

LGA Climate Change Sector Support Programme

South West Net Zero Hub

LGA Climate Change Improvement Programme

Since April 2021

329 out of 333

councils have participated in LGA Climate Change Improvement Programme.

That is over **98%** of all councils.

The LGA's Sector Support Improvement Climate Change Programme helps councils to reach their local carbon reduction and adaption targets.

- Sharing good practice
- Leadership
- Productivity and innovation
- Research and information

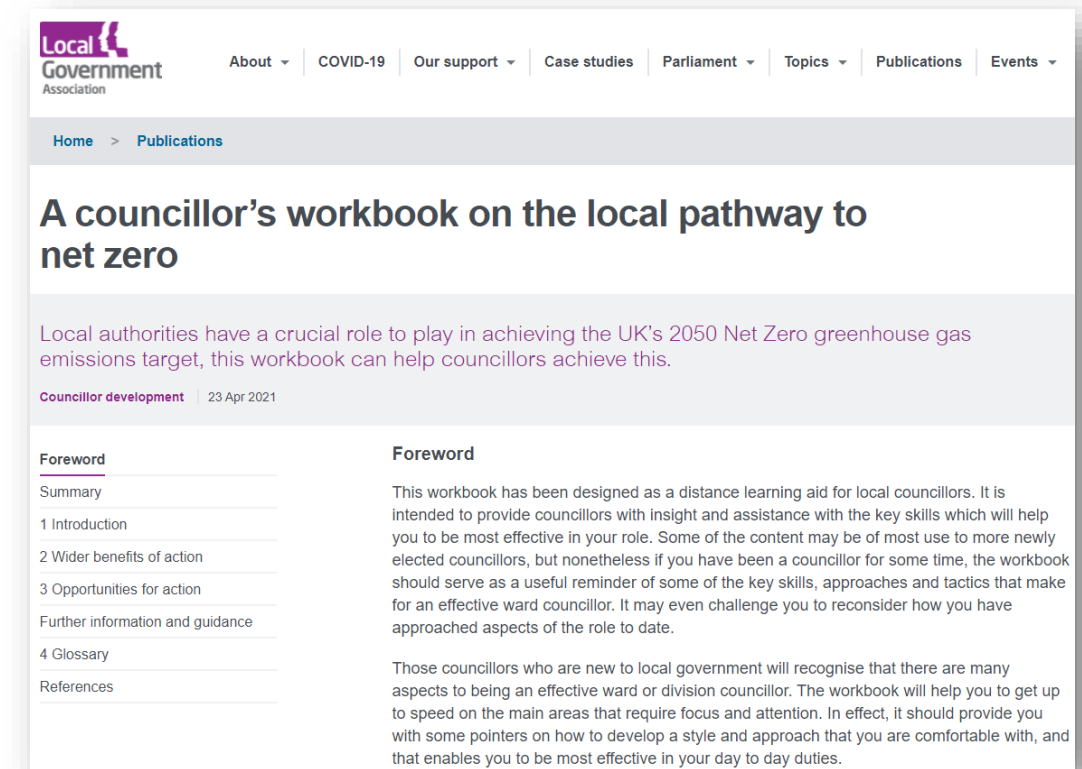
Over **59,000** webpage views since April 2021

Councillors' workbook on the local pathway to net zero

A distance learning aid for local Councillors.

Encourages Councillors to think about their own approach in influencing other people, and how the material relates to their local situation, the people they serve and the council they represent.

- Introduction
- Wider benefits of action
- Opportunities for action
- Further information and guidance



The screenshot shows the Local Government Association website. The header includes the logo and navigation links: About, COVID-19, Our support, Case studies, Parliament, Topics, Publications, and Events. The breadcrumb trail is Home > Publications. The main heading is "A councillor's workbook on the local pathway to net zero". Below this is a sub-heading: "Local authorities have a crucial role to play in achieving the UK's 2050 Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions target, this workbook can help councillors achieve this." The date is "Councillor development | 23 Apr 2021". The page is divided into two columns. The left column is a table of contents with links: Foreword, Summary, 1 Introduction, 2 Wider benefits of action, 3 Opportunities for action, Further information and guidance, 4 Glossary, and References. The right column contains the "Foreword" text, which explains the workbook's purpose as a distance learning aid for local councillors, intended to provide insight and assistance with key skills for newly elected councillors and as a reminder for experienced ones. It also mentions that the workbook will help new councillors speed up on main areas that require focus and attention.

