



Climate Emergency Response & Health

Stephen McDonald
Net Zero Manager



Headlines – 2024/25

Climate

Climate 'whiplash' linked to raging LA fires



Venezuela may be first nation to lose all its glaciers



Climate change: World's oceans suffer from record-breaking year of heat

4 days ago



2024 first year to pass 1.5C global warming limit



Mosquitoes found across Scotland as temperatures rise

Climate change: Deadly African heatwave 'impossible' without warming

2 hours ago



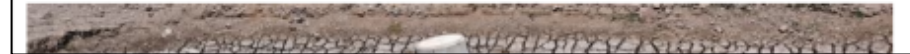
Coral bleaching: Fourth global mass stress episode underway - US scientists

1 day ago



Climate crisis: average world incomes to drop by nearly a fifth by 2050

Cost of environmental damage will be six times higher than price of limiting global heating to 2C, study finds



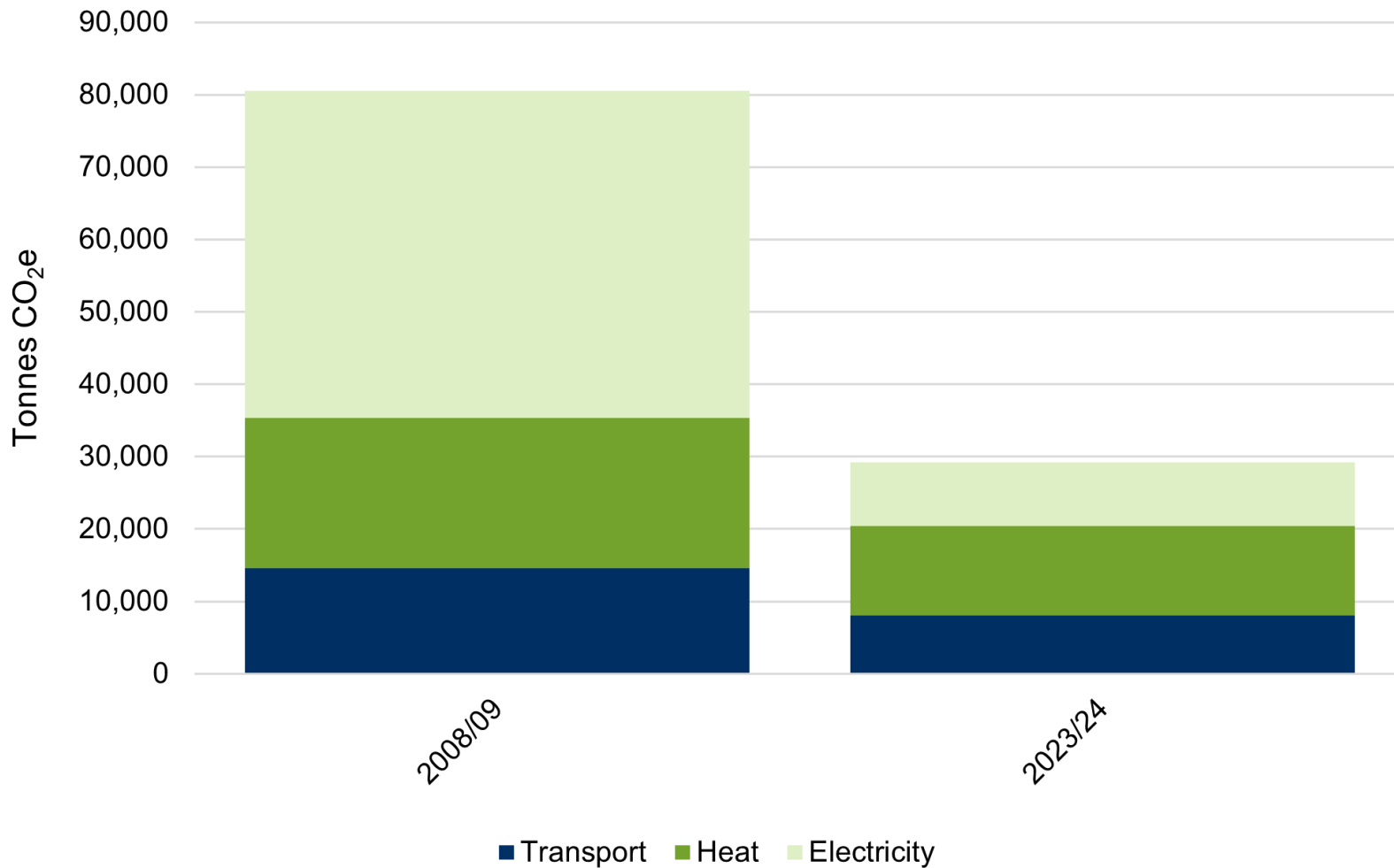
Food security threatened by extreme flooding, farmers warn

