



**I am responding as a:**

- Member of the public
- On behalf of an organisation
- Business
- Parish Council
- Elected Member
- MP
- Other

**If you are giving the official response for an organisation/business, please include the name here.**

**Your name** Lyme Regis Town Council

**Your contact details** belinda.bawden@lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk

**Please provide your postcode** DT7 3BS

**Note:** all information provided will be held according to [our data protection policy](#).

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# Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation



## Background

**Dorset Council provides a huge variety of services supporting residents in their daily lives. Which of the following areas of the council's work matter most to you and your family? Please select up to five.**

- Yes  Protecting Dorset's natural environment
- Yes  Tackling climate change
- Helping people have healthy lifestyles
- Keeping vulnerable children and adults safe from harm
- Supporting people to live fulfilling and independent lives
- Yes  Providing rural buses and transport
- Collecting household waste (bins), recycling and cleaning streets
- Making sure roads and highways are in a good condition
- Increasing the availability of affordable housing
- Supporting economic growth and good quality jobs
- Providing libraries, museums, arts and culture
- Yes  Supporting schools so children have a good education
- Improving digital connectivity (such as access to fast broadband)
- Yes  Providing an effective planning process to manage development
- Working closely with communities and the voluntary sector

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# Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation



## Doing your bit

Climate change is an issue for everyone, not just Dorset Council. We cannot deal with this issue on our own.

In order to achieve a zero carbon Dorset by 2050, all the residents of Dorset will need to do their bit.

**What are you already doing to reduce your carbon emissions?** (Select all that apply)

- Using or generating more renewable energy
- Reducing the energy you use at home
- Making changes to your diet, buy more local food or growing your own food
- Buying from companies with green credentials
- Reducing your waste and recycling more
- Using less water
- Making your garden wildlife friendly
- Travelling less, walking or cycling more or buying an electric car

**Do you think you can do more to reduce your carbon emissions in the future?**

- Yes
- Possibly
- No

**Is anything stopping you from taking action to reduce your carbon footprint?**

- Cost
- Not sure what to do
- Facilities not available
- Regulations (e.g. Listed building)
- Other \*\*\*\*\*

**Please give more details about what is stopping you taking action to reduce your carbon footprint** (optional)

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## Dorset Council's Role

You can find out more about [our approach in the strategy here](#)

We are committed to achieving a Carbon Neutral Council by at least 2040 and must help facilitate the changes required to work towards the whole of Dorset becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

However, we recognise that Dorset Council has only limited powers and responsibilities in many of the areas where action is required. Therefore, Dorset organisations and individuals will all need to act collectively to achieve this wider ambition.

The council has three key roles in facilitating the change required and the strategy document is framed into these three areas...

### Direct

Take **DIRECT** action to reduce our own carbon footprint in order to become a carbon-neutral Council by 2040, showing leadership as a large public sector organisation.

As a large organisation, we directly account for at least 1% of Dorset's footprint from our use of energy and water in our buildings and assets, staff travel, and the waste we produce.

### Indirect (through services)

Take **INDIRECT** action to facilitate change by ensuring the range of services we provide across the County are delivered in a way that supports our journey towards a Carbon Neutral County.

Dorset Council is responsible for the delivery of many key services, such as planning, housing, economic development, waste and transport, etc.

### Influence & Partnership

Work in **PARTNERSHIP** with other organisations and communities to drive change across the County and put in place larger programmes and projects to support fundamental change required.

For example - Working with towns and parishes, community engagement, behaviour change, regional transport policy. This is as well as working with key partners and existing partnerships (LNP, LEP, AONB, Coast Forum etc.), therefore influencing key and sustainable energy strategies.

[Click here to see a plain text version of the above table](#)

Yes please

No thanks

This above explains our approach in this strategy and helps you understand the following questions.

**Our approach is about understanding what actions Dorset Council can directly influence, indirectly influence [such as through our services or use of our assets] and what we can only influence as part of a wider partnership. Do you agree with our approach?**

Strongly agree

**Yes** Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

**Please explain why you think this (optional) \*\*\*\*\***

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## Targets

### Carbon Targets

The strategy sets two targets: a more ambitious target of 2040 for Dorset Council itself and 2050 for the wider Dorset area (in-line with the government's national target).

