

Climate and Nature Forum

8 July 2025

Agenda

- Apologies - To receive any apologies for absence
- Welcome
- Warmer Homes Scheme – John Underwood DDC
- Dover in Bloom – Lisa Oulton Future Foundry
- Updates from group members
- 10 – minute break (at 16:55-17:05)
- Heat Network update – James Traynor
- Idling update – James Traynor
- Thermal Cameras and EE boxes – James Traynor
- KALC Resilience Forum KALC / Sarah Gleave
- AOB

Warm Homes Local Grant Overview

The Warm Homes Local Grant is a Government-funded fuel poverty scheme delivered by Local Authorities

Dover District Council is working with Dartford Borough Council to deliver Warm Home Local Grant (WHLG) funding to owner occupied/private rented households in the district, to provide energy efficiency upgrades and clean heating systems.

Low-income owner occupier and private rented households

Properties heated by all fuel types with an EPC rating of D-G

Some Eligible Measures include:

- Loft Insulation
- Cavity Wall Insulation
 - Solar PV.
 - ASHP

Warm Homes Local Grant Household Eligibility Pathways

Pathway 1

IMD: ID 1-2: The household lives in a valid postcode that falls within income deciles 1-2 of the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD:ID 1-2)

Pathway 2

Means-tested benefits: The household is in receipt of a specified means-tested benefit.

Pathway 3

Low-income threshold: The household's gross annual income is below the scheme's household income threshold (£36,000)

Note: The household only needs to meet one of these pathways to be eligible

Pathway 2 – Means tested benefits

Households in receipt of one of the means-tested benefits specified below are eligible for Warm Homes Local Grant. Anyone in the household may be in receipt of these benefits in order to qualify, other than lodgers or those in full-time education.

- Housing Benefit
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Income Support
- Pension Credit (savings and guarantee)
- Universal Credit (UC)

As part of the scheme requirements evidence of benefit entitlement will be required.

Pathway 3 – Household Income Threshold

The Household's gross annual income is below the Warm Home Local Grant scheme's household income threshold (£36,000).

Part of the scheme requirement is that income is verified therefore, income evidence will be required.

Suitable income evidence includes:

- A Tax return/ P60 – for each 18+ person who receives an income (if within 6 months).
- Last 3 months Payslips Plus Last 3 months bank statements (proving income payments).
- Most recent year's annual income pension statement.

How to Apply for the Warm Homes Local grant Scheme

- **Self referral** via the Government's eligibility checker by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/apply-warm-homes-local-grant>
- **Email:** energy@dover.gov.uk quoting Warm Homes Local Grant as the subject.
- **Telephone:** John Underwood, DDC Energy Support Officer 01304 872414.

Please note that grant conditions require a fabric first approach to be adopted, therefore insulation measures will be prioritised before renewables. Any funding and the type of measure is subject to survey of the property and Government authorisation.



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**HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE
BUILD & GROW,
CREATIVE & CULTURAL
BUSINESSES AND EVENTS;
THAT REPRESENT
THEMSELVES AND
THEIR COMMUNITIES**

Deal Town Council

- In February, we adopted the Climate Action Strategy, Deal Town Council's decarbonization commitment and environment adaptation & improvement plan
- We have been in consultation to prepare our draft Ocean and Coastal Recovery Declaration & Strategy (to make a declaration supporting the recovery of the Deal coastline and sea off Deal, to develop strategies to achieve this for the Town Council itself and to develop cooperative strategies with neighbors and interested parties)
- At February's Environment Committee we had a special agenda item on Deal Sea Water Quality – we heard updates from Environment Agency, Southern Water & DDC
- From April, all three of our allotment sites are now pesticide and herbicide free
- Recruitment continues for our Tree Guardian scheme
- 🦔 We'll receive the first order of hedgehog friendly gravel boards next week - these are being given away to residents who have signed up online to have one in their garden so we can create Hedgehog Friendly Deal

Deal Town Council –continued

- The winning stencil design in our Look After What You Love – our anti-litter campaign was announced and messages will soon be appearing in town asking people to ‘Bin it!’ and not drop litter
- The Look After What You Love and signing up for a free hedgehog friendly gravel board will be our key messages when DTC hosts a stall at Pride on Saturday
- Finishing touches are being made to our Community Garden at Park Avenue Allotment Site and we’ll soon be asking groups to sign up
- A further water quality update was presented to the Environment Committee after Southern Water agreed to share ‘shadow sampling’ with Deal Town Council, revealing that 40 Samples collected in 2025 and all samples returned <50 E.coli and Intestinal Enterococci (the spike in August 2024 was showing Intestinal Enterococci (IE) 1,700 colonies per 100ml and Escherichia coli (EC) 3,900 colonies per 100ml.)

