

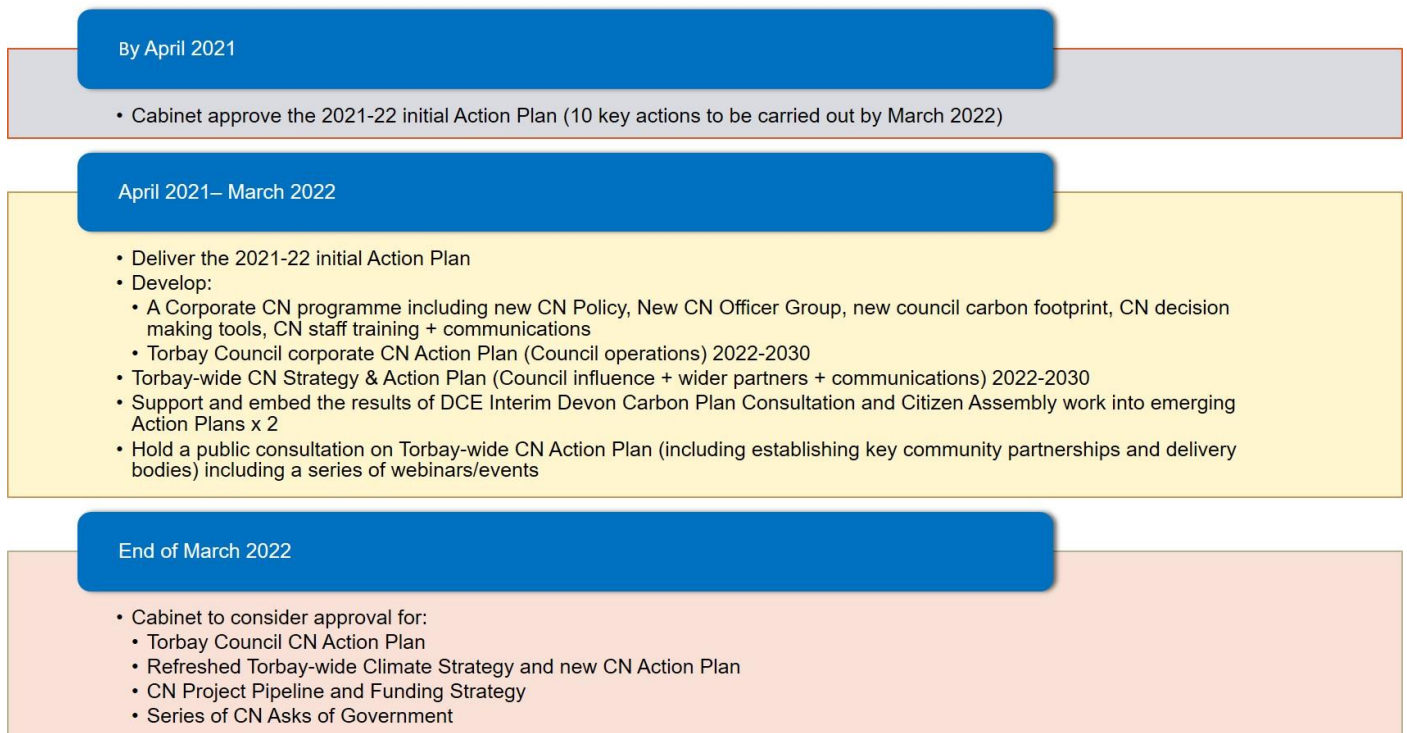
Appendix 2 - Working towards a Carbon Neutral Community and Council – A proposed approach for 2021-22

The Proposal

The Working towards a Carbon Neutral Community and Council proposed approach for 2021-22 focusses on two distinctive elements:

- 1) Council related operations (for example operations that the council control i.e. energy use, water and waste consumption across the council's estate)
- 2) Torbay-wide, community focussed actions (including partners/communities work to decarbonise Torbay's transport, buildings, power, industry and agriculture and land-use sectors and activities that Torbay Council can influence)

Figure 1 summarises the Working towards a Carbon Neutral Community and Council approach for 2021-2022 and the key deliverables:



The key deliverables are outlined below in detail:

Short term (completed by April 2021)

- Developed 10 key actions to be delivered between April 2021 and April 2022 (known as the 2021-2022 Initial Action Plan)
- Gain Cabinet approval March 2021

Longer term (completed by April 2022)