6 days ago · Comments

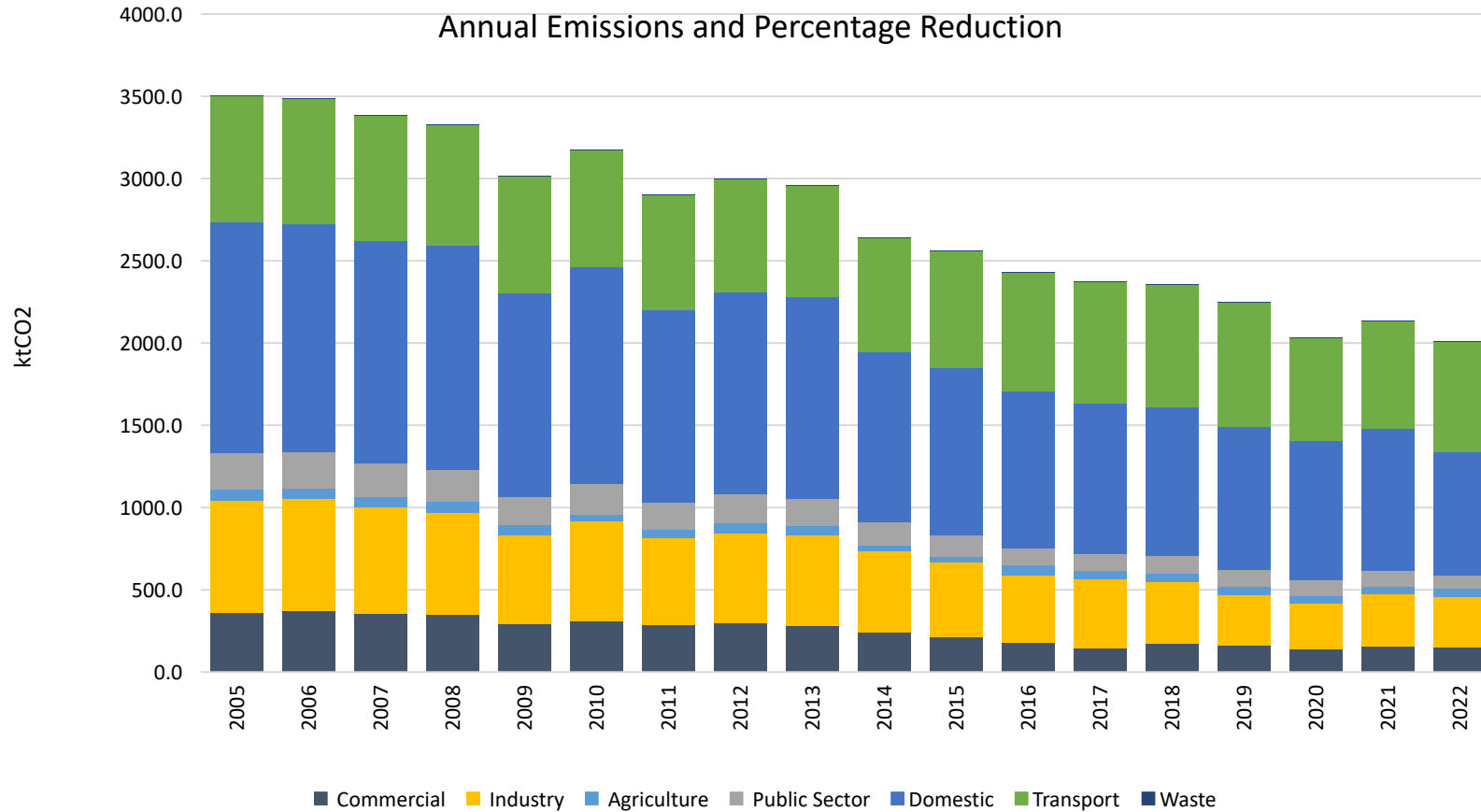


Council Footprint

Changes since 2008/09 and emissions source



Countywide Footprint



CERP 3 - Summary

232 actions are included across the following themes:

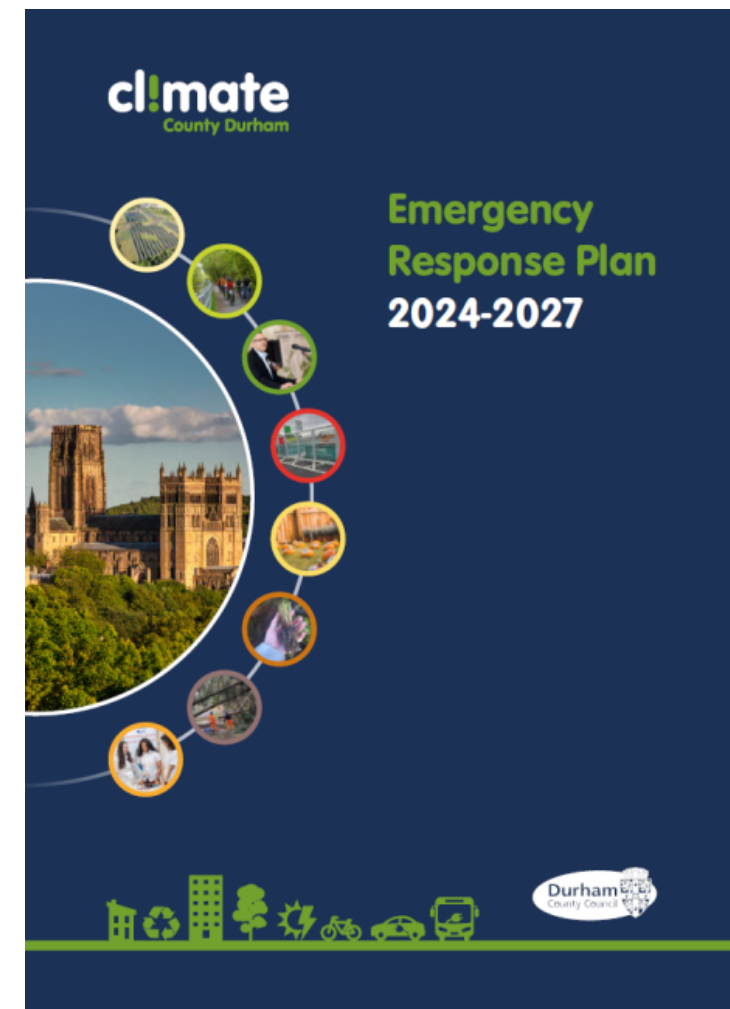
- Energy and Buildings
- Transport and Connectivity
- Business, Green Economy and Skills
- **Waste and Resources**
- Agriculture and Sustainable Food Production
- Natural Environment
- Adaptation
- Communication, Engagement and Education

Covers period 2024-27








Presented to Cabinet July 24

Opportunities through devolution investment plans.

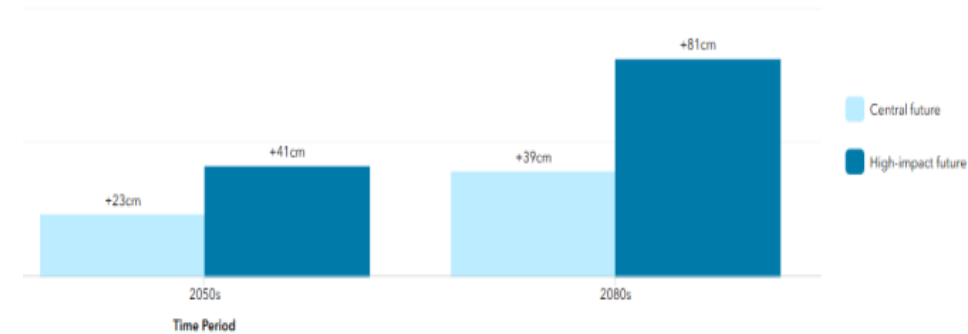
Targets are extremely challenging – tough decisions may lie ahead