Sustainable Development Goal: **Climate Action**

Leadership Essentials: Climate Emergency

Climate Emergency for Elected Members and Senior Officers (separately to each other)

This programme will help leaders, portfolio holders and senior officers to explore the crucial local leadership role in responding to the climate emergency. It will explore levers for councils to reduce carbon emissions and provide opportunities to learn from the experience of others.

Leadership Essentials

'Leadership Essentials' is a series of series of programmes and workshops' designed as themed learning opportunities for councillors. Each event concentrates on a specific portfolio area or a specific theme.

✓ Audit Committees: Leadership Essentials
✓ Adult social care: Leadership Essentials
✓ Being an effective cabinet member: Leadership Essentials
✓ Building safety: Leadership Essentials
✓ Communication and Media: Political Leadership Masterclass
✓ Children's services: Leadership Essentials
✓ Climate emergency: Leadership Essentials
✓ Cultural services: Leadership Essentials

Privacy settings

The next Programmes will be advertised via the LGA climate change bulletin

Scrutiny



[Read the publication.](#)

10 questions, areas covered include...

- investment strategy, supply chains and procurement models
- integrating sustainability and resilience into its transport and energy plans
- understanding and acting on the need to adapt existing properties and estates to address the impacts of climate
- promoting climate education, diversifying the labour market and focusing on sectors that are sustainable

Biodiversity

Biodiversity E-Learning for Councils

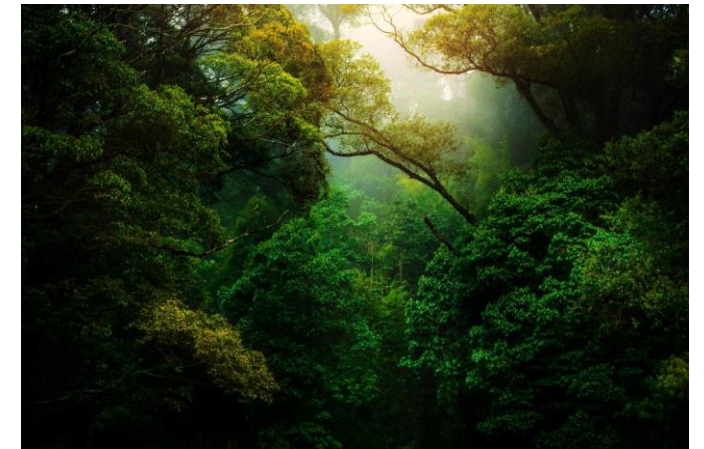
- Launched in Oct 2021 – aligned with the COP15 date
- Provide a broad introduction to biodiversity for all councils
- Help councils create a biodiversity action plan
- Provide broad oversight of the main areas of action councils can take to protect biodiversity
- Available from the LGA website
- Universal support
- Accessible to all council officers and members

Webinar: Place-based leadership for biodiversity

- [Blog](#) available on our website
- Speakers from the NFU, South Gloucestershire Council, Warwickshire Council and GiGL
- Topics: Local engagement, use of data and delivery of natural initiatives



Convention on
Biological Diversity



Planning Advisory Service: LPA Biodiversity Net Gain Capacity and Skills

The Greenhouse Gas Accounting Tool

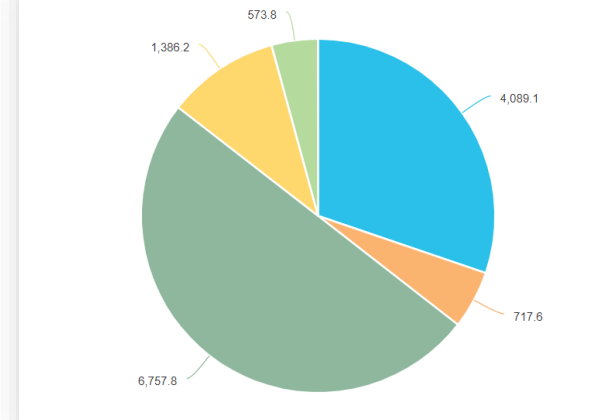
[The tool](#) produces summary tables and charts to help councils understand their most significant sources of emissions, which can then be used to prioritise actions to reduce carbon emissions.