**(1) Dorset Council ITSELF to become carbon neutral by 2040, ten years earlier than the national target.**

**(2) The whole Dorset Council AREA to become carbon neutral by 2050, which will require support of central government and everyone in Dorset taking action**

**Do you agree with the target set for Dorset Council ITSELF as an organisation of 2040?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Do you agree with the target set for the Dorset Council AREA of 2050?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Please explain your answers** (optional) The targets should be sooner - 2030 at least for Dorset Council and 2035 for the area. **\*\*\*\*\* Maybe refer to the latest reports about the urgent need for action as well as increasing public demand.**

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# Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation



## Topic Area - Renewable Energy

### Areas for Action...

See the details on [Renewable Energy from our strategy](#)

To achieve a carbon neutral county by 2050, all energy currently provided by fossil fuels for heating, transport and electricity in Dorset will need to come from a low-carbon source. This will require an enormous increase in renewable electricity generation in the County.

Dorset Council cannot itself do this, and does not have control of national planning policy or the money to put into renewable energy sources on its own. But there are many things the council can do to.

### Direct

-  Maximise renewable energy opportunities of all DC buildings; convert all off-grid buildings to heat pumps or biomass, convert heating of all on-grid buildings to hydrogen-ready hybrid heat pumps, install max capacity solar arrays on every building
-  Construct large renewable energy installation (around 60 MW of solar PV or 30 MW of wind turbines) on Council owned land to meet Council's demand
-  Commission study to identify opportunities for renewable energy in County Farms and Council carparks
-  Work with renewable energy developers in Dorset to secure new renewable energy generation to meet (and exceed) needs of the Council

### Indirect (through services)

-  As Local Planning Authority – actively encourage renewable energy deployment
-  Undertake detailed resource mapping to confirm Dorset has the technical resources to be self-sufficient. Potential sites can then be identified in the Local Plan
-  Establish a positive planning policy framework and toolkit for maximising the use of renewable energy within new developments

### Influence & Partnership

-  Lobby central government over the major hurdles to renewable energy deployment, the Navitus Bay decision, investment needed on grid infrastructure, and future of heat
-  Work in partnership with BCP to plan a zero-carbon energy system for Dorset
-  Dedicated resources to promote renewable heat in cases where it is financially viable
-  Extend Low Carbon Dorset programme
-  Dedicated resources to assisting with the expansion and awareness building of the Energy Local project in Dorset
-  A review of whether Council run fuel-poverty schemes could install low-carbon heating systems over gas boilers

[Click here to see a plain text version of the above table](#)

[Yes please](#)

[No thanks](#)

**Renewable Energy - The above is taken from the strategy and identifies the areas for action where we see Dorset Council can either directly impact, indirectly impact or only influence outcomes. Do you agree with what we have proposed?**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<b>What we can directly impact</b>		Yes				
<b>What we can indirectly impact</b>		Yes				
<b>What we can influence and partnership</b>		Yes				

**Please explain why you think this and if there is anything fundamental that you feel we have missed in our "renewable energy" area for action? (optional)**

1. The strategy moves in the right direction but more urgent action and more pro-active support for renewable energy generation, retro-fit ambition and energy efficiency programme for buildings and homes is necessary.

2. Energy supply needs to be decentralised with local authority support and regulation and community-led generation schemes should be encouraged and supported e.g. Dorset Community Energy's 'Energy Local' scheme in Bridport.

3. There needs to be investment in training and skills for retro-fitting and energy efficiency measures, alongside

renewable energy generation as well as the necessary changes to planning, surveying, design and quality control measures. Could Dorset Council work with schools and FE colleges, employers, town and parish councils and the LEPs to develop far more training and apprenticeship opportunities for 'green jobs' in energy, planning, building, ecology and environmental areas?

4. Could the council create and/or lobby nationally for more 'TrustMark' accredited experienced and quality-assured installers and contractors in Dorset? A quick Google search for 'TrustMark' heat pumps installers locally shows firms in Oxfordshire, Cheshire and Manchester. Collaboration with LEPs should prioritise zero carbon and 'Green New Deal'-type investment and training, spreading the benefits much more widely across the county.

