by Resource Efficient Scotland for self-assessing an organisation's capability / performance in relation to climate change.

The Climate Change & Sustainability Working Group carried out a comprehensive review using the CCAT tool in December 2017. The results of this process have identified a number of areas for improvement including climate change adaptation and sustainable procurement. We will consider using the CCAT tool again as part of our review processes.

PART 3 Corporate Emissions, Targets and Project Data

Emissions

3a Emissions from the start of the year which the body uses as a baseline (for its carbon footprint) to the end of the report year

Complete the following table using the greenhouse gas emissions total for the body calculated on the same basis as for its annual carbon footprint / management reporting or, where applicable, its sustainability reporting. Include greenhouse gas emissions from the body's estate and operations (a) (measured and reported in accordance with Scopes 1 & 2 and, to the extent applicable, selected Scope 3 of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (b)). If data is not available for any year from the start of the baseline year to the end of the report year, provide an explanation in the comments column.

(a) No information is required on the effect of the body on emissions which are not from its estate and operations.

(b) This refers to "The greenhouse gas protocol. A corporate accounting and reporting standard (revised edition)", World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Geneva, Switzerland / World Resources Institute, Washington DC, USA (2004), ISBN: 1-56973-568-9.

Reference Year	Year	Year Type	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total	Units	Comments
Baseline Year	2013/14	Financial				61,061	tCO ₂ e	
Year 1 carbon footprint	2014/15	Financial	17,954	28,003	15,162	61,119	tCO ₂ e	
Year 2 carbon footprint	2015/16	Financial	13,264	24,883	22,979	61,126	tCO ₂ e	
Year 3 carbon footprint	2016/17	Financial	16,352	20,494	19,985	56,831	tCO ₂ e	
Year 4 carbon footprint	2017/18	Financial	17,290	17,153	16,388	50,831	tCO ₂ e	
Year 5 carbon footprint	2018/19	Financial	15,888	12,782	13,772	42,442	tCO ₂ e	
Year 6 carbon footprint	2019/20	Financial	16,445	10,731	9,459	36,635	tCO ₂ e	
Year 7 carbon footprint	2020/21	Financial	16,245	8,128	6,375	30,748	tCO ₂ e	

Year 8 carbon footprint	2021/22	Financial	16,211	7,820	6,089	30,120	tCO2e	
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3b Breakdown of emissions sources

Complete the following table with the breakdown of emission sources from the body's most recent carbon footprint (greenhouse gas inventory); this should correspond to the last entry in the table in 3(a) above. Use the 'Comments' column to explain what is included within each category of emission source entered in the first column. If there is no data consumption available for an emission source enter the emissions in kgCO2e in the 'Consumption' column of one of the "Other" rows and assign the scope and an emission factor of 1.

(a) Emissions factors are published annually by the UK Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Emissions Factor Year 2021

Emission	Emission source	Scope	Consumption data	Units	Emission factor	Units	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity	Grid Electricity (generation)	Scope 2	36,830,574	kWh	0.21233	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	7,820.2	
Electricity	Grid Electricity (transmission & distribution losses)	Scope 3	36,830,574	kWh	0.01879	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	692.0	
Fuels	Natural Gas	Scope 1	65,016,041	kWh	0.18316	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	11,908.3	
Biofuels	Biomass (Wood Chips) kWh	Scope 1	4,452,588	kWh	0.01513	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	67.4	
Biofuels	Biomass (Wood Pellets) kWh	Scope 1	5,348,822	kWh	0.01513	kg CO ₂ e/kWh	80.9	
Water	Water - Supply	Scope 3	324,818	m ³	0.11000	kg CO ₂ e/m ³	35.7	
Water	Water - Treatment	Scope 3	300,106	m ³	0.23000	kg CO ₂ e/m ³	69.0	
Other	Refuse Commercial & Industrial to Landfill	Scope 3	7,140	tonnes	446.20400	kgCO ₂ e/tonne	3,185.9	Refuse Municipal

								to Landfill entry
Waste	Organic Food & Drink Composting	Scope 3	14,398	tonnes	8.95070	kgCO2e/tonne	128.9	
Waste	Organic Garden Waste Composting	Scope 3	1,643	tonnes	8.95070	kgCO2e/tonne	14.7	
Waste	Paper & Board (Mixed) Recycling	Scope 3	2,073	tonnes	21.29357	kgCO2e/tonne	44.1	
Waste	WEEE (Mixed) Recycling	Scope 3	51	tonnes	21.29357	kgCO2e/tonne	1.1	
Waste	Glass Recycling	Scope 3	2,674	tonnes	21.29357	kgCO2e/tonne	56.9	
Waste	Plastics (Average) Recycling	Scope 3	2,410	tonnes	21.29357	kgCO2e/tonne	51.3	
Waste	Metal Cans (Mixed) & Metal Scrap Recycling	Scope 3	3,860	tonnes	21.29357	kgCO2e/tonne	82.2	
Waste	Refuse Municipal /Commercial /Industrial to Combustion	Scope 3	43,124	tonnes	21.29357	kgCO2e/tonne	918.3	
Waste	Construction (Average) Recycling	Scope 3	17,867	tonnes	0.98914	kgCO2e/tonne	17.7	
Waste	Organic Food & Drink AD	Scope 3	82	tonnes	8.95070	kgCO2e/tonne	0.7	
Waste	Batteries Recycling	Scope 3	2	tonnes	21.29357	kg CO2e/tonne	0.0	
Waste	Clothing (Closed loop recycling)	Scope 3	517	tonnes	21.29357	kg CO2e/tonne	11.0	
Waste	Refuse Commercial & Industrial to Landfill	Scope 3	419	tonnes	467.04580	kgCO2e/tonne	195.7	
Fuels	Diesel (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	1,468,585	litres	2.51233	kg CO2e/litre	3,689.6	

