
Climate and Environment Committee Meeting

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Climate and Environment Committee to be held at 4.30pm. on Tuesday, 23rd April 2024 in the Winstone Room, Corinium Museum

Committee Members:

Cllr Sabrina Dixon – Chair & Lead Member
Cllr Bob Irving – Vice Chair
Cllr Nick Bridges
Cllr Christine Gore
Cllr Pete Smith
Cllr Andrew Jopp
Cllr Andrea Pellegam



Natalie Reynolds
Land and Property Project Officer
17th April 2024

Webcasting notice

This meeting may be filmed by the Council for live and/or subsequent broadcast online at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrNizX0bVb7HpmZZn5XtlwA>

At the start of the meeting, the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting will be filmed. The footage will be on the YouTube channel indefinitely and may be used for training purposes within the Council.

If you make a representation to the meeting you will be deemed to have consented to be filmed. By entering the meeting room, you are also consenting to be filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.

AGENDA

1. **Webcasting Announcement 4:30pm**
Webcasting notice to be read aloud in accordance with the Webcasting, Filming and Recording Policy.
2. **Apologies 4:32pm**
To receive and note apologies.

Bingham House, 1 Dyer Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 2PP
Tel: 01285 655646, www.cirencester.gov.uk



3. Declarations of Interest (4:34pm)

To receive declarations of interest and consider and determine any requests for dispensation. Members are reminded to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests on any item on this agenda in accordance with Cirencester Town Council's Code of Conduct.

4. Minutes of Last Meeting (4:35pm)

To approve the Notes of the Climate and Environment Committee held on Tuesday 31st October 2023 as an accurate record.

5. Public Participation (Standing Order 68 refers) (4:36pm)

If a member of the public wishes to speak at the meeting, or would like to submit correspondence they are asked to notify the Chief Executive Officer in advance and no later than 5pm on the day before the meeting. For the purpose of public speaking, a member of the public is defined as someone who lives, has a business or represents an organisation within the electoral boundary of Cirencester. Members of the public who wish to submit a written question for inclusion as part of public participation may do so at any time.

6. Climate Competition update (4.45pm)

To receive a verbal update on the competition.

7. Electric Vehicle Update (4.50pm)

To receive a verbal update on the addition of electric vans to the Land and Property fleet.

8. Green Tourism award for the Local Information Centre (4.55pm)

To note that following discussion with the Lead Officer and Lead Member, the Location Information centre has applied for The Green Tourism award, and should achieve a bronze award based on current sustainability initiatives and would be looking to improve on this in future years. Accreditation would give an Independent certification process that is respected by consumers, and an incentive to build on becoming even greener in coming years. The Green Tourism award works to promote a greener, cleaner environment, for people, places and our planet. They recognise and support eco-friendly achievements of tourism businesses with an internationally respected accreditation programme of Bronze, Silver and Gold awards.

9. Climate and Environment Action Plan 2023-24 (5.00pm)

To receive and update the Action Plan, discuss progress and future delivery of initiatives. To include consideration of Officer resources and priorities. Previous achievements have been removed from the 2024-25 action plan and will be available to view on the Climate Hub pages by the next climate meeting.

10. Climate Budget update (5.10pm)

A verbal update on the budget for the Climate and Environment Committee. The Committee has a budget for 2024-2025 of £7000. The budget covers the current commitments which support delivery of the Action Plan:

Climate Competition Award: £3000

2024-2025 Carbon Footprint Analysis: £2000

Green Tourism Award for LIC: £232.50

Financial contribution towards the Community Services Big Lunch event 2024: £500

Notes & Information

1. All reports referred to, including recommendations, are available online at www.cirencester.gov.uk or on request via email at info@cirencester.gov.uk

2. You can join us live via the Town Council's YouTube channel or you can watch the recording afterwards. https://bit.ly/YouTube_CTC

3. Members of the public are welcome to submit questions under public participation, in advance of the meeting via email, info@cirencester.gov.uk

4. Follow us on Facebook, X, and Instagram. (@CirenMarkets & @CirenTC)

11. Carbon Offsetting Report (5.15pm)

To consider and vote on options for offsetting CTC greenhouse gas emissions.

12. Energy Audit Report (5.25pm)

To receive and review energy usage across all sites in line with the Roadmap actions for the first quarter.

13. Correspondence (5.35pm)

Any other correspondence received in accordance with Standing Orders and the role and remit of the Climate and Environment Committee.

14. All-Member Briefing and Wider Communication (5.40pm)

To consider and agree key items to be included in the all-member briefing note and any matter for wider communication via social media.

15. Next Meeting (5.45pm)

Tuesday 23rd July 4.30pm Winstone Room, Corinium museum

Notes & Information

1. All reports referred to, including recommendations, are available online at www.cirencester.gov.uk or on request via email at info@cirencester.gov.uk

2. You can join us live via the Town Council's YouTube channel or you can watch the recording afterwards. https://bit.ly/YouTube_CTC

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CIRENCESTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **Climate & Environment Committee** Meeting held on **31st October, 1pm** at **C-Hub, Bingham House, Cirencester.**

PRESENT:

Councillors

Sabrina Dixon -Chair & Lead Member
Bob Irving - Vice Chair
Andy Jopp
Nick Bridges
Christine Gore
Pete Smith
Andrea Pellegram

Officers

Andrew Tubb, CEO (left the meeting at 1.12pm)
Natalie Reynolds, Land & Property Project Officer - Lead Officer
Judy Mills, Local Information Officer

CE01.23 Apologies

No apologies received.

CE02.23 Declarations of Interest

None.

CE03.23 Notes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED that the Notes of the Climate & Environment Group Meeting held on Tuesday, 25th July 2023 be approved as a correct record.

Voting:	For - 7	Against - 0	Abstentions - 0	Absent - 0
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CE04.23 Public Participation

None.

