

North Yorkshire Council Health and Adult Services Climate Action Plan

Disclaimer: This is a DRAFT of the Climate Action Plan for the directorate of Health and Adult Services and a service specific action plan for Public Health, produced in February 2023. This draft has not yet had wider engagement and is therefore subject to change but gives an indicative overview of the proposed actions, existing activity, and priorities.

HAS (Health and Adult Services) Plan

North Yorkshire has recently developed a climate strategy, *pending consultation*. The strategy outlines how North Yorkshire Council will respond to the climate emergency by:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions,
- Preparing for the climate changing,
- Supporting nature to thrive

There are four component areas of the strategy:

1. Mitigation – reducing North Yorkshires Emissions
2. Adaptation – preparing North Yorkshire for Climate Impacts
3. Supporting nature – helping the natural work, on which we depend, to thrive
4. North Yorkshire Council becoming a climate responsible council

As part of this strategy all directorates will require a Climate Action Plan to be developed, owned, and monitored. Our plan has been adapted from the LGA (Local Government Association) Menu of Commitments for Local Authorities Climate Actions. The plan considers the areas that are within the remit for the entire directorate and considers the breadth of activity undertaken within HAS.

The longer the delay before implementing climate action, the greater the economic, social and health costs will be. The costs of mitigating climate change now are lower than those required to adapt to a more extreme environment in the future if no action is taken. Some additional resource may be required; however, there are additional benefits to be gained such as increased energy efficiency and sustainability of services.

This plan outlines key areas for consideration and ownership by the entire directorate, it sets out what we will do, and how we will do it, and over time we will develop examples and case studies of good practice to support our commitment to annual reporting.

“Building resilience in people's lives and their experiences of community is now key to modern social care. It's also the key to adapting to uncertainty such as climate change and makes this work topical and timely.”- Peter Hay, Birmingham City Council and President of the ADASS 2011–12 - Social Care Institute for Excellence

Climate change's health consequences are already visible, and they disproportionately affect disadvantaged populations, the very old, the very young, and those with long term conditions. Air pollution, an increase in water and food-borne infections, vector and rodent-borne diseases, and food and water shortages are some of the factors that are interrelated between climate change and health. Other factors include temperature-related illness and death, flood-related injuries and death, and air pollution. Climate-driven migration is expected. Action must be taken quickly and dramatically to cut carbon emissions and put adaptation plans

into place. We are already seeing the effects of climate change in the form of increased heatwaves and flooding.

Implementation of the Action Plan

HAS Climate Board:

A key component of the HAS Climate Action Plan is the establishment of a HAS Climate Action Board. This ensures appropriate governance is in place. The board will consist of leaders in climate change from HAS, with each team nominating a champion for climate change to attend. The board will hold the directorate to account, conduct an annual report, and report into other groups including HASLT. Designated leads will report into Beyond Carbon. The creation of the board ensures that climate is embedded into all teams working and generates support for a climate in all policy approach.

HAS identified two senior managers as leads for Climate Change in 2018/19 (the Head of Housing, Technology and Sustainability, and a Public Health Consultant lead for climate change). These senior managers will continue to lead and shape strategic direction of this agenda alongside support from managers within the directorate. The delivery of the action plan sits with everyone at every level.

Climate in HAS – Yammer Group: We will establish a Yammer Group to share updates with the directorate, raise awareness and interest alongside the Climate Board.

Climate Literacy Training:

To ensure that all members of the directorate understand why we are implementing a Climate Action Plan we are asking that all members of HAS complete the 'Introduction to Climate Change' learning on Learning Zone. Climate change awareness is an understanding of the causes and detrimental impacts of the result of rising global temperatures; and of what actions individuals, organisations, governments, and nations need to take to halt global warming. This online learning introduces the issue giving everyone the knowledge they need to act. We are asking that this training is completed as soon as possible with an indicative date of 1st April 2023, and we will ask managers to discuss completing this with their staff.

The module "**Introduction to Climate Change**" will take approximately 1 hour. To access the package simply enter "**Introduction to Climate Change**" into the Learning Zone search field: [Learning Zone \(northyorks.gov.uk\)](https://learningzone.northyorks.gov.uk)

Development of service level plans:

Within the directorate there are some teams or service areas whose work is more closely linked with the climate agenda than others. Whilst we are asking for every team to implement the overarching climate action plan, there may be some areas where specific action plans are required. A clear example of this is Public Health. A public health climate action plan has been created alongside the overarching HAS action plan and addresses many of the key health and climate change considerations including co-benefits and emergency response. This action plan will be owned by the public health team.

Other services may wish to develop their own action plan and should use the overarching action plan, and the public health plan to support them to do this.

Climate in all policy approach:

A climate in all policy approach must be adopted to ensure that the action plan is embedded into all ways of working. This approach is being developed within Public Health and will sit alongside the action plan. The context to Climate in All Policy ensures that health is at the centre of all policy decisions outside HAS, and within HAS that Climate Change is at the centre of our policies, ensuring we are working both ways to embed messaging and action. A brief example of the considerations with a Climate in all policy approach for cross-cutting actions can be found on *page 12*.

DRAFT

HAS Overarching Climate Action Plan

What we will do	How we will do it	Examples/Case Studies
<p>1. We will integrate climate change into our decision-making processes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By integrating climate change priorities and targets into all key projects, programmes, and strategies ✓ By integrating climate change into impact and policy appraisal processes ✓ By ensuring climate change is appropriately addressed within risk management and business continuity ✓ By encouraging sustainable procurement activity ✓ By ensuring Climate Change Impact Assessments are completed where we are creating new, making changes, or ceasing to provide services ✓ By considering climate change and sustainability as part of extra care building design 	<p>A Climate Change Impact Assessment has been developed and beginning to be implemented. The Impact Assessment is to be used like existing equality impact assessments when we are creating new services, buildings or infrastructure or changing existing services, buildings, or infrastructure, or ceasing to provide services. The Climate Impact Assessment does not replace statutory environmental assessments where these are required. An initial screening tool is included to determine whether a full climate change impact assessment is required. We will continue to ensure all services with HAS complete these.</p> <p>http://nyccintranet/content/climate-change-impact-assessment</p> <p>Extra Care and Assistive Technology Procurement exercises contain specific elements on Climate Change through specifications and quality questions. This will form a template for future commissioning.</p> <p>We will ensure that all future procurement activity contains relevant Climate Change questions for consideration during the tendering process and in all commissioning activity and ensure this is a priority alongside value for money procurement.</p>
<p>2. We will ensure structures are in place to take forward action across the directorate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By allocating resources to enable action to be driven forward. We will do this by making climate everyone's business and ensuring everyone understands their responsibility to move actions forward ✓ By establishing a directorate level board to include decision makers to deliver a clear mandate for action. The board will explore each area of the directorate by representation and bring challenges and opportunities for 	<p>We have identified lead officers within HAS to champion and lead action on climate change. We will develop this further by ensuring all teams within HAS have a representative linked into broader HAS Climate Work. These champion officers will sit with lead officers on a directorate level group to hold and deliver this action plan. The lead officers will report into corporate boards including Beyond Carbon on our progress, to identify opportunities, and share learning across the council.</p>