Fuels	Petrol (average biofuel blend)	Scope 1	59,173	litres	2.19352	kg CO2e/litre	129.8	
Transport	Car - diesel (average - unknown engine size) miles	Scope 3	576,058	miles	0.27106	kg CO2e/mile	156.1	
Fuels	Gas Oil litre	Scope 1	121,444	litres	2.75857	kg CO2e/litre	335.0	
	Hybrid/Homeworking emissions	Scope 3	21.00%	percentage of total FTEs	0.30000	tCO2e/FTE/annum	427.4	
							30,120	

3c Generation, consumption and export of renewable energy

Provide a summary of the body's annual renewable generation (if any), and whether it is used or exported by the body.

Technology	Renewable Electricity		Renewable Heat		Comments
	Total consumed by the body (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	Total consumed by the body (kWh)	Total exported (kWh)	
Solar PV	204,280	22,698			Assumed 90% consumption of on-site generated electricity.
Biomass			9,801,410		Actual metered data for amount of biomass heat consumed by WLC in the reporting period.

3d Organisational Targets

List all of the body's targets of relevance to its climate change duties. Where applicable, targets for reducing indirect emissions of greenhouse gases, overall carbon targets and any separate land use, energy efficiency, waste, water, information and communication technology, transport, travel and heat targets should be included. Where applicable, you should also provide the body's target date for achieving zero direct emissions of greenhouse gases, or such other targets that demonstrate how the body is contributing to Scotland achieving its emissions reduction targets.

Name of target	Type of target	Target	Units	Boundary /scope of target	Year used as base line	Baseline figure	Units of baseline	Target completion year	Progress against target	Comments
Reduction in emissions from the council's activities and services (from non-domestic buildings, transport, external lighting, waste and Reduction in emissions from the council's activities and services (from non-domestic buildings, transport, external lighting, waste and water	Absolute	13,264	tCO2e reduction	All emissions	2019/20	36,635	tCO2e	2027/28	30,120	2028 is first interim target set out in the council's Climate Change Strategy. Ultimate aim is to be net-zero by 2045 at latest.
Carbon emissions from energy used in buildings (annual)	Absolute	17,867	tCO2e reduction	Energy use in buildings	2019/20	19,923	tCO2e	2027/28	18,721	
Electricity Consumption (kWh/m2)	Absolute	66.6	Other (please specify in comments)	Energy use in buildings	2019/20	68	Other (please specify in comments)	2021/22	62.23	Baseline unit kWh/m2. Aim is to reduce consumption.

Gas Consumption (kWh/m2)	Absolute	155	Other (please specify in comments)	Energy use in buildings	2019/20	170	Other (please specify in comments)	2021/22	172.35	Baseline unit kWh/m2. Aim is to reduce consumption.
Tonnes of CO2 (now reported as GHG) emissions per capita for the West Lothian district	Absolute	6.9	tCO2e reduction	All emissions	2013/14	7	tCO2e	2023/24	5.4	Target to be below national average
Energy generated as a result of installation of renewables and low carbon technology. MWh of heat produced	Absolute	14,400	Other (please specify in comments)	Energy use in buildings	2013/14	355	MWh	2023/24	10,156	Target to increase amount of heat - measured in MWh. Significantly reduced from previous year due to impact of COVID-19 on biomass suppliers.
Energy generated as a result of the installation of renewables and low carbon technology. kWh of electricity produced	Absolute	390,000	Other (please specify in comments)	Energy use in buildings	2013/14	21,221	kWh	2023/24	226,978	Target to increase amount of electricity generated from low carbon and renewable sources - measured in kWh

Percentage of household waste recycled.	Percentage	60	Other (please specify in comments)	Waste	2011/12	42.5	Other (please specify in comments)	2021/22	41.3	Target to increase percentage of waste recycled.
Net-zero West Lothian Council	Absolute		Other (please specify in comments)	All emissions	2013/14	61,061	tCO2e	2044/45	30,120	Target is for a net-zero West Lothian Council by 2045 at the latest. this is the council's adopted strategic target, demonstrating how the body is contributing to Scotland achieving its emissions reduction targets.

3da How will the body align its spending plans and use of resources to contribute to reducing emissions and delivering its emission reduction targets?

Provide any relevant supporting information

The Climate Change Strategy 2021-2028 commits the council to achieving a number of targets that aim to mitigate the effects of climate change by reducing emissions and ensuring that West Lothian is well adapted and prepared for changing weather patterns brought about by climate change. The approach adopted in developing the strategy ensures that it provides sound governance and a robust framework for ensuring that Climate Change is addressed in all future relevant council strategies, policies, management and action plans. This will enable the council to turn the aspirations and related actions of this document into reality while creating a framework for supporting others in West Lothian such as communities and businesses to contribute to a net-zero area. The council's Climate Change Strategy is aligned with the councils' Corporate Plan priorities, including the protection of the built and natural environment priority.

3db How will the body publish, or otherwise make available, it's progress towards achieving its emissions reduction targets?

Provide any other relevant supporting information. In the event that the body wishes to refer to information already published, provide information about where the publication can be accessed.

Section 6.1 of the council's Climate Change Strategy sets out how climate change action and progress against targets will be reported.

A suite of performance indicators and actions are in place to monitor progress on climate change objectives and targets.