CE05.23 Carbon Reduction Scoping Report

The CEO gave an overview of the Carbon Reduction Scoping Report which aims to outline how Cirencester Town Council will achieve carbon neutrality as an organization by 2030. Members received and welcomed the report and draft roadmap, noting more detail will be added to the road map in consultation with staff and members at the Networking Lunch on the 28th November 2023.

RESOLVED that the Carbon Scoping Report be approved.

Voting:	For - 7	Against - 0	Abstentions - 0	Absent - 0
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CE06.23 Climate and Environment Action Plan

The Lead Officer gave an update on the Action Plan. The Lead Officer has attended a meeting of the Climate and Environment Symposium steering group, the Symposium is currently scheduled to take place in June 2024 at the RAU.

It was noted that in future updates of the Action Plan, consideration will be given to an Environmental Fayre, and addressing recommendations and actions that arise from the carbon reduction road map and Open Spaces Plan.

RESOLVED that the updated Climate and Environment Action Plan be approved and updated with the additions discussed.

Voting:	For - 7	Against – 0	Abstentions - 0	Absent - 0
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CE07.23 Climate Competition

The Competition, which aims to bring the community’s environmentally-friendly ideas to reality, will be launched to coincide with COP28, after a briefing to Council in November. Consideration was given to the documents and project timeline prepared and circulated by the Lead Officer. A number of amendments were proposed. The Lead Officer will use the Committee’s amendments to amend and finalise the competition documents.

RESOLVED that the prize fund for the Climate Competition should be split into a first prize of £1000, and a share of £2000 determined by the entries received.

Voting:	For - 7	Against – 0	Abstentions - 0	Absent - 0
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RESOLVED that Question 4 on the Climate Competition application form about project costs is deleted and replaced with a question asking how the project meets the judging criteria.

Voting:	For - 7	Against – 0	Abstentions - 0	Absent - 0
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RESOLVED that the wording on the Climate Competition application pack be amended from local councillors to local town councillors.

Voting:	For - 7	Against – 0	Abstentions - 0	Absent - 0
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RESOLVED that the wording on the Climate Competition application pack be amended to your local town councillor is available to answer questions on the competition.

Voting:	For - 7	Against – 0	Abstentions - 0	Absent - 0
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RESOLVED that Question 3 on the Climate Competition application form be amended to ask when the project will be completed by, and how it will be resourced.

Voting:	For - 7	Against – 0	Abstentions - 0	Absent - 0
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RESOLVED that the wording of the Climate Competition application pack be amended to the plan should be achievable within the timeframe and budget specified on the form.

Voting:	For - 7	Against – 0	Abstentions - 0	Absent - 0
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RESOLVED that if more than five judges come forward the final decision on judges be delegated to the Chair.

Voting:	For - 7	Against – 0	Abstentions - 0	Absent - 0
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RESOLVED that all the amendments on the Climate Competition be approved.

Voting:	For - 7	Against – 0	Abstentions - 0	Absent - 0
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CE08.23 Correspondence

None received.

CE09.23 All-Member Briefing and Wider Communication

It was agreed to include the main three agenda items in the briefing note.

CE10.23 Date of Next Scheduled Meeting

Tuesday 23 April 2024 4:30pm, Venue tbc

Meeting closed at: 1.42pm

Councillor Sabrina Dixon
Chair



cirencester
· town council ·

Climate and Environment Action Plan 2024-25



In 2019, Cirencester Town Council declared a Climate Emergency; this is because the Council acknowledged that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a special report in October 2018 on the subject of 'Global Warming of 1.5°C'.

The report stated that:

- human activity has already caused 1°C of warming to the earth;
- to limit warming to 1.5°C, it will be necessary to halve global carbon emissions by 2030 and to achieve near-zero net emissions by 2050;
- the consequences of 2°C warming is significantly worse than 1.5°C warming across all areas considered in the report.

Extreme weather events happening now can be attributed with confidence to warming at this scale, and the impacts of climate breakdown are already causing serious damage around the world. The UK faces damaging local impacts related to extreme heat, water shortages, sea level rise, and global impacts such as food price shocks and greatly increased migratory pressures.

The Climate Change Advisory Group has already made good progress in starting to audit and benchmark the Council's carbon footprint, the leasing of vehicles and equipment, banking arrangements and investments and switching energy tariffs.

We have also significantly minimised the number of in person meetings and have introduced flexible arrangements for working from home, reducing the need to travel. Our Council and Committee meetings are now streamed live via YouTube, reducing the need for members of the public to physically travel to our meetings.

We are also printing less and using less plastic; thinking more about how we can re-use and recycle. Our open spaces are also important for bio-diversity as well as contributing positively to the climate, this means less manicuring and more appropriate management with partners such as the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.



The purpose of this action plan is to record and reference each of the group's priorities in a SMART way as per the template below:

Ref	Specific	Measurable	Achievable	Relevant	Timeframe	Financial	Notes (Lead responsibility)
<i>colour coded tracking ref</i> <i>red = delayed start</i> <i>amber = in progress</i> <i>green = complete</i> <i>no colour = update is before start date and no work has commenced on priority</i>	<i>brief description of strategic priority</i>	<i>bullet point outputs</i>	<i>coded reference identifying how achievable the output is</i> <i>1 = directly deliverable by CTC</i> <i>2 = directly deliverable by third party</i> <i>3 = jointly deliverable/joint responsibility of CTC and third party(ies)</i> <i>4 = outside of CTC direct control – impact and influence to be monitored by CTC</i>	<i>priority origin i.e. public consultation, neighbourhood planning, community plan, planning concept statement</i>	<i>where a priority is a task and finish project, to identify the earliest date by which the project is to be completed; where a project is not task and finish it will be denoted as ongoing</i>	<i>coded reference:</i> <i>1 = funding identified and available in approved CTC budget/medium term financial plan</i> <i>2 = funding needed by CTC to deliver project, to be identified in the budget or raised through precept/external grant or partner funding</i> <i>3 = delivery is dependent on third party funding</i> <i>4 = funding not required</i>	<i>notes for monitoring progress and any arising issues</i> <i>(lead officer and lead committee/group to be identified for providing updates and overseeing delivery)</i>

