

KNOWSLEY PLACE

TAKING
ACTION ON
Climate
Change
IN KNOWSLEY



CLIMATE DELIVERY PLAN



Knowsley Council



2025 - 2030

Foreword

In January 2020, in response to the rising impacts of Climate Change both globally, nationally and locally, Knowsley Council declared a Climate Emergency and committed to becoming Net Carbon Zero by 2040. An additional commitment was made to work with partnership organisations to reduce boroughwide emissions.

“We are making progress to reduce our emissions. However, to tackle this climate emergency, we need to take action together, if we don’t, it will be our children and our grandchildren who will be left with the consequences of climate change.

The scale of the challenge remains daunting and will require continued joined-up action locally, regionally, nationally and globally if we are to rise to this immense challenge.

The Knowsley Place Climate Delivery Plan (2025 – 2030) builds on the great work already being undertaken and some of the successes that have already been achieved to reduce carbon emissions, mitigate the impacts of climate change and make Knowsley a cleaner, greener, place to live and work”.



Councillor Shelley Powell
Cabinet Member for Communities and
Neighbourhoods

The Climate Emergency in Knowsley

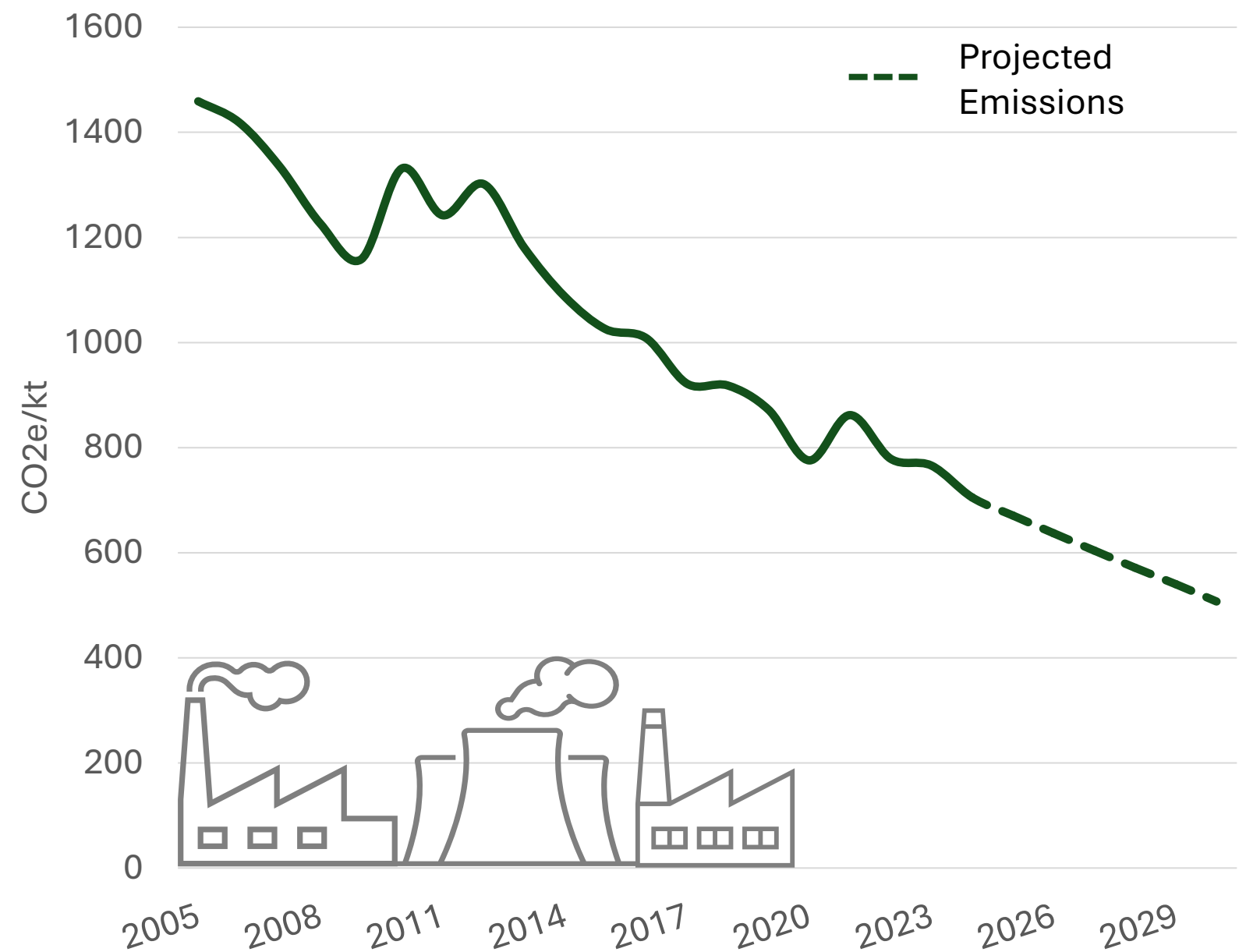
In January 2020, Knowsley Council declared a Climate Emergency and committed to becoming Net Carbon Zero by 2040.

A commitment was also made to work with partnership organisations to reduce boroughwide emissions.

The Council is delivering action to support both the Climate Emergency Action Plan and the Net Zero Delivery Plan 2022-2025 to reduce its emissions; however, further action is still needed.

In 2021, as the UK got ‘back to normal’, carbon emissions increased to pre-COVID pandemic levels due to the opening of buildings, increased travel and businesses reopening. However, there has still been a 6% decrease in CO₂ emissions from 2018 to 2021 and 41% decrease from 2005 to 2021.

In Knowsley in 2022, 84% of emissions came from three sources: transport, industry and domestic.



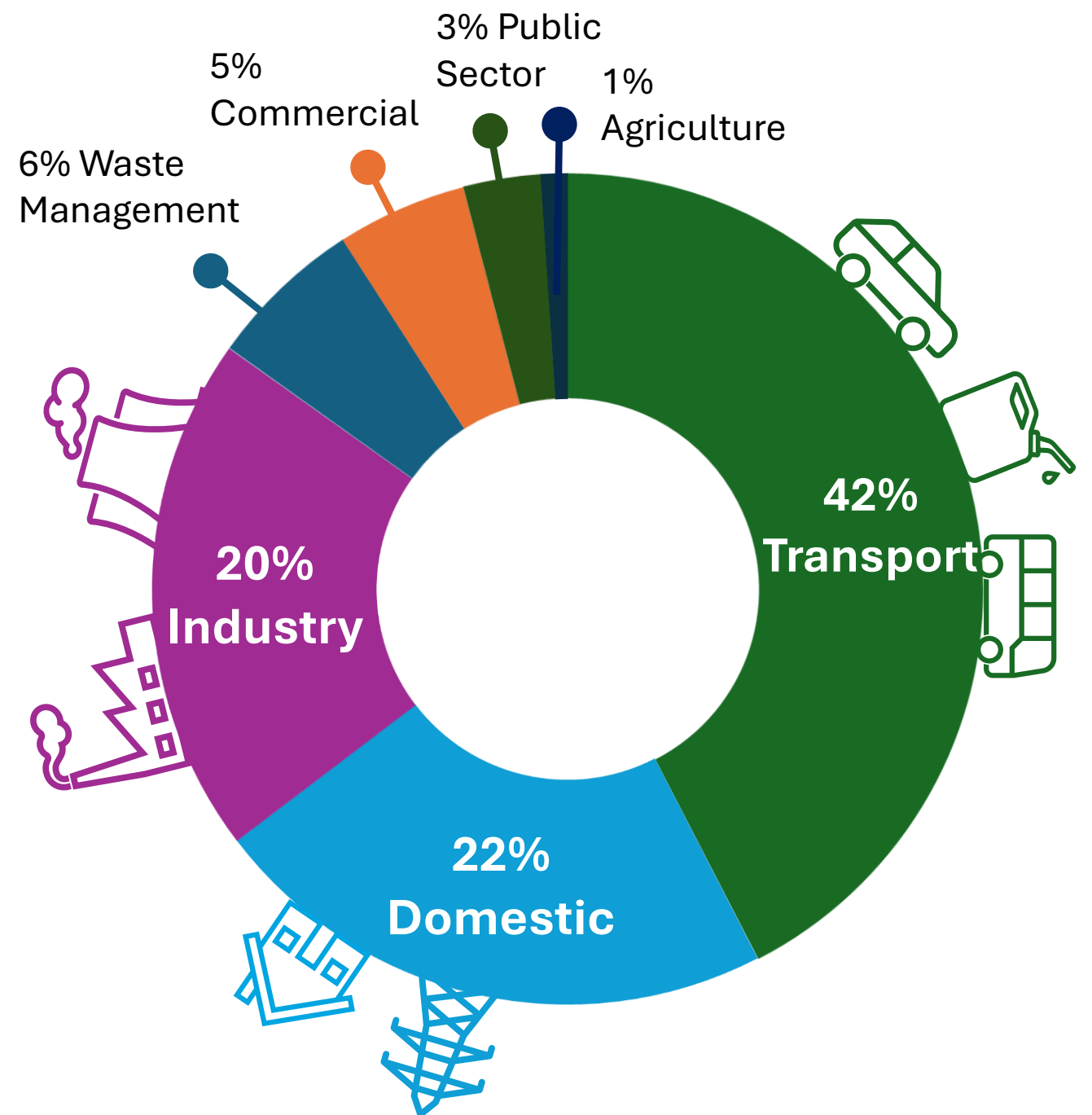
Graph 1: Knowsley Borough Carbon Emissions (CO₂e/kt) from 2005 to 2023 with emissions projected to 2030 (dashed line).

