

Nottingham Green Partnership

Annual Report
2022/23



1. Introduction

The Nottingham Green Partnership (NGP) formed in 1992 and has, since then, been working collaboratively to further the green and sustainability agenda for the city of Nottingham by fostering close working relationships between public and private sector organisations across the city.

It was a key stakeholder and contributor to the development of the city's Carbon Neutral Charter published in 2019, which set out the ambition for Nottingham to become the first city in the UK to become carbon neutral by 2028. The NGP has been working closely with the City Council since then to ensure the contribution from organisations across the city to deliver this ambition is as strong as possible. The NGP chair sits on the main One Nottingham Board.

Membership

As of July 2023, 47 organisations are represented on the NGP:

Active Notts

Boots-Walgreen

Browne-Jacobson

Bulwell Forest Community Garden

Climate Action Nottingham

CT4N

East Midlands Ambulance Service

Environment Agency

E-On

Experian

Games Workshop

Green Meadows

Groundwork Trust

Hosta Consulting

HSBC

Jigsaw24

LeftLion

MOZES

National Ice Centre

Natural England

New Art Exchange

Nottingham BID

Nottingham City Council

Nottingham City Transport

Nottingham College

Nottingham Contemporary

Nottingham Energy Partnership

Nottingham Good Food Partnership

Nottingham Growing Network

Nottingham Magistrates Court

Nottingham Open Spaces Forum

Nottingham Playhouse

Nottingham Trent University

Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust

Nottingham Youth Climate Assembly

Notts Fire & Rescue

Notts Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Notts Wildlife Trust

Renewal Trust

RideOtr

Ridewise

Savoy Systems

SHMA

Shop Zero

Sustrans

Tramlink

University of Nottingham

Willmott Dixon

2. 2022 - Our Changing Climate

2022 was notable as recording the hottest UK day ever – 40.3°C on the 19 July 2022 at Coningsby in Lincolnshire and was the hottest year overall for the UK since records began. Globally, the last eight years were the warmest eight on record and Europe experienced its warmest European summer on record.

2022 saw devastating floods in Pakistan, Antarctic daily sea ice extent reaching a record low and global annual average CO₂ was 417 ppm, its highest ever measured by satellite and the highest in hundreds of thousands to millions of years.

Predictions are already showing that the 1.5°C increase above pre-industrial levels could be exceeded at some point in 2023.

Clearly, we have a dangerously warming climate that is increasingly causing extreme weather events with devastating consequences to millions of people around the world and closer to home now. The causes of these events are complex but human related carbon emissions are likely to be resulting in increasing their frequency and intensity. The time to act has never been more pressing and compelling us all to reduce our carbon emissions considerably over the next few years.

3. Review of the Year

Richard Barlow, a partner at Browne Jacobson solicitors, currently chairs the NGP. It meets on a quarterly basis and the venues purposefully chosen to be in a variety of locations throughout the city. In 2022-23, in-person meetings this year were held at Nottingham Trent University, Boots (Lenton offices) and Bulwell Forest Golf Club. Over 30 people routinely attend meetings and there

has been a 25% increase in numbers attending in person during the last year over pre-covid average attendance.

Several new partners joined this year including Nottingham College, Games Workshop, Active Notts and CT4N.

It also saw the formation of five task & finish groups covering the following topics. Outcomes of their work expected later in 2023:

- Adaptation & Innovation
- Marketing & Promoting the Partnership
- Nottingham Climate Assembly
- Procurement/Supply Chain
- Waste management/Circular Economy

NGP also adopted a new Terms of Reference including routine partner reporting and the appointment of three vice chairs to support the current chair. The new vice chairs are Penney Poyzer (Nottingham Good Food Partnership), Dave Clasby (Sustrans) and Sally Longford (former Nottingham City Councillor).



Key City-wide Achievements

These included:

- There was a 50.7% decrease in city CO₂ emissions per capita from 2005 to 2020
- A 4% decrease in public sector CO₂ emissions across the city from 2019 to 2020
- Nottingham internationally recognised as one of the top 122 world cities for climate action
- 30% of buses operating in the city are biogas or electric, with £15m funding secured for 78 new electric buses and charging infrastructure for Nottingham City Transport (NCT)
- University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University (NTU) have been rated among the top 5 most sustainable universities in the world
- NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) launched their NHS Green Plan to become net zero by 2040 with £72m funding secured to decarbonise the heating systems at both major hospitals in the city
- 36,500 trees have been trees planted since 2019
- The energy efficiency of nearly 1,000 homes in Nottingham was improved funded by UK Government grants. It is estimated that this work is saving over 1,300 tCO₂e per year
- E-scooters and E-bikes are now a common sight on the streets