Ref	Specific Description of Strategic Priority	Measurable Outputs	Achievable	Timeframe a. start date b. estimated completion	Financial	Lead Points of Contact	Information and Updates
1	To audit and benchmark the carbon footprint of Cirencester Town Council	Arrange annual carbon footprint assessment Benchmark against other local councils	1	a. August 2022 b. ongoing	1	Chief Executive Officer Chair of the Climate Change Advisory Group	A Carbon Footprint Appraisal has been undertaken by Carbon Footprint Ltd each year since 2021. CTC submitted the 2022-23 report to the Carbon Footprints public database. Update: The 2023-2024 analysis has been commissioned.
2	To encourage the co-operation of local organisations in endeavours to become more ecologically sustainable in their practices and/or work on initiatives to reduce and/or mitigate against the effects of climate change with a focus on biodiversity net gain and nature recovery,	To lead by example through what we do internally and support CDC on the clean and green projects – we do what we can in a sustainable a way as possible	3	a. September 2022 b. June 2024	1	Chief Executive Officer Land and Property Manager Chair of the Climate Change Advisory Group	CTC is leading on a working sub-group, with representatives from the Friends of the Gumstool Brook, to plan a one-day Climate and Environment Symposium at the Royal Agricultural University in June 2024. The Symposium has secured funding from the Winstone Trust. Update: Lead Officer attended GCC Biodiversity week kick off meeting to give town council level input.
3	To encourage behavioural change and modal shift, reducing reliance and sole and individual use of CO2 emission vehicles	To raise awareness and host a community workshop to consider ways of achieving modal shift and behavioural change and explore options for community pilots; link with establishing multi modal mobile hubs – see community engagement ref 8 and also ref 1 (multi modal mobile hub)	1	a. August 2022 b. March 2023 b. Sept 2023 (at the earliest)	4	Chief Executive Officer Chair of Council Chair of the Climate Change Advisory Group Lead Member for Land and Property	This links directly to strategic work being undertaken by GCC and CDC, which is supported by CTC. It also forms part of the 20-minute neighbourhood concept being considered as part of the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan The revised Active Travel Map has been published and is available, free of charge, from the LIC. Update: CTC has 2 electric vans on order for delivery by May with electric charging infrastructure to be installed in the Abbey Grounds Depot. Options to add publicly accessible charging at Kingshill are also being explored.
Ref	Specific Description of	Measurable Outputs	Achievable	Timeframe	Financial	Lead Points of	Information and Updates

	Strategic Priority			a. start date b. estimated completion		Contact	
4	Commit to becoming a carbon-neutral organisation by 2030, to include scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions	To be assessed and scoped for consideration by the Climate Change Advisory Group Commit to a carbon reduction target	1	a. November 2022 b. January 2030	2	Chief Executive Officer Chair of Council Chair of the Climate Change Advisory Group	Note: Continue with annual assessment to monitor progress on reducing carbon footprint – target waste, fuel and electricity usage in 2023-24. CEO prepared a report with a draft roadmap and interim targets. Staff and Member event in November generated practical ways in which we can reduce our carbon footprint; CTC staff away day was climate themed and generated further everyday changes that have been put into practice.
5	Switch to 100% renewable energy use across the council's land and buildings, rented or owned by the Council	Check scope and type of renewable energy tariff, including response to climate emergency by energy suppliers.	1	a. April 2024 b. March 2025 / ongoing.	4	Chief Executive Officer Chair of Council Lead Member for Land and Property Land and Property Manager	CTC energy usage included in rent and service charge for Bingham House. Smart Meters installed at Bingham House and across CTC sites. Leases run until 2028. Current tariffs on CTC owned sites are not 100% renewable energy. Opportunity to renew CTC owned sites tariff comes in 31st March 2025; this should include securing lower overnight charging rates for electric vehicles at the depot.
6	Community Engagement	To lead on community engagement and awareness campaign including schools, business and local community Create a local hub for climate and environmental advice Support Cotswold District Council's clean and green public initiatives and facilitate events such as big clean-up/recycling/re-purposing	1 / 3	a. September 2022 b. May 2023 b. January 2024	4	Chief Executive Officer Chair of Council Chair of the Climate Change Advisory Group	There is a permanent information board in the LIC, alongside a leaflet and dedicated climate web page. LIC is a litter pick hub on behalf of CDC's clean and green team where the community can borrow litter pick equipment. Update: The Community Services Big Lunch theme is sustainability, including reusing and repurposing and growing your own food. There is opportunity to support this event.
Ref	Specific Description of	Measurable Outputs	Achievable	Timeframe	Financial	Lead Points of	Information and Updates

	Strategic Priority			a. start date b. estimated completion		Contact	
7	Stakeholder Engagement and Partnership Working	Encourage constructive links with Cotswold District Council (CDC) and Gloucestershire County Council (GCC), along with bordering Parish Councils on best practice and joint initiatives; including Youth Climate Group https://cscic.org/gycg/ , run by Creative Sustainability in Stroud	1	a. September 2022 b. October 2023	2	Chief Executive Officer Chair of Council Chair of the Climate Change Advisory Group	Lead Officer invited to GCC climate engagement meetings. Update: Climate Competition and The Big Lunch have created networking and possible partnership opportunities with Youth Climate Group.
8	Roadmap Delivery 2024-25	To deliver the roadmap to net zero by 2030	1	a. April 2024 b. March 2025	4	Lead Officer Chief Executive Officer	Climate committee are responsible for delivering the roadmap. Q1. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offset the green-house gas emissions for 2021-22 confirm all sites using renewable energy tariff review energy usage across all sites introduce annual energy audit Q2. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> data collection for 2023-24 carbon assessment commission carbon footprint assessment for 2023-24 – completed March 2024 evaluate travel to meetings/conferences and events 2023-24 define essential/preferred travel options, local, national and international office services and LIC resources and supply chain screening Q3. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> evaluate transition to electric vehicles evaluate installation of charging points community services resources and supply chain screening land and property resources and supply chain screening Q4. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporate resources and supply chain screening Evaluate budget and medium-term financial planning impact

Members are asked to consider other priorities for inclusion within the Action Plan, subject to staff and budget resources.

