

Email: gary.clothxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxv.uk



Ms Jewell

Corporate Information Governance team  
Surrey County Council | Woodhatch Place | 11  
Cockshot Hill | Reigate | Surrey | RH2 8EF

13 February 2023

Your ref: request-937532-1d97aac8@whatdotheyknow.com  
Our ref: 5144922

Dear Ms Jewell

Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations 2004

**a. Does the council have a 100% renewable green electricity tariff for all of the electricity that the council is directly responsible for, and is this tariff with Green Energy UK plc, Good Energy Limited or Ecotricity?**

**This includes all electricity that the council is directly responsible for, in council offices and any other buildings leased and managed by the council where the council pays the electricity tariff. This does not include homes owned or managed by the council. If unsure, please state your provider and tariff.**

Yes, all electricity purchased by the council and used in buildings for which it is directly responsible is on a green tariff . This is 100% backed by Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin. The council's electricity supplier is EDF so no, the tariff is not with any of the companies named.

**b. Does the council generate and use energy from waste? And if so, what percentage of the council's total electricity use is powered by these energy from waste electricity sources?**

In 2021/22, the council sent 141,824 tonnes of residual waste to a number of energy from waste plants mainly located in the UK, including the Eco Park gasifier operated by Suez in Shepperton. The electricity produced from this waste was not used directly by Surrey County Council, but was supplied to the National Grid.

Using an average figure for electricity generation from UK energy from waste plants of 591 KWh export/tonnes of waste processed (Tolvik, UK energy from Waste statistics - 2021), the processing of 141,824 tonnes of Surrey's waste would equate to 83,818 MWh of electricity production.

In addition, electricity was also generated from processing food waste at the anaerobic digestion plant at Shepperton also operated by SUEZ. In the calendar year 2022, this plant exported 6, 115 MWh of electricity to the National Grid.

**c. Does the council buy directly from a local renewable electricity source or have its own renewable electricity sources? And if so, what percentage of the council's total electricity use is powered by this/these renewable electricity sources?**

**This includes council owned renewable electricity sources that are located outside of the council area, such as solar farms located further south to maximise electricity generation.**

Yes, the council does have its own sources of renewable electricity. The percentage is 2.1%.

**a. Has the Council approved any new\*1 or expanded\*2 roads or road junctions in its area from 1st January 2019 until 1st January 2023? Please list which ones were accepted.**

**\*1 The intention of this question is to understand overall increases in road capacity, rather than recent housing developments. Please exclude minor roads built exclusively to connect new housing to the pre-existing road network.**

**\*2 An expanded road or road junction is one that has increased capacity for motor vehicle traffic, not counting bus lanes, cycle infrastructure, or pedestrian infrastructure. Please include roads and junctions where new lanes have been added.**

**A23/Three Arch Road junction** south of Redhill. This junction is being modified to reduce delays/improve journey times for ambulances/blue light services to East Surrey Hospital. The proposed scheme also include pedestrian crossing facilities, cycle infrastructure and potentially new bus lanes.

**A217/Woodhatch crossroads.** This junction is being modified to improve road safety and reduce delays/improve journey times. The proposed scheme also include pedestrian crossing facilities, cycle infrastructure and potentially new bus lanes.

**A320 North of Woking to M25 Junction 11 Housing Infrastructure Project.** The purpose of this project is to ensure there is extra capacity on the busy stretch of road between Chertsey and Ottershaw to unlock future housing sites. Upgrading the A320 means approximately 3,000 new homes can be built across ten sites in Runnymede – a key component of the borough's recently approved Local Plan.

**A331/A31 junction :** This is located at the southern end of the Blackwater Valley. It involved the construction of a slip lane for vehicles travelling southbound on the A331, wishing to travel eastbound on the A31 (removing the need for them to use the

roundabout) thereby improving capacity. The roundabout will be part signalised and incorporates improved facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, thus supporting vulnerable road users.

Please also see the attached Excel spreadsheet.

**b. Has the Council approved any planning applications for fossil fuel extraction projects proposed in its area since 1st January 2019 until 1st January 2023? Please list which ones were accepted, including where relevant fossil fuel projects that were later 'called in' by central government.**

**By fossil fuel extraction projects we mean: any oil wells and fields (on or offshore), coal mines, fracking and shale gas, gas, natural (including liquified) gas (on or off shore) plants, and unabated fossil fuel generation and power plants well as related infrastructure such as pipelines and terminals for the fossil fuels.**

We consider that Regulation 6(1)(b) applies to the information requested because the information requested is already publicly available and easily accessible.

The information you requested is available on our website using the following link,

<https://planning.surreycc.gov.uk/>

**b. Has the council approved any new or expanded airport runways, terminals, measures to increase passenger numbers or other planning proposals that expand airport capacity in its area since 1st January 2019 until 1st January 2023? Please list the accepted planning proposals.**

No information held. Any small airports within Surrey would be for the Borough and District Councils.

[Borough and district council responsibilities - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/your-council/borough-and-district-council-responsibilities)

The larger airports don't fall into Surrey's borders.

**a. Have all senior management received carbon literacy training or equivalent since 1st January 2019? Please state the type of training.**

Since we started delivering the Carbon Literacy Trust accredited course in August 2022, 7 out of our 11 members of Surrey County Council's Corporate Leadership Team have received Carbon Literacy Training. The final four members of the Corporate Leadership Team are due to receive Carbon Literacy Training by May 2023.

**b. Have all current councillors in the cabinet or committee chairs received carbon literacy training or equivalent since being elected? Please state the type of training.**

Since we started delivering the Carbon Literacy Trust accredited course in August 2022, 11 Elected Members of Surrey County Council have received Carbon Literacy Training, including two Cabinet Members and one Deputy Cabinet Member. There are ten Cabinet Members and four Deputy Cabinet Members at Surrey County Council.

**Has the council written to or met with UK national or devolved governments to ask or lobby for climate action since 1st January 2019? Please provide some evidence of the most recent letter or meeting such as a copy of the letter or email sent, or the date, topic of meeting and position of the person that the meeting was held with.**

**This includes either asking for more powers and funding for local authorities to take climate action, or asking for the government to take further action themselves. This includes working with other local authorities to send joint letters or meetings to lobby UK or devolved governments, and includes both general climate action and calls for action on specific issues such as transport where climate change is mentioned as a motivating factor for taking action.**

**This includes if a cabinet member or other councillor has written to or met with the UK or devolved governments on behalf of the council.**

Yes, Surrey County Council has written to and met with UK national government to ask for climate action on a number of occasions. Our most recent example letter of lobbying UK government for a reduction in VAT for on-street EV charging is attached.

Please quote the reference number 5144922 in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Freedom of Information Officer  
Law and Governance  
Surrey County Council  
Woodhatch Place  
11 Cockshot Hill  
Reigate  
Surrey

RH2 8EF

foi@surreycc.gov.uk

If you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response after the internal review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF.  
Telephone: 0303 123 1113  
Website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Gary Clothier  
Freedom of Information Officer