	<p>discussion. This board will feed into the Beyond Carbon board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By creating working groups with representatives from each team to undertake delivery of actions. 	<p>By ensuring every team within HAS has a representative championing climate change we can promote Climate in all policy approaches and ensure this is taken as everyone's business to embed the part we all must play.</p>
<p>3. We will improve the awareness, engagement and knowledge of our staff, and service providers and train this knowledge out towards service users</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By sharing knowledge with all staff in the directorate using the newly established Yammer Group – Climate in HAS ✓ By raising awareness of mitigation measures they can put into practice in their service area, and within their own homes ✓ By ensuring every member of the directorate has undertaken the Climate Awareness training available on The Learning Zone by 1st April 2023 and ensuring all new starters complete this training within their induction period ✓ By organising specialised training sessions with key groups of staff who may be identified within service areas, or come forward, to train them in the importance of climate change sensitivity and health to build capacity in striving for change ✓ By improving staff preparedness through establishing and developing business continuity during weather events ✓ By targeting training at staff groups whose roles are associated with adaptation ✓ By articulating the challenges and opportunities to service providers, understanding the risks that they hold and exploring sustainable ways to address these 	<p>Engagement and education will form a workstream of the HAS Climate Board as outlined at Item 2. This will ensure all staff within HAS are aware of mitigation measures they can implement within their service area and has undertaken climate awareness training.</p> <p>We are asking for support for all staff within the Directorate to complete the Climate Awareness Training available on The Learning Zone as soon as possible with an indicative date of 1st April 2023. We will ask for this training to be included in the induction process moving forwards and added to the compulsory learning on Learning Zone for all staff within the directorate to improve climate literacy internally and with service users.</p> <p>We have started work with the Independent Care Group to engage providers on climate issues, with a specific focus on high-cost areas such as travel and heating costs. We will look to improve energy efficiency and indoor air quality as part of these discussions.</p> <p>We have created a combined HAS extreme weather plan to support our internal teams, external providers, and messaging for partners and the public on what to do in extreme weather situations. This work is part of business-as-usual activity within Business Continuity and the Seasonal Health Strategy. We will continue to test these plans and ensure that all members of the directorate are aware of the plans, when they will be implemented, and how they may impact their work.</p>

<p>4. We will identify and implement financial opportunities to support climate change action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By prioritising sustainable projects and projects that promote energy saving with long term payback, spend to save etc. ✓ By seeking opportunities for external funding for climate change action 	<p>We have worked with District and Borough Housing Teams as well as City of York on housing retrofit opportunities such as the Home Upgrade Grants and Local Authority Delivery retrofit schemes. These schemes allow energy retrofit schemes to be carried out that cover insulation, and low carbon-heat options. These schemes are also highlighted and accessed via The Seasonal Health Partnership.</p> <p>Research has been undertaken within HAS on the use of sustainable heating methods within large scale social housing.</p> <p>We have worked with the Independent Care sector on accessing funding for decarbonisation in care homes through the Shared Prosperity Fund.</p> <p>Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund monies have been accessed to improve in house care home provision through replacement of windows and boilers to improve energy efficiency.</p> <p>We will continue to identify funding opportunities via our HAS Climate Board, Beyond Carbon, The Seasonal Health Partnership, and the Housing and Health Board.</p>
<p>5. We will build support from stakeholders and the public</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By informing, educating, and engaging stakeholders and the wider public about the benefits and opportunities of taking climate change actions through events, social media, newsletters, and engagement activity ✓ By engaging with stakeholders in the decision-making process through workshops, focus groups, and public forums ✓ By creating, maintaining, and developing partnership working on all aspects of climate change action 	<p>We will prioritise this work through the HAS Climate Board as outlined within Item 2.</p> <p>We have already contributed to external messaging within the Climate Strategy, and through Public Health publications in promoting the co-benefits of health and climate.</p> <p>We will influence stakeholders through our existing work to develop action plans and consider climate within their work.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By creating a Climate Change and Health Champions programme and training this out to the wider health workforce ✓ By promoting projects on climate change adaptation and mitigation and reporting our successes annually ✓ By encouraging stakeholders and the public to develop their own action plans ✓ By informing and educating stakeholders and the wider public about the threats and opportunities of climate change / severe weather (e.g., how to stay staff in a heat wave and signing up to EA (Environment Agency) flood line) 	
6. We will monitor and report on actions and progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By producing an annual report on our progress on actions and opportunities and priorities for the forthcoming year 	This will be a key responsibility of the HAS Climate Board with each service area contributing to the annual report lead by the identified Climate Leads. The report will be presented to HASLT and to the Beyond Carbon Board corporately.
7. We will develop our understanding of the local public health and social care impacts of changing climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By assessing future public health and social care vulnerability to climate impacts (establish the evidence base using Local Climate Impact Profiles, local flood-risk and assessments, information from the national Climate Change Risk Assessment etc). ✓ By identifying and map the locations of vulnerable populations in relation to climate risk (e.g., flooding) and ensure action plans are in place ✓ By integrating climate risks into local Joint Strategic Needs Assessments Contribution to health and well-being Improvement to public realm Improvement to local infrastructure and Strategies and the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Boards and Integrated Care Boards ✓ By integrating climate risks into local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 	<p>The Public Health team will work alongside the Business Continuity Team and Resilience and Emergency team to develop an understanding of the vulnerability to future climate impact on our local population and our social care estate.</p> <p>A Climate specific health needs assessment to include future predictions will be completed, and all future health needs assessments will consider climate risks.</p> <p>We will continue to maintain and develop extreme weather plans to protect health during extreme weather events, support staff, and our service users.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By working with emergency planning and community resilience forum on planning for extreme weather events. ✓ By identifying and monitoring local health impacts of climate change / extreme weather events and developing actions accordingly. 	
8. We will ensure health and social care services are resilient to climate impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By identifying the impacts of climate change on health and social care services and develop actions accordingly. ✓ By identifying and training key frontline service providers in providing advice for coping in severe weather and a changing climate. ✓ By building into contracting arrangements with external social care providers the requirement to have business continuity plans. 	<p>We will develop this area of work within the Business Continuity team alongside the implementation of the extreme weather plan.</p> <p>We will ensure that all providers have and maintain robust business continuity plans and support teams to review these business continuity plans within the context of climate change and extreme weather.</p>
9. We will measure and reduce the energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of the estate within Health and Adult Services, including our services that we commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By undertaking a baseline review of the directorate's energy consumption and greenhouse gas emission ✓ By reviewing the potential for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy ✓ By developing a vision for cutting emissions over the short and medium term ✓ By producing clear targets and measures of progress and reporting annually ✓ By ensuring new buildings taken up by the directorate achieve high levels of energy efficiency and incorporate renewable energy where possible ✓ By ensuring buildings that are undergoing refurbishments as part of schedules achieve high energy efficiency standards 	<p>We will conduct this review via the HAS Climate Board and link in with existing and developing work by Beyond Carbon.</p> <p>The new Extra Care standards that have been set out further promote the use of sustainable buildings practices and renewable energy sources.</p> <p>We will work with property and health and safety teams to ensure that we are supporting development opportunities within our settings and buildings to improve energy efficiency as part of scheduled improvement programmes.</p>
10. We will ensure all services commissioned by the directorate are playing their role in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By integrating energy and other sustainability criteria with financial considerations when developing tenders and service specifications 	<p>We have developed enhanced environmental standards for new Extra Care schemes to include sustainable development practices and energy efficiency.</p>