Version13: April 2024



CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

23rd April 2024

REPORT SUMMARY

AGENDA ITEM NO:	11
REPORT TITLE:	Greenhouse Gas Offsetting
REPORT AUTHOR:	Natalie Reynolds, Lead Officer
LEAD MEMBER:	Cllr Sabrina Dixon
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	To understand options for offsetting the Town Council's Greenhouse gas emissions.
LEGAL:	None
FINANCIAL:	Costs of offsetting the Greenhouse gases
PERSONNEL:	None
ENVIRONMENTAL:	Significant impact
CLIMATE CHANGE:	Integral for reaching Net Zero 2030 emissions targets
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY:	None
RECOMMENDATION:	Calculate and introduce an annual carbon reduction target and carbon reduction plan before offsetting

1. Background

- 1.1 The Town Council has committed to reaching Net Zero by 2030. This report considers options for offsetting Green House gases as part of reaching Net Zero targets.
- 1.2 Carbon accounting and Greenhouse Gas offsetting is a relatively new industry – there is no unifying definition of what carbon offsetting means. The evidence base is still emerging and there are many factors to consider in developing carbon offsetting systems in the UK. Referenced throughout the report is a piece of research by the Environment Agency (EA) in 2021 that analysed the efficacy of 17 methods of greenhouse gas offsetting.

- 1.3 The EA report defines carbon offsetting as: *the practice of reducing or removing greenhouse gas emissions to balance ongoing greenhouse gas emissions, in order to achieve claims such as net zero.*
- 1.4 *Only carbon offsetting projects that remove GHGs will be compatible with true net zero emissions. However, organisations may still find value in accelerating reductions elsewhere through carbon offsetting. This is especially the case in the shorter term, where the potential for removing GHGs is more limited.*
- 1.5 **It's important to consider whether CTC has done everything to reduce carbon produced by the business so we are only offsetting the carbon we cannot eliminate as a last resort.**
- 1.6 The first steps in reaching net zero is to measure the carbon produced by Council. This has been done annually since 2021. The table below shows the amount of carbon produced by the Council each year and the tonnes of carbon to be offset.

Carbon Emissions Year by Year

tCO2e	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Calculated Emissions	52	55.73	Calculation in progress

- 1.7 A final consideration is the need to use an accredited carbon offsetting programme to avoid greenwashing and the double counting of carbon.

2. Purpose of Report

- 2.1. To outline the complex reality of carbon offsetting
- 2.2. To review options for offsetting CTC's GHG emissions
- 2.3. To consider amending the roadmap to replace carbon offsetting with a carbon reduction target

3. Supporting Information

- 3.1. The EA produced a piece of work for the Government in 2021 (appendix 1) evaluating 17 methods of offsetting carbon against key impact points of:
 - readiness for implementation
 - speed and scale of potential impacts
 - permanence, leakage and additionality (reductions or removals of GHGs that would not have happened otherwise)
 - co-benefits
 - confidence in the science
 - measuring impact
 - risks and barriers
 - cost
- 3.2. Only woodland creation was considered cost effective, scientifically credible, and as having longevity; however, the speed of impact is low as carbon can only be sequestered at the rate that trees can grow.
- 3.3. As of 2021, there are only 2 accredited carbon offsetting standards in the UK – the Woodland Carbon Code and the Peatland Code. The certification produced from following these standards can contribute to the governments net zero targets, however they are one dimensional as they do not include valuable benefits from other biodiversity enhancing activity and nature-based solutions for sequestering carbon – more on this in section 3.8 onwards.

TREEPLANTING ON CTC LAND

- 3.4. In Autumn 2022, CTC planted 750 whips at the Humpty Dumps. Officers used the Woodland Carbon Code to calculate the carbon sequestered by this tree planting. The calculation showed that it would take 100 years for this tree planting to remove only 38 tonnes of carbon from the atmosphere; the Town Council averaged 52 tonnes of carbon to be offset per year when scope 1 and scope 2 emissions only were measured.
- 3.5. This highlights the complexity in offsetting carbon emissions through projects on our own land

