

Appendix 'C'

Current Climate Change Initiatives:

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have undertaken carbon reduction projects such as a major refurbishment programme for their sheltered housing schemes which has included the installation of air source heat pumps, solar PV systems and LED lighting upgrades. Looking forward, BMSDC are also piloting solar car parks across all larger car parks in Babergh and Mid Suffolk to generate and store electricity. As well as developing an opportunity for a heat and power network to be created at Gateway 14.

The table below shows a number of initiatives that the Councils are involved in. This list is not exhaustive, though clearly shows that the Councils have a role in both leading and as a key part in the Suffolk-wide strategy.

Warm Homes Fund	National Grid and Community Interest Company, Affordable Warmth Solution (AWS) launched a £150m Warm Homes Fund to support local authorities to address some of the issues affecting fuel poor households. Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils, along with other Suffolk Councils were successful in being awarded funding for the next three years to install first time central heating systems in fuel poor households. Find out more about the Warm Homes scheme
Fuel Poverty	The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) requires large energy companies to help improve the energy efficiency of domestic homes by discounting the cost of improvement works. This applies to certain households who are struggling to pay their energy bills and are defined as being in fuel poverty. Suffolk's councils have jointly published criteria, in a Statement of Intent, enabling them to identify households that would benefit from such improvements under the Government's ECO flex scheme. Improvements are often fully funded where the household meets particular criteria and is at risk of fuel poverty. Find out more
BEE Anglia	The Business Energy Efficiency (BEE) Anglia programme provides free support to eligible organisations in Suffolk and Norfolk to help them become more energy efficient. Find out more about BEE
Suffolk Carbon Charter	The Suffolk Carbon Charter is an award recognising carbon reduction measures in Suffolk's small and medium businesses - i.e. those with fewer than 250 FTEs (Full Time Equivalent staff). More details on how businesses can apply and be accredited
Solar Suffolk Together	Babergh and Mid Suffolk are partnering with the other Suffolk authorities for a second year to offer residents discounted rates for the installation of solar panels for their homes. In 2018-19, 635 households saved an average of 20% on the cost of a new solar panel array, with an average carbon emission saving of 1 tonne per household every year. Find out more about Suffolk Solar Together .
Recycling	In depth information and support to help Suffolk residents reduce their waste with helpful suggestions for how to reduce, reuse and recycle can be found on the Suffolk Recycling Website . All kerbside waste, when it can't be recycled goes to the Suffolk Energy from Waste plant which powers more than 30,000 homes.

Improved Refuse Collections	In 2019, Babergh and Mid Suffolk re-routed its waste collection rounds to ensure our collection service was as efficient and effective as it can be for continued growth. This enabled us to make our rounds more fuel efficient and reduce the impact on the environment, while offering a better waste collection service for current and future residents. Head to our waste pages
Tree for Life	To promote the benefits which planting trees brings to communities, Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils offer all families a tree to mark the arrival of every new child. Find out more about the Tree for Life scheme.
Paperless Billing	The Council offer residents and businesses the ability to go paperless with their council tax and business rates bills. Find out how to go paperless
Greenways Countryside Project	Greenways Countryside Project volunteers protect and enhance the countryside, landscape and open space across an area of about 100 square kilometres in and around the town of Ipswich. Find out more about the project
External Insulation	We have and continue to install external insulation on solid wall properties whilst replacing cladding systems with materials which offer better insulation whenever viable.
SMS Messaging	We are currently scoping out the project to introduce SMS messaging to our tenants, helping to reduce our carbon footprint by reducing mail correspondence, and further supporting and contributing to the reduction in unnecessary visits etc. The business case for this is due to be with SLT by the end of July.
Open Access Enhancements	We are currently working to develop the 'My Home' on line tenant portal which will assist in reducing paper communications with our residents, offering more digital solutions for our tenants, maximising on opportunities to engage with our residents digitally, increasing efficiencies and productivity and reducing the need for letters, and visits.
Remote Access Solution	A paper is being presented to SLT 10th June to advise them of an initiative Housing are embarking on to introduce video diagnostics to the housing service area. This will help with repairs triage and visits, post and pre inspections, income collection and viewings etc. the introduction of video and media link will reduce visits, reduce mileage and our carbon footprint whilst improving efficiencies and productivity