<p>reducing greenhouse gas emissions and raising awareness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By actively working with existing service providers to reduce their carbon footprint ✓ By aligning providers and contracts with Council’s vision for net zero ✓ By involving our public facing services and commissioned services in awareness campaigns with their service users ✓ By supporting the development and implementation of travel plans for services and encourage customer journeys by walking, cycling, car sharing and public transport and promote the use of services in a local manner ✓ By promoting the use of lower carbon vehicles and ensuring flexibility is built into service provision to reduce unnecessary car travel 	<p>We have started to explore carbon reduction conversations within specific commissioned services within public health, for example weight management, to promote alternative protein sources, and active travel. We will further develop this work within other services and ensure our public facing services raise awareness with their service users.</p> <p>The new council strategy outlines the ambitions for Net Zero and we are starting to embed this within practice now. New contracts from 2024 within Assistive Technology, and others, will secure commitments from external providers on their path to net zero, sustainable re-use of products and an understanding of the environmental impact across the supply chain. We will roll this out across future commissioning in other areas.</p> <p>We will work retrospectively with providers within contract to reach net zero ambitions in line with corporate guidance when developed. In the interim we will support providers by sharing best practice and exploring the evidence base to support transition to net zero. We will develop this work within commissioning arrangements and working with existing services and their service users to understand travel patterns, and carbon emissions.</p>
<p>11. We will promote the low carbon economy, including sustainable food, and travel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By working with the Local Enterprise Partnership to put low carbon growth, and health, at the centre of local plans ✓ We will develop an action plan and strategy for making the areas food supply sustainable ✓ We will support and extend existing community growing projects and encourage more people to grow food at home 	<p>We are implementing carbon reduction measures in procurement approaches, commissioning, and current contracts as outlined within Item 1. We are including buy local and sustainable supply chain measures in our procurement approaches as set out at Item 1.</p> <p>The public health team is engaged with the Local Enterprise Partnership and future development plans to ensure health and climate are embedded at the centre of all plans.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By encouraging less energy intensive activities such as walking and cycling for travel amongst staff, and for service users where possible ✓ By working with colleagues to promote active travel and give advice on travelling by means other than car 	<p>A local food strategy, which will include sustainability, community food growing, and food waste, is in development.</p> <p>We will look at service provision and understand availability and suitability of alternative transport measures and work with partners within the council to explore improving transport options.</p>
12. We will explore opportunities with partners to reduce carbon emissions through the natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By identifying opportunities to improve green space and connectivity between sites to promote walking, cycling, and active travel ✓ By working with Planners to promote the use of green space and active travel in new developments 	<p>The Health and Housing Board will ensure that green space, walking and cycling, and promotion of new routes is included within local plans, and retained.</p> <p>Work is already ongoing with the planning teams and transport teams to develop active travel, embed health, and green space within new developments and improve existing spaces.</p> <p>The Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives steering group connects work with the Local Nature Partnership, The Local Enterprise Partnership, and other partners to improve access to green space.</p>
13. We will promote community action on reducing carbon emissions in our area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By implementing a behaviour change programme to encourage more efficient use of energy in homes, transport, and businesses 	<p>The Public Health Behavioural Science unit could be used to support the development of behaviour change and communications activity identified by the HAS climate board. We will explore opportunities to build this into the workplan where possible.</p>
14. We will work with households to promote greater energy efficiency, reduce energy dependence, and alleviate fuel poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By working with colleagues to implement retrofit schemes and encourage take up of renewable energy ✓ We will continue to deliver on, and implement, the actions identified within The North Yorkshire Seasonal Health Strategy 	<p>This is a key component of the Seasonal Health Strategy where much work is ongoing through retrofit schemes and Warm and Well. The public health team will continue to lead the seasonal health strategy through the seasonal health partnership.</p> <p>We have worked with District and Borough Housing Teams as well as City of York on housing retrofit opportunities such as the Home</p>

		<p>Upgrade Grants and Local Authority Delivery retrofit schemes. These schemes allow energy retrofit schemes to be carried out that cover insulation, and low carbon-heat options. These schemes are also highlighted and accessed via The Seasonal Health Partnership.</p> <p>Research has been undertaken within HAS on the use of sustainable heating methods within large scale social housing.</p>
15. We will stop all unnecessary work-related travel and promote the benefits of hybrid working for the planet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By promoting hybrid working for those staff that can work in that manner (accepting that a large amount of social care workforce must work in particular location(s)) and ensure that coming together in a physical space is maximised for outcome return and carefully considered ✓ By ensuring that any team meeting or larger get together of staff is coordinated to promote car sharing, later start times to allow public transport use, or longer days to maximise return on driving 	<p>To suit business and service needs, HAS staff are working in a hybrid model where appropriate. This includes a combination of office based and home-based working. We will continue to support this way of working to reduce the carbon footprint of staff. This includes ensuring office capacity is maximised within safe guidelines.</p> <p>For larger events where staff are coming together, we will explore the possibility of alternating start and finish times to accommodate use of public transport, and car sharing.</p>
16. We will promote measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through public health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By promoting household schemes to improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty (warm and well) ✓ By promoting active lifestyles that also have lower energy use such as walking, cycling and outdoor activity ✓ By encouraging long term behavioural lifestyle change to reduce care dependence ✓ By continuing to provide public health leadership in this area and the service level action plan 	<p><i>This section is covered in more detail within the service specific public health plan that follows this action plan and forms the basis of the service specific plan.</i></p>
17. We will promote community action on acting on climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By looking for funding opportunities to support community work through stronger communities to reduce carbon and improve climate resilience 	<p><i>This section is covered in more detail within the service specific public health plan that follows this action plan and forms the basis of the service specific plan.</i></p>

<p>change in North Yorkshire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By signposting community groups to external funding and capacity support ✓ By implementing behaviour change programmes to encourage more efficient use of energy in homes, businesses and on transport ✓ By supporting community groups to unlock opportunities to develop community-scale climate change projects such as on renewable energy, community food growing and food waste projects, and community wardens 	
<p>18. We will understand the health impact and our vulnerability to the changing climate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By undertaking a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment ✓ By assessing the future vulnerability to climate impact and establishing a clear evidence base for all services within the directorate 	<p><i>This section is covered in more detail within the service specific public health plan that follows this action plan and forms the basis of the service specific plan.</i></p>

Cross cutting actions

There are many actions that are not exclusive to the directorate, and as such are cross-cutting throughout the council and broader public sector. These actions are adapted from the Regional Climate Action Plan, Yorkshire, and Humber Climate Commission. They must be embedded as a climate in all policy approach to ensure they are recognised in all areas. Public Health will work up this area of work into the service specific plan and support the climate in all policy approach.

1. Acknowledgement of the emergency

- i. We need to acknowledge the climate and ecological emergency we are facing. We need to understand and accept that we must respond with urgency and ambition to reduce the impact we have on future generations, particularly in respect to health.