The Climate Emergency in Knowsley

The Council's carbon emissions equate to 1.1% of the overall boroughwide emissions, however, the Council recognises that it has an important role to play in supporting a boroughwide reduction.

The Council can enable change to take place, protect communities, support businesses and is well placed to bring together partners to enable the significant changes required to reduce boroughwide carbon emissions.

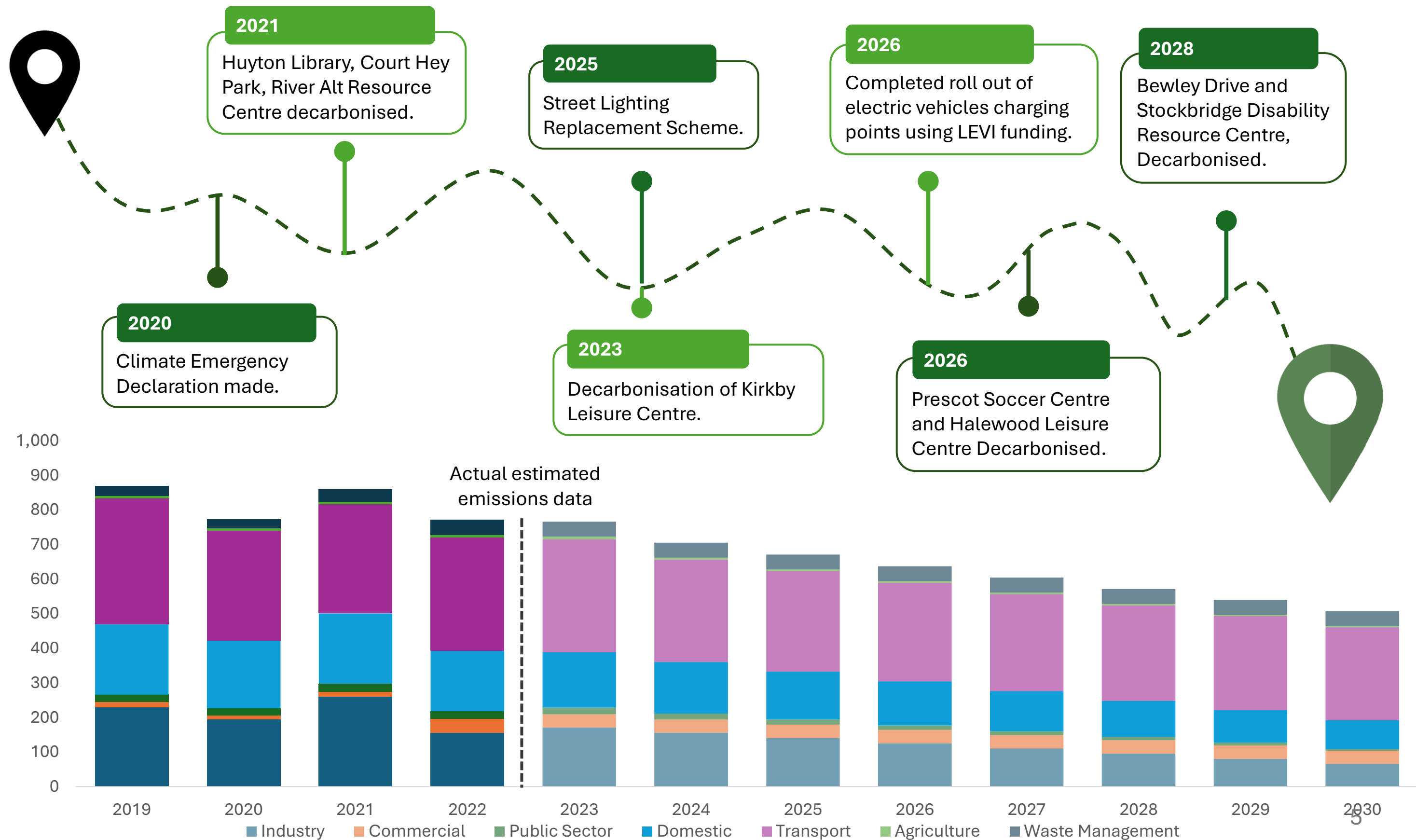
Using the Central Government's 2022 figures on regional emissions, in Knowsley, 84% of emissions in came from three sources: transport (42%), domestic (22%) and industry (20%). The remainder came from waste management (6%), the commercial (5%), public sector (3%) and agriculture (1%). This breakdown highlights the key areas where actions can be taken by partners to reduce boroughwide emissions.



Graph 2: Knowsley Borough Carbon Emissions by sector.