Performance indicators and actions are regularly reviewed to ensure they are fit for purpose to monitor progress on actions for the life span of the strategy. Progress will be reported to and monitored by the Climate Change and Sustainability Working Group, Community Planning Partnership Board, Capital Asset Management Board, Modernisation Board and Council Executive as appropriate. Specific performance monitoring reports will be presented to the Environment & Sustainability PDSP on a quarterly basis. These reports will be publicly available.

The Council's Climate Change Declaration report is submitted annually to the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) acting on behalf of the Scottish Government. Reporting is a statutory duty under Public Bodies Duties of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and includes a full inventory of the council's emissions for the reporting year along with details of supporting activities for both mitigation and adaptation. The annual report is presented to Council Executive for approval each November. The annual report includes section 3d which contains performance data on the council's adopted emissions targets. The annual report is published on the council's website in a dedicated section on Climate Change.

3e Estimated total annual carbon savings from all projects implemented by the body in the report year

If no projects were implemented against an emissions source, enter "0".

If the body does not have any information for an emissions source, enter "Unknown".

If the body does not include the emissions source in its carbon footprint, enter "N/A".

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity	497	
Electricity	100	
Waste	303	
Fleet transport	39	
Total	939	

3f Detail the top 10 carbon reduction projects to be carried out by the body in the report year

Provide details of the 10 projects which are estimated to achieve the highest carbon savings during report year.

Project name	Funding source	First full year of CO ₂ e savings	Are these savings figures estimated or actual?	Capital cost (£)	Operational cost (£/annum)	Project lifetime (years)	Primary fuel/emission source saved	Estimated carbon savings per year (tCO ₂ e/annum)	Estimated costs savings (£/annum)	Behaviour Change	Comments
LED Street Lighting		2021/22	Estimated				Grid Electricity (generation)	497			
Energy Efficiency in Buildings		2021/22	Estimated				Grid Electricity (generation)	100			
Reduction in waste to landfill		2021/22	Estimated				Refuse Mun/Comm/Ind to Combustion (tonnes)	303			
Changes in fleet provision		2021/22	Estimated				Diesel (average fuel blend)	39			

3g Estimated decrease or increase in the body's emissions attributed to factors (not reported elsewhere in this form) in the report year
 If the emissions increased or decreased due to any such factor in the report year, provide an estimate of the amount and direction

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Other (please specify in comments)	250	Increase	Increase in diesel usage due to covid restrictions lifting and operational staff being in for full year
Other (please specify in comments)	865	Decrease	Changes in emissions factors
Service provision	640	Increase	Increase in utility use (mostly electricity but some biomass) from return to buildings post-covid and increased ventilation requirements
Total		25	

3h Anticipated annual carbon savings from all projects implemented by the body in the year ahead

If no projects are expected to be implemented against an emissions source, enter "0".

If the organisation does not have any information for an emissions source, enter "Unknown".

If the organisation does not include the emissions source in its carbon footprint, enter "N/A".

Emissions source	Total estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Electricity	115	Continued LED streetlighting upgrades
Natural gas	375	Review of BMS settings and implementation of Heating Guidance
Waste	57	
Other (please specify in comments)	14	Reduction in number of vehicles by 36
Total	561	

3i Estimated decrease or increase in emissions from other sources in the year ahead

If the body's corporate emissions are likely to increase or decrease for any other reason in the year ahead, provide an estimate of the amount and direction.

Emissions source	Total estimated annual emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Increase or decrease in emissions	Comments
Estate changes	275	Increase	Increase to education estate (Winchburgh)
Service provision	191	Decrease	Reduction in number of Covid related vehicle hires by 81
Other (please specify in comments)	100	Increase	Potential increase in mileage and fuel use as staff return to office working but figure unknown
Other (please specify in comments)	700	Decrease	Emissions factor changes
Total		516	

3j Total carbon reduction project savings since the start of the year which the body used as a baseline for its carbon footprint

If the body has data available, estimate the total emissions savings made from projects since the start of that year ("the baseline year").

Total savings	Total estimated emissions savings (tCO ₂ e)	Comments
Total project savings since baseline year	26,532	Estimated figure, taken as the sum of savings identified from 2015/16-2020/21 as 21/22 savings yet to be fully realised.

3k Supporting information and best practice

Provide any other relevant supporting information and any examples of best practice by the body in relation to corporate emissions, targets and projects.

IT Services

- The provision of video conferencing systems in meeting rooms to allow remote participation reducing the need for travel.
- Provision of the electronic voting system for elected members allowing them to participate fully in council business without the need to travel.
- Remote access solution / mobile devices allowing staff to work from home or in a mobile fashion reducing the need for travel.
- Providing softphones and removing the hardware phones from desks leading to a reduction in power demand for those devices.

PART 4 Adaptation

Assessing and Managing Risk

**4a Has the body assessed current and future climate related risks?
If yes, provide a reference or link to any such risk assessment(s).**

The council completed a Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP) in early 2015 as part of a process to assess our exposure to weather events. The LCLIP looked at historical events and the potential for future disruption to local communities and has been refreshed to consider more recent events. This information has been used to inform the council's Adaptation Action Plan (APP) which was published in 2022.