Climate Changes

		0.6°C GWL Baseline 1981-2000	1.0°C GWL Recent Past 2001-2020	1.5°C GWL Paris Agreement	2°C GWL Guidance: Prepare	4°C GWL Guidance: Assess risks
	TEMPERATURE	°C	°C	°C change	°C change	°C change
	Summer Maximum Temperature	25.9 25.4 to 26.1	27.5 26.9 to 28.6	+2.3 +0.8 to +3.0	+2.9 +1.6 to +4.7	+6.3 +4.6 to +7.8
	Summer Average Temperature	13.3 13.3 to 13.3	14.2 13.9 to 14.6	+1.2 +0.9 to +1.8	+1.8 +1.2 to +2.3	+3.9 +3.3 to +4.4
	Winter Average Temperature	2.7 2.7 to 2.8	3.5 3.1 to 4.0	+1.1 +0.7 to +1.4	+1.3 +0.7 to +1.9	+2.8 +1.9 to +3.3
	Winter Minimum Temperature	-8.8 -9.1 to -8.6	-7.2 -7.9 to -6.2	+2.5 +1.5 to +3.9	+3.3 +2.1 to +4.9	+6.3 +5.1 to +7.5
	Annual Average Temperature	7.7 7.7 to 7.7	8.5 8.3 to 8.7	+1.0 +0.9 to +1.2	+1.6 +1.2 to +1.7	+3.2 +2.8 to +3.6
	PRECIPITATION	mm/day	mm/day	% change	% change	% change
	Summer Precipitation Rate	2.06 2.04 to 2.07	2.05 1.84 to 2.32	+4 -19 to +7	-1 -14 to +9	-21 -30 to -8
	Winter Precipitation Rate	2.83 2.82 to 2.84	2.89 2.69 to 3.17	+3 -9 to +10	+3 -7 to +13	+10 0 to +18

Change in Sea Level for County Durham
Relative to 1981-2000.



[How to Assess your Climate Risk](#)
| [The Met Office climate data portal](#)

Health Services and Climate Change

- Similar long term visions
- Similar 'Emergencies'
- Similar short term challenges/antagonists
- Shared solutions and learning?



Adaptation Action (selected)	On Track?
Development of Flood Alleviation Schemes Across the County, in conjunction with partners including the Environment Agency	On Track
Build further robust actions into local adverse weather protecting health plan to combat heat related ill-health including a public social marketing campaign to raise awareness of heat-related illnesses, heat stress, heat stroke and respiratory distress in susceptible individuals.	On Track
Ensure services review risks against increased climate extremes	On Track
Work with NHS / ICB / Social Care partners to support resilience plans of local health services to environmental threats.	On Track
Engage communities about emergency resilience and encourage to create emergency plans	On Track
Work with health colleagues (NHS/ ICB) across asthma and respiratory networks to establish routine information on local air quality and mitigating actions	On Track
Continue to develop public health intelligence and vulnerability data to enable partners to use the indicators to assist forecasting, scenario planning, targeted interventions and rapid deployment of emergency resources.	On Track
Protecting health from the spread of tropical infectious diseases - Work with regional UKHSA Health Protection colleagues and National Climate Change experts to develop local frameworks and actions to reduce the spread of vector borne infectious diseases.	On Track



Other Selected	On Track?
To work with the Environment and Design Team to complete a Green Infrastructure (GI) feasibility study for the A Q M A in Durham City. (Links with Air Quality Action Plan No 19)	On Track
To raise awareness of air quality by undertaking a campaign that will integrate with and will involve other campaigns elsewhere in the Council to improve air quality. (Links with Air Quality Action Plan No 16)	On Track
The establishment of the current Air Quality and Planning Guidance Note as a Supplementary Planning Document (S P D). This sets out the requirement on developers when proposing new development within the city and its environs set out in the emerging Local Plan.(Links with Air Quality Action Plan No 14)	On Track
Work with Public Health, CYPS, Road Safety and Community Protection to identify and introduce no idling zones and promotion of active travel at Early Years and education settings	On Track
LCWIPs - Construction of priority routes identified in LCWIPs and associated infrastructure	On Track
Borrow a Bike - Pilot scheme a success in Shildon. The scheme enables residents who do not have access to a bike the opportunity to try cycling as a means of travel. Roll out to four more towns: Murton; Stanley; Pity Me; Newton Aycliffe	On Track
Deliver significant improvements to the 120km of Parks and Countryside managed railway path network to encourage sustainable travel - walking, riding, cycling. Make significant access improvements (through 3 projects per year)and provide more coherent, useful information on the network for users and non-users. Effectively promote routes with promotional planning and joint working with partners inc. Sustrans and DCC sustainable transport team. (Links with Ecological Emergency Action plan)	On Track



Next Steps

- Environment and Climate Change Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Board joint development session - 7 April 2025
- Development of a Climate Change Adaptation Briefing Paper following which likely development of new set of service level risk assessments and Adaptation Strategy



cl!mate
County Durham

Thank you!

Any questions?

