

Climate Strategy Survey Summary

This Climate Strategy survey was conducted from 15th December 2021 to 7th January 2022.

The survey was advertised to stakeholders via external communications channels including press, email, and regular social media posts and internally to staff.

There were 170 respondents to the online survey and five responses by email.

Key Findings

Climate Change

(The statistics below are based on respondents who answered 'strongly agree' or 'agree' to the statements.)

Climate change is important to me	97%
I am concerned about the impacts of climate change	96%
The council should have science-based climate targets	96%

96% are already taking action on climate change. The **top 5 actions** already being taken by respondents are:

- **14%** reduce what they buy new.
- **13%** repair what they already own.
- **13%** expand the lifetime of products through good maintenance.
- **13%** buy used, refurbished or re-manufactured goods.
- **12%** buy sustainable options e.g. from recycled content or low carbon

The Climate Strategy

(The statistics below are based on respondents who answered 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' to the statements.)

The title of the report – Red Kite Climate Vision and Strategy	43%
The motivation statements (foreword, introduction, the need for action now)	54%
The view ahead (vision, what could Powys look, sound and feel like)	63%
The mission statement	51%
The six objectives	50%

Those who selected 'dissatisfied' or 'very dissatisfied' were given the opportunity to comment why they had answered in that way, the main themes included:

- The use of 'Red Kite' in the title and as a repeated example throughout the report
- Lack of clarity on the 'plan of action' - just words
- No specific agriculture/food security/farmland references
- No 'urgency' or emphasis on 'emergency'
- Lack of mentions of ecological crisis/biodiversity
- Nothing on waste management/recycling
- Should mention benefits to people e.g. better health, etc.
- Could be simpler/less jargon
- Objectives are not SMART

Approach, focus and priorities

The publication - [“Net zero carbon status by 2030 - A route map for decarbonisation across the Welsh public sector”](#) suggests five priority areas of Buildings, Procurement, Mobility and Transport, Land use and Governance.

The statistics below are based on respondents who answered ‘strongly agree’ or ‘agree’ that that these areas are suitable for the public sector to reach net zero by 2030:

Buildings	89%
Mobility and transport	89%
Procurement	87%
Land use	85%
Council and governance	82%

Top areas of focus for each of the key areas for change were provided and ranked by respondents (*where 1 is top priority*):

Buildings

1. Energy efficient housing
2. Deploy renewable energy where possible at our sites and on our buildings
3. 21st Century net zero schools
4. Use timber and other locally available natural building materials where possible

Mobility and transport

1. Work with transport partners to improve transport infrastructure
2. Promote public transport
3. Reduce the need for travel – opportunities for remote working
4. Active Travel options will allow residents to make more positive choices
5. Provide opportunities for the electrification of transport (including school transport)

Procurement

1. Build local supply chains and industries
2. Help develop the circular economy in Powys
3. New frameworks that ensure that the most sustainable choice is clear to decision makers
4. Create opportunities for the use of more sustainable products and services to supply to the Council

Land use

1. Understand the environmental impact on our land and the opportunities available
2. Support and encourage best practice including local sustainability and innovators
3. Give our local communities a voice to help express local preferences through place-based planning
4. Encourage community groups to develop green spaces and other similar initiatives

When asked if they would add a different area of focus to the list, themes included:

Buildings

- Net-zero private sector housing
- Support/advice/grants on how to make homes more energy efficient
- Restore/repair/conserve/retrofit older (and listed) buildings
- Educate builders/trades
- Planning controls
- All buildings not just residential

Mobility and Transport

- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- Low-cost/Free public transport and taxi service for remote areas
- Promote and reward/incentivise car sharing
- Hydrogen vehicles

Procurement

- Food/produce from local farmers/suppliers
- Guidance to help business support low-carbon decision making
- Emphasis on Powys Pound

Land use

- Tree planting
- Sustainable practises, including food production
- No intensive farming
- Community green spaces/growing areas/sustainable projects

Just Transition

All large changes have impacts, while climate change is referred to by some as an equality issue due to the impacts often hitting those least responsible and the poorest hardest. While the end goal benefits all, i.e. a safe climate, lower risks of flooding, storm damage, erosion, etc.

A 'Just Transition' means to make sure that changes are fair, and opportunities for involvement are maximised, including for those on low incomes and otherwise vulnerable. A 'Just Transition' is 'very important' or 'important' to **92%** of respondents.

Appendices

When asked about the appendices of the strategy, respondents were asked to rate their preference for each one with both recommended as 'adds important information to keep':

- Appendix 1: Building a vision - **75%**
- Appendix 2: Integration - **81%**

Potential stakeholder group

36% of respondents highlighted that they would be interested in joining a stakeholder group.

Those with an interest were asked for their name and contact details and some follow-up questions:

Topics they would be interested to talk on (out of the key areas mentioned earlier in the survey):

Buildings; Mobility and transport; Procurement; Land; and Governance. Land was the most popular choice (35%) and Procurement the least popular (9%).

Level of expertise in climate change (from Casual Observer through to Professional with 10+ years experience):

- Casual observer: **7%**
- Long-term interest: **56%**
- Professional - new to field: **4%**
- Professional - 2 years experience: **4%**
- Professional - 5 years experience: **2%**
- Professional - 10years+ experience: **27%**