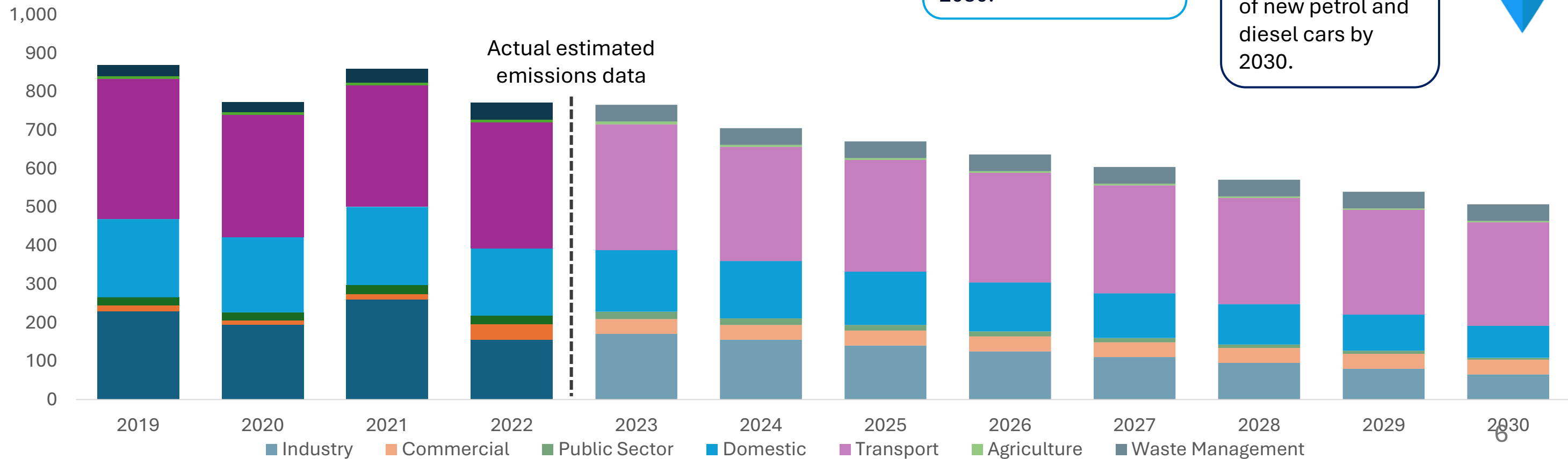
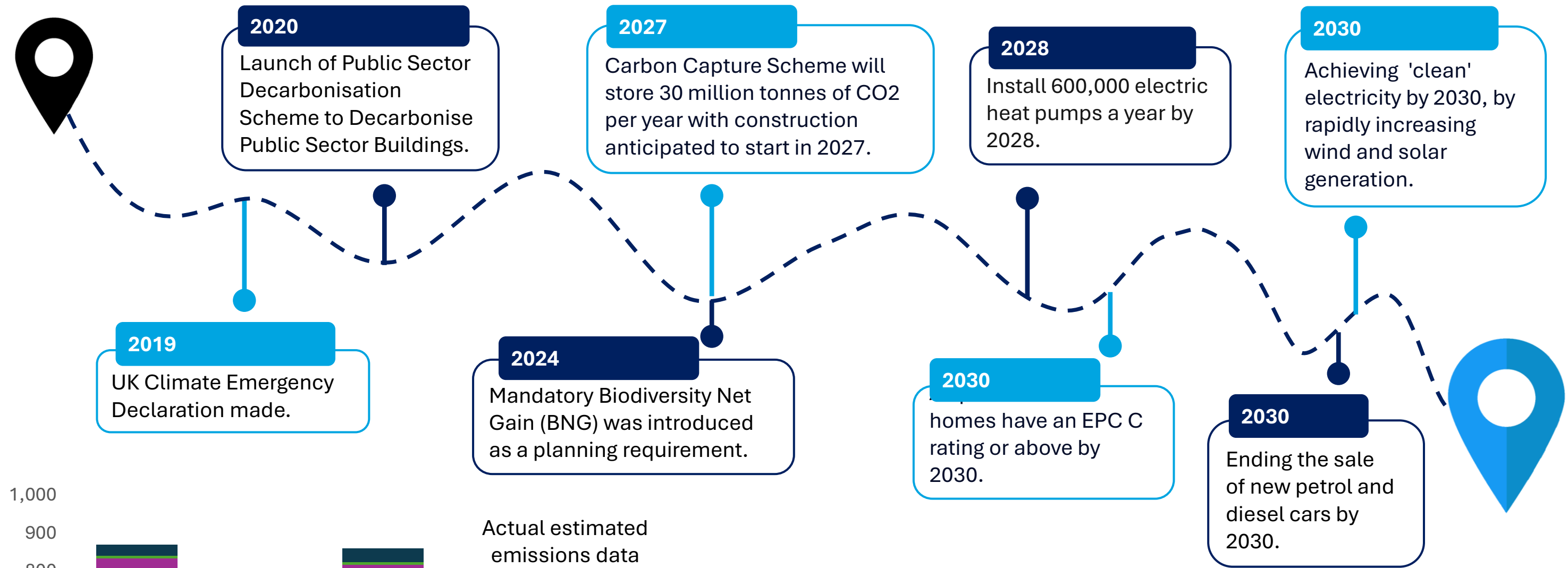
The Climate Emergency in Knowsley

Key actions being taken by Knowsley Council to become Net Carbon Zero by 2040.



The Climate Emergency in Knowsley

Key actions being taken the Government to reach the national Net Zero target of 2050



Climate Policies and Targets

The Climate Emergency is a global issue, with targets and policies being set from a global to a local level.

Global

Paris Climate Agreement (2015)

International treaty to limit global warming to below 2 degrees and preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels.



National

UK Climate Change Act (amended 2019)

Sets legal targets for the UK to achieve Net Zero Emissions by 2050.



Regional

Liverpool City Region Pathway to Net Zero (2040 or sooner)

Five Year Climate Action Plan (2023-2028).



Local




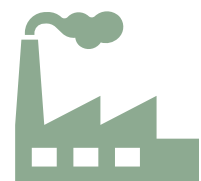

Net Zero Delivery Plan 2022-2025, Climate Emergency Action Plan

Knowsley Council have set a Net Carbon Zero 2040 target.



Knowsley's Priorities

Knowsley Council’s key priorities for each pillar.

Our Priorities	Objective	Key Actions
<div>Transport</div> <div></div>	To reduce car dependency, encourage a shift to active travel and public travel, and increase the uptake of electric and net zero fuel vehicles.	Helping people travel more sustainably by removing barriers, delivering new dedicated walking, cycling routes, and expand the electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the borough.
<div>Buildings</div> <div></div>	To decarbonise buildings across the borough through insulation and installing low carbon technologies and sustainable energy generation systems.	Increase the energy performance of public and private buildings by delivering building retrofit and decarbonisation schemes.
<div>Clean Energy</div> <div></div>	To support Knowsley and the wider Liverpool City Region to move to a low carbon energy supply position as quickly as possible.	Work to decarbonise the energy system and increase local renewable energy.
<div>Industry</div> <div></div>	To reduce emissions generated from industry and businesses across the borough.	Support businesses, helping them become resilient to climate change, the shift to low carbon energy and green jobs.
<div>Natural Environment</div> <div></div>	To mitigate the effects of climate change by strengthening the boroughs green spaces and built environment.	To support nature recovery by creating new habitats and enhancing existing habitats, while investing in improving the quality and connectivity of existing green spaces.

Knowsley Place – Climate Delivery Plan

The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority have published a Five-Year Climate Action Plan, which sets actions for the Combined Authority and partners to undertake to reach Net Zero Carbon by 2035 or sooner.

The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Climate Action Plan sets out 5 Key Pillars:

- Transport
- Buildings
- Industry
- Clean Energy
- Natural Environment

The pillars are underpinned by encouraging and informing individual action as well as acknowledging that various projects and actions will cut across the pillars.

Knowsley Council recognises it has a unique role to play in reducing boroughwide emissions. Using the key pillars set out in the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority 5-Year Action Plan, a Knowsley Place Climate Delivery Plan has been developed.

The Knowsley Place Climate Delivery Plan identifies the climate actions that key partners and stakeholders are undertaking,



outlining how the action will reduce boroughwide emissions and how as a Council, Knowsley will lead and enable that change.

Encouraging and informing individual action underpins all the key pillars and will require all stakeholders in Knowsley, from residents and businesses to visitors and industry to 'Do Their Bit'. Many actions will be underpinned and supported with behaviour changes campaigns that inform and educate on the Climate Agenda and the Net Zero targets.

Transport

Challenge: 42% of borough emissions came from transportation with 98% of those being produced on roads. The need to shift away from private, combusting engine-powered journeys is clear.

The UK Government plan to deliver the following priorities:

- Invest over £200 million in 2025-26 to accelerate Electric Vehicle Charge Point rollout.
- Support the purchase of new electric vans via the Plug-in Vehicle Grant to support the manufacture of wheelchair accessible Electric Vehicles.
- Maintaining tax incentives to purchase electric cars through Vehicle Excise Duty First Year Rates and the Company Car Tax Regimes.
- New measures to support electric vehicle drivers, including grants to boost charge point numbers under the Workplace Charging Scheme.
- End of sale of new petrol and diesel cars by 2030.

Objective: To reduce car dependency, encourage a shift to active travel and public travel and increase the uptake of electric and net zero fuel vehicles.



With our partners we will aim to:

Increase walking and cycling by:

To develop and deliver the Knowsley Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. Working with partners to deliver walking, wheeling and cycle path infrastructure to provide connectivity on employment routes and green corridors.

