

Draft Nature and Climate Emergency Strategy Theme: Finance and Offsetting

[UK Government](#) and local government funding for nature and climate action will continue to be central to making progress towards our targets and delivery against of the associated co-benefits. However, given the breadth of this strategy's themes and challenging delivery timelines, alternative sources of funding will need to be explored and secured. Partnering with other local stakeholders will help ensure bids for funds are successful.

Recent funding successes have included support for [community engagement work](#), [electric car charger](#) installation, a [car club pilot](#) and energy efficiency measures for the new Five Acres redevelopment near Coleford.

Carbon offsetting is typically an approach where an organisation or individual will pay for action to be taken that counteracts their green-house gas emissions e.g. planting of trees to help absorb carbon-dioxide. In the context of seeking to achieve net-zero, an organisation should first significantly reduce its emissions and only then use carbon removal or high-quality offsets to neutralise the small amount of their residual emissions.

Consequently, work on carbon-offsetting has not been deemed to be a high priority in the strategy, but the [challenging nature of the offset market](#) is acknowledged and action to explore local, effective offsetting will need to take place well in advance of the proposed net-zero target dates. This work should build on the initial work of the [Gloucestershire Nature and Climate Fund](#) who also support local [Biodiversity Net Gain](#) (BNG) initiatives.

Aim/Action	Priority
Aim FO1: Funding is available for effective District-wide nature and climate action.	
FO1-01: FoDDC evaluates and makes recommendations for the use of alternative Nature and Climate funding models including bonds, Power Purchasing Agreements, low interest loans and local levies. Consider how long-term regenerative activities can be supported in the district.	2
FO1-02: FoDDC reviews S106 guidance to consider how nature and climate benefits can potentially be delivered via these funds.	2
FO1-03: FoDDC works with Climate Leadership Gloucestershire , develop a capital project pipeline and approach specialist social / impact investors (e.g. Green Growth West, GB Energy the National Wealth Fund).	2
Aim FO2: Carbon offsetting of residual emissions is planned for and financed.	
FO2-01: FoDDC ensures any carbon offset requirements and costs associated with Net Zero Targets are understood and funding of offsetting is explored.	4
FO2-02: FoDDC supports building on the work by ' Gloucestershire Nature and Climate Fund ' to explore development of local carbon-offset opportunities.	5