Bioregional
Championing a better way to live

One Planet Oxfordshire:
achieving our shared vision

A scan of the sustainable actions happening in Oxfordshire

Part of Bioregional's
One Planet Cities programme

The CAG Project
COMMUNITY ACTION GROUPS

Cherwell
DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

Vale of White Horse
District Council

South Oxfordshire
District Council

toe | Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

About this action scan

This live document is designed to give you a flavour of the pioneering and practical activity happening all over Oxfordshire that demonstrates true One Planet Living change. It collates some of the actions already being taken by organisations that will help us achieve [Oxfordshire's One Planet Living Shared Vision](#).

There are diverse organisations, groups, charities, businesses and individuals already 'walking the talk' and shifting norms in line with the well-honed framework developed by Bioregional over many years. Some of these have their own One Planet Action Plans, many do not, as yet, but everything you see here is helping us achieve a society in harmony with nature, thriving, not merely surviving.

Tons of 'surplus' food are distributed to those who would not eat well otherwise, products are being repaired when before they would be thrown 'away', low-carbon energy systems are built and used where fossil fuels were previously inevitable, cargo bikes deliver food, freight and laundry, runners get their exercise delivering prescriptions, people are less lonely through supportive phone calls, trees are planted and watered, new build zero-carbon houses are being built. It's all happening!

Please feel free to share this document and get in touch if you feel you or your organisation are (or would like to be) helping to achieve our vision of a One Planet Oxfordshire.

About One Planet Oxfordshire
Our project in Oxfordshire kicked off with a workshop in November 2018. Some 100 stakeholders from across the county gathered, from universities to local councils and businesses to community groups – all providing their particular insights and expertise. We talked about One Planet Living, an easy-to-use framework that can help anyone, anywhere to plan, communicate and deliver sustainability.

Created by Bioregional, One Planet Living is about living within the natural limits of our one planet. If everyone lived like the average European, we would need the resources of three planets – and if we lived like an average North American, it would be five. We also know that action must be taken to mitigate the climate crisis and secure a safer future for humanity.

One Planet Living responds to these problems with **10 simple principles** to target each aspect of sustainable living, ranging from zero carbon energy, local and sustainable food, to health and happiness and equity and local economy. These principles map onto the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and allow for a holistic approach that helps people **work** and **live healthier, happier, fairer and greener lives.**

At the workshop, we used these 10 principles to craft **Outcomes** – statements that describe the situation we want to see in Oxfordshire, and therefore the goals we want to achieve. We fed these back to stakeholders in December and asked for comments and suggested improvements. A refined list of Outcomes is presented here in this document. We've highlighted the key outcomes for Oxfordshire.

Bioregional has also been working with individual organisations to develop their own mini action plans, feeding into the overarching vision.

- Health and happiness
- Equity and local economy
- Culture and community
- Land and nature
- Sustainable water
- Local and sustainable food
- Travel and transport
- Materials and products
- Zero waste
- Zero carbon energy

Key Outcomes

Clean air for all	Safe, clean and legal air quality for the whole county. All new developments to demonstrate no negative impact on air quality
Active, healthy people	Increased number of children and adults who are physically active and a healthy weight. Everyone is able to be healthy and lead active lifestyles, no matter their socio-economic status
Mental health and wellbeing	High levels of good mental health and wellbeing with readily available support when necessary. Self-care (physical and mental) is taught, understood and practised, including promoting and teaching mindfulness techniques in schools and the workplace. Everyone has access to human contact

In the photo: GoodGym runners combining an evening run with doing some gardening at Flo's - The Place in the Park demonstrating the Health and Happiness principle.
Credit: David Brugman

Oxfordshire actions

Zero Emission Zone Oxford City	Oxford aiming for world's first zero emissions zone for 2020
Oxfordshire Clean Air Action Group	A group campaigning for cleaner air in Oxfordshire
Oxford University Ultra Low Emission fleet	The University of Oxford (specifically Estates Services and the Transport Study Unit) was part of a £8.9m bid to the Government's "Go Ultra Low City Scheme" that sought match funding to enable 12 vehicles in their fleet to be replaced with Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEV's).
Increase fleets of electric taxis and buses	The world's first purpose-built electric black cab, the LEVC TX, is the first taxi of its kind to join Oxford's licensed hackney carriage fleet.
Run activities to demystify and encourage cycling	Clubs and Campaigns, including ISIS Women's Cycling Group and Cyclox
Provide accessible exercise programmes	The Get Oxfordshire Active (GO Active) partnership provides activity sessions such as Just Jog, Zumba and Health Walks throughout the year.