Key Partners

Timescale

Knowsley Council/
Liverpool City Region
Combined Authority

2025-2030

Support the development and implementation of the Active Travel Network, a planned system of walking and cycling routes across the city region. Key projects in Knowsley will include:-

- The Knowsley Cycle Route (Kirkby to Speke).
- The Huyton Active Travel corridor programme, a programme of upgrades to footpaths, cycle lanes and capacity improvements at Tarbock Island roundabout, linking new Halsnead Garden Village residential development with Huyton town centre and railway station.

Mersey Travel / Liverpool
City Region Combined
Authority

2025-2027

Support local businesses to introduce a new Sustainable Travel and Road Safety (STARS) Active Travel Programme in the workplace and promote green transport choices.

Knowsley Council/ Local
Businesses

2025-2026

Encourage schools to register as a WOW School (Walk Once a Week), a pupil-lead initiative that encourages children to self-report how they get to school every day and encourage them to travel sustainably once a week for a month.

Schools

2025-2030

To deliver a series of engagement campaigns and initiatives to encourage:-

- Walking and cycling for short journeys,
- Using public transport for longer journeys,
- Car sharing,
- Switching off engines when stationary,
- The shift to electric vehicles.

Knowsley Better
Together Partners

2025-2030

With our partners we will aim to:

Key Partners

Timescale

Increase uptake of electric and net zero fuel vehicles by:

Utilising the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Grant Funding to provide a sustainable electric vehicle charging infrastructure network that supports journeys across Knowsley and the wider Liverpool City Region that is easy to use, is inclusive and accessible for all, and offers good value for money, for all network users.

Liverpool City Region
Combined Authority

2026-2029

Identifying opportunities to implement Car Clubs to encourage car sharing uptake across the borough and wider Liverpool City Region.

Liverpool City Region
Combined Authority

2026-2029

In line with the Liverpool City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement, support the implementation of a fully integrated public transport network that supports the large-scale shift from private car usage and improves levels of connectivity across Knowsley and the wider Liverpool City Region.

Liverpool City Region
Combined Authority

2026-2030

Increase uptake of public transport by:

Supporting the shift to Green Bus Routes across the borough including:-

- The introduction of 58 fully electric buses to the City Region utilising funding secured from the Department for Transport's Zero Emission Bus Regional Area fund. In Knowsley, the electric buses will run on routes between Kirkby and Liverpool City Centre.
- The introduction of the hydrogen bus route running across the borough.

Liverpool City Region
Combined Authority

2026-2030

Case Study: Malvern Primary School

Malvern is the first school in Knowsley to achieve Green Accreditation in the Modeshift STARS scheme.

The accreditation recognises the school's commitment to promoting walking, cycling and other forms of active travel to and from school. For several years, Malvern primary has embraced Knowsley's road safety and active travel education and training programme and put in place other initiatives to promote cycling and walking.

Malvern Primary has also registered as a WOW (Walk Once a Week) school. Children can record how they travel to school every day using an interactive tracker and can earn themselves a badge if they travel in a sustainable way.

As part of their commitment to the Modeshift scheme, the school has set up additional activities, including hosting multiple 'Biker's Breakfast' for children and their families who cycle or scooter to school, Dr Bike MOT sessions and Bikeability training. These initiatives have all helped to encourage and increase the number of children cycling and scooting to and from school.

Malvern has also received support from local councillors to install new bike storage which has allowed the school to provide more spaces for families to park their bikes, leading to even more children cycling or scooting to school.

Malvern has achieved the Eco-School Award.

The Eco-schools programme is designed to be pupil-led, learning about impactful environmental actions. Malvern's Eco-Committee and Green Group lunchtime club have supported various eco-friendly initiatives. These initiatives include:

- Community Clean Up – Malvern regularly hold litter picks within the school ground as well as local parks and beaches.
- Green Group – provides pupils with the opportunity to talk with other like-minded peers about issues and solutions to make our community and planet a cleaner and 'greener' place to be.
- Eco-Swap Shop – Malvern have a uniform swap shop which encourages the reusing of old uniforms.



Buildings

Challenge: Emissions from households make up 67% of emissions from domestic, commercial, and public sector buildings.

The UK Government plan to deliver the following priorities:

- Warm Homes Plan will offer grants to invest in low carbon heating.
- Investing over £1bn in the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme over the next 3 years.
- Planning and Infrastructure Bill to be introduced into Parliament.
- Through the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, continue to deliver funding opportunities to decarbonise buildings.
- Continue with the Energy Company Obligations, the requirement for energy suppliers to help households reduce the costs of their home heating by fitting energy-saving measures.

Objective: To decarbonise buildings across the borough through insulation and installing low carbon technologies and sustainable energy generation systems.



With our partners we will aim to:	Key Partners	Timescales
Increase the energy performance of homes and buildings across the borough by:		
Utilising the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund in partnership with the borough Registered Social Landlords to improve the energy efficiency of social rented houses. The programme will deliver home energy efficiency upgrades to homes with low energy efficiency ratings to make homes warmer and greener by installing green technology such as cavity wall or loft insulation, external wall insulation, heat pumps, and solar panels.	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority / Registered Providers	2025-2028
Utilising the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund Phase 4 to fund heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency measures across public buildings in the borough such as schools, libraries and hospitals to switch to cleaner heating and cut their emissions, accelerating to net zero.	Knowsley Council, Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Merseyside Police, Merseyside Fire and Rescue	2025-2028
Submitting an application to secure funding from the ‘Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund’ to retrofit social homes and tackle fuel poverty for residents.	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority / Registered Providers	2025-2026
Deliver housing retrofit schemes to private Knowsley homes through Government funded schemes, working as part of the Liverpool City Region Local Authority consortium partnership with the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority as lead. Schemes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boiler Upgrade Scheme, Home Upgrade Grant (HUG) delivered through Local Authorities. 	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority/Private Residents / Private Landlords	2025-2028
Encourage all 12 Registered Social Landlords in the borough to have an agreed Building Decarbonisation Plan (or equivalent Climate Action Plan) for their estate of houses with targets to reduce emissions.	Registered Providers	2025-2030

With our partners we will aim to:

Key Partners

Timescales

Increase the energy performance of homes and buildings across the borough by:

To deliver a series of engagement campaigns and initiatives to support residents to improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions from residential properties, this will include:-

- A series of ‘Get the Basics Right’ campaigns (e.g. to raise awareness on LED lighting, turning off appliances, draft proofing, loft insulation and cavity wall insulation).
- Promote grant-funded domestic retrofit programmes in the region including those via the North West Net Zero Hub.
- Promote the Solar Together Scheme to enable residents to install solar PV and battery systems to increase the energy efficiency of their homes.
- Increase awareness of the 100% green energy tariffs and the environmental benefits through the collective switch operated by the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.
- Increase awareness of the Energy Company Obligation Scheme (Phase 4).

North West
Net Zero Hub

2025-2026

In 2025, compliance with the Future Homes Standard will become mandatory. Its aim is to ensure that new homes built from 2025 will produce 75-80% less carbon emissions than homes built under the current Building Regulations.

Work with developers to ensure that low-carbon heating, super-insulated and energy efficient homes are priorities as part of Buildings Regulation under the 2025 Future Homes Standard.

Liverpool City Region
Combined
Authority/Developers

2025-2030

Case Study: Livv Housing

Livv Housing are aiming for all of their properties to have an EPC rating of C or above by 2025.

What's been done?

Livv Housing are currently carrying out a carbon reduction retrofit programme, aiming for all their properties to have an EPC rating of C or above by 2025. Livv are investing in improvements to customer's homes to help reduce carbon emissions, through the installation of loft, wall and floor insulation, triple glazed windows, and solar PV systems.

Results so far

So far, 90% of Livv's housing stock now have an EPC rating of C or above. The remaining 10% are targeted to have an EPC rating or above by September 2025, on track with their target.