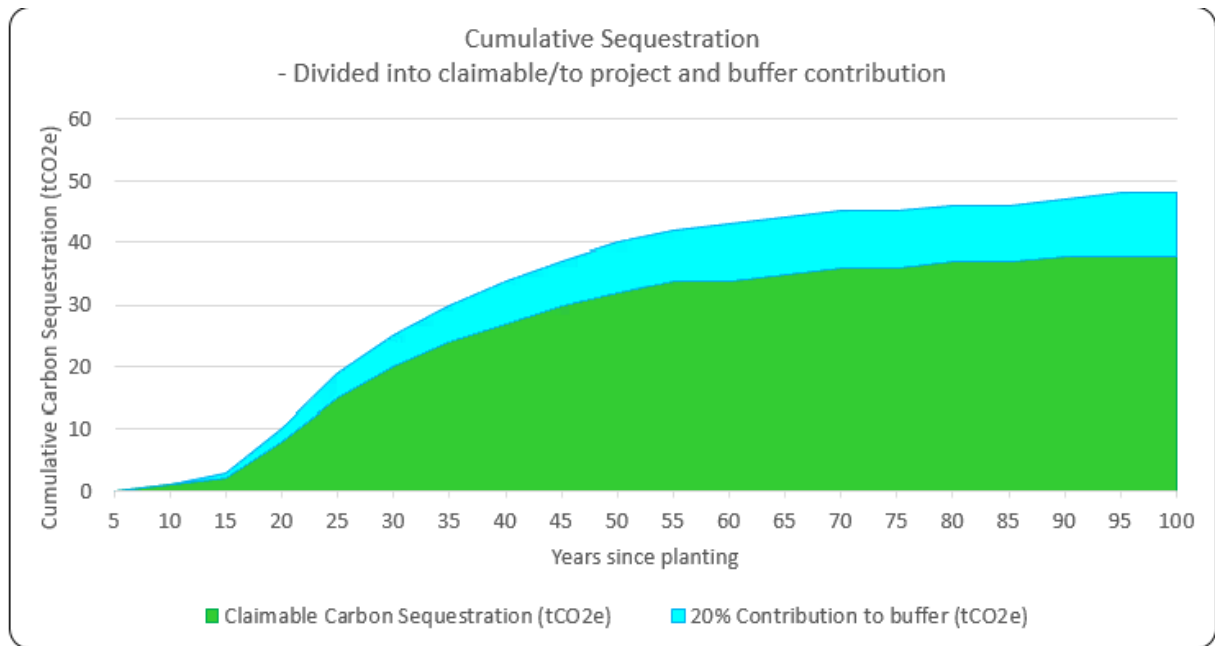


Fig 1. Woodland Carbon Calculator, Humpty Dumps

OFFSETTING NOT ON CTC LAND

- 3.6. Carbon Footprint LTD who undertake the carbon footprint analysis for CTC have a number of accredited Carbon offsetting programmes available in the UK and abroad. They will come with a certification of the amount of Co2 offset.
- 3.7. As Climate Change has no borders, the impact of offsetting in overseas projects is as significant as local projects

Provider	Project	Cost to CTC
Carbon Footprint Ltd	UK Tree planting in the Southwest of England	£ 1029.60 incl. 20% VAT to offset 52 tonnes (£ 19.80 incl. 20% VAT per tonne)
Carbon Footprint Ltd	Your funding supports our Global Portfolio VCS certified carbon reduction programmes across the world via a range of projects that include carbon avoidance, clean and renewable energy generation. Many are within developing countries, where they also provide additional social benefits.	£ 364.00 to offset 52 tonnes (£ 7.00 per tonne)

Biodiversity Net Gain

- 3.8. Officers spoke to Gloucestershire Nature + Climate Fund (GNCF) who are an independent, not for profit broker for environmental enhancement projects recommended by Gloucestershire County Council sustainability officers. GNCF have created Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) opportunities in Gloucestershire to fulfil requirements for BNG legislations for new developments. However, this route is not designed for local business offsetting and GNCF are yet to start selling BNG units.
- 3.9. Officers enquired about the use of CTC land as BNG projects, however GNCF already have 4 BNG sites close to Cirencester and generally they want 7+hectares of land for 30 years, which may make CTC sites unsuitable.
- 3.10. The GNCF did advise that the Woodland Trust Carbon standard is one-dimensional in that it only considers woodland planting in it's certification and other activities have valuable benefits to biodiversity, habitats and ecosystems. The Wilder Carbon Standard <https://www.wildercarbon.com/how-it-works/> has since been developed to deliver ecosystem enhancing and carbon sequestering projects; these projects are not regulated in a way that would allow for activity to count towards the governments net zero targets, but they deliver meaningful local biodiversity benefits.
- 3.11. In the next 6 months, GNCF will start offering biodiversity and ecosystem credits where investment will go towards local projects on sites that can be specified by investors. This includes sites close to Cirencester

4. Recommendation

The takeaway of research outlined in this report is that nature cannot reabsorb carbon at the rate produced by society and scientifically credible options are still developing an evidence base. Although Carbon Offsetting has a place within reaching net zero, it should be the last resort after all measures to reduce carbon have been explored.

Option 1 To utilise CTC resources into reducing our carbon footprint by:

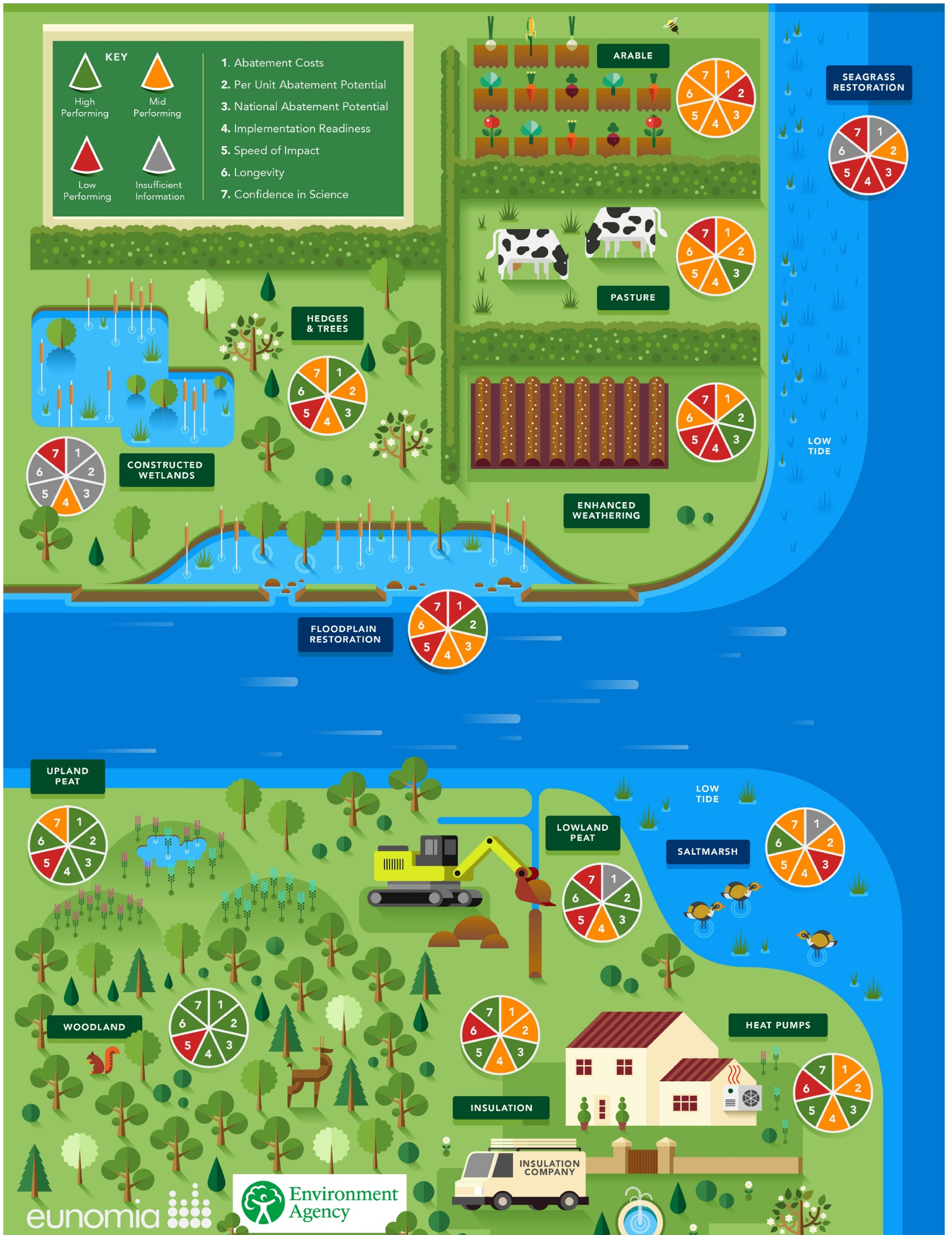
- 4.1 Create a specific carbon reduction target and including this in the roadmap
- 4.2 Further research where it is possible to measure the carbon and ecosystem impact of work that CTC is already involved with the and how it might be possible to obtain carbon ecosystem credit certification of work on our own land. Examples of work could include:
 - o Gloucestershire Wild towns
 - o City Bank Local Nature Reserve management
 - o Cirencester Waterways Symposium
- 4.3 Revisit GHG offsetting in April 2025 when we may better understand our unavoidable carbon production