2. Development of a positive vision

- i. The future can be very positive, by making climate actions now, we can have a future that is better than today. The vision needs to show how ambitious action is needed to accelerate progress to net zero and improve resilience whilst making North Yorkshire happier, healthier, fairer, and more prosperous to live and work.

3. Take people on the journey with us

- i. We need to involve all levels of staff, and the public, in developing plans and making changes to ensure we are doing things together, and not doing things to people. We need to ensure our response is diverse, fair, and inclusive.

4. Focus on delivery

- i. Ambitious targets for net zero must be realised and we need to ensure that we focus beyond targets and clearly map out how we will deliver these goals.

5. Shared responsibility

- i. We all have a contribution to make. There isn't one person, one team, or one directorate that can make this happen. We need to ensure everyone understands that they have a contribution to make, this needs to become business as usual, and woven throughout all practice.

6. Consistently act and connect

- i. The climate agenda needs to be at the heart of all planning, policy, and investment decisions to ensure that all actions are joined up and coherent. We need to ensure we are working across boundaries to join up narrative and maximise opportunities for change.

7. Investment and cost of not making action

- i. Climate sensitive investment, and development should be prioritised. It isn't just about the cost of making changes, it is the cost of not. We need to understand the cost of making climate safe, and net zero changes, and build these into planning. This isn't about finding an endless pot of money, but about ensuring we prioritise those areas that costs are lower and impact greatest, and areas that costs are highest are planned into a schedule of redevelopment. We are striving to make everything better. There are also significant costs of not making any action, including loss of lives.

8. Protect local natural capital and transition to blue-green infrastructure

- i. We need to continue to protect local natural assets including peat bogs, forests, and flood zones, and promote nature-based solutions that protect biodiversity, green spaces, and wild areas. We need to be aware of how our local landscape is projected to change and ensure we are not implementing policies that will further impact.

“Tackling social inequalities in health and tackling climate change must go together”

Fair Society, Healthy Lives: The Marmot Review, 2010

Climate change is an emergency with multiple adverse consequences that will worsen health inequalities.

In the UK, climate change will directly influence health through:

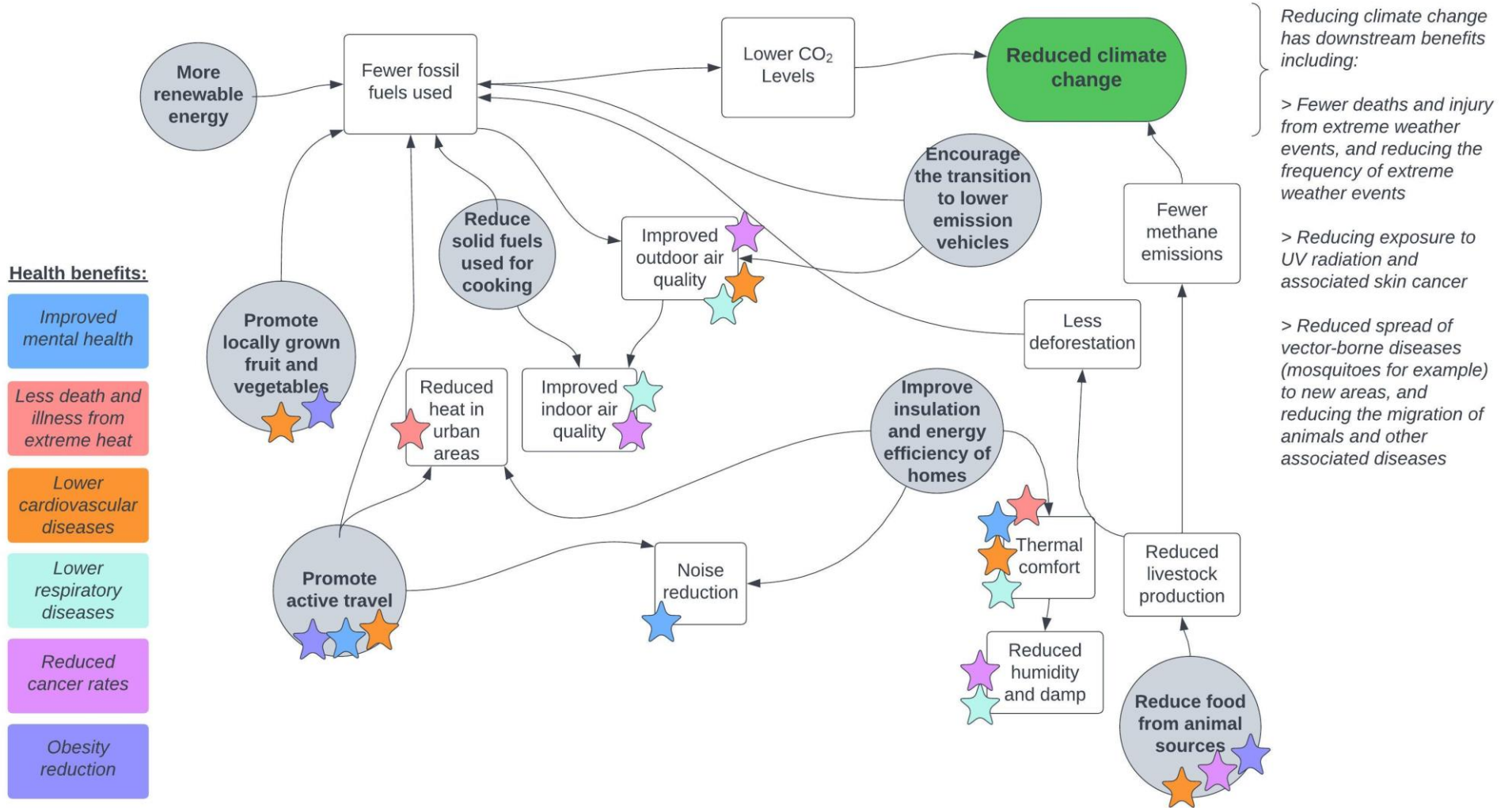
1. Changing exposure to heat and cold
2. Air pollution due to increased ground level ozone and particulates and increased aeroallergens due to extended pollen seasons
3. Increase in food-borne, water-borne, and vector-borne infections and emerging infections
4. Disruptions to access to, and functioning of, health services and facilities
5. Flooding causing injury, infection and impacting mental health
6. Increased exposure to UV radiation

We need to learn from the challenges in the climate-environment-health relationship and from the global covid pandemic. Health systems are on the frontline of protecting populations from the health threats of a changing and more variable climate such as: food and water insecurity; extreme weather; flooding; heat stress; reduced air quality (including increasing ground level ozone); increased land pressure from a landscape changing; vector-borne diseases and zoonosis, amongst others.

This plan will set out the actions we will take as a Public Health team to:

1. **Develop the evidence base and data for the climate impact within North Yorkshire**
2. **Address the wide range of health impacts of climate change**
3. **Strengthen the climate resilience and environmental sustainability of the local health system, commissioned services, strategies, and interventions**
4. **Promote the health co-benefits of climate change mitigation in other areas**

Many of the actions within the climate action plan are based around the concept of climate and health co-benefits. This is shown in basic intervention terms on the following diagram. The grey circles indicate possible interventions, with the coloured stars showing the health benefits.