5. Much better support and public understanding is needed on the measures households can take and the funds available to support low-income households. Dorset Council's work in securing further funding for Low Carbon Dorset is greatly appreciated. Could this work be extended further and benefit low-income households, linking perhaps with the Priority Services Register services, housing associations and with town and parish councils and community groups to develop local action plans to target and support low-income households to undertake the necessary work for greener, more energy efficient and warmer homes.

6. Dorset Council could liaise with contractors, housing associations and local communities and councils to undertake retrofit work at scale e.g. streets or areas at a time, enabling discounted costs and more employment and training opportunities. The Council should provide leadership to support and promote the benefits of conversion to renewable home energy and warmer, safer homes for our residents.

7. Could Dorset Council work with the Centre for Sustainable Energy, local health and care providers and community groups to provide and develop the skills and expertise to identify priority areas by multi-layered mapping for action to prioritise our most vulnerable residents to have renewable energy installations and safer, warmer, more energy-efficient homes? The proposed study with BCP to identify potential is vital.

8. We need Dorset Council to lobby government to change planning law and building regulations to enable net zero development; zero carbon, warm, safe homes; biodiversity net gain; more delegation of planning decision-making and influence to parish and town councils and their communities; and much better community-led planning and place-making. For example, the planning regulations for listed buildings and those in conservation areas are NOT fit for current and future climate-purpose and must be changed if Dorset and the UK is to reach net zero targets. Planning for new builds and improvements must insist on net zero measures starting NOW. The DAPTC AGM recently passed several motions to these effects. Please support and amplify these requests to central government.

9. The Navitus Bay wind farm should be supported and brought into use as soon as possible to fulfil part of Dorset's commitment to the government's first point in the 10 Point Plan to advance off-shore wind power generation.

10. Renewable energy is cheaper to generate than fossil fuels so no more new fossil fuel exploration should be allowed in Dorset. The skills in the fossil fuel industry workforce should be developed and re-skilled as needed towards the renewable sector and harnessed to develop further opportunities for good quality employment in the county through training, apprenticeships and work experience.

11. Street lighting could be reduced in areas of excessive street lighting - not only would this save energy, but also reduce the impact on nocturnal wildlife and enhance Dorset's natural beauty.

## Action Plan

We have identified a number of initial targets and specific actions that Dorset Council can take to address the areas above. [Our summary action plan for Renewable Energy can be found here](#)

**Renewable Energy - The above action plan identifies where we see Dorset Council can take action. Do you agree with what we have proposed?**

Strongly agree

**Yes** Agree

Neither agree/disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

**Please explain why you think this** (optional) The proposals are all good but should be accelerated where possible and Dorset Council should use its influence and leadership to encourage and support town and parish councils to do the same in their communities.

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# Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation



## Topic Area - Buildings

### Areas for Action...

See the [details on Buildings from our strategy](#)

In order to create a carbon neutral Dorset, all carbon emissions from Dorset buildings will need to stop. All energy used for power will need to come from renewable sources.

Dorset Council has limited powers to achieve this. It will require everyone to take action in their homes and businesses. However we do have control of our own current buildings and any future buildings that are constructed on our land. We are also able to work with partners.

### Direct

- Lead by example by ensuring Dorset Council's estate becomes zero carbon by 2040
- Ensure climate change is a central consideration throughout the asset review, and in the development of Dorset Council's Asset Management plan
- Develop and promote case studies and examples of best practice on our own estate to encourage replication by others
- Establish policies to ensure that any of the Council's new build projects are designed to be zero carbon from the outset.
- Continue upgrade of all Dorset streetlights to LEDs

### Indirect (through services)

- Encourage designs and layouts which lend themselves to low-carbon energy solutions, and provide guidance and advice for developers to achieve zero carbon standards
- Ensure the Dorset Housing Strategy incorporates the reduction of carbon emissions and increased risk to climate impacts
- Develop local plan policies to ensure climate risks are identified and avoided in new developments, such as flood risks and overheating
- Secure funding to expand and extend the Low Carbon Dorset Programme. If this is successful, seek funding to extend it further, both in time and scope