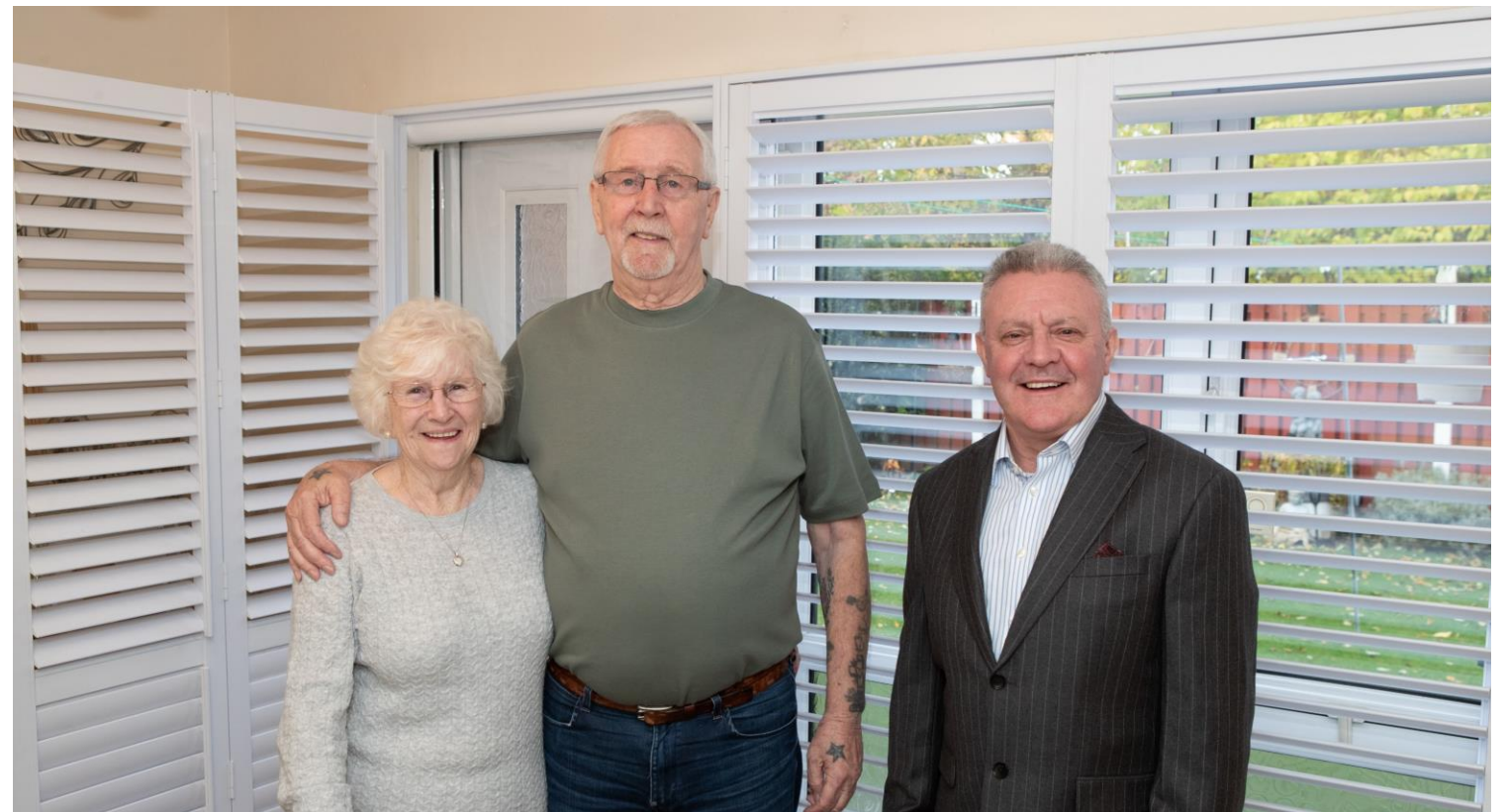
As part of Liverpool City Region Social Housing Decarbonisation Wave 1 funding, Livv completed energy improvements to 630 homes. This reduced their carbon impact by approximately 194 tonnes of CO2 per year. Livv have also secured 50% match funding as part of Wave 2 funding.

A pilot project is also underway on 21 sheltered homes in Kirkby where different low carbon heating sources will be trialled including air source heat pumps and solar PV as well as fabric improvements.

Livv have also reduced carbon emissions from their communal estate and have reduced their energy consumption by 32% and their carbon footprint by 59% though installing solar PV and decarbonising several buildings.

Future Plans

Livv are updating their Net Zero Strategy with a focus on phasing out gas boilers from 2028 and up-skilling their in-house team. Livv have invested in streamlined energy carbon reports since 2018 to understand their carbon footprint and using this to plan out their future net zero investments for the following years.



Industry

Knowsley Business Park is one of the largest employment areas in Europe and the second largest of its kind in the Northwest.

The UK Government plan to deliver the following priorities:

- Produce the Industrial Strategy with clean energy industries being identified as a growth driving sector.
- Invest in green hydrogen as well as electrolytic hydrogen production contracts to industry across the UK.
- Support clean energy industries to create green jobs.
- National Wealth Fund supports the most energy intensive sectors to decarbonise.
- Decarbonisation allowance to incentivise the industrial sector to invest in cleaner, lower-emissions technologies.
- Invest £163m in the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund until 2028, supporting existing firms to decarbonise.
- Support the deployment of Carbon Capture and Storage (CCUS) clusters by investing £3.9bn in 2025-26 for the first CCUS clusters.

Objective: To reduce emissions generated from industry and businesses across the borough.



With our partners we will aim to:	Key Partners	Timescales
Support businesses to transition to low emission, sustainable practices and adapt for climate resilience by:		
To encourage Knowsley Businesses to sign up to a Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment.	Knowsley Chamber of Commerce	2026-2027
<p>To develop and deliver a programme to engage businesses on how to reduce their carbon footprint and showcase best practice and lessons learned. This will include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying and promoting relevant national, regional and local grant programmes and funding schemes available to businesses. Review processes for efficiencies in design and production. 	Knowsley Chamber of Commerce / Knowsley Council	2026-2027
Support businesses in Knowsley to decarbonise through the Low Carbon Eco-Innovatory Project.	Liverpool John Moores University	2025-2028
Explore new technology and Artificial Intelligence options for businesses using data to understand how they can become more energy efficient.	Liverpool John Moores University	2025-2028
Expand the offer for upskilling of employees to be trained in renewable and low carbon technologies.	Knowsley Community College	2028-2030

Case Study: Liverpool John Moores University

Liverpool John Moores showcase collaborative working and utilising emerging technologies.

Emerging Technology

- The University are exploring new technology and the use of artificial intelligence options for businesses using data to understand how they can become more energy efficient and therefore reduce carbon emissions.
- Using UK Shared Prosperity Funding, as part of the university's innovative digital demonstrator zone, the team are showcasing a real time carbon monitoring dashboard which uses data and artificial intelligence to make recommendations to businesses in how they can become more energy efficient. The system will look to lower costs for the site it monitors by using scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions data.
- The University are supporting key partners with a detailed mapping exercise to assist with the delivery of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Future Plans:

- The University will be launching the Liverpool Research Institute for Climate and Sustainability which will accelerate research around climate and sustainability. One of the main objectives will be to enable collaborative engagement and impact initiatives for internal and external stakeholders.

Partnership Work:

- Working in partnership with Knowsley Chamber of Commerce to create partnerships with Knowsley businesses to help them to become more energy efficient.

Case Study: Liverpool John Moores University

The University is supporting Knowsley businesses to decarbonise and become more sustainable through the Low Carbon Eco-Innovatory project.

So far, the University has:

- Supported 11 Knowsley businesses.
- Supported the installation of solar panels, electric vehicles charging points and an innovate heating system.
- Saved a total of 234.67 tonnes of CO₂ in the first year.
- Some businesses, particularly those with substantial solar arrays, have saved over £163,000 per year.
- Created an estimated 36 jobs within the borough.