The Public Health Climate Action Plan

1. Evidence Base development

Overarching action	Specific details	Progress to date	Future Priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We will develop a clear evidence base for Climate Change and Health using existing literature, our own research, and national policy to inform a Joint strategic needs assessment to look at the current and future climate and health picture ✓ We will ensure that health inequalities and the wider determinants of health is embedded into all our work on climate and will provide leadership and advocacy to partners to achieve the same 	<p>1. We will summarise the existing evidence base and identify research needs that can be supported through local projects to support local development of data and evidence. This will be shared amongst partners and stakeholders, and we will provide evidence across the council as public health leaders.</p>	<p>Climate and Health briefing in development with Climate in All Policy approach.</p> <p>Work undertaken as part of this climate action plan and stakeholder scoping work.</p> <p>Engagement with the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission and workshops attended for Health and Resilience.</p>	<p>To undertake extensive scoping of this area of work, build into the health protection work plan and undertake this work.</p> <p>Identify and share best evidence on what relevant interventions have most significant impacts</p>
	<p>2. We will conduct a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment specifically focusing on Climate Change and the current and future health implications. We will ensure that all current JSNAs (Joint Strategic Needs Assessment) consider climate change within their focus.</p>	<p>Scoping of key health impacts ongoing.</p>	<p>To undertake scoping of this work and build into workplans.</p>
	<p>3. We will work to identify areas of concern and risk within our public health practice in the climate context and work with colleagues to develop our understanding of the challenges and opportunities to overcome these.</p>	<p>To undertake this work.</p>	

	4. We will be prioritising health inequalities and justice and embed this throughout all areas of our influence, locally, nationally, and beyond.	Addressing health inequalities is a fundamental part of all public health work and climate change is no different. We have attended seminars and conferences on the health inequalities and injustice of climate change to understand our role in this work.	Continue to understand this area of work and influence wider. We will ensure that climate justice and the wider determinants of health are understood by stakeholders and the wider council to highlight the fact that health inequity and Climate Vulnerability are almost identical.

2. Health Impacts of Climate Change

Overarching action	Specific details	Progress to date	Future Priorities
Health Impacts from high temperatures ✓ We will maintain robust seasonal health, extreme weather, and communications plans to highlight the health impacts from high temperatures and provide guidance and leadership around adaptations to improve health outcomes	1. We will continue to maintain, develop, and evolve our existing Seasonal Health Strategy, Extreme weather, and Communications plans	<p>The Seasonal Health Strategy 2021-26 has been published which included for the first time a focus on heatwaves as well as cold weather.</p> <p>The public health team worked extensively during the high-heat periods of Summer 2022 to embed and create heatwave plans which has now been developed into the Extreme Weather Plan.</p>	<p>We will develop a multi-agency communications plan in coordination with Resilience and Emergencies, Business Continuity and The Local Resilience Forum.</p> <p>We will adapt the existing Seasonal Health Partnership group meetings to ensure that all weather is proportionately represented and ensure a severe weather sub-stream is developed.</p>

		We have also supported the Corporate Extreme Weather Plan development.	
	2. We will promote the importance of future buildings to be able to accommodate rising temperatures, sustainability, and adaptability	We have contributed to local plan responses to ensure buildings for the future meet future needs and embedded evidence from literature including <i>Risks to health and wellbeing and productivity from overheating in buildings</i> .	Continue to ensure that health is at the centre of building considerations and material choice considers future heat predictions to ensure we have healthy homes for the future. We will continue to link in with the development teams within the new North Yorkshire Council and the creation of the Health and Housing board.
	3. We will develop our understanding of required lifestyle adaptations to cope with warming temperatures and disseminate this through guidance		Develop understanding of lifestyle adaption requirements for now and with future progressive warming and develop a top-tips guidance document that builds on the NHS Beat The Heat narrative
	4. We will collaboratively develop and disseminate communications on safe behaviours during times of hot weather	Extreme weather plan has been redeveloped to include clear guidance for partners including frontline teams, and the public, on how to stay safe during hot weather, prolonged hot weather, and extreme heat	Ensure this document is kept up to date and we develop our collaborative communications with partners to ensure messages reach key target populations in a timely manner and are understood, tangible and practical

	5. We will explore the use of technology to support adaptation and create an awareness of the challenges and opportunities from technology	Virtual/hybrid working significantly increased since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to explore the application of technology within commissioned services to enhance service provision.	Continue to work with commissioned services to develop technology within service to improve service user engagement and outcome whilst benefiting climate.
	6. We will promote a balanced message to include the benefits of warmer weather, not extreme heat, and not just the challenges to promote a positive future	We have developed messaging to highlight the importance of and benefits of safe-sunlight exposure including <i>'Sunlight exposure increases your body's vitamin D levels which is critical for health. More motivated to exercise Staying warm in nice weather helps keep you alert and improves your memory. Getting outdoors in warm weather helps kill off the viruses and makes it difficult for them to spread.'</i>	Continue to develop messaging and create a positive future message with health benefits embedded and shared amongst partners and the public via communications campaigns.
	7. We will respond to changes in disease epidemiology driven by warmer weather (<i>see infectious disease section</i>)	We have worked alongside The UK Health Security Agency to understand and respond to reports of vector borne disease, including Ticks.	We will continue to develop our understanding of the future and emerging health risks in North Yorkshire driven by warmer weather alongside national and regional partners.
Health impacts of flooding	8. We will participate in emergency preparedness and response to	We participated in the 2022 national flood exercise	We will continue to work with the LRF and Resilience

<p>✓ We will work with colleagues across the council, and in external organisations to raise awareness of the health impacts of flooding on communities including promoting community support and resilience</p>	<p>flooding as part of Health and Adult Services and Local Resilience Forum Severe Weather Plans</p>	<p>through the Resilience and Emergencies Team and Local Resilience Forum.</p> <p>We have developed HAS severe weather plan, contributed to LRF (Local Resilience Forum) severe weather plan.</p>	<p>and Emergencies Teams alongside Business Continuity.</p>
	<p>9. We will work with colleagues from Health and Adult Services and Resilience and Emergencies Teams to raise awareness of the health issues surrounding flooding and their mitigation measures</p>	<p>We have provided input in flooding incidents on the potential health impacts.</p>	<p>Continue to participate in emergency preparedness and response to flooding incidents</p>
	<p>10. We will promote the mental health impacts of flooding, including the need for ongoing community support and improving community resilience</p>		<p>Work with Major Incident Response Team (within Resilience and Emergencies) on health and mental health aspects around flooding as part of Local Resilience Forum work on community resilience</p>
	<p>11. We will include awareness raising of health risks associated with Ultra-Violet exposure as part of the Seasonal Health Strategy and hot weather alert messaging</p>	<p>Messages around Ultra-Violet exposure included in heatwave messaging</p>	<p>Include in part of multi-agency communications for Seasonal Health Strategy</p>
<p>Skin cancer/exposure to UV light</p>	<p>12. We will work with NHS colleagues leading on cancer screening and awareness programmes</p>	<p>Messages included in hot weather comms RE wearing sun cream, covering exposed skin to protect from UV</p>	<p>We will link in with skin cancer screening programmes within the Integrated Care Boards.</p>