### Influence & Partnership

- Lobby government for clarity on national strategy for heat and national policy framework
- Work in partnership to deliver programmes to improve energy efficiency of housing stock (e.g further expand Healthy Homes Scheme)
- Decarbonise heating by investigating largescale installation of low carbon heating and undertaking heat mapping to identify opportunities
- Educate residential and non-residential sectors on low carbon technologies, energy efficiency, and sources of funding to encourage behaviour change & greater uptake of low-carbon technology
- Work with partners to increase climate change resilience of communities & buildings by understanding the future climate risks within Dorset

[Click here to see a plain text version of the above table](#)

Yes please

No thanks

**Buildings - The above is taken from the strategy and identifies the areas for action where we see Dorset Council can either directly impact, indirectly impact or only influence outcomes. Do you agree with what we have proposed?**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<b>What we can directly impact</b>						
<b>What we can indirectly impact</b>						
<b>What we can influence and partnership</b>						

**Please explain why you think this and if there is anything fundamental that you feel we have missed in "buildings" area for action? (optional)**

1. We need Dorset Council to lobby government to change planning law and building regulations to enable net zero development; zero carbon, warm, safe homes; biodiversity net gain; more delegation of planning decision-making and influence to parish and town councils and their communities; and much better community-led planning and place-making. For example, the planning regulations for listed buildings and those in conservation areas are NOT fit for current and future climate-purpose and must be changed if Dorset and the UK is to reach net zero targets. Planning for new builds and improvements must insist on net zero measures starting NOW

2. New developments should proactively support renewable energy and promote patterns of development which reduce transport emissions. Most importantly, binding standards should be set to be net zero carbon and aim for up to 25% biodiversity net gain. The 6th Climate Budget sets 2025 *at the latest* for all new buildings to be zero carbon.
3. Proactively making net zero targets, sustainability and climate and ecological adaptations at the core of the planning process will be vital if Dorset is to reduce emissions from housing. Adaptations to over-heating and flood risk must be considered with measures put in place to monitor emissions, sequestration impacts of nature-based solutions and social, health and community co-benefits through the live of the development.
4. Large-scale retro-fitting of housing will be a huge opportunity for jobs, training and skills development across the entire county. Dorset Council should lead a major retro-fit campaign, working with government, businesses and FE colleges to help them deliver the workforce skills and with local councils, housing associations and private landlords, alongside community groups and advice and funding bodies like Health Homes Dorset and the Best Energy Savings Network.
5. Dorset Council could consider establishing a single point of contact for residents and businesses to access advice and expert guidance on retro-fitting and energy efficiency measures, as Wiltshire County Council and Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service have done with Warmer Homes Wiltshire.
6. Lyme Regis Town Council recognises Dorset Council's commitment to innovation and county-wide engagement on the drive towards net zero buildings and urges the earliest possible engagement with town and parish councils and community groups to assess the scale of the retro-fit and energy efficiency improvements needed, prioritising the most vulnerable residents and supporting organisations most able to deliver them.
7. The Committee on Climate Change launched the 6th Carbon Budget with a Pathway to Net Zero on 9 December 2020, recommending reducing UK greenhouse gas emissions by 68% by 2030 and by 78% by 2035, which is a much faster pace than previous recommendations. By 2030, it suggests 1 million heat pumps should be installed and by 2035 should be the preferred choice. High carbon fossil fuel boilers should be phased out by 2026 in commercial buildings and by 2033 in homes.
8. In line with the government's energy efficiency target to reduce business and industrial energy consumption by 20% all commercial efficiency renovations must be complete by 2030. Dorset Council should lead on the drive to encourage investment and support local installers to deliver the improvements needed.
9. Homes with mortgages should achieve EPC C by 2033 with standards for lenders being set from 2025. Rented properties, social homes and homes for sale must be EPC C by 2028. These recommended targets will necessitate urgent and scalable action to support the local businesses providing the retro-fitting and energy efficiency measures so Dorset Council should seek funding, work with FE colleges, LEP and other community and national organisations (e.g. the Centre for Sustainable Energy) to identify those most in need, prioritise the vulnerable and support households and SMEs in undertaking the necessary energy improvements to their homes and commercial buildings.
10. Dorset Council should lobby government to ensure funding agencies, such as New Homes England, require new build construction based on a more ambitious minimum standard. Legislation, regulation and planning reform should all reflect the targets and measures set out in the Committee for Climate Change's Pathway to Net Zero.