Councils are also able to benchmark their emissions with other councils to understand how their performance compares with their peers using [LG Inform](#).

Recently updated to include Scope 1, 2 and basic Scope 3 emissions.

- Free to use for all councils in England and Wales
- Endorsed by the Committee for Climate Change
- LGA working with Local Partnerships

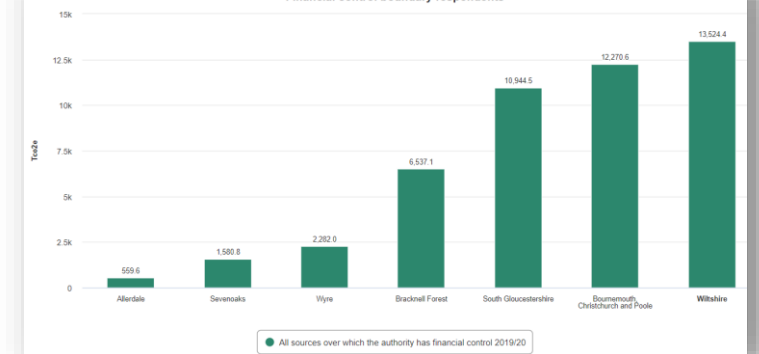
Overall emissions by activity (2019/20) for Wiltshire (financial control boundary)



250 councils
have
downloaded
the tool so far

Comparisons

Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) arising per year from all sources over which the authority has control (2019/20) for Financial control boundary respondents



[Scope 3 greenhouse gas accounting guidance for social care](#)

The Net Zero Innovation Programme

Project topics:

- E-bikes
- Low-energy housing
- Procurement carbon calculator
- Modelling housing retrofit
- Public health
- Community engagement
- Finance community engagement
- Decarbonisation training
- Housing retrofit
- Care home energy efficiency
- Effects of increased home-working
- Supporting schools

The LGA and UCL are supporting a [Net Zero Innovation Programme](#) providing training and project funding to equip councils and universities to work in partnership to help achieve the local carbon reduction goals of councils. These projects will be scaled up through a train the trainer approach.



Highly Commended at the COP26 Climate Challenge Cup

Behaviour change and the environment

Local Action For Our Environment podcast

The LGA have released a podcast series to provide advice and guidance for council officers and Members looking to engage their local communities on climate change.



Across the United Kingdom, councils are taking urgent actions in their local areas with partners and their local communities to combat the negative impacts of climate change and to deliver net zero carbon by 2050. To help councils reach these targets, the LGA has recorded a new podcast series – Local Action For Our Environment.

This podcast is a training resource for council officers and Members, supporting councils on a local pathway to net zero and enabling them to fight climate change locally with the tools, techniques and know how.

The focus of this series is on the climate crisis and how councils can create meaningful engagement with communities on climate change, enabling local climate action, developing tangible evidence and plans for how they are tackling climate change in their areas.

Hearing from a variety of councils and experts across five episodes, council officers and Members can learn about a range of different techniques which can be deployed to engage with local communities, and how to overcome the challenges which may arise along the way.

Episodes

All episodes in this series are chaired by Councillor Liz Green, a Councillor in the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames and Vice-Chair of the LGA's Improvement and Innovation Board with lead responsibility for climate change.

You can listen to the episodes below.

- ▼ Episode 1: The climate crisis
- ▼ Episode 2: Public engagement strategy and net zero
- ▼ Episode 3: Public engagement opportunities – inform and educate
- ▼ Episode 4: Public engagement opportunities – collaboration
- ▼ Episode 5: Engaging diverse audiences on climate change

Climate change hub

Information and support on climate change action for councils.

Behaviour change and the environment

Changing behaviours to reduce climate change and protect our environment

Climate change communications

Climate change issues have long been important topics for central government and local authorities. Local authorities are developing tangible evidence and plans for how they are tackling climate change in their areas.

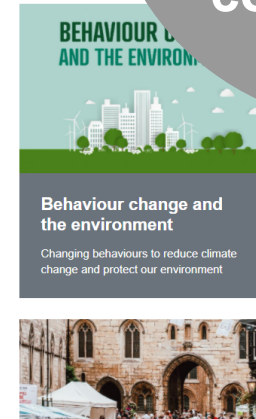
Six steps to undertaking a climate behaviour change project

Looking at the six steps you can take to begin a behaviour change project to tackle climate change in your community.