<p>✓ We will raise awareness of the increasing exposure to strong Ultraviolet light within our changing climate and work with colleagues in the NHS to support cancer screening and awareness programmes</p>	<p>13. We will work with NHS colleagues to understand the future climate risks on the health system</p>	<p>We have linked in with local colleagues working on climate change within the healthcare system via the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission.</p>	<p>We will continue to develop relationships to understand these challenges and how we can support from a public health prevention perspective and our commissioning considerations.</p>
<p>Increased burden on health system</p> <p>✓ We will support the development of a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to understand the future healthcare system needs and demands and ensure that the system is linked up with emerging plans and scenarios</p> <p>✓ We will continue to prioritise prevention of ill health to reduce the burden of disease and promote prevention messages for emerging challenges</p>	<p>14. We will update the North Yorkshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to understand the future health system needs in terms of climate change</p>		<p>As outlined within Section 1, we will explore this work and build into workplans.</p>
	<p>15. We will ensure the health system is linked up with emerging plans and future scenarios to prepare the healthcare estate for future land challenges</p>		<p>We will continue to develop relationships and link in with colleagues across the system working on this area and support the connection of people within the system.</p>
	<p>16. We will ensure prevention in general is embedded from a public health perspective to reduce and decrease the burden on the health system</p>	<p>We have embedded prevention within all public health activity and will continue to ensure prevention is at the heart of our practice.</p>	
	<p>17. We will support the health and social care system to embed prevention to reduce undue burden</p>	<p>We have embedded prevention within social care practice and further developed within business continuity.</p>	<p>Continue to work with health and social care colleagues to maximise prevention</p>
	<p>18. We will promote active travel and reduction in traffic related emissions to improve air quality and promote sustainable travel</p>	<p>We have worked alongside sustainable travel officers to embed health within active</p>	<p>We will develop our work with environmental health colleagues under the new North Yorkshire Council to</p>

		travel plans and route development.	support improvements in air quality and coordinated targeted work within specified air quality management areas (AQMAS).
<p>Health impacts of poor air quality/ozone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We will champion and prioritise active travel and car reduction schemes locally to promote sustainable travel for all ages, always ✓ We will capitalise on opportunities to work closely with colleagues on Air Quality Management Areas and embed clear public health leadership in improving these areas and intervention development ✓ We will continue to lead indoor air quality work with a focus on reducing the burden of disease from poor indoor air quality and develop the narrative around climate change and indoor air quality and raise awareness with partners and the public 	<p>19. We will develop school zones work to reduce car idling and promote walking and sustainable travel to school</p>	<p>The Healthy Schools and Early Years Award has embedded themes within the award including promoting active travel, bike ability training and is aligned with the Department for Education’s Sustainability Strategy.</p>	<p>Continuing work within the School Zone projects and the local primary schools on various initiatives to promote healthy lifestyles and environments.</p> <p>Pilot school streets and play streets work in conjunction with Highways and Stronger Communities.</p>
	<p>20. We will develop our indoor air quality work</p>	<p>We have focused on highlighting the impact of poor indoor air quality in spaces that are of greatest risk because of high densities of people, or the presence of vulnerable people.</p>	<p>Develop and maintain communications with settings most vulnerable to the impacts of poor indoor air quality, while continuing to raise awareness and promote benefits of good indoor air quality. Focus on developing the narrative around how changes in the climate can worsen the quality of the air outdoors, which infiltrates into indoor environments.</p>

			<p>Explore existing contact routes and local inspection protocols within the council and maximise opportunities, to promote awareness of the importance of good indoor air quality in all settings, including workplaces and domestic.</p> <p>Work closely with colleagues to embed a plan for improving indoor air quality into key strategies, including highlighting this as a cross organisational issue and embedding work into good practice in other areas.</p>
	<p>21. We will work with colleagues within Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) and Environmental Health Colleagues to embed public health messaging and supporting development of AQMA (Air Quality Management Areas) action plans</p>	<p>We have contributed to AQMA action plans in specific areas and started to understand and develop the role of public health within these action plans and conversations.</p>	<p>We will work to ensure public health is around the table in all areas with an AQMA action plan and support the evidence base and reduction measures.</p> <p>Work with colleagues to highlight the co benefits of climate change mitigation in relation to air pollution, such as the reduction of CO₂ emissions often also reduces air pollution,</p>

			<p>benefitting both climate and public health.</p> <p>Social Prescribing and Active Travel work ongoing scoping and feasibility (Scarborough and Selby) in conjunction with Highways.</p>
	<p>22. We will link with the Integrated Care Boards and healthcare colleagues around Green NHS agenda and prescribing</p>	<p>We have engaged with colleagues during lunch and learn sessions on the Green NHS agenda and developed our understanding of this in practice, including prescribing considerations.</p> <p>We have developed an active travel social prescribing programme that is bid ready.</p>	<p>We will further develop our work with partners on the Green NHS agenda and prescribing.</p>
	<p>23. We will raise awareness of the impact of poor air quality with the public and partners and identify ways of reducing impact on air quality</p>	<p>We are undertaking work around schools and care settings to improve indoor air quality. Ventilation has been a core part of our COVID-19 prevention guidance.</p>	<p>Work with colleagues to develop narrative around the environmental risk to public health in the UK from air pollution. Policies will involve the integration of climate change, air quality, and health benefits to create desirable outcomes.</p> <p>Explore potential synergies in tackling climate change and air pollution together.</p>

	24. We will raise awareness of aeroallergens and seasonality of air quality impacts on health		Raise awareness of rising carbon dioxide levels and warmer temperatures linked to increased outdoor airborne allergens which can infiltrate indoor spaces. We will embed this into existing plans and with colleagues to develop clear communications around this.
	25. We will develop our understanding of local Vector borne disease surveillance with the UK Health Security Agency and partners	We have contributed to responses locally to vector borne disease, namely ticks.	We will develop this work as a priority in 2023.
Infectious diseases ✓ We will continue to work with colleagues at The UK Health Security Agency to understand emerging diseases including vector borne disease and develop local plans and assurance with Resilience and Emergency Colleagues ✓ We will continue to report into The Health Protection Assurance Group, manage emerging outbreaks, hold Incident Management Teams, and develop robust Mass Treatment and	26. We will develop action plans with the Local Resilience Forum and Resilience and Emergency Team	We are developing our outbreak control plan to cover transmission routes, including emerging diseases, and have this placed within the local risk register.	We will complete the outbreak management plan and exercise this plan regularly.
	27. We will report into the Health Protection Assurance Group and ensure appropriate monitoring is in place		We will embed this as a standard agenda item within HPAG and produce an annual report as a minimum.
	28. We will manage outbreaks of infectious diseases and hold Incident Management Team meetings with partners	We participate in a range of OCTs/IMTs – usually UKHSA-led but we chaired many over COVID	We will continue to manage outbreaks within the health protection team and hold meetings as appropriate with partners.