## Action Plan

We have identified a number of initial targets and specific actions that Dorset Council can take to address the areas above. [Our summary action plan for Buildings can be found here](#)

**Buildings - The above action plan identifies where we see Dorset Council can take action. Do you agree with what we have proposed?**

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree/disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

**Please explain why you think this (optional)**

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# Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation



## Topic Area - Waste

### Area for action...

See the [details on Waste in our strategy](#)

To reduce the carbon impact from our waste activities, Dorset must work towards being more sustainable and efficient. This means reducing the amount of waste we produce by keeping resources in use for as long as possible and recovering and reusing products and materials wherever we can.

### Direct

-  Carry out internal waste audits across our operations & create waste reduction plan supported by targeted campaigns
-  Continue to work towards our commitment to become single-use plastic-free & eliminate the use of all single life products
-  Ensure waste is minimised through procurement e.g. DC suppliers to take back packaging or use reusable packaging systems
-  Develop business plan to tackle food waste within Council premises, with a particular focus on schools & adult services
-  Ensure sufficient contracts are in place to reuse, recycle & recover as much Council waste as possible
-  Work with Waste manager to reduce emissions from waste collection vehicles

### Indirect (through services)

-  Establish appropriate infrastructure to support circular economy as part of [Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Dorset 2008 – 33](#).
-  Develop targeted campaigns to reduce amount of waste produced and increase reuse & recycling
-  Trial a 'not sure' box and use results to inform residents what can or cannot be recycled
-  Trial provision of free/subsidised food-waste caddy liners in specific areas
-  Explore opportunity for increased commercial waste services
-  Develop a contract & infrastructure strategy to enable the most efficient and cost-effective solution for Dorset

### Influence & Partnership

-  Respond to second round of consultations relating to the resources & waste strategy for England
-  Investigate how Dorset Waste Services can work with partners to facilitate reduction of commercial and industrial waste
-  Continue to engage with public, communities, schools & businesses to increase understanding of waste issues & best practices
-  Develop further campaigns to reduce the amount of waste generated & stimulate further reuse, recycling & composting
-  Introduce a pilot project in partnership with Keep Britain Tidy to reduce food waste
-  Continue to work with the Police, EA & community groups to reduce littering & fly tipping

[Click here to see a plain text version of the above table](#)

Yes please

No thanks

**Waste - The above is taken from the strategy and identifies the areas for action where we see Dorset Council can either directly impact, indirectly impact or only influence outcomes. Do you agree with what we have proposed?**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<b>What we can directly impact</b>						
<b>What we can indirectly impact</b>						
<b>What we can influence and partnership</b>						

**Please explain why you think this and if there is anything fundamental that you feel we have missed in "waste" area for action? (optional)**

### Action Plan

We have identified a number of initial targets and specific actions that Dorset Council can take to address the areas above. [Our summary action plan for Waste can be found here.](#)

**Waste - The above action plan identifies where we see Dorset Council can take action. Do you agree with what we have proposed?**

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree/disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

**Please explain why you think this (optional)**

**Please explain why you think this and if there is anything fundamental that you feel we have missed in "waste" area for action? (optional)**