Transition Dover

- We attended the Dover Multicultural Festival in June, to raise awareness of our activities with the community
- We contributed to the Dover in Bloom entry and continue to care for the green corridor on Bridge Street
- Some of our volunteers took part in the litter pick and Market Square planting, coordinated by Future Foundry
- Dover Repair Café continues to go well, and we welcomed 2 new volunteers last month
- The 'Coat of Hopes' passed through Dover on 28th June and is now in Folkestone Museum for a month. We are arranging an evening to help with repairs to the coat.
- In September we will be working with KCC on the E-Waste Warriors project, with 5 Dover district schools, including holding a special repair event (provisionally on Saturday 11th October). Schools are being invited to sign up before the end of term - all have received details but please encourage any you have contact with to sign up!
- We will also be holding a stall at the Dover Big Local urban fete on Sat 20th September.
- November 2025 will be our 10th Birthday - so we plan to celebrate, plans to be confirmed!



Break



Members updates

Sandwich Town Council

Great Big Green Week 2025

“To respond robustly to the climate emergency” is one of the Town Council’s key priorities and in June we were delighted to join and support Great Big Green Week 2025. Great Big Green Week (GBGW) is the UK’s biggest celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature. During the week communities, schools, businesses, churches, mosques and more, join together in a wave of support for action to protect the planet. GBGW 2025 took place from 7-14 June and Sandwich Town Council was delighted to collaborate with local community groups in offering a fantastic range of free events and activities for all ages.

Highlights included:

- Guided walks at Monk’s Wall Nature Reserve
- A Sandwich Bay wildlife walk and beach clean with Kent Wildlife Trust
- Open session at Gazen Salts Nature Reserve
- Bee Talk at St Clement’s Churchyard apiary
- Weeding and tidying the flower beds on Ropewalk
- A free screening of inspiring documentary feature film ‘Six Inches of Soil’
- Children’s Story Time with craft activity





Members updates

Sandwich Town Council - Continued

Together with community litter picks and a launch event, the complete programme included 12 activities over seven days, a brilliant result for our very first GBGW!

We are delighted that so many residents took the opportunity to be involved and have also taken time to share wonderful feedback with us. The Bee Talk was *“a super afternoon where we learned so much about these intelligent creatures”*. And a guest at our free screening of ‘Six Inches of Soil’ commented *“I thoroughly enjoyed it and I know others did too, as they were all very keen to stay for a short period at the end to discuss the film in more detail”*.

GBGW 2025 was a wonderful community event and Sandwich Town Council would like to thank everyone for their support including the Mayor & Mayoress of Sandwich, Town Councillors, Dover District Council, Gazeen Salts Nature Reserve, Kent Libraries, Kent Wildlife Trust, Monk’s Wall Nature Reserve, St Clement’s Church Beekeepers, Sandwich Environmental Conservation Group, Sandwich Volunteer Tree Warden.





Dover District Council

- Climate Neutrality project continues – ISO 14068 accreditation planned.
- LCWIP Consultation complete
- Attended Sustainable Action Group (SAG) delivered by the Local Government Association.
- Attended CCN meetings hosted by KCC
- Climate Neutrality project continues – ISO 14068 accreditation planned, second map development in progress
- Supported feasibility study with Sustainable energy Heat Network Delivery Unit (Government Department).
- Tides Poolside has now closed over 420t of Co2 gas emissions to reduce from April 2025.
- Successful anti-littering campaign focused on the A2
- Launched love your Beach campaign to reduce littering across the district beaches
- New Kearsney Abbey electric all terrain vehicle has arrived
- LASER energy have prepared an Area-wide emissions report for the district - to be published soon.

Love your beach this summer



Summer drive to continue to help reduce the amount of litter on our local beaches during the holiday season has been launched – with the return of the successful #LoveYourBeach campaign.

The campaign is being run by Dover District Council, in conjunction with Folkestone & Hythe District Council. Working alongside our contractors Veolia, it includes a range of initiatives to raise awareness and help keep beaches clean around the district.

As part of the initiative, a brand-new e-bike collection vehicle will be deployed in Deal and Walmer to help with the regular emptying of bins along the seaside promenade. These battery-powered e-bikes provide an environmentally friendly alternative that allows crews to access areas that larger vehicles may not be able to reach.

Additional signage encouraging residents to bin their litter or take it home with them is also being posted around the district.

The summer beach cleaners have already started their daily beach cleans, covering the beach areas from Kingsdown to Sandown Castle, as well as two additional bins being put in around the pier area on Deal Seafront.

Cllr Edward Biggs, Cabinet Member for Planning and Built Environment said: “We love to see our residents and visitors safely enjoying themselves at the district’s beaches, making the most of these fantastic spaces, relaxing and creating amazing memories. But it’s important to remember not to leave litter behind, to protect sea life and keep our district’s beaches safe and looking great for the future.”

