

Climate Change Action Motion

Rutland County Council notes:

- That the impacts of climate change are already causing serious damage around the world.
- That we need to develop measures and set targets to contribute to the challenge of keeping global temperature rises below 1.5°C; and
- That all governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to act, and local governments that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies.
- That effective policies to cut emissions also have associated health, wellbeing and economic benefits.
- That, recognising this, UK local authorities show their commitment in 'Climate Change' motions.

Rutland County Council therefore commits to:

- Take action to deal with 'Climate Change' to make sure that the Council's activities achieve net-zero carbon before 2050.
- Call on the UK Government to provide the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible, and ask our local MP to do likewise.
- Ensure that all strategic decisions, budgets and approaches to planning decisions are in line with a shift to zero carbon by 2050.
- Appoint an existing member of Cabinet to take responsibility for the delivery of the Zero Carbon activity
- Ensure that Cabinet and an Officer of the Senior Management Team embed this work in all areas and take responsibility for reducing, as rapidly as possible, the carbon emissions resulting from the Council's activities, ensuring that any recommendations are fully costed and affordable
- Ensure that the Executive and Scrutiny functions review council activities taking account of production and consumption emissions and produce an action plan within 12 months, together with budget actions and a measured baseline
- Request that Growth Infrastructure and Resources Scrutiny Panels consider the impact of climate change and the environment when reviewing Council policies and strategies;
- Achieve 100% clean energy across the Council's full range of functions by 2050 or earlier.

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- Support, influence and inspire partners and relevant agencies across the region to help make the entire area zero carbon within this timescale through all relevant strategies, plans and shared resources by developing a series of meetings, events and partner workshops.
- Ensure that the Council and partners take steps to proactively include young people in the process, ensuring that they have a voice in shaping the future.
- Set up a Climate Change Partnership Group, involving Councillors, residents, young citizens, climate science and solutions experts, businesses, and other relevant parties. This Group will consider actions being developed by the Council and other partner organisations and develop a strategy in line with a target of net zero emissions by 2050. It will also recommend ways to maximise local benefits of these actions in other sectors such as employment, health, agriculture, transport and the economy.
- Report on the level of investment in the fossil fuel industry that our pensions plan and other investments have and review the Council's investment strategy to give due consideration to climate change impacts in the investment portfolio.
- Ensure that all reports to Cabinet and Council will take into account the actions the council will take to address Climate Change.
- Provide a Climate Change impact assessment on relevant decisions the council makes.
- Provide and publish as part of the Council's Annual Review measures taken by the Council and their impact on the County's carbon footprint.
- Consider other actions that could be implemented, including (but not restricted to): renewable energy generation and storage, providing electric vehicle infrastructure and encouraging alternatives to fossil fuelled private car use, increasing the efficiency of buildings, tree planting on Council land, address fuel poverty; proactively using local planning powers to accelerate the delivery of net carbon new developments and communities, coordinating a series of information and training events to raise awareness and share good practice.