1. Plastic is just oil that is taking the long route to the power station. So to achieve zero emissions, incineration of plastic waste must be absolutely minimised. Only unavoidable plastic waste, for example that from medical uses, should be permitted
2. Plastic waste in schools is a particular problem – food and refreshment sold in plastic packaging. Reducing and eliminating plastic waste could be a condition of school catering contracts.
3. Continue to encourage residents to compost their own food waste, and to grow their own food, or food for their community.
4. Waste collection vehicles should be transitioned to electric or hydrogen powered – current vehicles replaced as they reach end of life.
5. Bio-diesel from the council's food collection should not go to power generation, it should be used in the council's legacy diesel vehicles.
6. Council should work with local manufacturers and producers to encourage product design that minimises waste, reducing the use of materials, and those materials that are used should be re-usable or truly recyclable.
7. Council could encourage local product manufacturers to make their products truly repairable, and should support local repair shop initiatives. Sustainability and circular economy principles should be embedded in policy and form the basis of contracts with suppliers and third party organisations.
8. The council could work with local community groups to make litter free streets and roads the norm – let's make it an exception to see litter by a road.
9. The council could work with takeaway coffee shops, meal and snack retailers ensure that customers don't discard packaging, and work with petrol stations to ensure that customers don't discard disposable gloves. Are there any sanctions or enforcements the council can take against outlets that are particular problems?
10. Council to increase their support for community litter picks and beach cleans.

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# Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation



## Making it Happen

You can find out more about the [making it happen section in the strategy here](#)

You can also find out more about [our making it happen action plan](#)

## Leadership and Governance

Taking action to address the Climate and Ecological Emergency will need a multi-disciplinary approach, drawing on skills and resources from across Dorset Council and wider partners. It will need to be part of the way we do things and embedded in the way we deliver our services.

To ensure the Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy is effectively delivered we have identified several key actions:

### Leadership & Governance Actions

- ~ Lobby government for additional resources and a supportive policy framework
- ~ Actively input into national forums and consultations to encourage policy development in this area
- ~ Review our structures to ensure governance at the highest level to take forward action across the Council
- ~ Ensure enough human resource is in place to drive forward action
- ~ Develop tools to undertake robust impact and policy appraisals to ensure climate change is considered in all key corporate projects, programmes, strategies and plans
- ~ Ensure climate change is considered in all corporate projects

### Do you agree we have identified all the relevant leadership and governance actions?

- |     |                           |
|-----|---------------------------|
|     | Strongly agree            |
| Yes | Agree                     |
|     | Neither agree or disagree |
|     | Disagree                  |
|     | Strongly disagree         |

### Please explain your answer (optional)

1. 'Develop tools to undertake robust impact and policy appraisals to ensure climate change is considered in all key corporate projects, programmes, strategies and plans'

'considered' is too weak. The drive towards Net Zero should be embedded and specified with relevant, measurable criteria in every policy, project, contract, grant award and service operation.

2. The role of town and parish councils has barely been mentioned. Dorset Council should commit itself to working much more closely with town and parish councils, community groups and civic organisations. It can provide a valuable leadership role, supporting locally based initiatives and aspirations with funding, expertise and collaborative project leadership.

Many town and parish councils have declared climate emergencies and are developing net zero plans for their own operations and for their communities. Many are struggling with lack of knowledge, resources or political will.

Dorset Council must provide stronger and clearer leadership and practical help, for example, helping communities to measure their baseline greenhouse gas emissions and carbon footprint in a structured, coherent form; helping councils and communities to work together on schemes for which scaling-up is appropriate e.g. walking and cycling networks; retro-fit schemes; car-clubs and e-bike rental schemes.

This affects everyone and we can respond to the challenge needed far more effectively with a partnership and collaborative approach for the benefit of all our residents and to ensure no-one is left behind.

3. Dorset Council should incorporate the Climate Change Committee's 6th Carbon Budget and Pathway to Net Zero in all its action plans. There is now a clear, sector-based set of emissions reductions targets all local authorities could adapt their plans to achieve.

4. Dorset Council should pledge commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals to ensure climate and ecological action involves fairness, reduces social inequality, provides employment and training and develops a cleaner, greener recovery from the global pandemic.

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# Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation



## Making it Happen

### Funding the response

Tackling the climate emergency will require significant investment at all levels of society. Dorset Council alone will need to invest many millions of pounds (over £100m) over the next 20- 30 years just to be-come a Carbon Neutral Council.

#### Funding the Response Actions

~We will develop a finance strategy to enable us to deliver this climate emergency response by identifying and implementing ways for our finance department to actively support climate change action. This includes establishing invest-to-save schemes, such as our transformation fund, capital receipts through asset rationalisation, and building into our capital programme. We will also explore options to raise additional funds, such as through borrowing or council tax.