- ▼ Step 1: Before you do anything else, think precisely about the behaviour that you are trying to change - what, who, where, when, how?
- ▼ Step 2: Understand what is driving the current behaviour
- ▼ Step 3: Choosing your intervention
- ▼ Step 4: I know what is driving the behaviour. I know what intervention types I could use. How do I put them together?
- ▼ Step 5: What happens if you end up with too many options, and you cannot choose between the intervention types?
- ▼ Step 6: How can you measure whether your intervention has worked?

How can we apply this six step guide to our local climate behavioural challenges?

A series of climate change behavioural challenges can be found in this resource. Each will need to be modified for your local behavioural diagnosis and context but they provide a starting point for thinking about the behaviour which you want to change, the questions you may wish to consider in your behavioural diagnosis and examples of interventions to set you well on your way to making local changes.



[Behaviour change and the environment.](#)

New LGA podcast: [Local Action for Our Environment](#)

The Green Economy

- As the nation recovers from the devastating impact of COVID 19, the LGA wanted to support a green economic recovery at a local level.
- This in turn would help Local Authorities to play their role in achieving the UK's goal to become carbon zero by 2050.
- Building on the [LGA green jobs report](#), the focus of the project is on creating the local green jobs that are at the heart of this recovery.

Action Learning Sets
have been used to
support this delivery.

Over 30
councils
have
participated
in the last 12
months

Local green jobs –
accelerating a sustainable
economic recovery

An Ecuity Consulting report for the
Local Government Association (LGA)

Sustainable
Development
Goal: Decent
work and
economic
growth

Building Housing Retrofit Skills webinar – [blog](#)

Housing Retrofit Skills ALS

Sustainable
Development
Goal:
Affordable and
clean energy

Action Learning Sets for Members and Officers

- Part of LGA's support offer to councils on the green economic recovery.
- The focus of the support is on building skills in local communities to retrofit housing.
- Each person was required to bring a challenge which their council is grappling with in this area.

The support was delivered through Action Learning Sets (ALS) which:

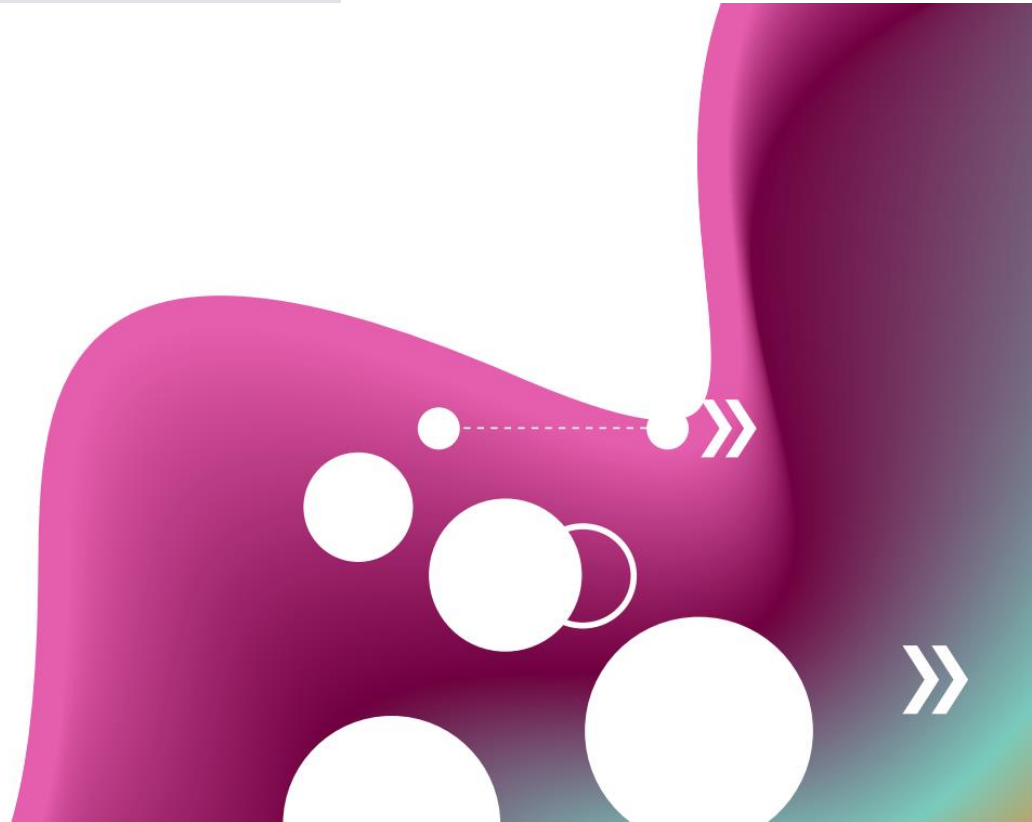
- provided a safe space for officers and Members to reflect, exchange ideas and curate knowledge
- created a pathway forward for their council to develop in the area of housing retrofit
- formed a peer network of mutual support
- ensured that participants agreed key messages and shared the learning across the sector in a sensitive, appropriate and timely manner to support local areas nationally.