Council Operations

- Created a new Corporate Carbon Neutral (CN) programme including:
 - New CN Policy (to set out some CN principles for all of the Council to follow)
 - New CN Officer Group and senior responsible officer (to be responsible for developing and delivering council actions and Council Action Plan)
 - Established the carbon footprint for the Council (the amount of carbon dioxide released as a result of council operations/activities. It will be vital to monitor this and establish annual reduction targets in line with Torbay's CN target)
 - Explored strengthening decision making processes in light of the Climate Emergency
 - Explored carbon literacy training for staff and members (to raise staff and members awareness)
 - Developed a Torbay Council CN Action Plan 2022 - 2030 (including a list of prioritised actions that the Council commits to deliver up to 2030)
 - Gain approval from Cabinet to deliver the Torbay Council CN Action Plan

Longer term actions (completed by April 2022)

Torbay-wide

- Developed with partners and community groups a review of the existing Torbay Climate Change Strategy (2014 – 2019) and developed a new Torbay-wide CN Action Plan 2022 – 2030 (list of resourced, prioritised actions, pipeline of projects and future funding strategy)
- Supported the development of the Devon Carbon Plan (including active engagement in the Devon Citizen Assembly)
- Embed the results of the Devon Carbon Plan into the new Torbay-wide CN Action Plan
- Developed a CN pipeline of projects (this is designed to create a list of investment ready projects capable of securing future funding as it arises)
- Held a public consultation and series of events to develop the new Torbay-wide CN Action Plan (this is to test the draft plans and gauge the appetite of residents and businesses to deliver certain actions) – extent determined by available resources
- Created a coalition of partners to deliver the plans
- Gained approval from Cabinet for the new Torbay-wide Strategy and CN Action Plan.

Devon Carbon Plan

As mentioned above, this 2021-2022 approach will allow alignment with the work of the Devon Climate Change Emergency Response Group and the Interim Devon Carbon Plan. The Devon Carbon Plan will be a high level strategic plan which provides a whole area evidence base across the Devon region and identifies targeted actions to be delivered. It offers the potential for real

value to be added to Torbay Council's own efforts to meet carbon neutrality in the most effective and evidence-led way possible. For more details see the [draft interim Devon Carbon Plan](#).

The Benefits

The following are some of the benefits to the proposed approach outlined above:

1. Demonstrates immediate progress to tackling the Climate Emergency and meets various Council and Community carbon neutral commitments as set out in the One Torbay Community and Corporate Plan (2019 – 2023)
2. Creates a longer term corporate programme of CN actions that will allow the council to lead by example and encourage other partners to take similar action
3. Co-designed, refreshed Torbay Climate Change Strategy and new Action Plan which will lead to community buy-in to help deliver plans
4. Enables the Council and partners to have a pipeline of CN projects that are ready to apply for and secure future funding
5. Delivery of the two new Action Plans will have a range of co-benefits such as creating a range of economic opportunities that can help Torbay recover from the COVID-19 such as new green jobs, upskilling and training opportunities and new business opportunities. There are also a range of environmental, social and health benefits that can arise through tackling the Climate Emergency including improved air quality, reduction in respiratory illness and excess winter deaths, alleviation of fuel poverty.

Proposed timetable:

Key Activities	Timescale
Short term (Jan – March 2021)	
Develop 1 year Initial Action Plan (2021-22) and secure Cabinet approval	Jan - March 2021
Delivery of 1 year Initial Action Plan	March 2021 – April 2022
Longer term (March 2021- April 2022)	
Council-wide	
Development of new CN Council Programme including:	
Establish new internal officer group	Feb 2021
Develop a new corporate CN Policy	March 2021
Development of CN Council Action Plan 2022 – 2030 (including carbon footprint for the Council)	Feb – March 2022
Explore Carbon Literacy training for employees and members	2021

Cabinet approval for Council CN Action Plans	April 2022
<p>Torbay-wide</p> <p>Co-design and development of new Torbay-wide CN Action Plan 2022- 2030 with partners</p> <p>Devon Carbon Plan – Citizen Assembly and Finalised Devon Carbon Plan</p> <p>Cabinet approval for the draft Torbay CN Action Plans and permission to proceed to public consultation</p> <p>Public consultation and events on draft Torbay-wide CN Action Plan</p> <p>Cabinet approval for Council and Torbay CN Action Plans</p>	<p>May -Feb 2022</p> <p>Jan – Sept 2021</p> <p>August 2021</p> <p>Sept – Feb 2022</p> <p>March 2022</p>