Wider action across the County is likely to require several billion pounds of investment from the government, organisations, and individuals. It is anticipated that further funding and incentives will be forthcoming from central government to support the shift to a low-carbon future.

~ We will work with partners and lobby government to seek additional support and external funding and to maximise opportunities for external funding from government and others, making sure Dorset gets its fair share. This is in addition to securing innovative financial arrangements for climate change projects and programmes and giving significant weight to climate change in the procurement process.

**Do you agree with our approach to funding the actions required to implement the strategy i.e. invest-to-save schemes, capital receipts through asset rationalisation, and building into our capital programme as well as exploring options to raise additional funds through borrowing and council tax?**

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree or disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

**Please explain your answer** (optional)

**Have we missed a way of raising money to pay for action?** (optional)

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# Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation



## Making it Happen

### Engagement & Communications

We all need to take action to address the climate emergency and support the transition to a low-carbon future. We need to put the climate at the forefront of our communications and encourage and support action by everyone in Dorset.

We have identified several key actions Dorset Council can take to raise awareness of the issues, support action at a community level and engage with wider stakeholders to tackle some of the major challenges the Climate and Ecological Emergency raises.

#### RAISING AWARENESS

We will look to provide more accessible and digestible information on climate change and ecology and the actions we can all take through a range of channels. These will include upgrading our climate change website, developing an online information hub for sharing information, and best practice. This is as well as directing information to residents through Council literature and encouraging an open and ongoing dialogue between the Council and Dorset residents.

We will improve the awareness, engagement, and knowledge of our staff and service providers through staff awareness campaigns, with a focus on how employees can reduce their carbon emissions. This is in addition to increasing their climate resilience in the workplace and at home and integrating key climate change messages into induction programmes. Furthermore, we will organise targeted briefings and training sessions for officers, members, and decision makers on the benefits and opportunities of tackling climate change, highlighting this contribution to other Council priorities. We will also establish an internal climate change champions programme.

#### SUPPORTING COMMUNITY ACTION

We will support Town and Parish Councils to develop and implement their organisation and area wide climate action plans. This is as well as helping them engage with residents to encourage community action and drive change at a grassroots community level.

We will help to facilitate and support new and existing community-led projects and community organisations active in this area. Furthermore, we will work with these groups to signpost and communicate shared messages.

#### ENGAGEMENT WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS

We will consult with residents and organisations on this strategy and plans as they develop, using existing and new consultation processes.

We will build support from stakeholders and the wider public by informing and educating on the benefits and opportunities of acting on climate change and creating, maintaining, and developing partnership working on all aspects of climate change action. We will seek to develop a Dorset Climate Emergency partnership group.

We will facilitate the development of a Dorset-wide partnership with other key public, private, and third sector partners in order to develop a partnership approach to driving forward some of the fundamental changes that will be required to deliver a carbon neutral county.

#### Do you agree with what we are proposing for engagement and communications actions

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree or disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

#### Please explain your answer (optional)

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## Making it Happen

## Monitoring & Progress Reporting

To ensure we are on track to meet our targets and not exceed our carbon budgets, we need a robust baseline and regular progress monitoring and reporting of both carbon emissions and ecological indicators.

~ We will develop a robust baseline for Council and County carbon emissions and ecology, developing in-house data collection systems to draw data from all the former Councils now forming Dorset Council. This is as well as considering wider emissions from Council activities (Scope 3) such as procurement.

~ We will further explore the Dorset County footprint, beyond the data provided by Central Government, to provide a wider understanding of Dorset's emissions e.g. agriculture.

~ We will monitor and report on actions and progress in achieving carbon reduction by producing an annual report of progress on climate change targets, budgets, and actions.

### Would you be interested in seeing the progress reviews?

Yes

No

### How often do you want to be updated on progress?

Annually

Every 6 months

Other (please explain)

### How do you want to be updated on progress? (select all that apply)

Annual report

Our Website

E - newsletter

Social media

Press releases

Other (please explain)

Progress

# Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation



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# Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation



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