Innovative approaches to low energy housing webinar: [blog](#)

Sustainable Procurement

Sustainable procurement
Delivering local economic,
social and environmental
priorities

A toolkit for commissioners,
procurement practitioners
and contract managers



Sustainable
Development
Goal: **Industry,
innovation and
infrastructure**

Green procurement webinar: [slides and blog](#)

Pass the Planet

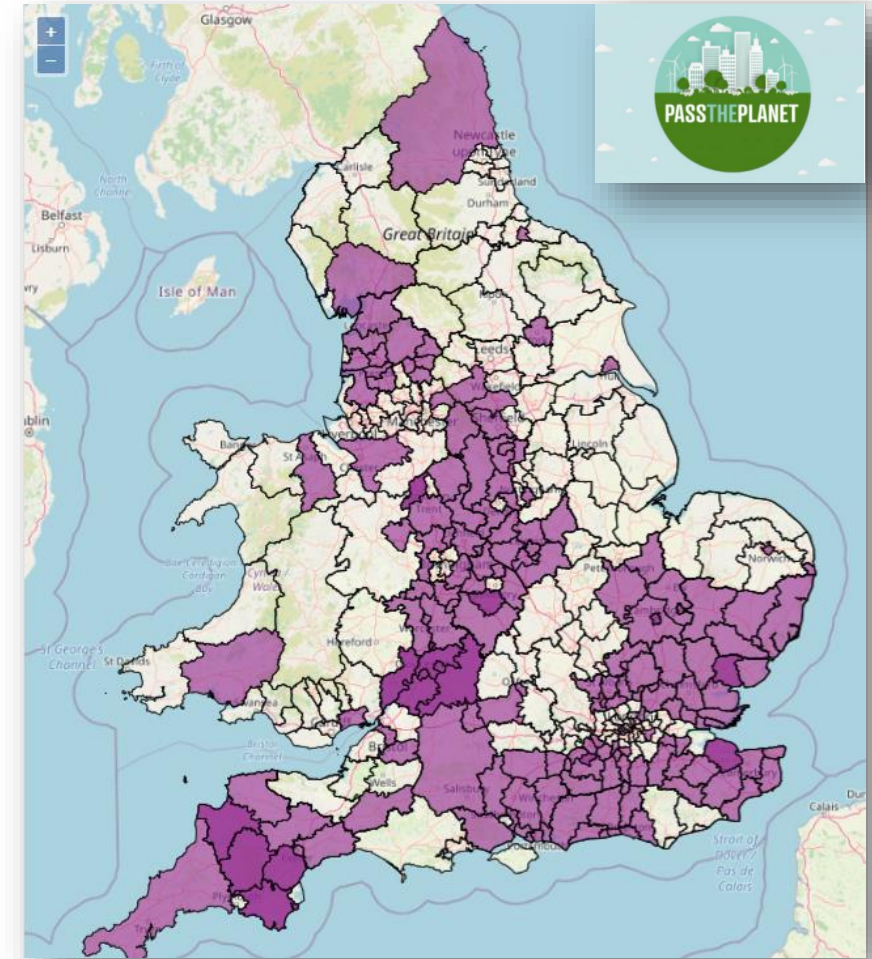
In the run up to COP26, the LGA showcased best practice from councils across England and Wales through our [Pass the Planet](#) campaign.

The campaign page features a regional spotlight and interactive map of case studies.

Case study filters include...

- Area/Region
- The COP26 goals: adaptation, mitigation, finance and collaboration.
- Climate Action areas such as energy, planning and housing.