Run exercise programmes for older people to exercise	Generation Games is a physical activity service for 50+ residents, delivered by Age UK Oxfordshire and commissioned by Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning group. With a focus on fun and enjoyment, the service offers everything from dance and Tai Chi to seated exercise, bowls and lots more. During the lockdown they have created a range of exercise videos to encourage people missing classes in person to keep moving, improving balance, strength and flexibility.
Run outdoor exercise and conservation activities	Green Gym programmes, invented in Oxfordshire in 1998, exist in at least 4 parts of the county. Health Walks, also invented in Oxfordshire, exist county-wide, with scores of routes walked regularly.
Support programmes to help people lose weight	Oxfordshire Weight Loss and Lifestyle Service (OWLS) supports obese adults in the efforts to achieve a healthier weight, alongside many other commercial enterprises offering weight loss services.
Create two new Healthy New Towns	These are: Bicester and Barton
Sustain mental health through partnerships	Oxfordshire Mental Health Partnership consists of 6 organisations - Connection Floating Support, Elmore Community Services, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, Oxfordshire Mind, Response and Restore. They co-run the Recovery College, running courses by and with service users.
Create services and opportunities for older people to enjoy later life	AgeUK Oxfordshire run a range of services for older people, including a helpline, Home Support tailored to the individual, Dementia Oxfordshire, Action for Carers, Generation Games, Bereavement Support, Homeshare (providing a home for a younger person alongside an older homeowner) and computer classes.
Research consequences of air pollution	Researchers at the Nuffield Department of Population Health are working to understand the health impacts of air pollution, at home and abroad. See the work of Dr Om Kurmi.
Fund partnerships between groups in areas of diversity	The "We Are Oxford" grants scheme aims to: Bring people together from different backgrounds so they can spend time together and build long-lasting friendships. Encourage community organisations to set up activities and events that enhance community cohesion and integration. Encourage organisations which represent different groups to work in partnership with each other
Make phone calls to isolated people	AgeUK Oxfordshire and Oxford Together have organised thousands of phone calls between volunteers and isolated people during the pandemic lockdown.

Key Outcomes

Thriving local, independent shops	A diversity of local, independent shops and enterprises providing jobs and livelihoods for communities, and where a significant proportion of money is spent locally
Empowered citizens affecting planning	A responsive local government culture that can influence local development and transport schemes on behalf of citizens
Truly affordable homes	Access to truly affordable homes for all in Oxfordshire

Oxfordshire actions

Develop the Oxfordshire economy and social enterprise	OXLEP is responsible for championing and developing the Oxfordshire economy. OXLEP is looking to strengthen Oxfordshire's economy by establishing robust and effective relationships between businesses, academia and the public sector. Its Escalate Programme supports developing social enterprises with grants of up to £25,000. New hubs for this programme include the CAG Network and Makespace in Oxford. There are approximately 75 social enterprises across the county.
Pay a living wage	There are approximately 134 real living wage employers in Oxfordshire, including OXFAM, Aspire, Emmaus Oxford, Oxford City Council, Pedal and Post, Ethical Property, Oxford Innovation.

In the photo: Aspire supports homeless and disadvantaged people in Oxfordshire to find employment through work experience on our social enterprise businesses.
Credit: David Brugman

Support grassroots initiatives	The Community Action Group (CAG) Project is a pioneering model of supporting, measuring, empowering and connecting grassroots environmental initiatives. The Oxfordshire network consists of more than 60 unique groups taking action on waste, energy, food, transport, biodiversity and social inequality. The CAG network is now the largest of its kind in the UK.
Scale up the low carbon economy	OxFutures: OxFutures is a project to boost low carbon economic development in Oxfordshire. Oxfordshire Greentech: is a business network supporting the growth of the low-carbon sector in Oxfordshire.. Low Carbon Oxford: is a network of organisations with a shared vision of Oxford as a low carbon city.
Develop various options for sustainable housing	Oxford Co-housing are a group of people from various backgrounds working to create a cohousing neighbourhood in the Oxford area. SOHA housing is a successful, award-winning, community-based housing association working in South Oxfordshire. They provide more than 6,500 affordable homes in and around south Oxfordshire and currently have more than 10,000 residents. Oxfordshire Community Land Trust was founded in 2004 with the objective of acquiring land to build affordable housing for local reside