Some case study examples of businesses the university have worked with are:

Adlib Audio: Business investment £40,000, Grant £20,000

Expected first year carbon savings: 13.221t CO₂e

Adlib Audio works with some of the biggest names in music and events.

In recent years they have focused on sustainability, installing solar panels and car charging points to reduce carbon emissions.

They are working to install an air source heat pump, to reduce their reliance on gas, which they hope will be powered by their solar panel system.

JJ Smith Woodworking: Business investment £4,434, Grant £2,217

Expected first year carbon savings: 1t CO₂e

A well established, family run business supplying new and used woodworking machinery across the UK and internationally.

In an effort to reduce plastic waste and increase recycling they were looking to purchase a cardboard shredder, to enable them to reuse waste cardboard packaging and turn it into protective packing materials in place of bubble wrap. They would also make a modest financial saving by re-using cardboard instead of buying bubble wrap.

Clean Energy

Challenge: With the UK aiming to reach net zero by 2050, a crucial part of the strategy is the transition to an electricity system with 100% zero-carbon generation and much of this is expected to come from renewable energy.

In the 12 months to April 2024, 40.6% of the UK energy mix was from renewables: wind 29.7%, biomass 5.2%, solar 4.5% and hydro 1.2%.

The UK Government plan to deliver the following priorities:

- Making Britain a clean energy superpower is one of the Government's five missions. Great British Energy (GBE) settlement provides £100m capital funding in 2025-26 for clean energy project development, with £25m to establish GBE as a company.
- Investing £22bn into carbon capture storage sites, one being located in Merseyside.
- Developing the Clean Power 2030 Action Plan.
- Establishing a new Energy Independence Act.
- Encourage the production of Green Hydrogen as an alternative low carbon energy source.
- Deliver Heat Network Zoning to deliver low carbon heat sources.

Objective: To support Knowsley and the wider Liverpool City Region move to a low carbon energy supply position as quickly as possible.



With our partners we will aim to:	Key Partners	Timescales
Promote transition to renewable technologies by:		
Producing a Local Area Energy Plan to provide information on the current energy infrastructure and what we need in the future to support the transition to low carbon energy for Knowsley. This will help us plan where it needs to be located and to deliver affordable, sustainable and accessible energy infrastructure across the area.	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority	2027-2029
Supporting the development of Liverpool City Region's Green Hydrogen Vision Study to assess transition from fossil fuels.	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority	2029-2030
Engaging with Electrical Grid Distribution Network Operator to identify local network developments to enable decarbonisation schemes across the borough.	Distribution Network Operators	2025-2030
Promoting Community Energy Funding and encourage and support local community organisations and businesses to apply.	Community Energy Fund/North West Net Zero Hub	2025-2030
Promoting and supporting the 'Solar Together Project' to enable homeowners to generate energy through the installation of solar panels and battery storage at competitive rates.	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority	2025-2030
Working with the North West Net Zero Hub and Knowsley businesses to connect to low carbon heat networks in line with the roll out of government heat network zones.	North West Net Zero Hub/Local Businesses	2027-2030

Case Study: Knowsley Community College

Knowsley Community College continues to build sustainability into all curriculum content and design.

The Green Energy Skills Centre redevelopment is complete, with a £500,000 investment to support the latest renewable heating technologies for the study program and apprentices. The Centre specialises in upskilling industry professions and training future heating engineers in green home energy technologies such as air source heat pumps. The Green Energy Skills Centre provides a range of plumbing and heating courses from level 2 and 3 technical qualifications and T-Levels, to apprenticeships and adult training courses.

Currently, around 180 learners are on either a study programme or an apprenticeship. The College has secured Bootcamp funding, and the first Air Source Heat Pump upskilling course for employed plumbers is running from February 2024, and currently there are 52 learners on the course.

The College also secured Local Skills Improvement Fund capital investment of circa £250,000 for Solar Photovoltaic and battery storage equipment, alongside electric vehicle charging installation equipment.

The College's T-level provision incorporates all modern building techniques to reduce the global impact on the built environment. Learners develop skills in climate change, netzero/ sustainability and this is planned for delivery at The Institute of Advanced Manufacturing and Technology, known as the IAMTech campus.



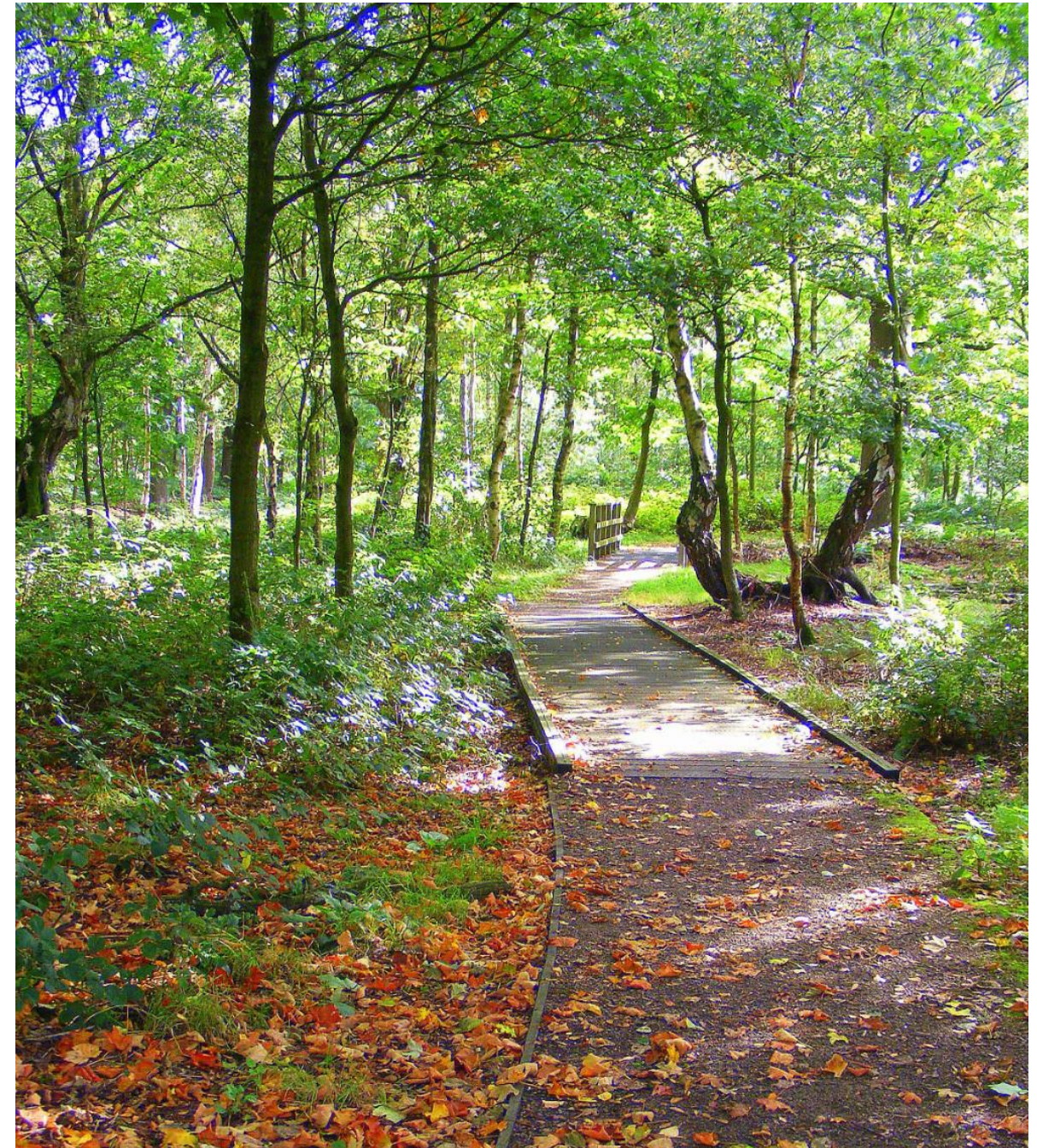
Natural Environment

Challenge: Nature-based solutions can improve our air and water quality, help to achieve Net Zero, build resilience to climate change and provide access to thriving green spaces.

