

## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**27 June 2024**

**COUNCILLOR MICHAEL de WHALLEY - CABINET MEMBER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY**

For the period 12 March 2024 to 18 June 2024

### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

#### **Carbon Literacy Training**

Preparation of briefing and e-learning materials bespoke to the council are ongoing. Both myself as Portfolio Holder and The Climate Change Manager have completed a 2-day Local Government Association funded and accredited "Carbon Literacy" course. Further senior carbon literacy training is taking place for key officers.

#### **Active Travel**

Upgrades to key areas of the cycle and walking network are due to take place during July and August. We have delivered 'Dr Bike' sessions for employees, supported by Sustrans and have also held an active travel breakfast session to support those who had actively travelled to work that day and to promote active travel to any member of staff interested in learning more. Research into cycle to work schemes has progressed including discussions with other Council's regarding the schemes they operate to learn from their experience.

#### **Norfolk Net Zero Communities**

A successful launch was held at the Enterprise Centre, UEA on Tuesday 21 May. Hubbub, the consultants supporting the project, are contacting community representatives to commence the listening phase of their work and are in the process of recruiting a local engagement coordinator.

#### **Solar Together**

A new campaign is on track for commencement in August.

#### **Schools Climate Competition Project**

We are in conversations with 8 Billion Ideas about confirming a project brief for a renewed project starting in the new school year.

#### **Norfolk Climate Change Partnership (NCCP)**

The NCCP Partnership Manager's post has been extended until 2025. One of the projects is a thermal imaging campaign in conjunction with North Norfolk, starting in November 2024. Three areas have been identified as priorities for this pilot project. This will involve the leasing of thermal imaging cameras to residents to identify areas of domestic energy loss. Support will be given by our team and NCCP.

### Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHP) in new builds

Air Quality News has reported that the Borough is leading all authorities, by a clear margin, on the installation of ASHP in new buildings as per table below. We are looking to further our progress with our major housing programme.

#### Local authorities in England and Wales with the largest per cent of new builds with air source heat pumps between 2019 and 2023

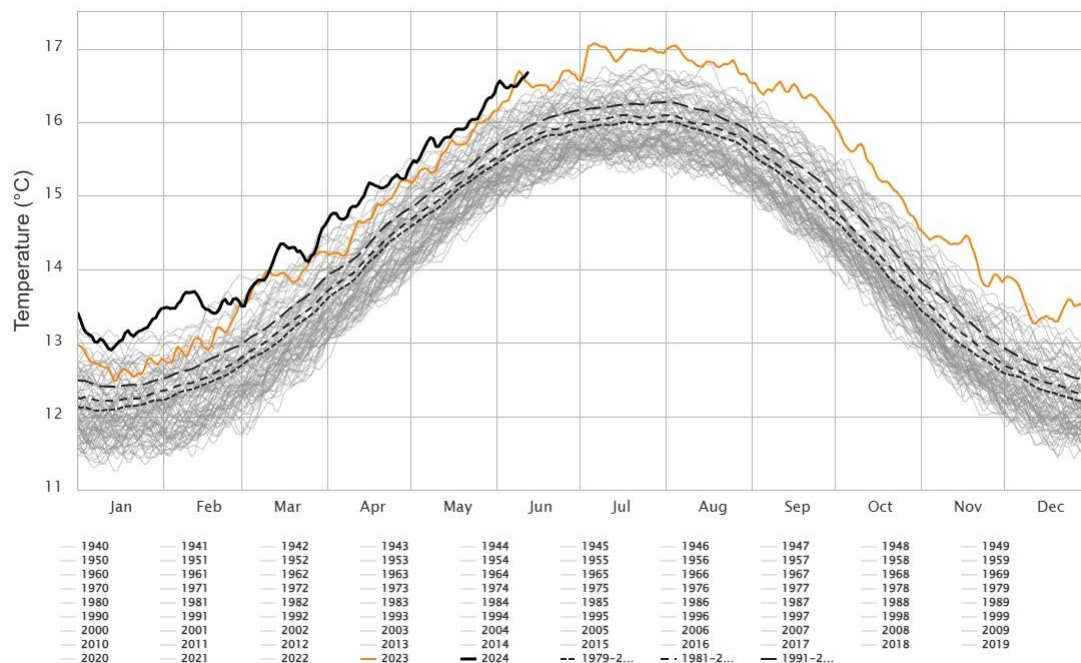
Local authority	New builds with ASHP	% of new builds with ASHP
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	1293	52.12%
Ceredigion	307	39.26%
Breckland	1213	38.58%
Tandridge	440	36.24%
Mid Suffolk	1047	28.20%
Isle of Anglesey	289	26.93%
Babergh	586	26.15%
East Cambridgeshire	638	25.57%
Powys	436	24.99%
Cornwall	3359	24.42%

### Climate

May 2024 was the warmest May on record globally, the twelfth such consecutive month, with an average surface air temperature of 15.91°C, 0.19°C above the temperature of the previous warmest May, in 2020. May was about 1.52°C warmer than an estimate of the May average for 1850-1900, the designated pre-industrial reference period. This marks the 11th consecutive month (since July 2023) at or above 1.5°C.

