

FOI number: **HBC\_FOI\_20210084**  
Date FOI Received: **11/02/2021**  
Department: **Planning**  
Title: **Carbon sequestration and offsetting**  
Description: **Carbon sequestration and offsetting**

**Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)**

1. Has your council declared a climate emergency and produced an action plan/strategy or policy that covers carbon sequestration and offsetting? If yes, please attached a copy of the policy/strategy or provide a link to the online copy.
2. Have you, within your existing or planned strategies/policies, considered carbon sequestration and offsetting? If yes, please outline those plans not included in question 1 or attach a copy or link to an online copy.
3. What forms of carbon sequestration have you considered, and which have you excluded? What was the basis of that decision?
4. How have you or do you plan to quantify the extent of carbon sequestration required to offset your carbon emissions within the council? Please provide any figures and equations you have used. What was the basis for using those figures/equations?
5. Do you as a council or your contractors use any of the offsetting schemes ie Woodland Trust to offset your carbon emissions? If yes, please list those used.

**Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)**

1 Hertsmere Borough Council declared climate emergency in September 2019. The Council has a Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan. Links below:  
<https://hertsmere.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s52037/20200916FC06appA1%2020200626%20Climate%20Change%20and%20Sustainability%20Strategy%20Final.pdf>

<https://hertsmere.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s53051/20200916FC06appA2%2020200626%20Climate%20Change%20and%20Sustainability%20Action%20PlanWho.pdf>

2, 3, and 4: Our priority in the first instance is to reduce the emissions as much as possible. Our Strategy and Action Plan cover our offsetting strategy at a high level. Tree planting is the only sequestration method considered.

5 Not yet. We are exploring development of our own scheme.

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House, Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF  
Telephone: 0303 123 1113  
Website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards

Information Services

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