

SUSTAINABLE STRATHAVEN



A Manifesto for 2025 - 2028

This manifesto is a living document. To acknowledge and incorporate the achievements and learnings of CAS' first five years the Manifesto was reviewed, and a new version ratified by the CAS trustees in March 2025.

This new updated version of the CAS Manifesto lays out our key objectives and activities for the next three years of 2025– 2028.

In the wake of a declared climate emergency and an unsustainable rate of consumption of our planet's resources, Climate Action Strathaven (CAS) was established as a charity in 2020. CAS' ambition is to make Strathaven a leader in environmental sustainability.

As a small charity we acknowledge collaborations and partnerships with individuals and community groups are essential to deliver ambitious targets which better reflect the urgency of the climate emergency than those adopted by Governments.

We are taking action now to retain a habitable planet for future generations, *making life much better for our local community and acting urgently where governments are failing.* In this our core aims are to influence the creation of more ambitious community driven climate action programmes, and to build in our community and others resilience to climate change impact.

MAKING STRATHAVEN A LEADER IN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY!

OBJECTIVES

(for Strathaven/ML10 postcode area)

- 1 Reducing the number of privately owned cars in Strathaven by providing more appealing travel options for locals**
- 2 Encourage and support locals to upgrade the energy efficiency of their homes**
- 3 Cutting usage of single use plastic in Strathaven**
- 4 Reducing food waste from local supermarkets (improving food system resilience)**
- 5 Improving the biodiversity of our local environment**
- 6 Decrease Strathaven's reliance on grid supplied energy by 2028**
- 7 Promoting repair, recycle and reuse locally, influencing and collaborating these ambitions within our community and others.**

CAS' overarching task is to create active projects and sustainable community businesses to address all of the above between 2025 – 2028.

CAS has a dynamic portfolio of maturing and emerging projects being developed together with our: engaged community; stakeholder network; growing number of local volunteers.

Our ambitious delivery process is to establish sustainable and long living activities wholly or in part under the CAS banner.



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AIM 1 INFLUENCING



Local and national policies need to reflect the requirements and ambitions of communities such as Strathaven, which is, after all, where people live and where most action will be delivered!

But until they do, we will take constructive solutions to local and national politicians and business leaders to demonstrate how effective action can be implemented.

- CAS' Climate Café and growing programme of events nurtures champions of new projects that accelerate meeting CAS' stated objectives
- Engaging with key local agencies to deliver positive driving and road safety improvements
- Campaigning for more low carbon charging infrastructure at key locations within Strathaven
- Campaigning for the development and deployment of active travel infrastructure (e.g. recent Sustrans report)

AIM 2 RESILIENCE AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT



Nurturing and encouraging local initiatives, helping build our community's resilience to the financial and environmental impact; building on current activities to improve the energy efficiency of local housing; supporting local businesses to apply the principles of a circular economy.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

Developing the successful 3C bus service improving commuting for education, work and leisure thus driving an estimated annual reduction of 1.75 million car miles.

Embedding convenient, low-cost car hire, fostering an alternative car culture that offers attractive, cheaper options for getting around. Creating multiple opportunities for our local, growing community to connect with each other, the town centre and beyond. Developing innovative ways to engage local businesses' adoption of e-bike and e-cargo use.

ACTIVE TRAVEL

Continuing development of ways to walk, roll and wheel safer and easier, thus reducing car use; facilitating this the EcoHub hosts new and reconditioned cycle sales, e-bike hire and cycle repair, community skills and capabilities.

RETROFIT STRATHAVEN

Developing this project into a sustainable community interest business improving the energy efficiency of our homes through better insulation and other measures, reducing fuel costs and removing fuel poverty.

STRATHAVEN COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Developing this project which saves food from going to landfill and engages businesses in Strathaven and surrounding areas in food waste reduction action by supporting additional projects aligned with the nutritious food and food waste reduction goals.

COMMUNITY GROWING

We're looking to build meaningful partnerships with local grower groups, working together to share knowledge, and strengthen our community.

CLIMATE CONSCIOUS LIVING AND WORKING

Developing capability enabling our community to reduce its carbon footprint by working in conjunction with all of our community, especially schools, youth organisations, young people; thus driving lifetime change locally.

Our EcoHub is providing: shared and group working spaces; climate change learning facilities; active travel tools and services and we are driving development of all these strands.

Raising awareness of biodiversity loss and mitigation opportunities is an area of developing focus.



CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Reducing, reusing, repairing drives the activities and skills development of Refill Strathaven and clothes swap and repair, repair café activities whose adoption and growth we are driving forward and engaging local service and charity shop businesses in all these activities.

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

Can Strathaven's energy demands be met, in part, by locally produced energy?

Investigation of this opportunity is an area of developing focus.

RESOURCES

- Delivering this Manifesto and its actions requires the support and energy of the whole community, together with expertise and financial resources won through campaigning, successful grant applications and creating sustainable business activities
 - Time is of the essence if we want to secure a sustainable future for our community and contribute to the global challenge.
- CAS operates through the support of its sponsors, donors, employees and volunteers and the programme of work described will be pursued as actively as is possible within those constraints.



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