
TOWARDS NET ZERO: EBBSFLEET'S GREEN VISION IN ACTION

2024–25





Ebbsfleet has made good progress in reducing carbon emissions over the past year. We're working hard to make our community cleaner, greener, and more sustainable for everyone.

WHY THIS MATTERS

In 2023, we launched a plan to reduce carbon emissions in Ebbsfleet as part of our commitment to tackling climate change. Cutting carbon emissions simply means cutting down on the harmful gases that warm our planet. For residents, this means cleaner air, lower energy bills, better transport options, and more green spaces to enjoy.

It's all about making Ebbsfleet a healthier, more sustainable place to live – now and for future generations. This update shares what we've achieved so far and what's coming next, focusing on improvements in buildings, travel, waste, green spaces, and nature-based solutions.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED

Buildings

- All new buildings are now designed without gas or oil heating.
- The last new home with a gas boiler is expected in 2028 as part of the Alkerden South neighbourhood, delivered by Redrow.
- Solar panels are being installed widely: over 4,300m² on homes and 2,300m² on other buildings.
- Homes in Ebbsfleet are using less energy and more renewable power – solar panels now meet about 7% of electricity needs in homes and 11% in other buildings.
- A new residential project combining solar panels, electric heating, and battery storage is currently being built.
- At least three homes have been upgraded with air source heat pumps to reduce gas use.

Travel

- More people are walking or cycling: 10% of all journeys and 12% of work commutes are by walking or cycling.
- The goal is for 45% of local trips to be by walking or cycling by 2035.
- All new houses built from 2020 include electric vehicle chargers.
- 7% of vehicles are electric – three times higher than the Kent average.
- The Fastrack bus service is popular, with over 113,000 rides each month.
- A new Go-Coach bus service launched in 2025 with 4,400 passengers in June alone.

Waste

- Gravesham has switched all refuse trucks to eco-friendly fuel (like hydrogenated vegetable oil) made from plants.
- A Circular Economy Study guiding better recycling and reuse initiatives has been completed.

Green Spaces

- Over 5,000 trees have been planted across Ebbsfleet – more than one per home.
- The Ebbsfleet GREENmap is a powerful interactive tool that visualises the area's trees, habitats, and ecosystems – helping track biodiversity gains and monitor the health and quality of local green spaces over time.
- Over 40% of Ebbsfleet will be dedicated to green and blue space, offering cooling, shading, and biodiversity benefits.



PROGRESS REVIEW

Action	What Has Happened	What's Next
Strategy	<p>Ebbsfleet Development Corporation published its plan to reduce carbon emissions and started tracking progress.</p> <p>Staff completed Carbon Literacy training and earned bronze accreditation.</p>	<p>Continue tracking progress and update the plan annually, every June.</p>
Buildings	<p>Ebbsfleet Development Corporation has ensured that new developments exclude gas and oil heating, while promoting increased solar panel installations. New planning guidance has been introduced to support sustainable building practices.</p>	<p>Ongoing promotion of sustainable building practices, with annual review each April.</p>
Travel	<p>Ebbsfleet Development Corporation has increased walking, cycling, electric vehicle adoption, and expanded bus services in partnership with Kent County Council.</p>	<p>Enhance sustainable transport infrastructure and promote active travel, phased improvements through 2025–2030.</p>
Waste	<p>Dartford and Gravesham Borough Councils have improved recycling rates, and Gravesham has transitioned to eco-friendly fuel for refuse vehicles.</p>	<p>Encourage expansion of eco-friendly fuel use and improve waste data collection and management, by April 2026.</p>
Green spaces and nature-based solutions	<p>Ebbsfleet Development Corporation launched the Ebbsfleet GREENMap and tracked green space development.</p>	<p>Enhance mapping accuracy and model how green spaces can naturally absorb and store carbon, by April 2026.</p>

WHAT'S NEXT

- Improve how we track energy use and renewable energy generation by working with energy suppliers.
- Expand travel surveys and collect more data on sustainable travel.
- Work with local councils to better monitor waste disposal and recycling rates to encourage positive behaviour change.
- Upgrade the Ebbsfleet GREENmap to support future planning and carbon tracking.
- Continue to engage with local schools and residents in sustainability education and behaviour change.

CASE STUDIES

GO-COACH: A NEW WAY TO TRAVEL SUSTAINABLY (EBBSFLEET, LAUNCHED JANUARY 2025)

Summary

In partnership with local operators, Ebbsfleet introduced the Go-Coach service to improve local connectivity. Go-Coach's go2 Ebbsfleet is a flexible, app-based transport service that adapts to passenger demand. Operating across Ebbsfleet Valley and nearby areas, it connects key locations like Ebbsfleet International and Bluewater with shared, on-demand journeys.

Impact

4,400 passengers used the service in June 2025 alone, offering a reliable, low-emission alternative to car travel.

What's Next

Continue monitoring passenger numbers.





GREENING EBBSFLEET: ONE TREE AT A TIME (SPRINGHEAD PARK, FEBRUARY 2025)

Summary

As part of Ebbsfleet's commitment to sustainability and community engagement, two tree planting events were held at Springhead Park in February 2025. The first involved pupils from Springhead Park Primary School, giving children a hands-on environmental learning experience. The second was a community-wide planting day, welcoming residents of all ages to help plant over 300 tree saplings.

Impact

- 300+ saplings planted, contributing to Ebbsfleet's green infrastructure.
- 150 participants, including school children aged 7–11 and residents.

- Environmental education for young people.
- Stronger community connections through shared action.
- Health and wellbeing benefits from outdoor activity.

What's Next

The trees planted will be monitored as part of the Ebbsfleet GREENmap, helping track biodiversity and canopy growth. Future events will build on this success, with a focus on involving more schools and targeting areas with low tree cover.

POWERING HOMES WITH SOLAR AND BATTERY STORAGE (ALKERDEN, 2025)

Summary

A new residential project in Alkerden is a forward-thinking initiative under the Octopus Energy Zero Bills scheme, aiming to eliminate energy costs for residents. Featuring 47 homes, the development integrates rooftop solar panels, electric heating, and Tesla PowerWall battery storage to create a self-sustaining energy ecosystem.

Impact

These homes are designed to generate and store enough renewable energy to cover all household electricity needs – offering residents a zero-cost energy solution while significantly cutting carbon emissions.

What's Next

Performance will be monitored to assess long-term savings and carbon reductions to inform future developments across Ebbsfleet.





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