The Adaptation Action Plan identifies the following risks:

- Climate change may exacerbate pre-existing vulnerabilities or inequalities in individuals/communities
- Increased risks of water logging of greenspaces
- Increased risks of pests and diseases, and wind-throw of trees
- Risk of fallen trees on strategic highway corridors
- Increased costs associated with flooding

In addition the council continues to deliver its obligations under the first Forth Estuary Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2016-2022, a six-year plan of action. The council's actions are largely focussed on the collection of data and commissioning of studies, all of which have been completed for the first cycle. WLC has also been working with partners to develop the cycle 2 plan for 2022-2028, which at the time of writing is due for publication in December 2022. The assessment of flood risk and sustainable drainage are integrated into the council's Development Planning and Management processes with the aim of reducing the number of properties at risk within the council's administrative area. In assessing development proposals, we seek flood risk assessments where appropriate and ensure that these include the most up to date data and climate change allowances for land use planning.

**4b What arrangements does the body have in place to manage climate-related risks?
Provide details of any climate change adaptation strategies, action plans and risk management procedures, and any climate change adaptation policies which apply across the body.**

Corporate Risk WLC018c: failure to adapt to climate change, is included in the council's corporate risk register and corporate risk management process.

The AAP (2022-28) has seven outcome areas: communities, business & logistics, built environment, natural environment, transport & travel, partnerships knowledge & skill and strategic planning & investment. Priorities and actions have been identified for each of the seven outcome areas. These actions are Short (2022 - 23), Medium (2024 - 25) and Longer term (2026 - 28). Progress against these actions are reported quarterly to Environment & Sustainability Policy & Scrutiny Panel.

Some examples of the APP actions are:

Land Use Actions

- Ensuring that climate disadvantage is addressed through the Open Space Plan and the Food Growing Strategy
- As part of the WLC Ecosystems Approach, stakeholders are involved in decision-making, auditing and design / management of open spaces.
- WLC Community Choices – involving stakeholders in land management decisions
- The principles of an Ecosystems Approach to land management are incorporated into the Open Space Plan and green infrastructure is used to reduce the risk of flooding, through management and investment in parks and greenspaces
- Improved GIS mapping of all greenspaces is incorporated into the Open Space Plan
- Natural Capital Auditing is being explored as a way to map and monitor natural assets across West Lothian, with the ecosystem services they provide (e.g. water regulation, air temperature regulation)
- Officers engage with developers to ensure that a) green infrastructure and sustainable urban drainage are included in new developments and b) accessible green and blue networks are provided as part of new core development areas
- Implement sustainable woodland management through Long-term Forest Plan prepared for Beecraigs (270ha) and Urban Woodland Management Plans for a further 131ha. Include management where possible under “Continuous Cover” regime and with a greater range of species to enable better adaptation to climate change, protection against disease and improved mitigation against severe weather events.
- Gather evidence of past impacts of fallen trees on the strategic road network to assess current and future risk of tree fall.
- Identify and communicate costs and impacts associated with flooding, water ingress and damage caused by severe weather events as well as high winds and storms.

Flood Risk Management Actions:

The council has a series of planned actions to deal with the effects of heavy, short-duration and prolonged rainfall detailed in the Forth Estuary Local Flood Risk Management Plan, its Surface Water Management Plans, its Plan to reduce flood risk and increase the resilience of its social housing and its Severe Weather Plan, which sets out the council's response to weather events and the way these are managed. The council has formally agreed with Scottish Water to share in the maintenance of future sustainable drainage systems (SUDS) serving new housing developments. Scottish Water has established a team for vesting legacy SUDS.

Taking Action

4c What action has the body taken to adapt to climate change?

Include details of work to increase awareness of the need to adapt to climate change and build the capacity of staff and stakeholders to assess risk and implement action. The body may wish to make reference to the Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme (“the Programme”).

The council has continued to invest in improvements to headwalls and trash screens to enhance the safe inspection and cleaning of the screens to reduce flood risk. We also continue to monitor and maintain a network of level sensors to improve response before, during, and in the aftermath of flood events and to provide a record of events. We have continued to assess open watercourses and to survey culverted watercourses, including previously uncharted systems, and record this information on the spatial asset management database.

Work continues on the outline design of a flood protection scheme to protect properties against flooding from the Liggat Syke in Broxburn. In tandem, the council has continued to develop a proposal to offer property flood resilience products to a number of homes at New Holygate and Parkwood Gardens.

Bathgate Meadows Nature Park is a new multiple-benefits project with a long history of prior feasibility, investigations, surveys and outline design. The project aims to deliver a number of community aspirations as well as restoring habitat, increasing biodiversity, enhancing active travel opportunities with new infrastructure, reducing flood risk, improving water quality and improving the physical condition of local watercourses. The council has improved drainage and reduced the risk of flooding to public open spaces in Plessey Terrace, Bathgate and Murieston Valley in Livingston. We have provided technical support for drainage enhancements in Bathgate’s Meadow Park and Bathgate Cemetery, Hillside Drive in Blackridge and Blackridge Primary School, Fauldhouse Cemetery, Almond Park in Livingston, Cunning Park in Mid Calder, King George V’s Park in Whitburn and Whitburn Cemetery. The council has invested in work below ground to reduce the risk to flooding to council owned social housing stock in Armadale, Bathgate, Uphall, West Calder and Winchburgh. We have continued to invest to maintain the structural integrity and historic value of Beecraigs Loch dam wall and Eliburn Reservoir with annual structural inspections and continued hydrological monitoring.