Equity and local economy
Creating safe, equitable places to live and work which support local prosperity and international fair trade

Work to support vulnerably housed people and prevent homelessness	Crisis, Open House, City Council Housing Needs Team, Oxfordshire Homelessness Prevention Trailblazer Programme. Oxford Winter Nightshelter Programme run by 12 Oxford churches. During lockdown, the City Council along with St Mungo's outreach team, has provided self-contained hotel or student accommodation for rough sleepers, with food from Pembroke College's catering team. The Porch has offered a mobile lockdown food delivery service and a takeaway service while other activities were suspended.
Promote and create outlets for fairly traded products	Oxford Brookes was the first Fairtrade University in the world. Oxfordshire also has the following Fair Trade places: Oxford is a Fair Trade city; Bicester, Banbury Abingdon are Fair Trade towns; and the Witney area has a Fair Trade action group Headington Fairtrade is run as a community co-operative gift shop specialising in fairly traded products from all over the world. They are passionate about the importance of fairly traded products and ethical ways of protecting this beautiful blue planet for future generations. Fairtrade shops: Fairtrade at St Michaels in Oxford, Just Trading in Wallingford, Exclusive Roots in Oxford, One Village Shop in Woodstock. Iffley Village Shop has a Fairtrade section, as do all OXFAM shops, Market Garden in Eynsham and many others.
Provide savings and loan facilities	Oxfordshire Credit Union is a co-operative providing safe savings options and fair loans to its members.
Research the potential of the low carbon economy	The Environmental Change Institute's Lower Carbon Futures team, in partnership with Low Carbon Oxford, published an extensive report about the potential of this sector to grow, providing the county with jobs and income, identity as a world leader in this area, and keeping sustainability at the heart of economic development. This research (and other energy-related research) is pulled together under the University's interdisciplinary Oxford Energy Network
Increase co-operatively run enterprises	Oxford has 4 co-operative pubs, owned by the community for the community, in Risinghurst, Beckley, Great Milton, and Marsh Baldon,
Research and act upon barriers to mobility	The Oxfordshire County Council Active and Healthy Travel Steering Group met with the Healthy Urban Mobility Project, whose grassroots research findings in Rose Hill and Barton is being integrated into planning. Issues such as pavement parking and lack of relevant buses are key.
Create opportunities for social enterprises to thrive	Said Business School's Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship provides awards, funding, scholarship and networking opportunities both locally and globally. They host an annual Social Entrepreneurship Forum, with its fringe event the Marmelade Festival at the Old Fire Station, showcasing what is possible locally.
Develop thriving community businesses	The Plunkett Foundation, based in Woodstock, are national experts in rural community business. More and more rural communities turn to community ownership to tackle the challenges they face. Calls for communities to have greater control and influence over government funding for economic regeneration.

Key Outcomes

Civic society and communities all understand the climate and ecological emergency and are working hard towards a rapid transition	Everyone in Oxfordshire understands One Planet Living
Solving global environmental challenges	Oxfordshire capabilities and actions support solutions to global environmental challenges

In the photo: School pupils help each other design posters for an Oxford climate march, with encouragement from a local business.
Credit: Ian Curtis, One Planet Oxfordshire photo competition