The UK Government plan to deliver the following priorities:

- Invest over £400m for support of tree planting and peatland restoration.
- Invest £2.4bn over two years in flood resilience.
- Introduction of the Biodiversity Net Gain legislation in February 2024.
- Invest £14m for the Nature Restoration Fund to offset the environmental impact of development.
- Take action to meet Environment Act targets.
- Introduction of the Biodiversity Net Gain legislation in February 2024.
- Introduction of the 25 Year Environment Plan and the Environment Act 2021.
- 30 by 30 pledge to protect 30% of UK land and sea by 2030.

Objective: To mitigate the effects of climate change by strengthening the borough's green spaces and built environment.



With our partners we will aim to:

Key Partners

Timescales

Create New Spaces for nature and wildlife by:

Working collaboratively with partners across the Liverpool City Region to ensure a consistent approach to the implementation of Biodiversity Net Gain, that supports habitat creation and enhancement across the borough.

Merseyside
Environmental Advisory
Service

2025-2030

Establishing local habitat banks to enable sale of biodiversity units to developers within the Liverpool City Region. This will ensure delivery of biodiversity locally to drive nature recovery within our region and to benefit local communities.

Merseyside
Environmental Advisory
Service

2025-2030

Developing and delivering against the Mersey Forest Plan to increase tree coverage across Knowsley by securing Trees for Climate funding to deliver woodland creation and tree planting projects across both public and private land.

Mersey Forest, Natural
England, Community
Groups

2025-2030

Enable business, other stakeholders and residents to contribute to nature recovery by:

Delivering a programme of engagement campaigns and initiatives that support local residents and business to support nature recovery, this will include:-

- Sharing information on how to manage gardens and allotments to become more wildlife friendly.
- Encouraging local residents to spend time and be active in the natural environment and encourage community growing activities.
- Supporting a network of volunteers to protect and improve the local environment.
- Encouraging residents and local business to plant more trees, plant green rooves and green walls.
- Promoting the annual wildlife survey, Bioblitz.

Community
Groups

2026-2030

With our partners we will aim to:	Key Partners	Timescales
Enable business, other stakeholders and residents to contribute to nature recovery by:		
Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service working with local authorities, statutory agencies, landowners and other local partners to establish effective systems for identifying, managing and monitoring Local Wildlife Sites.	Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service	2025-2030
Improve the quality and connectivity of existing spaces for nature and wildlife by:		
Supporting the implementation of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy to support the restoration and enhancement of nature across Knowsley and the wider Liverpool City Region.	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority	2025-2030
Delivering the Knowsley Green Space Action Plan (2024 – 2030) to protect and enhance the boroughs public parks and green spaces.	Knowsley Council	2025-2030

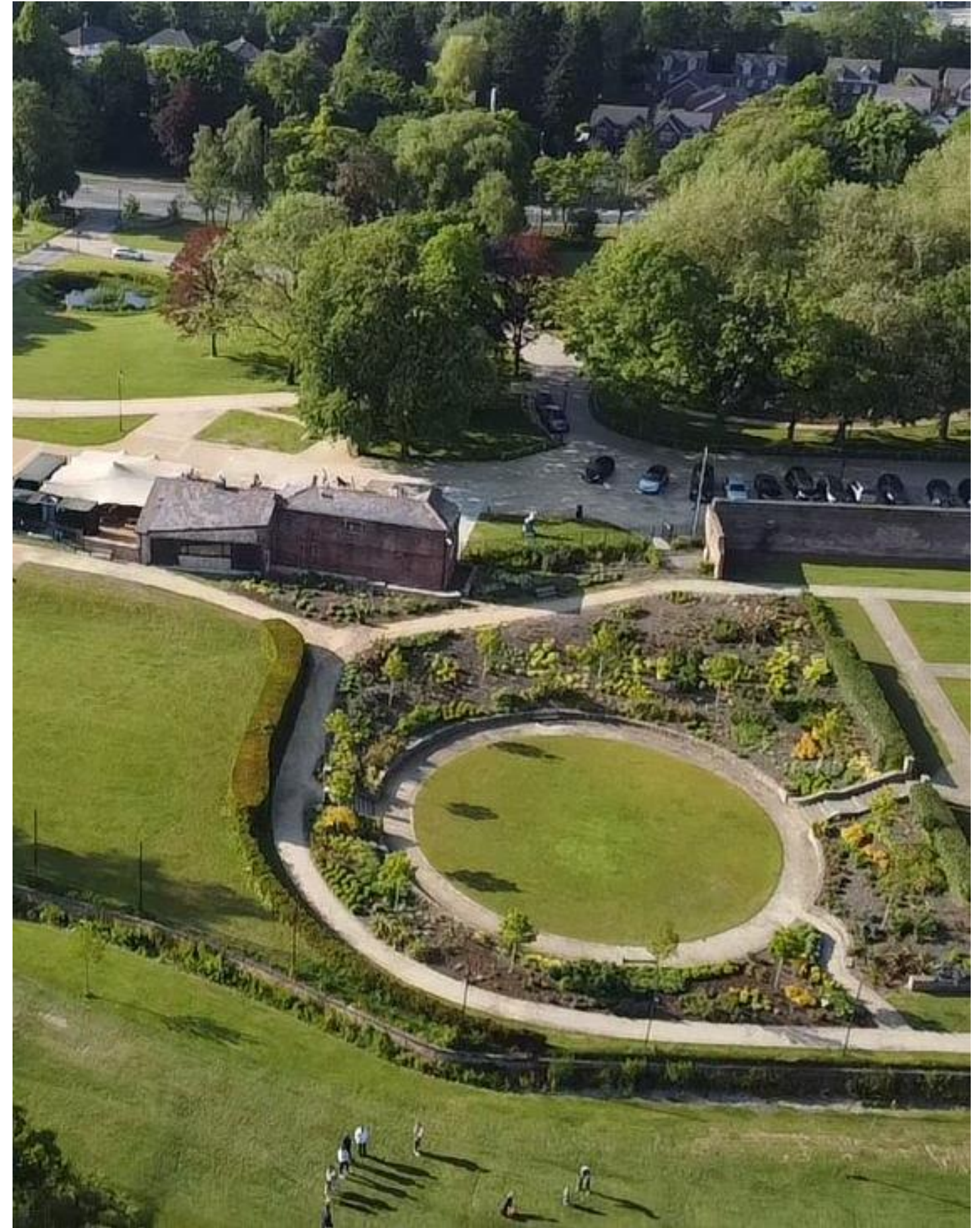
Case Study: Bowring Park

Working towards becoming the first Net Zero Golf Course in the UK.

Oneday, the managing agent for Bowring Park and Golf Course in Huyton, are working in partnership with Liverpool John Moores University and England Golf to transform Bowring Park and Golf Course into the UK's first Net Zero golf course.

The initiative includes:

- The installation of motion and air quality sensors across the park, including at neighbouring Roby train station, paired with cutting-edge dashboards to generate detailed local environmental data.
- Working with the Universities Geology and Flooding Team to identify opportunities to manage drainage and water retention.
- A full biodiversity improvement plan across the parks 90 acres.
- A key focus is measuring transport emissions from the M62, which runs through the site, and implementing offsetting strategies.
- Promoting their commitment to sustainability, each hole on the course is sponsored by a specific UN Sustainable Development Goal.



Cross Cutting Themes and Actions

Waste and the Circular Economy

Achieving Net Carbon Zero cannot happen without the shift to Zero Waste. ‘Reducing, Reusing, Repairing, Recycling and Recovering’ needs to be at the heart of what the Council, partners, business and residents do. It is crucial that we raise awareness and provide support to our residents and businesses as we transition to a more circular economy.

The Council, with partners, will work together to implement the significant national waste collection reforms to meet the Government commitment to meet a 65% municipal recycling rate by 2035.