Removal of encroaching vegetation to maintain open water as part of wetland mosaic of habitats at Balvormie Pond, Beecraigs Country Park, Polkemmet Country Park. Raingardens installed and seeded/planted in 3 parks – Letham Park - Pumpherston, Wyndford Park – Broxburn, Falcon Brae Park - Livingston (restored)

4d Where applicable, what contribution has the body made to helping deliver the Programme? Provide any other relevant supporting information

Outcome 1: Our communities are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe in response to the changing climate

1.1.2 Empowered Communities - Community Volunteers maintaining watercourses Timeline: Ongoing Owners: Scottish Government, The Conservation Volunteers, Local Authorities

- Willow spilling was carried out with volunteers at Polkemmet Country Park to build skills, improve biodiversity, protect riverbanks and improve resilience to flooding

Outcome 5: Our natural environment is valued, enjoyed, protected and enhanced and has increased resilience to climate change

5.2.3 Understanding and Recognition - Outdoor Learning in Nature Timeline: To 2024, 100 greenspaces to be improved and regularly used for outdoor learning and play Owners: SNH, Local Authorities

- Park improvements have been carried out in 5 public parks to improve opportunities for recreation, access, learning, physical activity and play in nature
- Three Wee Forests have been created near schools, which will act as outdoor classrooms

Review, monitoring and evaluation

4e What arrangements does the body have in place to review current and future climate risks?

Provide details of arrangements to review current and future climate risks, for example, what timescales are in place to review the climate change risk assessments referred to in Question 4(a) and adaptation strategies, action plans, procedures and policies in Question 4(b).

Progress on the actions in the Adaptation Action Plan is reported to Environment & Sustainability Policy & Scrutiny Panel will be reported every quarter. The Adaptation Action Plan runs until 2028 and contains actions which have short, medium and long timescales.

4f What arrangements does the body have in place to monitor and evaluate impact of adaptation actions?

Please provide details of monitoring and evaluation criteria and adaptation indicators used to assess the effectiveness of actions detailed under Question 4(c) and Question 4(d).

Each area of the Adaptation Action Plan has key responsible officer from the relevant service area who feeds into the quarterly PDSP update report. The Adaptation Action Plan group meets regularly to evaluate the success of the plan. The Environment and Sustainability PDSP provides elected member scrutiny to the plan. The council is also a member of SNIFFER's Benchmarking Working Group which meets monthly and allows the council to assess its progress against other local authorities.

Future priorities for adaptation

**4g What are the body's top 5 climate change adaptation priorities for the year ahead?
Provide a summary of the areas and activities of focus for the year ahead.**

Nets, Land and Countryside:

- 1) To continue to develop green infrastructure in public parks to enhance the ecosystem services provided (i.e. water regulation, air quality regulation, air temperature regulation, pollination, formal/informal learning, etc)
- 2) To continue to address access issues in parks, greenspaces and green networks to ensure safe pedestrian/cycle use
- 3) To implement projects funded by the WLC Climate Change Emergency Fund and WLC's allocation of the Nature Restoration Fund
- 4) To implement Community Choices mowing changes across the area
- 5) To advance WLC woodland management planning and implementation

Flood Risk Management:

The year ahead will see publication of the second Flood Risk Management Plan (2022-2028) for the Forth Estuary. Work is ongoing with partners to prepare for this, whilst completing the final obligations from the current plan, subject to available resources. Capital investment tails off with the first plan. The outlook for Scottish Government investment to support the second cycle is currently uncertain. We will continue to progress the design of structural measures to reduce the risk of flooding from the Liggat Syke and engage with local people further. The roll-out of property flood resilience measures to a number of individual homes at risk from flooding in Broxburn will also continue. The success of this project relies on uptake by householders.

PART 5 Procurement

5a How have procurement policies contributed to compliance with climate change duties?

Provide information relating to how the procurement policies of the body have contributed to its compliance with climate changes duties.

The Scottish Government continues to lead the way with the implementation of climate change legislation towards the achieve of their target for net-zero emissions of all greenhouse gases by 2045. In October 2021, West Lothian Council published its Climate Change Strategy 2021-2028, of which the Corporate Procurement Strategy is aligned through the requirement to maintain the Councils position at Level 2 in the Scottish Governments Sustainable Procurement Flexible Framework Assessment tool.

5b How has procurement activity contributed to compliance with climate change duties?

Provide information relating to how procurement activity by the body has contributed to its compliance with climate changes duties.

This is an evolving area and Corporate Procurement Unit will monitor external sources of information and guidance, such as from collaborative groups, Scottish Government Policy Forums and through other stakeholders such as the Improvement Service, working closely with internal Council Climate Change colleagues to influence future internal and external plans and policy development, and progress emerging priorities in the transitional period. Corporate Procurement is represented on the Councils cross-functional working group and, with positive steps being made, we will continue to consult with Corporate Procurement Board and report to them on developments in this space.

Buyers who conduct regulated procurement in the Council complete an in-house Sustainable Procurement e-learning module. In addition, the Corporate Procurement Unit participate in annual “continuing professional development” refresher sessions with our internal Climate Change contact and they also go through the Scottish Governments Climate Literacy e-learning module. Through the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 climate change is embedded in the Sustainable Procurement Duty and, supported by the Scottish Governments Sustainable Procurement tools, this is reflected in the Councils procurement processes and procedures, in particular the Contract Strategy for regulated procurement. Before buying anything, the Council must consider how we can, through tendering, improve the social, environmental and economic wellbeing in Scotland, with a particular focus on reducing inequality, for example, through the appropriate use of the sustainability test and the application of relevant and proportionate contract requirements. From April 2022, we have begun to monitor the number of regulated contracts awarded that included a climate-related requirement.

As the approach to Climate Change develops nationally, CPU and Council Climate Change colleagues will continue to work collaboratively to ensure one consistent WLC approach for future potential measurement and reporting of scope 3 emissions. Work is also underway to establish a resource to review our existing systems, processes and procedures to develop an approach to embed sustainable procurement and climate change into the culture of the organisation to become the norm.