Option 2 Offsetting

- 4.4 Consider investing in GNCF local ecosystem credits when they become available in 6 months' time
OR
- 4.5 Invest in affordable Carbon Footprint Ltd tree planting schemes and receive carbon offsetting certification.

Achieving net zero -

A summary of the evidence behind potential carbon offsetting approaches



Performance of different offsetting approaches against key indicators

Approach	Reduction or removal	Abatement cost	Per-unit abatement cost	National abatement potential	Implementation readiness	Speed of impact	Longevity	Confidence in the science
Upland peat restoration	Both	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Lowland peat restoration	Both	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Woodland creation	Removal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Grassland	Removal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Floodplain restoration	Removal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Constructed wetland	Both	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Saltmarsh restoration	Removal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Seagrass restoration	Removal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kelp restoration	Removal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Soils on arable land	Both	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Soils on pasture land	Both	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Hedges and trees outside of woodlands	Removal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Enhanced weathering	Removal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Biochar	Removal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Household insulation	Reduction	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Household low carbon heating	Reduction	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Key:

Each of the offsetting approaches listed above was assessed against 7 key indicators.

- = Good performance
- = Medium performance
- = Poor performance
- = No enough data available

Per-unit = per-hectare for natural environment measures and per-household for built environment measures.

Facts and figures for different offsetting approaches

Approach	Cost (approx.)	Removal/reduction potential		Readiness		Speed of impact	Longevity	Confidence in the science	
	£/tCO ₂ e	Per unit per year	Nationwide	Technology	Certification	Years		Reduction/removal	£/tCO ₂ e
Upland peat restoration	10-100	2-20	Very High	Ready	Ready	>10	Long-term	Medium	High
Lowland peat restoration	Uncertain	5-20	High	Ready	Not ready	>10	Long-term	Medium	Low
Woodland creation	20-25	11	Very High	Ready	Ready	~10	Long-term	High	High
Grassland	n/a	2	n/a	Ready	Not Ready	<10	Short/Medium term	Low	Low
Floodplain restoration	>1000	10	Moderate	Ready	Not Ready	>10	Medium/long-term	Low	Low
Constructed wetland	Uncertain	Uncertain	Uncertain	Ready	Not Ready	Uncertain	Uncertain	Medium	Low
Saltmarsh restoration	Uncertain	2-8	Low	Ready	Not Ready	<10	Long-term	High	Medium
Seagrass restoration	Uncertain	1.6	Low	Not Ready	Not Ready	>10	Uncertain	Low	Low
Kelp restoration	n/a	2.15	n/a	Not Ready	Not Ready	Uncertain	Uncertain	Low	Low
Soils on arable land	100-1000+	0.5-1	Moderate	Ready	Not Ready	<10	Medium/long-term	Medium	Medium
Soils on pasture land	10-1000+	0.2-4	Very High	Ready	Not Ready	<10	Medium/long-term	Medium	Low
Hedges and trees outside of woodlands	15-30	2-7	High	Ready	Not Ready	>10	Long-term	Medium	High
Enhanced weathering	40-360	6	Very High	Ready	Not Ready	>10	Medium/long-term	Low	Low
Biochar	70-270	44*	High	Ready	Not Ready	Immediate	Long-term	Medium	Low
Household insulation	100-300	1	Very High	Ready	Not Ready	Immediate	Short-term	High	High
Household low carbon heating	200-300	1	Very High	Ready	Not Ready	Immediate	Short-term	High	High

Key:

The categories for national abatement potential correspond to the following ranges:

- Low = 0-1 MtCO₂e
- Moderate = 1-5 MtCO₂e
- High = 5-10 MtCO₂e
- Very high = more than 10 MtCO₂e

Per-unit = per-hectare for natural environment measures and per-household for built environment measures.