Oxfordshire actions

Consult citizens about climate emergency	Oxford ran the first UK Citizen's Assembly on Climate Change. Its report emphasised the importance of the burden for change not being placed exclusively on individuals but to seek systemic change.
Engage local people with sustainability issues	Oxfordshire has a co-operative network of 70+ locally funded Community Action Groups known as CAGs. CAGs are run by volunteers who organise events and initiatives to highlight issues such as reducing waste, promoting energy efficiency and tackling climate change. During the pandemic the Network has enabled video-conferencing and shared information about emergency funding with the member groups, many of whom have risen to the challenge by e.g. distributing surplus food to vulnerable people at home instead of running a Community Fridge (Sustainable Wantage), repairing and distributing bikes for key workers (Broken Spoke), creating a Walking Shop to deliver to people isolated at home (Sandford Talking Shop), watering new trees while socially distancing(Rose Hill and Iffley Low Carbon).
Divest from fossil fuels	Local government pension funds are discussing how to disengage from investment in fossil fuels. Oxford University Colleges are increasingly divesting and Oxford University's Endowment Fund has committed to divest. The Oxfordshire Local Government Pension Fund approved its first Climate Change Policy and is moving funds elsewhere.
Develop programmes and educational materials to inform and inspire about climate change	Low Carbon West Oxford in particular has worked to develop an ACT NOW programme for local people, materials to support parents and teachers talking with young children about climate, and to seek out key pressure points to ensure maximum change. Low Carbon North Oxford has run Climate Cafes where people can share feelings about climate change.
Turn new sustainable economic theories into practice	The Doughnut Economics Action Lab works with cities, groups, businesses and teachers worldwide to co-create and spread tools and resources that turn the ideas of Doughnut Economics into practice.

Connect environmental and social justice	The charity and social enterprise Aspire, which supports vulnerable adults and young people, is using its One Planet Action Plan to promote an inclusive agenda for sustainable action, bringing everyone it works with onboard and training new voluntary 'sustainability integrators'. Aspire is reviewing the existing One Planet Living training to improve its inclusivity, working to connect environmental and social justice. It wants to accelerate its sustainability plans without perpetuating inequality, e.g. increasing investment in more sustainable vehicles for its fleet. Through connections with housing associations and Oxfordshire Greentech it can support vulnerably housed people and help find jobs for colleagues in the green sector
Declare a climate emergency	All Oxfordshire District Councils and the County Council have declared a climate emergency
Challenge fossil fuel dependent developments	The Expressway has been criticised and campaigned against by a range of organisations. Oxfordshire County Council voted to oppose it. Currently under review.
Research innovative ways to change economic thinking	Doughnut Economics Action Lab, based at Makespace in Oxford, researches and promotes the co-creation of the ideas of Doughnut Economics, to turn them into practice.
Research and collaborate to solve problems	The Oxford Martin School is a community of more than 200 academics based at the University of Oxford. Working in collaborative teams that cut across disciplines, it researches complex, global issues that cannot effectively be understood and tackled by any single discipline. Programmes include: Food Sustainability: the future of food, of plastics, of cooling and of work; Dryland Bioenergy; Zero Carbon Investment; Post-Carbon Transition; Climate Partnership: Climate Pollutants; Ageing Populations: Inequality and Prosperity; Illegal Wildlife Trade; Informal Cities; Nature-based Solutions; Renewable Energy; Sustainable Oceans.
Support innovation in Oxford and beyond	Oxford Innovation has supported over 7,000 SMEs to develop and grow. Started and continuing in Oxford, it now runs 23 Innovation Centres in the UK, providing incubation space and tailored support and coaching to businesses.
Help governments, business and communities anticipate and respond to the risks of environmental change	The Environmental Change Institute at Oxford University works internationally to increase understanding of changes to climate, ecosystems, energy, food and water. It explores sustainable solutions globally and influence change through education and partnerships.
Connect university students and citizens with community projects	The Oxford Hub has grown from a small student organisation running community projects and volunteering into a large organisation bringing town and city together. During the pandemic it set up Oxford Together, with thousands of volunteers to focus on food distribution, social phone calls, prescription deliveries and practical support, in partnership with many other groups. It has: set up online tutoring to keep children up to speed with school work; sustained contact with individual children through its Big Brother, Big Sister project to encourage physical activity; helped provide bikes for key workers and disadvantaged children and supported street level WhatsApp neighbourhood networks. With Good Gym it has arranged prescription collection and delivery by runners.

Key Outcome

Rapid positive biodiversity trends	Rapid positive recovery trends for identified and prioritised habitats and species in Oxfordshire. Conservation Target Areas inform priorities for biodiversity enhancement
Showcase sustainable agriculture and landscape scale biodiversity	Oxfordshire is a showcase for truly sustainable agricultural systems. Landscape scale biodiversity and conservation on farms. Funding is available for sustainable land management

In the photo: This is local artist Andrew Kay (invisibules.org) during a seed sketching session in the tranquil setting of Barracks Lane Community Garden Oxford, a green space run by members of the local community and filled with family-friendly events throughout the year. Credit: Hannah Scott