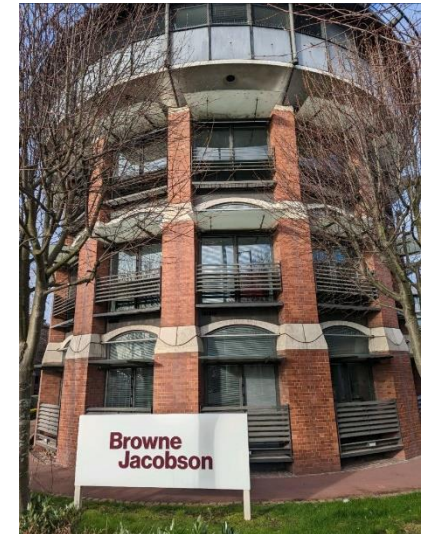
4. Partner Organisations' Progress

This year, several NGP member organisations provided more details on their carbon reduction and sustainability work. The organisations' annual reports provided are summarised here:

Browne Jacobson

Well-established firm of solicitors in the city based at Castle Meadow. Examples of their work to reduce their carbon emissions in 2022 include:

- Recycling 83% of their waste
- Electric Vehicle (EV) scheme as part of employee benefits package
- Introduced secure bike storage at their Nottingham office
- Installing solar panels in 2023
- Introduced Vegware cups and cutlery
- Internal green walls have been introduced
- Use of Pawprint Eco Companion App to encourage staff to take own actions, 268 members already saved over 123 tonnes of CO₂e.



Environment Agency

The Environment Agency is an executive non-departmental public body, sponsored by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs. Its East Midlands regional office, based in Nottingham, is responsible for regulating major industry and waste, water quality and resources, inland rivers,



conservation and ecology, and managing the risk of flooding from main rivers and reservoirs.

Examples of their work to reduce their carbon emissions in 2022 include:

- Creation of a regional sustainability network
- Sustainability Tip in every weekly Area newsletter
- In discussion with Terracycle – crisp packet recycling and more
- Part of this year’s Green Hustle event, interactive and education stand covering waste, pollution and water.
- Staff worked with Canals & River’s Trust using an environmental leave day this year, also community litter picks
- STEM Ambassador schools engagement continues and focus on deprived communities
- Encouraging use of EV pool cars for local travel and car share scheme
- Looking into creating a Green Award scheme for staff in 2023.

Nottingham City Council

The council provide overall management and facilitation of the delivery of the city’s carbon neutral plan through their dedicated Carbon Neutral Policy team.

It is currently delivering its own carbon management plan to get the council to carbon neutrality by 2028. Examples of their work to reduce their carbon emissions in 2022 include:

- By end of April 2023, 35% of the city’s streetlights had been converted to low energy LED (Light Emitting Diode) bulbs
- Carried out in depth energy audits of all leisure centres and the Theatre Royal, as well as heating controls and programming on other sites
- 38.5% of the Council’s own vehicle fleet is now zero emission

- Study undertaken to understand ease of commuting by low carbon modes of transport to council locations and typical working hours of employees at these sites
- Highways services adopted a single-use plastic avoidance ethos in all procurement activities
- Only waste to be sent directly to landfill are rejects from recycling processing
- The City Council has a bronze accreditation for Carbon Literacy, aiming for silver by 2025
- Two giant batteries to store energy generated by solar panels installed at the City Council’s Eastcroft Depot as part of the ‘vehicle to grid’ pilot project.

Nottingham Energy Partnership

Award-winning climate change charity and registered home improvement agency delivering projects that tackle fuel poverty, increase household energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions.

Examples of their work to reduce their carbon emissions in 2022 include:

- Conducting paperless meetings
- Influencing building management to implement recycling facilities
- Composting their teabags and coffee granules
- Use fair trade/organic products, eco-friendly cleaning products, and 100% recycled paper.

Nottingham Open Spaces Forum

An independent charity which brings together Friends of Groups, other volunteers, community gardeners, partner organisations, and other stakeholders to create a support network which work to promote, protect, conserve, and enhance the open and green spaces

*Nottingham Green Partnership
Annual Report 2022/23*

of our city. Examples of their work to reduce their carbon emissions in 2022 include:

- All meetings located near public transport access and encouragement to use it
- Use of virtual meetings where possible. Working to quantify carbon footprint effects of this
- Promotion of sustainability part of their core activity
- Core activity is working with, and within, Wild.NG, People's Forest, Green Guardians, Notts Wildlife Trust, City Council Open & Green Space Champions Group
- Lobbying NCC Planning to ensure biodiversity & green space priorities.