* For biochar, assumes a biochar application rate of ~30t/ha/year, which is judged to be realistic but lower than any theoretical maximum. The key limitation is feedstock availability. This value also assumes that biochar is 60% carbon and 65% of this carbon lasts over 100 years.



CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

23rd April 2024

REPORT SUMMARY

AGENDA ITEM NO:	12
REPORT TITLE:	Energy Audit 2024
REPORT AUTHOR:	Natalie Reynolds, Lead Officer
LEAD MEMBER:	Cllr Sabrina Dixon
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	To review energy usage across all CTC owned sites
LEGAL:	None
FINANCIAL:	Report could advise future energy contracts.
PERSONNEL:	None
ENVIRONMENTAL:	Renewable energy would reduce CTC's impact on the environment
CLIMATE CHANGE:	Renewable energy and reducing energy consumption where feasible would reduce CTC's carbon footprint.
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY:	None
RECOMMENDATION:	To commit to 100% renewable tariffs where possible from March 2025

1. Background

In November 2023 CTC adopted a Roadmap to Net Zero by 2030 which included conducting an annual energy audit of energy usage across CTC owned sites.

2. Purpose of Report

2.1 To provide data showing energy usage across all CTC owned sites.

2.2 To recommend going directly to 100% renewable energy suppliers for quotes rather than through a broker

3. Supporting Information

- 3.1 The contract with SSE came to an end in August 2023, and supply of the majority of gas and electric moved to Total Energies. The unmetered supply to the Abbey Grounds lights remained with SSE and the energy supply to the market place is supplied by Corona.
- 3.2 Total Energies supply Kingshill Changing Rooms, St Michaels Park, Abbey Grounds Depot, Abbey Grounds Toilets, and Churchyard Flood lights. The fuel mix used to supply this energy is as below:

Table 1: Total Energies Fuel Mix disclosure

Electricity supplied has been sourced from the following fuels	Coal	Natural Gas	Nuclear	Renewable	Other
Percentage of electricity supplied from Total Energies	4%	43%	1%	49%	3%
Average Great Britain for comparison	3%	39%	14%	41%	3%

- 3.3 All Total Energy contracts are fixed rate contracts due to end 31st March 2025. Remaining SSE contracts end 9/30/2024 and 12/10/2024. Corona contract ends 30/11/2024.
- 3.4 As this energy mix is only 49% renewable, the Town Council is not currently using 100% renewable energy as previously thought. The SSE contract and the Corona contract are also not 100% renewable energy.
- 3.5 The current energy contract is three times the cost of the contract that ended in August 2023; this may reflect inflation and increased energy costs
- 3.4 See appendix for quotes from two 100% renewable energy companies; Octopus Energy and Ecotricity

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 As the current broker was unable to procure 100% renewable energy contracts, to advise finance and audit and office services to discontinue using a broker to manage energy contracts
- 4.2 To create a list of 100% renewable energy companies to approach directly for quotes when contracts end to ensure a 100% renewable supply. Recommendations could include:
- Ecotricity – Stroud based
 - Octopus Energy – Which awards Winner for Customer Service
 - Good Energy – recommended by Friends of the Earth and Which Awards

Energy Audit 2023-24

ELECTRICITY	Kingshill		Abbey Grounds Depot			St Michaels Park		Abbey Toilets		Church Flood Lights		Market Place		Abbey Grounds Unmetered Lights			
	kWh	Total cost	kWh Day	kWh Night	Total cost	kWh	Total cost	kWh	Total cost	kWh	Total cost	kWh	Total cost	kWh	Total Cost	Kwh	Total Cost
Apr-23	1059	£ 175.72	1,043.30	414.8	£ 239.60	1071	£ 195.82					5	£ 18.00			4	£ 51.58
May-23	924.3	£ 155.03	817.10	322.5	£ 190.19	1055.9	£ 193.19					0	£ 14.39	372	£ 254.70	4	£ 51.58
Jun-23	834.3	£ 141.20	529.80	212.6	£ 122.58	1157	£ 210.43	17	£ 31.73			4	£ 17.28	397	£ 268.50	4	£ 51.58
Jul-23	994.5	£ 165.81	634.80	242	£ 142.86	1124.8	£ 204.94					2	£ 15.83			4	£ 51.58
Aug-23												3	£ 16.56	360	£ 17.83	5	£ 51.63
Sep-23	968.1	£ 161.75	749.30	248.7	£ 169.66	910.5	£ 161.33	29	£ 41.90			58	£ 56.25	384	£ 222.93	4	£ 51.18
Oct-23	933.4	£ 449.45	690.3	166.2	£ 394.81	877.3	£ 408.34	790.3	£ 361.78	722.80	£ 342.82	257	£ 199.89	372	£ 228.37	4	£ 51.18
Nov-23	1453.9	£ 683.23	358.90	258.6	£ 278.68	1421	£ 651.12	211.2	£ 117.09	1,257.00	£ 580.61	149	£ 121.94	359.20	£ 209.43	5	£ 49.16
Dec-23	1298.5	£ 604.27	1,100.09	378.5	£ 655.24	765.6	£ 360.97	188.6	£ 106.62	1,436.00	£ 645.26	28	£ 29.37	383.90	£ 223.83	4.90	£ 52.54
Jan-24	1115.9	£ 528.63	1,196.50	441.2	£ 707.63	528.2	£ 261.50	243.2	£ 130.66	1,414.20	£ 637.23	33	£ 23.07	383.90	£ 212.90	4.90	£ 56.29
Feb-24	979.4	£ 470.74	1,312.20	479.4	£ 784.89	258.39	£ 147.09	264.7	£ 139.78	1,601.80	£ 716.78	83	£ 36.79	359.20	£ 209.15	4.60	£ 52.66
Mar-24	791.4	£ 387.45	1,095.80	383.9	£ 653.86	230.1	£ 132.67	230.1	£ 132.67	1,375.30	£ 623.88	208	£ 71.08				
23-24 Total	11352.7	£ 3,923.28	9,528.09	3,548.40	£ 4,340.00	9399.79	£ 2,927.40	1974.1	£ 1,062.23	7807.1	£ 3,546.58	830	£ 620.45	3371.2	£ 1,847.64	48	£ 570.96
Price per unit	£ 0.42		£ 0.44	£ 0.31		£ 0.42		£ 0.42		£ 0.42		£ 0.27		£ 0.45		0.45	
Standing charge	£ 1.78		£ 1.20			£ 1.20		£ 0.88		£ 1.20		£ 0.46		£ 1.62		1.75	