Oxfordshire actions

Protect and develop existing tree cover with communities	Blenheim Palace's Land Strategy explores innovative ways to protect, utilise and open access to the estate e.g. by introducing cattle into its oak forest management, protecting the largest number of ancient oak trees in Europe. It works with the Long Hanborough Community Tree Project to engage local children with trees.
Preserve special habitats and make them accessible to visitors	One of the largest inland wetland complexes in the country, Otmoor is managed by the RSPB and is home to a huge amount of wildlife. Rare species, include bittern, lapwing, water rail, warblers and brown hairstreak butterflies. The murmurations of starlings are a big draw in the winter. Shotover Park, owned by Oxford City Council, is largely a Site of Special Scientific Interest and is home to rare invertebrates. The Shotover Preservation Society and the Shotover Users' Group work to keep it both diverse and accessible.
Create havens for wildlife and people in urban settings	The Oxford Urban Wildlife group manages the Boundary Brook Nature Reserve in East Oxford. Its sensitive management of the space creates a place for art and outdoor therapeutic interventions as well as habitats for wildlife.
Manage land to enhance biodiversity and support new entrants to farming	The Earth Trust owns and manage 500 hectares in South Oxfordshire working on wetland restoration and the creation of new wetlands, with 2.5 miles of Thames frontage within their land. It runs the Farm Step programme, supporting several new entrants to farming, including beekeepers, pig farmers, a plant nursery, traditional hedgelaying and artisan goats' cheese production.

Promote organic farming	The many organic farmers and growers in Oxfordshire include Sandy Lane Farm, which is one of the sources for the organic storyline in the Archers on Radio 4, and runs an onsite weekly market and offsite market stalls and tours of the farm, hosts the annual Dance Camp, and sells through Ten Mile Menu, a source of locally-grown food.
Create retail opportunities for local growers	Oxford Community Markets. At least 5 regular markets around Oxford supporting local growers and foodmakers, whilst providing hubs for local people to meet.
Create, preserve and extend landscape-scale areas of biodiversity	Berkshire, Buckinghmashire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust owns and manages several Living Landscape reserves, aiming to create linked areas for wildlife. These include Chimney Meadows where they run demonstrations for farmers, land managers and schools
Tiny Forest	Environmental charity Earthwatch Europe and Witney Town Council have partnered to plant the UK's first-ever Tiny Forest in Witney, Oxfordshire, in a joint response to the climate and ecological emergency. Scientific modelling shows that just four years after planting, a single Tiny Forest will: • Grow up to 5x faster compared to traditional monoculture tree-planting schemes • Absorb up to 30x more carbon compared to traditional planting schemes • Attract more than 500 species of animals and plants - in addition to those planted • Process 30,000 litres of rainfall • Improve air quality through dust reduction • Provide up to 30x better noise reduction compared to traditional planting schemes • Help with thermal comfort

In the photo: Summer wheat fields, Winterslow, Salisbury.
Credit: Sara Price, One Planet Oxfordshire photo competition

Key Outcomes

Efficient waste water treatment	Waste water treatments and technologies are cheaper, more efficient and more effective
Reduced flood risk	Natural flood management through landscape measures. Floodplain restoration. High quality sustainable urban drainage systems for all new developments

In the photo: "Aoife was so excited to find a water refill station in the Horniman Museum and Gardens. It's fun to refill and the water tastes great." Credit: Feng Ho, One Planet Oxfordshire photo competition

Oxfordshire actions

Create and manage flood alleviation schemes	Various schemes are being planned or in place in partnership with the Environment Agency.
Map and measure river water quality through citizen science	Wild Oxfordshire and the Environment Agency (EA) initiated a partnership with EarthWatch, the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH), Freshwater Habitats Trust, and Thames Water among others, launching the annual 'WaterBlitz' across the River Thames catchment. This empowers citizen scientists to collect as many nitrate and phosphate measurements as possible from a defined area (in this case the Thames river basin) within a 24 hour period.