Heat Network

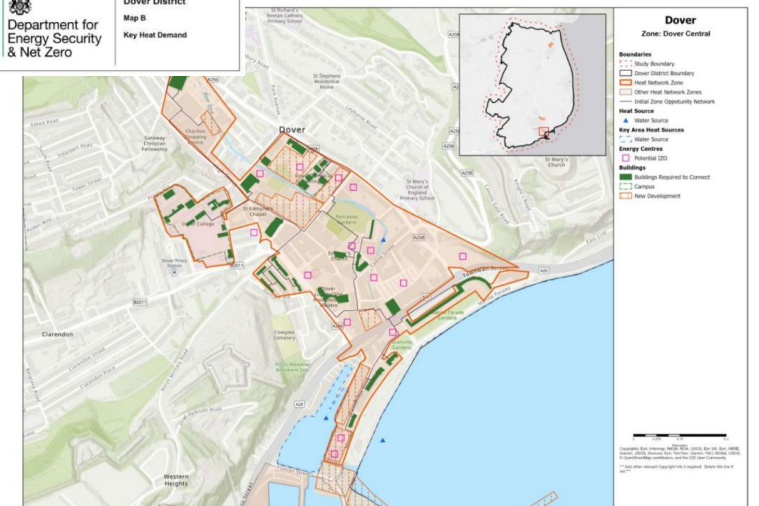
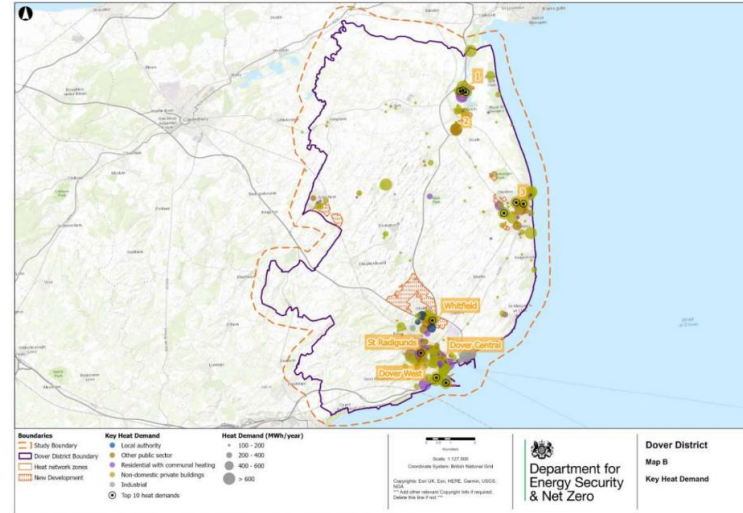


Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Dover District

Heat Network Zoning

Zone Opportunity Report



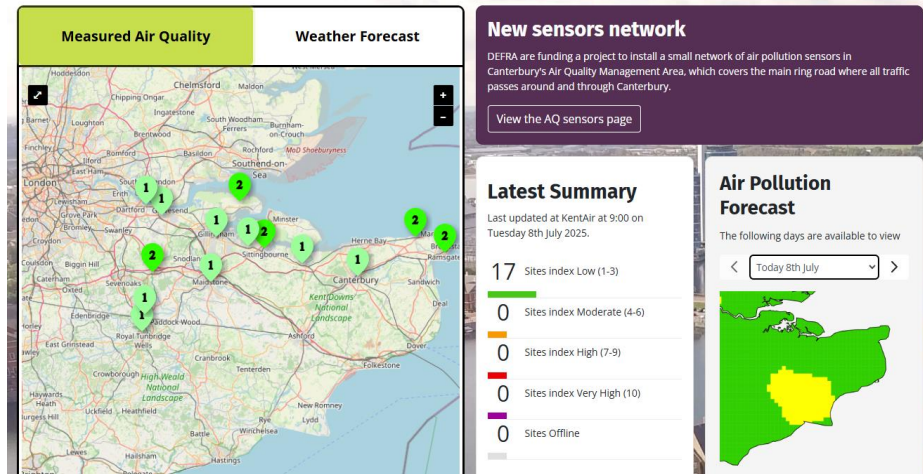


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A Great Place to
Live, Work, Visit, Learn and Invest

Energy Efficiency boxes And Thermal Cameras

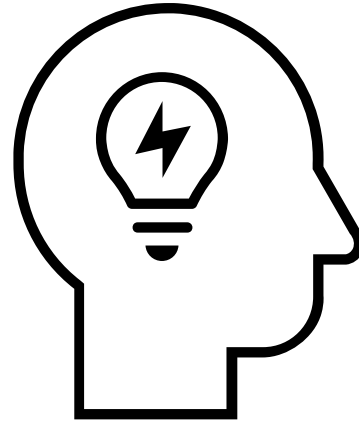
£5,000 budget for boxes £1,000 budget for cameras





KALC Resilience Forum

AOB & Networking





Next Climate and Nature forum

DDC Offices Brave Room

Hybrid

Timing – Daytime