The Liverpool City Region Zero Waste 2040 Strategy sits firmly in the context of climate action to deliver a net zero carbon city region by 2040 and sets out how partners will work collectively to meet the zero waste 2040 target and provide a single voice on all zero waste affairs.

Reducing carbon emissions can have multiple benefits, such as improving air quality. Encouraging a shift to active travel will increase levels of physical activity and improve health outcomes.



Cross Cutting Themes and Actions

Climate Change and Health Inequality

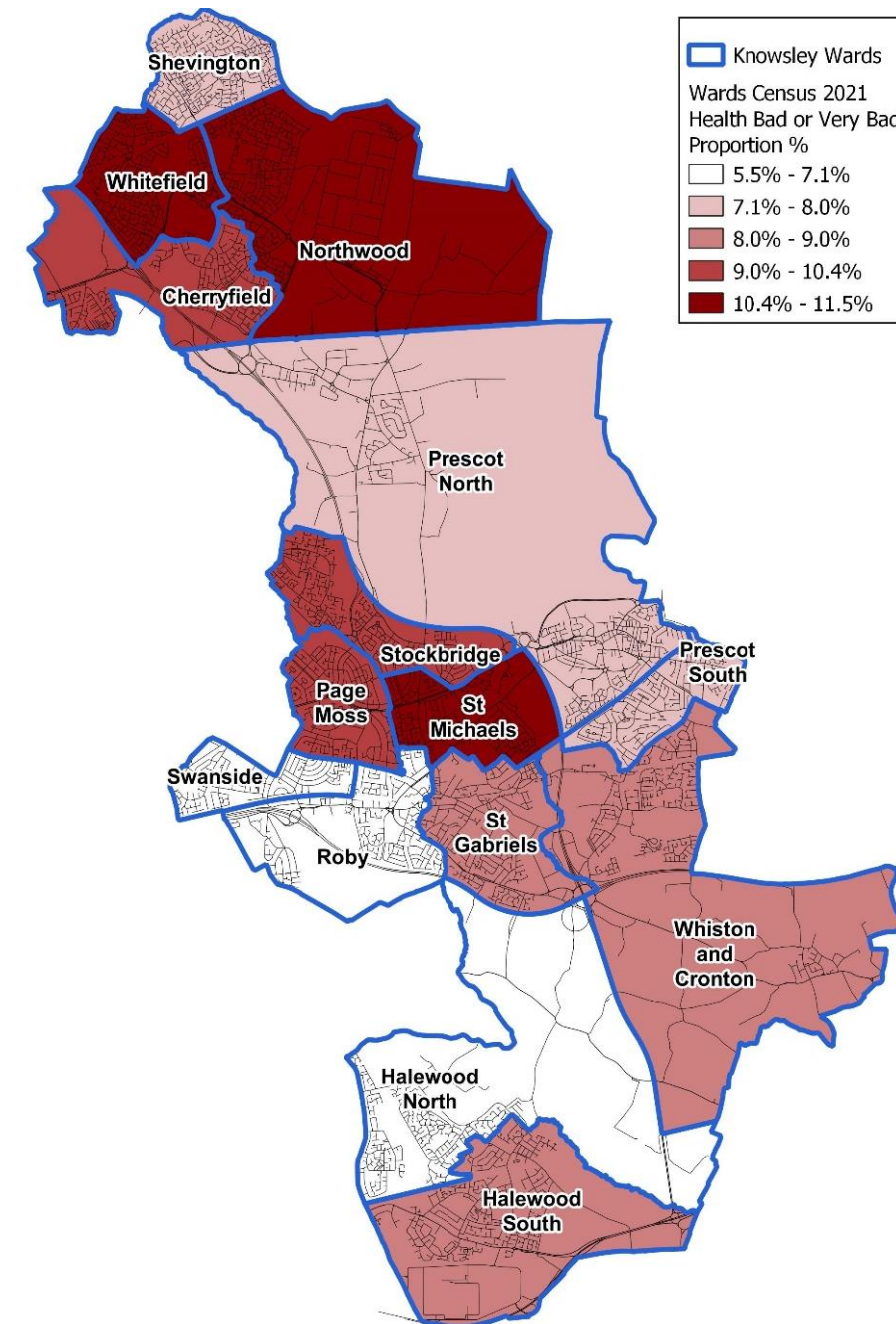
It is recognised that the climate emergency is also a health emergency. Climate change threatens the foundations of good health, with direct and immediate consequences.

A recent report by the UK Health Security Agency revealed that the health impacts of climate change will be disproportionately felt by disadvantaged communities which can significantly exacerbate existing health inequalities.

Through our commitments to health and wellbeing, it is crucial we do what we can to address the environmental inequalities, from exposure to pollution, to climate impacts and shocks, and access to green spaces.

Poor health is prevalent across Knowsley, especially in the north of the borough where up to 11.5% of residents have bad or very bad health. Targeted intervention will be needed to protect and support these vulnerable populations.

The Council, with partners, will need to ensure that climate solutions and environmental improvements are felt by everyone.



Cross Cutting Themes and Actions

Health and Air Quality

Although nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter are not considered greenhouse gases (and therefore do not directly contribute to climate change) they tend to be emitted by many of the same processes, such as fuel combustion for transport and gas used for cooking and heating homes and buildings.

Knowsley's Air Quality Strategy together with the Knowsley Place Climate Delivery Plan together provide considerable opportunity for eliminating local sources of emissions.

Measures that improve air quality can also offer wider public health and wellbeing co-benefits, it is estimated that over one-third of new asthma cases might be avoided because of efforts to cut carbon emissions.



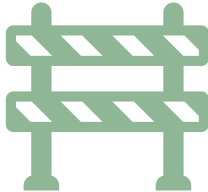

Obesity Rates in Knowsley

The growth in road transport has contributed to reducing physical activity and increasing obesity. Switching more journeys to active travel promises to improve health, quality of life, the environment and air pollution.

Knowsley has the highest levels in the country of children overweight or obese, with almost half of children in Year 6 overweight or obese. Whilst recognising obesity is a complex problem that requires action from individuals and society across multiple sectors, one important action is to modify the environment so that it does not promote sedentary behaviour.

Barriers and Challenges

It is recognised that there are a wide range of potential barriers and challenges to tackling the climate emergency.

Barriers	Detailed Limitations
<div>Capacity and Skills</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upskill workforces.• Manual capacity and labour shortages.• Apprentice pipeline.• Supply chain issues with limited manual capacity and shortage of equipment.• Technological changes increase the risk of obsolete technology with short life cycles.
<div>Economic Investment</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited commercialisation of low-carbon technologies.• Whole life costing changing due to technological development and economic uncertainty and repayment models being obsolete.• The need to attract private investment to reduce cost, increase commercialisation and make low carbon technologies more feasible and financially viable.
<div>End-User Barriers</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education and behaviour change gaps on why technology is needed and changing consumer habits.• Prioritisation of needs and addressing health inequalities that can be dually addressed by tackling the climate emergency.
<div>National Barriers</div> <div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of national grid capacity to enable the electrification of the energy systems both regionally and locally.• Lack of grid flexibility to storage excess renewable energy.

Governance

To ensure that adequate and effective steps are taken to reduce boroughwide carbon emissions, appropriate governance is essential.

Elected Member Oversight	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councils Cabinet.• Council’s Climate Emergency Scrutiny Committee.• Liverpool City Region Net Zero Cabinet Board.• Knowsley Council Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods.	Provide elected member oversight, assurance and accountability on the work taken to tackle the Climate Emergency.
Partnership Working	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowsley Better Together Board.• Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Climate Partnership.• Northwest Net Zero Hub.• Department Energy Security and Net Zero and Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.	Ensuring that partnership working to reduce boroughwide emissions is taken.
Project Delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowsley Council Net Zero Officers Group.• Knowsley Council Electric Vehicle and Alternative Fuel Working Group.	Asset and fleet decarbonization, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, streetlight replacement programme and behaviour change campaigns.