PART 6 Validation and Declaration

6a Internal validation process

Briefly describe the body's internal validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

The Energy & Climate Change Manager is responsible for coordinating and compiling the report. Access to the portal is restricted to appropriate officers. Supporting data is held within the council electronic records management system. An internal audit has been carried out on mandatory sections of the report, with the objective of conducting a high-level review of the content of the Climate Change Report, and to obtain evidence to support key emissions, targets and project data reported within the Declaration. Energy consumption data has been validated internally. Waste figures are audited annually by SEPA. Head of Service for Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration reviews and agrees the report following completion of audit.

6b Peer validation process

Briefly describe the body's peer validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

N/A

6c External validation process

Briefly describe the body's external validation process, if any, of the data or information contained within this report.

N/A

6d No Validation Process

If any information provided in this report has not been validated, identify the information in question and explain why it has not been validated.

N/A

6e Declaration

I confirm that the information in this report is accurate and provides a fair representation of the body's performance in relation to climate change.

Name: Craig McCorrison
Role in the Body: Head of Planning & Economic Development
Date: 25/11/2022

Recommended Reporting: Reporting on Wider Influence

Q1) Historic Emissions (Local Authorities Only)

Please indicate emission amounts and unit of measurement (e.g. tCO₂e) and years. Please provide information on the following components using data from the links provided below. Please use (1) as the default unless targets and actions relate to (2).

Please note : These statistics cover territorial emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O), although not fluorinated gases, which are also included in the UK territorial greenhouse gas emissions statistics. Prior to the 2005 to 2020 publication the statistics covered emissions of carbon dioxide only

(1) UK local and regional CO₂e emissions: subset dataset (emissions within the scope of influence of local authorities):

(2) UK local and regional CO₂e emissions: full dataset:

<https://data.gov.uk/dataset/723c243d-2f1a-4d27-8b61-cdb93e5b10ff/emissions-of-carbon-dioxide-for-local-authority-areas>

Local Authority: (Please State)		West Lothian												
BEIS Dataset: (full or sub-set)		Full												
Source	Sector	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Units
BEIS Sectors	Total Emissions	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	1,191.29	1,203.35	998.00	ktCO ₂ e
	Industry and Commercial	387.50	451.65	392.08	426.96	390.40	322.70	315.20	288.27	282.18	276.89	300.84	200.25	ktCO ₂ e
	Domestic	387.18	412.55	365.93	392.82	385.37	326.27	326.66	300.24	290.06	281.71	281.30	266.85	ktCO ₂ e
	Transport total	425.35	418.75	402.82	394.43	392.11	391.69	400.91	410.06	414.83	413.99	402.54	325.66	ktCO ₂ e
	Per Capita	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[x]	6.54	6.57	5.43

2a) Targets

Please detail your wider influence targets

Sector	Description	Type of Target (units)	Baseline value	Start year	Target	Target/End year	Saving in latest year measured	Latest Year Measured	Comments
Overall Reduction Target	Tonnes of CO2 emissions per capita for the West Lothian District	Per capita (TCO2/per)	8.0	2010	2.0	2020	2.2	2019	Target to be on or below the Scottish average

2b) Does the organisation have an overall mission statement, strategies, plans or policies outlining ambition to influence emissions beyond your corporate boundaries? If so, please detail this in the box below.

The council is committed to working with its partners on mitigating and adapting to climate change and promoting sustainable development and the LOIP includes the outcome "We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment". In the Climate Change Strategy 2021-28, the council sets out the aim of encouraging and supporting our partners, residents and businesses throughout West Lothian to reduce their emissions in line with the Scottish Government net-zero targets. Outcome one of the Strategy is "We continue to reduce the council's own carbon footprint and encourage and support others in West Lothian to reduce theirs".

Q3) Policies and Actions to Reduce Emissions

Please detail any of the specific policies and actions which are underway to achieve your emission reduction targets

Sector	Start year for policy /action implementation	Year that the policy/action will be fully implemented	Annual CO ₂ saving once fully implemented (tCO ₂)	Latest Year measured	Saving in latest year (tCO ₂)	Status	Metric/ indicators for monitoring progress	Delivery Role	During project/policy design and	Please give further details of this behaviour change activity	Value of Investment (£)	Ongoing Costs (£/year)	Primary Funding Source for Implementation of Policy/Action	Comments
Transport	2017	2022				Complete	Number of schools with a school travel plan in place. Number of cycle friendly schools. Aiming for 100% uptake in Bikeability Levels 1 and 2 at primary school level.	Enabling	Yes-ISM	West Lothian Active Travel Plan 2016-21 contains an action to promote adoption of school travel plans by all schools in West Lothian. Related actions to encourage schools (primary and secondary) to become Cycle Friendly Schools - baseline 0 early 2015, 6 in early 2016. Increase number of children receiving Bikeability Level 2 training.				Only staff time required to develop travel plans - actions within them may require budget which is sourced as and when possible (e.g.Sustrans and council funding for new cycle or scooter parking). NHS and West Lothian Council funding of council Health Improvement Team; Transport Scotland funding of Smarter Choices Smarter Places programme; Cycling Scotland funding for cycle friendly community and school work.