GAS	Kingshill	
	kwh	Total cost
Apr-23	5,551.30	£ 791.59
May-23	2,618.60	£ 402.64
Jun-23	2,068.70	£ 339.04
Jul-23	1,762.80	£ 299.19
Aug-23	2,132.60	£ 346.76
Sep-23	1,638.50	£ 287.04
Oct-23	1,992.20	£ 326.92
Nov-23	2,212.00	£ 356.36
Dec-23	2,473.30	£ 385.07
Jan-24	2,381.70	£ 376.87
Feb-24	4,526.20	£ 666.52
Mar-24	2,119.30	£ 344.42
Total	31,477.20	£ 4,922.42

Price per unit £ 0.12

Standing Charge £ 2.87

Electric	
Annual kWh	47,859.38
Annual Cost	£ 18,838.54
Gas	
Annual kWh	31,477.20
Annual Cost	£ 4,922.42
Total kWh	79,336.58
Total Cost	£ 23,760.96

Your business quote

Green Octopus 24M Fixed

Electricity

Unit rate: 22.01p per kWh

Standing charge: 85.87p per day

Your monthly cost projection is

£1481.20*

Based on someone in GL7 2PP using
79,337 kWh of electricity

That's an estimated £17774.37 per year

*Prices exclude VAT and the Government's
Climate Change Levy

Your quote is accurate as of the time of sending. You can always view other tariff options when you return to your online quote.



Your Business Electricity Supply Agreement

ID (163205 / C73223) between
Ecotricity Limited
and

Registered Company Name and Address

Full trading name	Cirencester Town Council	Building Name/No	
		Street Address 1	Bingham House,
Co Registration Number		Street Address 2	1 Dyer St,
		Town	Cirencester
		Postcode	GL7 2PP

Trading Name and Billing Address if different from above

Full name 1		Town	
Building Name/No		Postcode	
Street Address 1			
Street Address 2			

Contact information

Contact Name		Email Address	natalie@cirencester.gov.uk
Contact Phone			

Summary of supply details

Annual Consumption	49,250 KWh	Estimated Start Date	01/04/2025
Numbers of Meters	5	End Date	30/09/2027
Payment Terms	14 Day Direct Debit	Product	Fixed NHH

I / we confirm that I / we wish to obtain Supply of Electricity from 'Ecotricity Limited'. We've received a copy of the Terms and Conditions of Supply (August 2023) and understand that these terms and conditions will apply to any contract with 'Ecotricity Limited' for the supply of Electricity.

Customer signature

Signed	
Position	
Full Name	
Date	

Ecotricity signature

Signed	
Position	
Full Name	
Date	

Rates

Site Premises	MPAN	Annual Consumption (EAC)	Single Unit Rate (pence/kWh)	Day Unit Rate (pence/kWh)	Night Unit Rate (pence/kWh)	Standing charge (pence/day)
ST MICHAELS PARK, KING STREET, CIRENCESTER GL7 1JT	03 801 H07 2000011624420	10,800	22.96			93.47
GROUNDSMANS STORE, GROVE LANE, CIRENCESTER GL7 2DU	04 044 H17 2000012782378	13,000		23.88	18.21	93.47
CHURCH FLOODLIGHTING, MARKET PLACE, CIRENCESTER GL7 2PE	03 801 H02 2000012784515	7,550	22.96			72.94
SPORTS CENTRE- CHANGING ROOMS, KINGSHILL LANE, CIRENCESTER GL7 1HS	03 801 H08 2000052280563	14,900	22.89			134.90
PUBLIC CONVENIENCIES, ABBEY GROUND, CIRENCESTER GL7 2QU	03 801 H01 2000052653360	3,000	22.98			57.17

Commission Rates

Site Premises	MPAN	Contract Cost (£)	Annual Cost (£)	Unit Rate (pence/kWh)	Standing charge (pence/day)
ST MICHAELS PARK, KING STREET, CIRENCESTER GL7 1JT	03 801 H07 2000011624420	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GROUNDSMANS STORE, GROVE LANE, CIRENCESTER GL7 2DU	04 044 H17 2000012782378	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CHURCH FLOODLIGHTING, MARKET PLACE, CIRENCESTER GL7 2PE	03 801 H02 2000012784515	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SPORTS CENTRE- CHANGING ROOMS, KINGSHILL LANE, CIRENCESTER GL7 1HS	03 801 H08 2000052280563	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00



PUBLIC CONVENIENCIES, ABBEY GROUND, CIRENCESTER GL7 2QU	03	801	H01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2000052653360						
Total:				0.00	0.00		

Costs included

- All energy related costs

Costs excluded

- VAT
- Climate Change Levy
- Fossil Fuel Levy & any other taxes or levies which may be introduced in the future*

Are you a Micro-Business?

- By ticking this box you confirm that your business meets one of the following conditions; you use less than 100,000 kWh of electricity or 293,000 kWh of gas in a year; or have fewer than 10 employees (or their full time equivalent) and an annual turnover or balance sheet less than €2 million.

Electricity Agent Appointment

When setting up your electricity account we need to appoint metering agents. If you have a Half Hourly meter you can appoint your own and should give the details below. If the section below is blank we will appoint our default agents on your behalf.

Meter Operator	Default	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Data Collector	Default	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Data Aggregator	Default	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	

How did you hear about Ecotricity?

- Google Email Advert Social Media Newspaper Event

