

Draft Nature and Climate Emergency Strategy Theme: Governance and Decision Making

Effective governance is critical for progress with nature and climate change action as it provides the structure, accountability and strategic alignment necessary to convert aims into measurable performance. It helps embed action into other key strategies or plans, mitigates risks, and ensures transparent reporting, transforming voluntary commitments into actionable, long-term success.

Within this 'enabling' theme, the proposed aims and actions are intended to support effective district wide coordination, communication and involvement with communities on nature and climate action, to include local supply chains and partner organisations. Identifying, delivering and reporting on the benefits of nature and climate action should be a common feature of governance mechanisms with the district.

Crucially, the significance of [Local Government Reform](#) is addressed so that a new unitary authority for our district is well positioned to adopt the strategy and continue delivering the action plans.

Progress within this theme to date has included the re-establishment of the [Forest of Dean Climate Action Partnership](#), working with neighbouring councils to create an [impact assessment tool](#) and where appropriate, inclusion of nature and climate considerations in [Council grant schemes](#).

Aims/Actions	Priority
Aim GD01: Action in support of nature and climate is effectively coordinated at district level and county level.	
GD01-01: FoDDC ensures Nature and Climate action are core considerations of Local Government Reorganisation activity, to include featuring in the new organisation/s constitution.	1
GD01-02: FoDDC agrees and where possible funds Service Level Agreements with key Nature & Climate action partners.	1
GD01-03: FoDDC works with stakeholders to develop a coordinated nature and climate action reporting framework that aligns all key strategies and plans across the district.	2
GD01-04: FoDDC supports effective grass roots involvement in Nature & Climate action e.g. action planning and training for local co-ordinators.	2
GD01-05: FoDDC adopts use of UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG's) in the Council and promote adoption across the district.	4
GD01-06: FoDDC supports development of a district-wide Carbon Sequestration Monitoring/Valuation approach.	5

Aim GD02: Support for nature and climate is considered effectively across all FoDDC activity.	
GD02-01: FoDDC ensures Nature and Climate associated risks are understood and embedded effectively in Council risk management procedures, to include understanding of who in the district are most vulnerable to the impacts of Biodiversity loss and Climate Change.	2
GD02-02: FoDDC further develops and embeds their Sustainability Impact Assessment Tool (SIAT) in the assessment of FoDDC policies, plans, projects and procurements. FoDDC explores wider sharing/use of the tool within the community.	2
GD02-03: FoDDC reviews and develops their Sustainable Procurement Policy and Procedures to include UN Sustainability Goals and embedding Social Value.	2
GD02-04: FoDDC creates a plan to ensure their supply chain is Net Zero by 2035.	2
GD02-05: FoDDC ensures all their grant giving mechanisms and Service Level agreements include relevant Nature and Climate requirements.	4