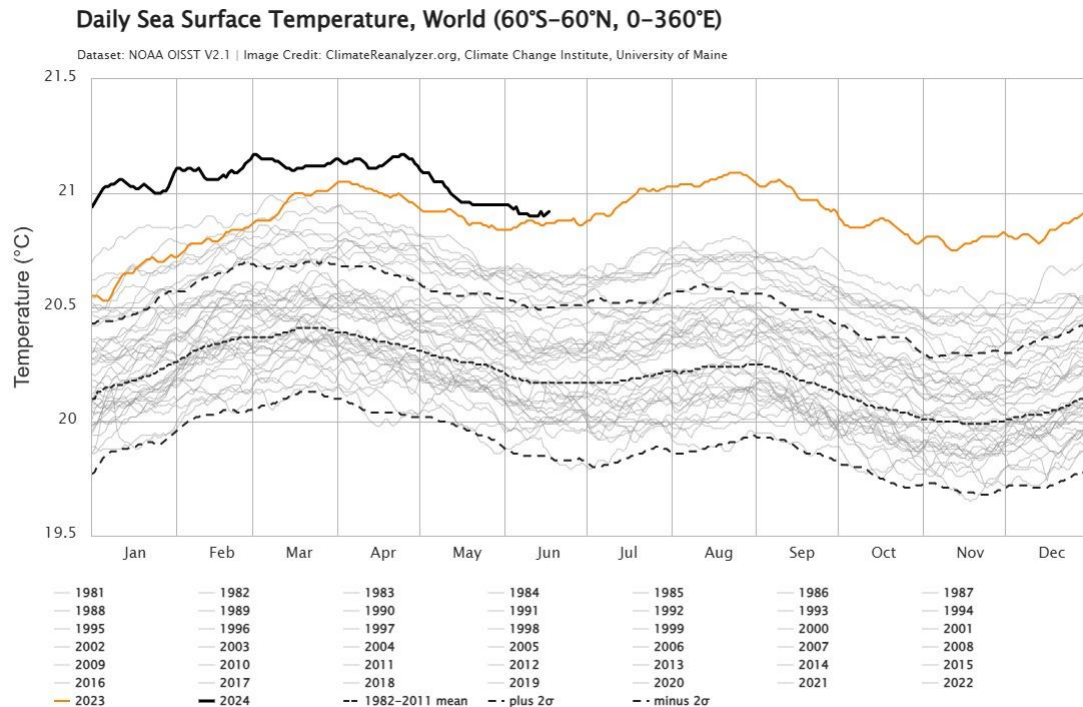
#### Daily Surface Air Temperature, World (90°S-90°N, 0-360°E)

Dataset: ECMWF Reanalysis v5 (ERA5) downloaded from C3S | Image Credit: ClimateReanalyzer.org, Climate Change Institute, University of Maine



The average global sea surface temperature (SST) for May 2024 over 60°S–60°N was 20.93°C, the highest value on record for the month. This is the fourteenth month in a row that the SST has been the warmest for the respective month of the year. Sea surface temperature is defined over the global extrapolar ocean, from 60°S to 60°N. This is used as a standard diagnostic for climate monitoring.

*Data source: European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts - ERA5.*



### **Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP)**

Consideration of the February consultation responses is being finalised. We will move forward through the Committee cycle during late summer and early autumn to adopt the revised AQAP. Once adopted we will then move forward to implement the measures.

## **2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**

### **Beat Your Bills Roadshow**

**Outwell (Primary School) – 26/06/2024 14:30-16:00**

**Docking (Marketplace) – 10/07/2024 09:00-13:00**

**Hunstanton (Helping Hands Café) – 15/07/2024 09:30-12:00**

**Downham Market (Marketplace) – 26/07/2024 09:00-14:00**

**Southery (Village Hall) - 06/08/2024 10:00-14:00**

**King’s Lynn (Boots) – 02/08/2024 10:00-14:00**

As an example of the savings that can be made engaging with the roadshows, a full house retrofit of a dwelling on Wilson Drive, East Winch, which was

producing 8 tonnes of CO2 per annum, now only produces 0.2 tonnes of CO2 per annum.

As a result of our endeavours facilitating declarations of eligibility for grants across West Norfolk, at least 302.9 tonnes of CO2 per annum have been saved.

### **3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled**

Mayor's Electric Vehicle Launch  
Climate Literacy Training  
Biodiversity Task Group  
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee  
King's Lynn Conservancy Board  
Mr James Wild MP  
West Lynn Footpath  
Active and Clean Connectivity Project Board  
CIL Spending Panel  
Regeneration and Development Panel  
Environment and Community Panel  
Norfolk Climate Change Portfolio Holders  
West Norfolk Transport & Infrastructure Steering Group  
Active & Sustainable Travel Event  
Local Plan Task Group  
King's Lynn IDB meeting  
Net Zero Communities Launch  
Standards Committee – Freedom of the Borough  
Congham Bridge Public Inquiry  
Planning Committee  
Environmental Groups  
Harding's Pits Doorstep Green - Whale Unveiling  
Cabinet Briefings  
Capital Investment Briefing  
Cabinet

#### **Portfolio Holder Briefings and updates:**

Climate Change Weekly Updates  
Air Quality Action Plan

#### **Meetings Scheduled:**

Climate Conference - 18 July 2024