In the photo: Rowers on the River Isis. Credit: Sina Korcan, One Planet Oxfordshire photo competition

Local and sustainable food
Promoting sustainable humane farming and healthy diets high in local, seasonal organic food and vegetable protein

Key Outcome

Reduced food impacts	Reduced greenhouse gas emissions from food cycle, food production preserves ecosystems and animal welfare, reduced waste from food and packaging

Oxfordshire actions

Connect organisations across Oxfordshire's food economy to enable healthy sustainable diets	Good Food Oxford is a large network bringing together a wide variety of growers, cooks, food retailers, community fridges and others under the banner of the Oxford Good Food Charter. They work to alleviate food poverty, researching and promoting a wide range of activity

In the photo: Rosie Jacobs, Maisie Johnson, Becks Sutton from Cultivate Oxford at Summertown Farmersmarket. Credit: David Brugman

Ensure 'surplus' food is eaten	There are at least 6 community fridges in the county, taking food from supermarkets and other outlets directly to local centres where people can help themselves. The Oxford Food Bank receives supermarket surplus and distributes it to nearly 100 organisations feeding people at risk of malnutrition and food poverty. They also supply the Food Surplus Cafes (pop-up meals run by volunteers), many one-off events and Waste to Taste, caterers using food surplus as its main ingredient, with a 'never waste anything' approach. The Wonky Food Co in Woodstock makes preserves from waste ingredients.

In the photo: "Our first strawberries growing in the greenhouse". Credit: Imogen Clatworthy, One Planet Oxfordshire photo competition

	Travel and transport Reducing the need to travel, encouraging walking, cycling and low carbon transport

Key Outcomes

Affordable, low carbon transport	Affordable, low and zero carbon, and active transport options accessible for all
Citizens understand the impact of air travel	Citizens understand the impact of air travel

In the photo: "Getting a cargo bike has really changed our life! …This picture shows pick up from Larkrise Primary School just off the Iffley Road - we love the look of joy in our kids' faces, though it may be because we don't normally let them ride it like this!" Credit: Oly Shipp, One Planet Oxfordshire photo competition

Oxfordshire actions

Create an ambitious transport plan	Connecting Oxfordshire is the new Local Transport Plan(LTP4). It sets out Oxfordshire County Council's policy and strategy for developing the transport system in Oxfordshire to 2031. It was developed with input from Oxfordshire's district and city councils, its businesses, MPs, stakeholder groups and through public consultation. It considers the plans and ambitions of the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership in its Strategic Economic Plan(SEP): 1. To support jobs and housing growth and economic vitality; 2. To reduce emissions, enhance air quality and support the transition to a low carbon economy 3. To protect and enhance Oxfordshire's environment and improve quality of life (including public health, safety and individual wellbeing)
Work to provide adequate rail infrastructure in line with rising demand	"The Oxfordshire Local Transport Plan 4 – Connecting Oxfordshire" also provides details of the county wide rail strategy. This has been informed by a rail demand forecasting exercise which showed that passenger demand is predicted to increase by 68% to 2026. This includes: • Supporting the East West Rail consortium and Network Rail in the design and delivery of EWR Phases 1 and 2 • Supporting provision of enhanced and direct rail services from Oxfordshire to Heathrow Airport and Crossrail • Promotion of a major upgrade to Oxford station, including additional platforms, through lines and a new station building and transport interchange • Development of the next stage of upgrades to Didcot Parkway • Opening of the Cowley rail line to passenger services • Developing a business case for increased freight and passenger capacity between Didcot and Oxford, including opportunities for Culham Station • Supporting the completion of the Cotswold Line redoubling project • Development of a business case for a new rail service linking Bristol and Swindon to Oxford and beyond, including a proposed new station in the Grove/Wantage area