Transport	2016	2022				Qualitative - progress recorded on an annual basis	Direct	Yes-ISM	Modal shift - Private Vehicle to Active Travel (Cycling/Walking). Actions include: Provide cycle training to adults; providing bike lending libraries within communities to overcome barrier of no access to a bike; improve information on sustainable travel; build community capacity on community mapping to increase awareness of smarter travel opportunities.			NHS and West Lothian Council funding of council Health Improvement Team; Transport Scotland funding of Smarter Choices Smarter Places programme; Cycling Scotland funding for cycle friendly community and school work.	Engagement using ISM approach recorded in Active Travel Plan at www.westlothian.gov.uk/activetravel .
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Please provide any detail on data sources or limitations relating to the information provided in Table 3

Q4) Partnership Working, Communications and Capacity Building - Please detail your Climate Change Partnership, Communication or Capacity Building Initiatives below.

Key Action Type	Description	Organisation's project role	Lead Organisation (if not reporting organisation)	Private Partners	Public Partners	3rd Sector Partners	Outputs	Comments
Partnership Working	The council facilitated	Partnership working of	Participant	NA	Scottish Communities	Voluntary Sector	NA	

	setting up of Climate Action Hub in West Lothian as part of Scottish Government incentive to encourage community groups to take forward climate projects	climate change or sustainability			Climate Action Network	Gateway, Community Councils, Community Development Trusts, West Lothian Food Network		
Partnership Working	The council participated in Climate Action Towns a Scottish Government incentive to engage communities who have previously not engaged with climate change incentives	Partnership working of climate change or sustainability	Participant	NA	Architecture and Design Scotland		A final report will be produced in 2023	

Other Notable Reportable Activity

Q5) Please detail key actions relating to Food and Drink, Biodiversity, Water, Procurement and Resource Use in the table below

Key Action Type	Key Action Description	Organisation's Project Role	Impacts	Comments
Water	Willow Spilling at Polkemmet Country Park	Lead	Enhanced biodiversity and increased resilience to effects of climate change by reducing bank erosion of River Almond during flash floods	Parks and woodlands Ranger service with Friends of Polkemmet and volunteer ranger service
Biodiversity	Restoration of unimproved neutral grassland at Skolie Burn SSSI site through conservation grazing tenancy.	Lead	Improved species diversity and increased resilience to effects of climate change. Long-term protection and enhancement of nationally declining habitat type.	Parks and woodlands Ranger service with local farmer and Skolie Burn meadow charity
Biodiversity	Conservation grazing of neutral Grassland at Balvornie meadow, Beecraigs Country Park	Lead	Improved species diversity and increased resilience to effects of climate change. Long-term protection and enhancement of nationally declining habitat type.	Parks and woodlands Ranger service
Biodiversity	Removal of encroaching vegetation to maintain open water as part of wetland mosaic of habitats at Little Boghead Nature Park LBS	Lead	Improve species and habitat diversity by offering a wider range of habitats for	Parks and woodlands Ranger service

			invertebrates, amphibians, birds and mammals.	
Biodiversity	Removal of encroaching vegetation to maintain open water as part of wetland mosaic of habitats at Balvormie Pond, Beecraigs Country Park	Lead	Improve species and habitat diversity by offering a wider range of habitats for invertebrates, amphibians, birds and mammals.	Parks and woodlands Ranger service
Biodiversity	Removal of encroaching vegetation to maintain open water as part of wetland mosaic of habitats at Polkemmet Country Park	Lead	Improve species and habitat diversity by offering a wider range of habitats for invertebrates, amphibians, birds and mammals.	Parks and woodlands Ranger service
Biodiversity	Community tree planting event at Nelson Park, Armadale. 1700 trees planted with local primary school children	Lead	Tree planting to increased species / habitat diversity and enhances ecosystem services – in particular water regulation, air quality, informal learning and also carbon sequestration.	Parks and woodlands Ranger service and Ecology & Biodiversity - Queens Green Canopy in partnership with Green Action Trust
Water	Paths improved at Stoneyburn, as part of the Access Strategy	Lead	Mitigating against flash flooding and other extreme weather events providing increased resilience to climate change	Parks and woodlands Ranger service - Town improvement Fund and rural path capital fund

Water	Paths improved at Linhouse as part of the Access Strategy	Lead	Mitigating against flash flooding and other extreme weather events providing increased resilience to climate change	Parks and woodlands Ranger service - Rural path capital fund
Water	Paths improved at Blackmoss as part of the Access Strategy	Lead	Mitigating against flash flooding and other extreme weather events providing increased resilience to climate change	Parks and woodlands Ranger service. Town improvement Fund and rural path capital fund
Water	Paths improved at Beecraigs Country Park as part of the Access Strategy	Lead	Mitigating against flash flooding and other extreme weather events providing increased resilience to climate change	Parks and woodlands Ranger service - rural path capital fund
Water	Path surfaces improved Almondell part of Almondell & Calderwood Country Park	Lead	Increased resilience to effects of climate change, as paths are more accessible and less prone to erosion/ ponding/ flooding. Also improves physical activity/health.	Woodland Officer - Scottish Forestry WIAT grant, Calderwood Development Planning Gain & Sustainable Woodland Management Capital funds
Biodiversity	Replanting / regeneration 2ha recently felled Larch Wood – a Planted Ancient Woodland Site in Almondell	Lead	Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland returning to mainly native broadleaves on the steep bank above River Almond. Increased species/habitat	Woodland Officer - Funding as above