You can submit or update case studies through [this form](#).



Showcasing local climate action webinar - [blog](#)

Coming soon to a council near you, in 2022...

Policies guide
Housing
Transport

Case studies
Net Zero Innovation
Programme
Greenhouse Gas Accounting
Tool updates

Roundtables
Training
Webinars

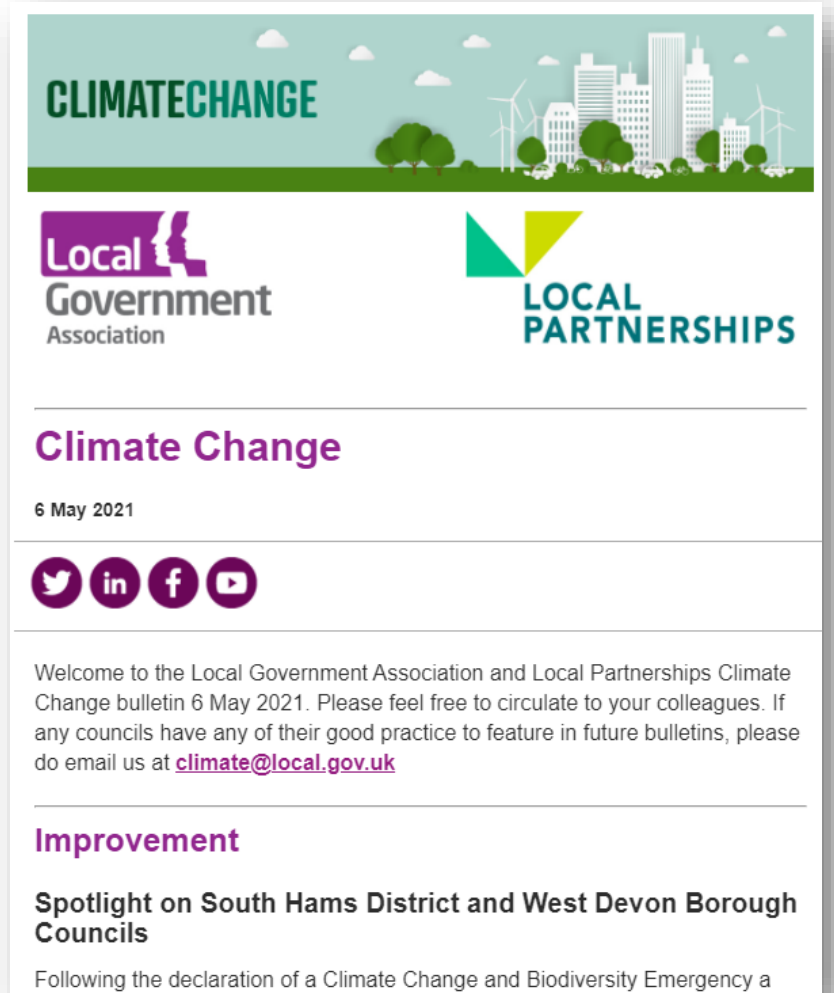
Website, Climate Change Hub:

[Climate change | Local Government Association](#)

Sign up to our free **monthly** [E-Bulletin](#)

The [Climate emergency knowledge hub](#), where councils who have declared a climate emergency, or made any other type of commitment to reduce carbon and improve the environment, share information and experiences.

Email: climate@local.gov.uk



The image shows a screenshot of a bulletin header. At the top, there is a banner with the text 'CLIMATECHANGE' in green, a green silhouette of a city skyline with wind turbines, and a green grassy area. Below the banner, on the left, is the Local Government Association logo. On the right is the Local Partnerships logo, which consists of a green and yellow triangle above the text 'LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS'. Below the logos, the title 'Climate Change' is written in purple. Underneath the title, the date '6 May 2021' is displayed. A row of social media icons for Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, and YouTube follows. The main body of the bulletin contains the text: 'Welcome to the Local Government Association and Local Partnerships Climate Change bulletin 6 May 2021. Please feel free to circulate to your colleagues. If any councils have any of their good practice to feature in future bulletins, please do email us at climate@local.gov.uk'. Below this, the section 'Improvement' is highlighted in purple, followed by the sub-section 'Spotlight on South Hams District and West Devon Borough Councils'. The text below this sub-section reads: 'Following the declaration of a Climate Change and Biodiversity Emergency a'.