Vaccination Plans to account for the varying patterns and seasonality of communicable disease	29. We will develop emerging infectious disease plans and pandemic plans	This is ongoing within the outbreak management plan re-development.	Within the Local Resilience Forum workplan 2023/4 we will include a review of pandemic/emerging infectious disease planning
	30. We will work with partners to prepare for and support the rollout of mass testing, vaccination, and treatment	We have in place a Mass Treatment and Vaccination Plan, Local Outbreak Control Plan	We will continue to ensure these plans are up to date and exercised annually.
	31. We will develop our understanding of changes in human responses to emerging and evolving infectious diseases	There is evidence that higher ambient temperatures may favour pathogens that will be more difficult for the human body to fight, breaching human's thermal barrier.	We will continue to look at this evidence as it emerges nationally and stay linked in to understand the risks on our local, and vulnerable, populations.
	32. We will understand the seasonality and changing patterns of infectious diseases	Comms targeted to certain points in the year to reflect seasonality of infections e.g., ticks, flu, petting farms (E. coli etc.)	We will develop our understanding of changing patterns of infectious diseases within the health protection workplan to ensure we have appropriate resilience to respond to outbreaks with partners.
	33. We will develop our responses to Seasonal Health and Severe Weather Planning	The Seasonal Health Partnership is undergoing a review to ensure it is representing the full extent of the strategic objectives. We have developed the HAS severe weather plan, and supported the LRF severe weather plan development	We will continue to ensure that our responses are proportionate to the changing climate and that we maintain robust plans and reports.

<p>Deaths and injuries from severe weather events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We will work with colleagues under the Seasonal Health Strategy and Severe Weather Plan to prevent death and injury from severe weather events including ensuring mortality and emergency plans are maintained with the Local Resilience Forum ✓ We will develop clear shared messaging with partners for severe weather events and develop a narrative with the public to raise awareness and change behaviours with unpredictable and extreme weather patterns 	<p>34. We will work with NHS colleagues to understand patterns in emergency attendance and promote prevention locally</p>	<p>We have received attendance data from local Emergency Departments to understand reasons for attendance.</p>	<p>We will continue to develop our understanding of local situational data and develop communications activities alongside our NHS partners to promote safe behaviours during severe weather events.</p>
	<p>35. We will work with the Local Resilience Forum to maintain management of mortality plans</p>	<p>We have reviewed the Mass Fatalities plan including participation in Exercise Lilac</p>	<p>We will continue to review and support maintaining of suitable plans for mass fatality and mortality.</p>
	<p>36. We will raise awareness and support behaviour change around safer behaviours with unpredictable weather patterns and extremes of weather</p>	<p>Messages included in recent comms e.g., keeping off thin ice</p>	<p>Develop communications and behaviour change plans to deal with unpredictable and changing weather patterns with the public and through our services.</p>
	<p>37. We will develop and share shared messaging with partners</p>	<p>We have developed shared messaging during key weather events of 2021 and 2022 and continue to develop a database of messaging.</p>	<p>Through the Seasonal Health Partnership, we will develop a communications plan with partners and the LRF and create a central messaging storage point to support shared messaging across the system in extreme weather events.</p>
	<p>38. We will develop our understanding of and support international migration and associated health issues including infectious diseases</p>		<p>This work will be developed, and a rapid needs assessment conducted to understand the health profiles.</p>

<p>Health impacts of migration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We will look towards global partners to understand migration patterns including infectious disease surveillance and challenges that are foreseen in North Yorkshire and provide health leadership locally to respond to changing migration and displacement patterns ✓ We will work with partners to understand the changing animal migratory patterns, including birds, and the impact this may have on zoonosis virus transmission and the local public health risk and work with the system to prevent the risk to the population ✓ Work with partners and colleagues to understand the key role played by climate change on native and non-native vector borne zoonotic diseases that are distributed across the UK, in particular ticks and mosquitoes which are the vectors of most concern in the UK. 	<p>39. We will support internal and local migration or displacement due to the changing landscape</p>		<p>We will develop our public health response to this work.</p>
	<p>40. We will understand changes in animal migration (specifically birds and vector borne diseases)</p>	<p>Monitor UKHSA (UK Health Security Agency) and other publications on shifting patterns of vector borne disease</p>	<p>Understand the changes to migratory patterns brought about by climate change. Prioritise the particular concern that autumn/winter brings due to Britain being hosted to wintering waterfowl that are part of a wider flyway that links populations from many different areas.</p> <p>Continue to work with colleagues to help provide a coordinated response to cases of zoonotic virus transmission in North Yorkshire, in particular cases of Avian Influenza.</p> <p>Raise tick awareness (UK Health Security Agency's tick awareness resources and how to take part in the Tick Surveillance Scheme), focusing on peak time between April to June. Include communicating the importance of spending time</p>

			<p>outdoors, and the health benefits of leading an active life through participation in outdoor events.</p> <p>Include emerging infectious diseases as part of LRF risk register planning</p>
<p>Risks to food and water security</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We will develop a clear food strategy that has sustainability throughout including community food infrastructure, seasonability, food waste and transportation of food ✓ We will work with partners to understand the impact of the changing climate on water scarcity for our local communities and promote clear messaging to prevent water wasting, and water safety 	<p>41. We will facilitate the development of a North Yorkshire food strategy in partnership with key stakeholders as a whole system approach that will include sustainable food, food security and food poverty</p>	<p>The Public health team are in the early scoping phase of a food strategy for North Yorkshire. This will consider both the impact of climate change on food supply; and how to reduce our community impact on climate change through reducing food waste. This is already being addressed in some areas at a local level, for example through Craven Food Partnership, whose proposed outcomes include better food use and less food waste; and a more secure sustainable food supply. A food strategy will consider how these local initiatives can be supported at a County level.</p>	<p>Complete food strategy development and implementation.</p>

		<p>The environmental and sustainability impact of food is likely to be one of the key main pillars in the development of the local food strategy.</p> <p>The Public Health team are linked to the Fix Our Food, 5-year active research programme led by York University. This programme aims to look at how the food system can be transformed to be more sustainable through regenerative farming, hybrid business models and sustainable and healthy food for children. There will be a bespoke Fix Our Food, Three Horizons approach delivered within North Yorkshire in the coming months.</p>	<p>Continue to develop Fix Our Food, Three Horizons approach to define the scope and establish priorities within North Yorkshire.</p>
	42. We will support local coordination of community food infrastructure	<p>This is ongoing through the food strategy development alongside learning and evolving of community food partnerships.</p>	
	43. We will develop our understanding of food availability, seasonality, monoculture, and implications of transportation	<p>This work is ongoing throughout the food strategy development and existing work within the Healthy</p>	

		Weight, Healthy Lives strategy.	
	44. We will develop the understanding of challenges to the agriculture landscape, including droughts	We have started to explore drought work throughout the Extreme Weather plan within the Resilience and Emergencies Team.	Develop this work further through the food strategy, the rural commission, and agricultural societies. We will ensure this is developed to cover emergency food plans and within the Extreme Weather plans via partners.
	45. We will promote reduction in food waste and packaging	We have worked with the North Yorkshire Rotter's to understand food waste locally. We have supported development of community food infrastructure projects including community fridges to reduce food waste via stronger communities.	Ensure this work is embedded within the local food strategy development.
46. We will support changing diets and encourage a move to sustainable diets	We are promoting the move to sustainable planet friendly diets through existing work including commissioned services such as the Adult Weight Management Programme, and trading standards work on Healthier Choices for You.	Continue to develop this work and communicate planetary diet concepts. Exploring procurement options and reducing food miles.	

