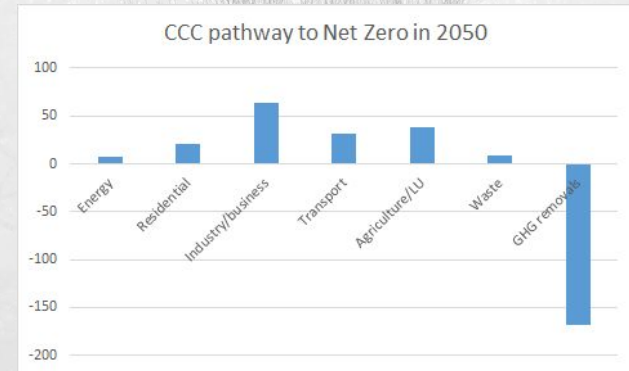
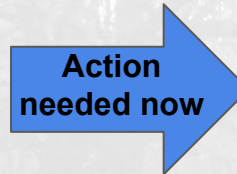
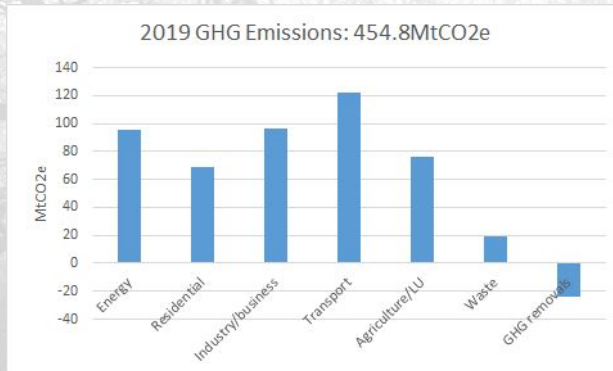


Introduction: the scale of the challenge

A **climate emergency**: scientific and societal consensus that we must dramatically reduce GHG emissions to avoid catastrophic levels of warming

There will be **impacts on AONBs**: species loss, extreme weather events, coastal inundations BUT unpredictable worldwide extreme events likely to have even greater impact

The **UK's role**: 1% of global direct emissions, high per capita emissions -> significant leadership role e.g. COP26



What is our role?

- *What can we do on the ground in each of our AONBs?*
- *How do we collaborate across the AONB network and across protected landscapes?*
- *Can we lead, providing a hopeful, positive voice for change?*

Proposed Topic Groupings

| Grouping | Relevant Elements | Current Action | Opportunities |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| <p>Land Use & Issues</p> | <p>Carbon Sequestration - Woodland - Peatland - Soils</p> | <p>Planting, repair, regeneration</p> <p>Active management</p> | <p>Regional collaboration</p> <p>National position & status</p> <p>Overlap with Nature Recovery actions</p> <p>National funding</p> |
| | <p>Agriculture</p> | <p>ELM FiPL</p> <p>Farm clusters CSF programmes Countryside Stewardship Sustainable agriculture initiatives</p> | <p>Soil health management</p> <p>Habitat restoration</p> <p>Apply ELM audit process to all regions</p> <p>Overlap with Nature Recovery actions</p> |
| | <p>Flooding Drought Wildfires Erosion (Incl coastal)</p> | <p>Nature based solutions</p> | <p>Influence Agriculture Bill/ELM to ensure public money for public good brings funding where it's needed</p> <p>Riparian tree planting</p> |

Proposed Topic Groupings

| Grouping | Relevant Elements | Current Action | Opportunities |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Society / Culture / Behaviour | Lifestyle, consumption, tourism, waste | Statements on sustainable tourism Local education initiatives | Promote sustainable lifestyles Sustainable tourism initiatives - develop partnerships with operators and local businesses Develop national & local initiatives |
| Transport / Mobility | Public transport / accessibility Travel for tourism | Local shuttle bus initiatives | Develop national position & comms Advocate for rural public transport - EV Local tourism transport schemes Promote cycle tourism |
| Energy Generation | Renewables | Local micro schemes | Develop national position on Renewables (Wind, Solar etc) in AONBs Advocate for deployment |
| Building / Development | New housing efficiency Historic building efficiency | ? | Develop national position on planning requirements Respond to development / planning applications Advocate for stricter regulations |

Proposed Overall Approach

- National collaboration in support of local actions & success
- Use combined weight and expertise of AONBs and teams together:
 - National communications, position, policy advocacy
 - National requests for funding
 - Educating & messaging on the causes and effects of climate change
 - Educating & messaging on sustainable actions & lifestyles
 - Share best practice, knowledge, research & data
 - Develop partnerships, work with other organisations
- Local action for regional diversity and place-based approach

What teams are doing currently on climate change:

- **Cross-cutting** – embedding into everything
 - **Farming & land management** – farm carbon audits, regenerative agriculture
 - **Nature** – peatlands, trees & woodlands, habitats, ecosystems work, catchment work & natural flood management, coastal
 - **Planning input** – policy, design for net zero
 - **Team operations** – office, transport
 - **Governance** – discussing with Partnership
 - **Local authority and local climate partnerships** – taking part
 - **Sustainable tourism & transport** – public transport, EV charging, cycling & active travel
 - **Grants and advice** – SDF, working with businesses
 - **Engagement** – with public, schools
-

Alignment with National Parks...?

- **Highlights from "National Parks Delivery Plan for Climate Leadership"**

- Helping support the rapid transition to a low-carbon economy for land-based sectors, ensuring that land use change delivers sustainable land management, and improvements to soils/increased carbon sequestration.
- Demonstrating how nature-based solutions can help develop resilience to climate change at a landscape scale.
- Using our planning powers to deliver highly sustainable homes, raise the bar in terms of design and build standards via the use of incentives.
- Promoting sustainable tourism and demonstrating the benefit of "low carbon" holiday destinations, thereby spreading positive lifestyle messages.
- Advocating through NPE policy change in Government that will provide NPAs with the tools locally to deliver net zero.
- Promoting collaboration at strategic level between NPAs and AONBs
- Using our convening power to energise a coalition of the willing to take forward our vision.

Top suggested AONB Partnership actions for Climate Change – related to Land Use & Agriculture

- Protect/maintain habitats, build resilience, create/restore habitats at landscape scale. Natural flood management
- Work with farmers and promote regenerative agriculture, soil management, farm carbon audits
- Improve sequestration through various ecosystems (e.g. peatlands, woods and trees, coastal habitats)
- Understand what we've got. Need for data, upskilling, carbon literacy, natural capital reviews.
- Work with local communities => develop engagement, raise knowledge and involvement

Top suggested AONB Partnership actions for Climate Change – related to Transport, Energy, Buildings and Development

- Encourage renewable energy and reducing energy waste. Guidance/ policy - how low carbon infrastructure can fit into the AONB
- Planning: oppose carbon intensive schemes, a 'climate change objection'?
- Focus on community planning, for more sustainable, self-contained communities, localised ways of living, broadband
- Sustainable transport: use our influence, especially re. visitors driving in, public transport, active travel
- Design guidance: carbon neutral buildings fitting AONB special qualities and sustainable materials.
Improving existing housing stock