Encourage setting up and use of car clubs and car-sharing	Car clubs in Oxfordshire include; - E-Car club in Bicester and North Oxford - Co-wheels car club in Oxford - Oxford's first Electric Car Club was launched in North Oxford in 2013. It is one of the UK's first wholly electric pay-per-use car clubs, designed to provide local businesses and members of the community with the convenience and flexibility of a full-sized electric car without the cost of owning one.
Create electric car charging points	Go Ultra Low Oxford is a government funded project run by Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council to provide electric car charging for people who have to park their car on the street. Lots of Oxford residents would like to drive electric, but can't have a charger at home because they have no driveway.
Develop complementary low-carbon transport infrastructure	Sustainable transport initiatives have been trialled and promoted at Elmsbrook in Bicester. These include: - Brompton bike hire scheme - Community bus service - Electric vehicle charging points, car hire and leasing
Create bike hiring opportunities	Dockless Bike hire is operating in Oxford, Brompton Bike Hire can be found at Oxford Train Station, Didcot and Henley-on-Thames
Adopt cargo bikes for deliveries	Pedal and Post run deliveries in and around Oxford, changing how medical items, documents and freight are delivered; collecting Royal Mail items and offering a same day courier service. During lockdown it has teamed up with local traders, businesses and producers so that customers can order from one basket and pay one delivery fee. "This boosts the local economy while showing that a low carbon economy is possible right now".
Promote cycling through social enterprise	Broken-Spoke Bike Co-op is a community-based social enterprise and Community Benefit Society. It partners with local community organisations, school groups and individuals with the goal of making people more proficient and confident in bicycle maintenance and riding. They run DIY Workshops, Cycle Training, events and Mechanics Courses, and sell and repair bikes.
Increase active travel during and after the pandemic	Oxfordshire County Council has received emergency active travel funding. The emergency grant funding supports local transport authorities with producing cycling and walking facilities. The funding is in 2 tranches: tranche 1 supports the installation of temporary projects for the COVID-19 pandemic and tranche 2 the creation of longer-term projects

Key Outcome

Thriving circular economy	Oxfordshire's top 20 employers all have circular economy strategies. All Oxfordshire businesses are supported in developing their circular economy strategies. Oxfordshire has its own skilled and rewarding circular-economy network. Oxfordshire is a global leader in the circular economy; developing a culture of repair, remanufacturing and sharing

In the photo: Elliot from Oxford Wood Recycling demonstrating the 'Materials and Products' principle. Credit: David Brugman

Oxfordshire actions

Source timber for re-use	Oxford Wood Recycling is stocked with all sorts of locally reclaimed timber, wood and oddities. It specialises in old reject scaffold boards and pallet wood. RAW Workshop makes a range of high-quality wooden products, offer a wood recycling/collection service and sell reclaimed timber
Offer re-fill services for domestic products	SESI Refill operates throughout Oxfordshire and beyond, creating refill stations for laundry liquids etc operated by pop-ups and retail outlets, over 20 in Oxfordshire alone. They include: RESTORE, Abingdon and Witney College, The Market GArden Eynsham, So Sustainable Watlington, Oxunboxed at the Oxford Student Hub, WastO in Witney, Kirtlington Sotres, Noor Halal Store in east Oxford, Flo's in the Park, Chandling School, Charlbury Green Hub and The Wantage Mix. Their own formulas of sustainable detergent are vegan, cruelty-free and biodegradable. Their dispensers are made from re-claimed wood by RESTORE and Bicester Green. They also operate a food re-fill stall at East Oxford Community Market.

Materials and products
Using materials from sustainable sources and promoting products which help people reduce consumption

Oxfordshire actions

Improve Corporate Social Responsibility in packaging and materials	ecoVeritas, based in Oxford, works with companies to analyse data and encourage better use of WEEE, plastics, packaging waste, batteries and deposit return schemes. It also specialises in carbon reduction and nutrition.
Bring together low carbon businesses	Oxfordshire Greentech is the business network supporting the growth of the low-carbon sector in Oxfordshire. It brings together businesses and organisations to encourage innovation, collaboration and knowledge transfer, to facilitate the transition towards a sustainable, low carbon future in Oxfordshire and the world.
Repair Cafes	Share Oxford and various Low Carbon groups and organisations run regular Repair Cafes. Volunteers fixers welcome broken items such as electronics, bikes, clothes, jewellery and more to give them a new lease of life and often help their owners learn fixing skills as well. Items find a new lease of life, with much sharing of materials and knowledge.
Library of Things	Alongside much informal sharing of tools and knowledge between friends, families and neighbours, the Library of Things in Oxford hires out hundreds of different tools and equipment for short-term use, so that less needs to be bought. Its expanding inventory includes cake stands, air mattresses, bike carrier, wrenches, shredders, cat carrier, chocolate fountain and more.