Nottingham Trent University

With over 40,000 students and staff spanning five university sites, NTU is one of the largest and most influential higher education institutions in the country. Examples of their work to reduce their carbon emissions in 2022 include:

- Fixed abandoned bikes and used them for hire or, if not required, donated to Women in Tandem, to fix and sell
- Introduced three fully electric and two hybrid electric vehicles
- EV charging points have increased to 32
- 15 buildings have roof mounted solar panels, eight buildings use biomass (for heating), and eight buildings are connected to the city's District Heating Network (DHN)
- 'Pack for Good' scheme diverted 155 tonnes of waste from landfill, and saved over 900t of carbon emissions
- Developed a Net Zero Carbon Supplier Tool
- Gold 'Hedgehog Friendly Campus'
- 1.2 million bulbs planted across the Clifton campus
- Green roofs at the Newton Building, Boots Library, Confetti, and the University Hall Living Wall

- 135t CO₂ saved through students using Green Rewards App.



Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust

Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust is one of England's largest acute teaching trusts. Established in 2006 following the merger of Nottingham City Hospital (CHN) and the Queen's Medical Centre (QMC) NHS Trusts. With over 17,000 staff, it is one of the biggest employers in the city. Examples of their work to reduce their carbon emissions in 2022 include:

- Travel to work scheme has grown by 11% compared to previous year, with over 1,200 members of staff currently signed up
- The new cycling facility at the CHN with space for 120 bikes, could reduce staff travel emissions by 56 tCO₂/year when compared to commuting via car
- Introduced contract clauses for the delivery of goods in zero carbon vehicles from 2025
- Replacing all windows at QMC and creating a new low energy heating system connected to a new energy centre and ground

source heat pump bores using government funding with expected completion in March 2025. These projects will reduce the Trust's carbon footprint by 12,000 tCO₂e

- Installation of additional air and water source heat pumps at CHN
- New water bottle refilling stations have been set up around the Trust's sites
- Wildflower garden on site at CHN and there is a staff-maintained garden at QMC.



Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Nottinghamshire Healthcare provides integrated healthcare services, including mental health, intellectual disability, and physical health services. Over 9,000 dedicated staff provide these services in a variety of settings, ranging from the community through to acute wards, as well as secure settings. Examples of their work to reduce their carbon emissions in 2022 include:

- Increased EV charge points for staff and visitors
- Salix funding used to develop a heat decarbonisation plan for two hospital sites in the city (Hopewood and the Wells Road Centre)
- Installation of food waste collections at 12 sites
- Phasing out single use plastic from catering

- Implemented 'no mow' zones
- Ran a green impact programme for teams to improve sustainability in the workplace.



Sustrans

A national charity, with an office in Nottingham, who work for and with communities, helping them come to life by walking, wheeling, and cycling to create healthier places and happier lives for everyone. Examples of their work to reduce their carbon emissions in 2022 include:

- Work based recycling at their Nottingham office
- Set an ambition to be net zero by 2030 in all their operations including construction
- Undertaken feasibility studies around the city and bring in funding, for example £750k from the Department of Transport on the Beechdale Road/Western Boulevard improvements
- On land they own, they have strong ecological management plans with a focus on increasing biodiversity
- Helping in the delivery of a school street programme including schools such as the Jubilee Academy in Bilborough and Fernwood in Wollaton

- Worked with schools at the recent Youth Parliament looking at travel.

University of Nottingham

Nottingham is one of the top universities in the world with over 45,000 students. Examples of their work to reduce their carbon emissions in 2022 include:

- Developed schemes to encourage sustainable commuting, e.g. 5,000 cycle spaces, salary sacrifice scheme for bicycle and public transport season tickets, Liftshare
- Started moving -80°C freezers to -70°C saving 25% in energy usage
- Replaced lighting with LED bulbs to outdoor sports pitch at Jubilee Campus
- Replaced standard gas boilers with high efficiency condensing boilers
- Air Source Heat pumps installed to swimming pool heating system
- Klimato Carbon labelling to encourage people to shift towards less meat and more plant-based options
- University Park visitor car park flood mitigation project includes hydro-planters and a surface water detention soakaway basin



- Green Flag Award for University Park for the 19th consecutive year.

5. 2023-24 - The Year Ahead

2023-24 will be another challenge period for the city in its work to reduce carbon emissions. City-wide emissions expected to remain similar or increase as the 'bounce' from the post COVID effects felt. Therefore, the NGP are determined more than ever to work together to find lasting solutions for the city.

Work in the year will include:

- Reporting of outcomes of the task and finish groups and progress recommendations
- Quarterly reporting of progress from partner organisations
- Support for local projects and initiatives such as the Nottingham Climate Assembly
- Attendance and participation at One Nottingham Board
- Supporting the development of a collaborative 'high-profile' project in the city to demonstrate the NGP's role in carbon reduction
- Quarterly meetings in a variety of locations around the city. November's meeting will be at University of Nottingham's innovative Carbon Neutral Laboratory on their Jubilee campus.