	47. We will develop our plans and understanding around water scarcity, security, safety, and the impact of droughts	This has begun through the Extreme Weather plans.	Continue to develop this work with partners through the Local Resilience Forum.
<p>Increased outdoor activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We will continue to maximise opportunities for active travel and keeping active outside whilst balancing the changing outdoor landscape ✓ We will work to ensure green space is prioritised and maintained within building developments and the changing climate 	48. We will continue to champion the use of green space and retaining use of green space	Contributions made to local plan work.	Continue this work through Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives, and local planning policy work.
	49. We will maximise opportunities for active travel, and promoting walking, cycling, wheeling infrastructure	Ongoing work through the Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives Strategy.	<p>Ensure a comprehensive network of routes for walking, cycling, and using other modes of transport involving physical activity that is safe and attractive and accessible from the workplace, home, school, and other public facilities.</p> <p>We will continue to identify transport policy which discourages children and young people from walking and cycling e.g., policies to keep traffic moving may make it difficult to cross the road. Consider how these policies can be improved to encourage active travel.</p>
	50. We will influence local planning policy to ensure infrastructure is developed to promote walking and cycling opportunities and access to green space	We have contributed to the Catterick levelling up bid and inputted into local plans and other planning applications.	Continue to ensure Healthy Place shaping is embedded within local planning policy.

	51. We will support a review of local leisure provision and the development of green tourism	<p>Ongoing local leisure provision review.</p> <p>To promote and prioritise carbon reduction of existing facilities and improve energy efficiency of existing assets.</p>	Continue to develop and support this work.
	52. We will explore the sustainability of outdoor activity provision in the context of climate extremes (weather)		<p>To develop our understanding of existing outdoor provision on the changing landscape to ensure access and use is retained throughout the year and seasonal variations. We will ensure that people using spaces are prepared for changing weather and maintain outdoor activity whilst being safe.</p>
	53. We will seek to improve the accessibility of outdoor activities and spaces	<p>The Discoveries on your Doorstep project connects local people with local walking and cycling routes to improve access to nature.</p>	<p>Ensure public open spaces and public paths can be reached on foot, by bicycle and using other modes of transport involving physical activity. They should also be accessible by public transport.</p> <p>Continue to support the development of, and input into, Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure plans.</p>

3. Strengthening resilience and partnership working

Overarching action	Specific details	Progress to date	Future Priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We will strengthen partnership working and resilience within our communities and stakeholders and ensure to only practice climate sensitive commissioning and procurement activity ✓ We will conduct climate change impact assessments for all activity undertaken within the team ✓ We will continue to work with local and regional partners and develop the climate change in all policies approach to ensure that climate change is the responsibility of every member of the team 	<p>1. We will strengthen partnership working with internal (NYC (North Yorkshire Council)) and external partners</p>	<p>Good relationships with key partners (e.g., adult social care, RET (Resilience and Emergencies Team), UKHSA). Work underway related to climate but not always badged as climate specifically (e.g., outbreak management, severe weather planning)</p>	<p>As part of LGR (Local Government Reorganisation) to develop relationships with other parts of the new council e.g., housing, and ensure climate is a key part of partner discussions</p>
	<p>2. We will strengthen resilience to climate change</p>	<p>Work with Resilience and Emergencies team on severe weather planning etc.</p>	<p>Support LRF community resilience work</p> <p>Consider resilience of both human and natural systems (as covered by rest of actions in plan)</p> <p>Already disadvantaged populations are the most at risk from climate impacts – ensure proportionate support</p>
	<p>3. We will conduct climate sensitive commissioning</p>		<p>Include sustainability as a key factor when commissioning services</p>

	4. We will embed the use of climate Change Impact Assessments	Supported development of the climate impact assessment	Ensure climate change impact assessments are being used as intended.
	5. We will contribute to internal working groups including Beyond Carbon, and HAS Climate	We have public health representation on the corporate Beyond Carbon board. We are linking in with HAS Climate leads. We have supported the development of NYC Climate Strategy.	Participation in HAS Climate Board
	6. We will link in with regional and national work around the Faculty of Public Health, the UK Health Security Agency, the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, the Association of the Directors of Public Health	We have attended the UK Health Security Agency conference sessions on climate change including participating in the launch of Centre for Climate & Health Security. We have attended the Faculty of Public Health and Royal Society of Medicine climate conference	We will keep linked into national public health work around Climate Change including the newly developed Climate Change and Health Security Agency Continue to attend sessions and link with other national work as appropriate and embed learning locally.
	7. We will link with the Local Economic Partnership and the NY (North Yorkshire) Route map to Net Zero	We have contributed to emerging and recently published plans by the LEP (local enterprise partnerships) in particular the NY Route map to Net Zero	Continue to link in with emerging plans and contribution to delivery of plans.

	8. We will take a climate change in all policies approach	Ongoing development of this work area.	We are taking a paper to the Public Health Leadership Team in March 2023 to agree this approach and get leadership buy in for workstreams.
--	---	--	--

4. Promote the co-benefits of health and climate change

Overarching action	Specific details	Progress to date	Future Priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We will use language to develop a positive, clear narrative around the future we want, using behavioural science to understand barriers and levers to change in key communities and maximise health improvement co-benefits through climate change action 	1. We will seek to develop a positive narrative around the future and the co-benefits of climate change and framing	Attended webinars and conferences to understand the narrative considerations. Started to conduct evidence synthesis to develop this work.	We will develop a consistent narrative considering: <i>Language needs to focus on a positive future, it is scary in the noise and the apprehension and inevitability of fate is stalling progression. The future could be very positive, and we still have time to turn things around and choose the future we want for ourselves, our children, and our planet. The co-benefits of health and climate mean we can create a better future and continue to improve health outcomes.</i>
	2. We will develop a behavioural science approach to climate change, understanding drivers and levers for change, and catalysts for change in		Develop this work with support from the Public Health Behavioural Science

	local populations, business, and amongst stakeholders		Unit, to embed into workplans.
	3. We will work with partners and stakeholders across and beyond the council to highlight opportunities for maximising health improvement through climate change, including in the built and planning environment	This has started through Healthy Place Shaping work.	Further develop this area of work.
	4. We will use public messaging to engage with climate change and behaviour change through promoting the co-benefits of climate change and health		Develop this work with support from the Public Health Behavioural Science Unit and develop communications plans to engage with the public and maximise on opportunities to share messaging with partners.
	5. We will work with councillors to promote the co-benefits of health and climate change opportunities for their constituents		Develop this area of work. Identify opportunities to tackle through locality budgets
	6. We will raise awareness of the priority of health in climate change, narrative around health of population underpinning all other agendas including economy for future green agenda and prosperity	Inclusion of health co-benefits in NYC draft climate strategy	Develop this work through a Climate in All Policies approach as outlined above. Include climate as part of MECC (making every contact count) approach

Draft Climate Action Plan for HAS and Public Health – Jessica Marshall, Public Health Manager (Health Protection), February 2023

--- END ---