Key Outcome

All waste is minimised and goes to its optimum use	All municipal waste is reused, recycled and upcycled for optimum resource efficiency

Oxfordshire actions

Avoid landfill through incineration	In 2011, Oxfordshire County Council awarded a 25-year contract for residual waste treatment to Viridor Oxfordshire Ltd. In December 2014 construction of the new £200m Ardley energy recovery facility (ERF) built by Viridor at Ardley in north Oxfordshire was completed and our residual waste is now burnt to produce electricity. The ERF treats 300,000 tonnes of waste per year – sufficient to treat all of Oxfordshire's residual municipal waste, divert at least 95% of Oxfordshire's residual municipal waste from landfill and generates enough electricity for about 38,000 homes
Spread information about reuse, repair and recycling	Waste Wizard is Oxfordshire's online resource to allow residents to check whether an item can be reused, repaired, recycled, donated or disposed of. It is advertised through social media with retro computer game characters.

In the photo: James Mayo, the manager of Orinoco - The Oxfordshire Scrapstore. Credit: David Brugman

Key Outcomes

Zero carbon or better by 2050	Oxfordshire is net zero carbon or better by 2050 at the very latest
Energy efficiency programmes in all organisations	All businesses and organisations have energy efficiency programmes and carbon targets in place. Oxford University colleges have carbon targets in place
Rapid increase in renewables	Rapid increase in renewable generation within the county. All schools and publicly owned community buildings with suitable roofs to have PV arrays. All commercial buildings with suitable roofs to have PV arrays. Zero carbon solutions for homes without access to mains gas. 56% of power demand and 40% of heat to come from renewables by 2030. Large strategic renewable solutions are mapped and planned for

Oxfordshire actions

Run large estates on green energy	Blenheim Palace is committed to becoming the first UK estate to demonstrate carbon-positive land management, whilst becoming a net generator of green energy, with a fleet of electric vehicles
Set up renewable energy schemes county-wide	Low Carbon Hub is a social enterprise tackling climate change which has pioneered a wide range of community-owned renewable energy schemes. Solar PV schemes include schools county-wide and Oxford Bus Company: hydro schemes now run at Osney Lock and Sandford, generating electricity from the river Thames, and more hydro schemes are planned.
Measure the impact of renewable energy projects	In the year 2018 -19 the Low Carbon Hub had 43 renewable projects with 37 host organisations, generating 4.4 GWh, powered the equivalent of 1,405 typical homes and saved 1.343 tonnes of CO2. There were more than 1,000 investor members and 26 community group shareholders. A total of £5.8 million was invested, £2.6 million community benefit created and £1.7 million saved on electricity bills by the hosts.

In the photo: Sandford Hydro Turbine. Credit: Adriano Figueiredo, One Planet Oxfordshire photo competition

Zero carbon energy
Making buildings and manufacturing energy efficient and supplying all energy with renewables

Work towards a Zero Carbon Electricity system	Project LEO seeks to grow an evidence base that can inform how we manage the transition to a smarter electricity system. It will inform how Distribution System Operators function in the future, show how markets can be unlocked and supported, create new investment models for community engagement, and support the development of a skilled community positioned to thrive and benefit from a smarter, responsive and flexible electricity network.
Create local energy schemes to generate power and support low carbon initiatives	Southill Community Energy and Westmill Wind and Solar farms are co-operatively-run schemes that generate electricity, enhance local biodiversity and create local opportunities for sustainable porjects. Landmead Solar Farm has 45 MW capacity.
Retrofit programme	Cosy Homes Oxfordshire runs a retrofit programme for the existing housing stock, ranging from simple measures through to whole house retrofits.
Install solar panels on council sites	The Leys Leisure Centre Car Park, St Aldates Chambers and more than 200 council houses are some of the Oxford City Council properties now sporting solar PV
Develop a local grid with battery stoarge	Project ERIC in Rose Hill/Oxford: homes have been fitted with solar panels which are then linked together in a grid. Surplus energy is then fed into the grid for other homes to use, and stored on Moixa's innovative Maslow batteries.
Develop new low-carbon homes	Elmsbrook, Bicester is the UK's first eco-town delivering 393 true zero carbon homes with the UK's largest residential PV array
Support SMEs To save energy and reduce demand	Energy Solutions Oxfordshire is a partnership between Low Carbon Hub, Brookes University's Environmental Information Exchange and EnergyPro to provide small and medium-sized businesses with a tailored 10 step programme of improvements to reduce their emissions. Project management is provided for any interventions, as well as monitoring their effectiveness.
Create a forum for creating a greener future post-covid-19	Build Back Better Oxford is part of the national BBBUK network, building public support for the Build Back Better campaign by championing green local initiatives and campaigning on local climate and social justice issues.