

## Worcestershire Energy Strategy

### Examples of County Council activities, grouped under the Energy Strategy's four priorities

- *Access to affordable clean energy*
  - Co-ordination of the Warmer Worcestershire home energy efficiency network and the County's fuel poverty plan (around 10% of Worcestershire households are in fuel poverty and more than 1,000 households were assisted 2019/20)
  - Project management of home energy efficiency schemes currently focused on tackling fuel poverty. This work is predominately funded by domestic energy suppliers through Energy Company Obligation.
  
- *Clean economic growth*
  - Design and management of EU funded business support programmes providing free advice and grants to improve energy & water efficiency, reduce waste, generate renewable energy, improve biodiversity and innovate, develop and commercialise new low and zero carbon products (more than 400 local businesses have been assisted to date).
  
- *Overcoming infrastructure and development barriers*
  - Commissioning of research into heat network development, such as South Worcestershire's deep geothermal heat resource and Countywide heat network master planning.
  - Provision of climate change related advice and response to neighbourhood plans, major planning applications and local development plan reviews
  - Engagement with the distribution network operator on increasing the capacity and flexibility of Worcestershire's power grid.
  
- *Promoting low carbon transport and active travel*
  - Pursuing the development of active travel (walking and cycling interurban corridors and urban networks to enhance travel choice, as set out in the Worcestershire Local Transport Plan ([www.worcestershire.gov.uk/LTP](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/LTP)))
  - Installation of electric vehicle charge points in car parks across Worcestershire (39 have been installed by the Council, predominantly funded by central government)
  - Developing the County's rail network, as set out in the Worcestershire Rail Investment Strategy ([www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wris](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wris)), including lobbying for service capacity and frequency enhancements and investment in station facilities, passenger capacity and access.