			<p>diversity and long-term resilience of riparian woodland.</p> <p>Some ash suffering from ADD retained to decline naturally and provide standing deadwood habitat – improves habitat and species diversity.</p>	
Biodiversity	Replanting 2ha recently felled larch and ash from the South Drive Wood, Almondell	Lead	<p>Larch and ash plantation, at risk of succumbing to disease, felled and replanted with mainly native broadleaves (with some conifers and non-native broadleaves for seasonal colour). Will increase biodiversity and long-term resilience of woodland.</p>	Woodland Officer - Funding as above. Most planting done by Friends of Almondell & Calderwood, plus schools, M&G corporate and public planting events
Biodiversity	Planting 140 individual specimen trees in more formal parts of Almondell	Lead	<p>Increases biodiversity and resilience of this designed landscape with replacements for the 200year old trees which are gradually senescing and having to be removed for public safety</p>	Woodland Officer - Funding and planting as above

Food & Drink	37 fruit trees planted at Almondell and Beecraigs	Lead	To be used as an educational resource re locally produced food. Increases biodiversity and enhances ecosystem services – in particular reducing air temperature, improving air quality and increased pollination.	Woodland Officer
Resource Use	Event with mobile sawmill showing timber products being sawn from Almondell grown larch and hardwoods	Lead	Part of an event to celebrate 40 years of the country park attended by local primary school children and the general public who planted trees and also learned about timber as a sustainable resource.	Woodland Officer
Resource Use	Thinning at Beecraigs Forest	Lead	Sustainable management of forest area produced 2k tonnes of softwood timber for use in buildings, fencing, chipboard and biomass. Stands of trees being left beyond their	Woodland Officer - Produces income to enable other woodland and access work to be undertaken.

			normal rotation increasing amenity and biodiversity value.	
Water	Path surfaces improved and drainage installed in 4 urban parks – Letham Park - Pumpherston, Langton Park – East Calder, Bellsquarry Park – Livingston, Wyndford Park, Broxburn.	Lead	Increased resilience to effects of climate change, as paths are more accessible and less prone to erosion/ ponding/ flooding. Also improves physical activity/health.	Open Space – Open Space Capital funds
Biodiversity	Raingardens installed and seeded/planted in 3 parks – Letham Park - Pumpherston, Wyndford Park – Broxburn, Falcon Brae Park - Livingston (restored)	Lead	Raingardens enhance species/habitat diversity and enhance ecosystem services – in particular water regulation (slows site drainage and reduces flood events), informal learning and pollination.	Open Space / Ecology & Biodiversity – Open Space Capital funds and Nature Restoration Fund. In partnership with Green Action Trust
Food & Drink	Promote domestic composting by providing facilities for each new house either individually or within a community allotment	Lead		
Biodiversity	Tree planting in 4 parks – Letham Park - Pumpherston, Langton Park - East Calder, KGV Playing Fields - Uphall, Wyndford Park - Broxburn.	Lead	Planting enhances biodiversity in parks, and enhances ecosystem services, particularly creating shade and reducing air temperature, improving air quality	Open Space / Ecology & Biodiversity– Open Space Capital Funds, Nature Restoration Fund (Wyndford Park). In partnership with Green Action Trust

			and storing carbon. Fruit trees also provide food.	
Biodiversity	High density bulb planting in 4 parks – Bellsquarry Park, Livingston Langton Park, East Calder, KGV Park, Uphall, Wyndford Park, Broxburn	Lead	New habitat enhances species / habitat diversity. And enhances ecosystem services – specifically water regulation, informal learning and pollination. Reduced grass cutting in bulb areas also requires less use of machinery, therefore reduces carbon emissions.	Open Space / Ecology & Biodiversity – Open Space Capital Funding, Nature Restoration Fund (Wyndford Park)
Water	Drainage work completed at Glasgow Road Cemetery and Fauldhouse Cemetery	Lead	Increased resilience to effects of climate change, mitigates local flooding	Cemeteries – Open Space Capital funds
Water	Glasgow Road Baby Cemetery section plans confirmed for Bund to protect area from Burn bursting its banks last year.	Lead	Increased resilience to effects of climate change, mitigates local flooding.	Cemeteries – Open Space Capital funds
Biodiversity	Planting of golden weeping willow to reduce surface water in section of Adambrae cemetery	Supporting	Improved species diversity and increased resilience to effects of climate change.	Cemeteries – Funded through Scottish Government Town Centre Fund
Biodiversity	Planting of 3600 trees at Howden Park in Livingston	Lead	Improved species/habitat diversity, reduced mowing, increased	Ecology & Biodiversity – Funded through WLC Climate Emergency Fund and Nature Restoration Fund.

			resilience to the effects of climate change, enhanced ecosystem services.	In partnership with Green Action Trust
Other (please specify in comments)	Active travel Resurfaced paths, some drainage, removal of invasive species and vegetation management along the Livingston North Blue Green Network	Lead	Upgraded paths and sightlines between Livingston North train station and the Civic Centre, in order to encourage more people to use active travel routes.	Ecology & Biodiversity – Funded through WLC Climate Emergency Fund. In partnership with Green Action Trust
Biodiversity	Three Wee forests – Parkhead - West Calder, Addiewell primary school campus, Whitburn schools campus	Supporting	Increased awareness of environmental issues through school participation. Increased species/habitat diversity and enhanced localised ecosystem services.	Ecology & Biodiversity – Funded through WLC Climate Emergency Fund and Nature Restoration Fund. In partnership with Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust
Biodiversity	Tree planting along the Shale Trail via the Greening the Shale Trail initiative	Lead	Increased biodiversity in key areas along the Shale trail route, with enhanced ecosystem services.	Ecology & Biodiversity and Planning - Funded through WLC Open Space Capital and the WLC Climate Emergency Fund. In partnership with Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust