
BCP Council Climate & Ecological Emergency

Councillor Dr Felicity Rice

Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change



BCP Council @BCPCouncil · 2h

Today we received our #BCPfirst petition. Izzy, aged 11, presented over 390 signatures as part of the national @Strike4Youth campaign to Larry Austin, Director of Environment at BCP Council.



16 July 2019: Council declares a Climate and Ecological Emergency

Key Pledges:

- ‘Make **BCP Council and its operations carbon neutral by 2030**, taking into account both production and consumption emissions (scope 1, 2 and 3)’
- ‘Make the **Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole region carbon neutral**, ahead of the UK target of 2050’
- Report to Council in December 2019

‘BCP Council carbon neutral’

Scope 1 emissions

- Fuel combustion (e.g. gas, oil)
- Company vehicles

Scope 2 emissions

- Purchased electricity

Scope 3 emissions

- Purchased goods/services
- Business travel
- Staff commuting
- Waste disposal
- Investments

What can be done - examples:

Scope 1 emissions

- Reduce energy use in buildings
- Reduce mileage
- Use electric vehicles

Scope 2 emissions

- Purchase 'green' electricity
- Generate electricity from renewable sources

Scope 3 emissions

- 'Green' the supply chain
- Zero carbon business travel
- Sustainable commuting
- Reduce waste sent to landfill

Quick wins

- BCP Council electricity sourced from 100% renewable UK generation
- Climate Emergency Staff Communications and residents newsletter.
- New Property Management Group chaired by Chief Executive
- Meeting rooms equipped to allow teleconferencing
- ‘Climate Emergency – Give your ideas’ webpage
- ‘Decision Impact Assessment’ tool
- Air Festival flight emissions offset
- Senior Managers Conference
- Zero Carbon Team Charter



Zero Carbon Team Charter

- Avoid unnecessary travel
- If necessary to travel, use Liftshare, Co-Wheels, pool bikes, public transport
- Clear desks to enable flexible office working
- Reduce waste. Minimise use of paper. Re-use and recycle
- Avoid single-use items, particularly plastics
- Make the most of natural light
- Regulate office temperature manually before using heating/cooling devices
- Switch off PCs, monitors and personal electrical devices when possible
- If buying items is unavoidable, procure sustainably (e.g. FSC paper, Fairtrade refreshments)

What options?

- Car Sharing
 - Cycling / Bike Schemes
 - Local bus services
 - Co Wheels Car Club
- and more!**

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Switch off

**Think about
your appliances.**

Make sure you turn off all
lights, computers, screens
and any other equipment.



Office Waste

We all need to do our bit to try and reduce our waste.

- **Think** before you print
- **Reuse** office supplies
- **Pack** your own lunch
- **Use** both sides of paper
- **Start** digital note taking



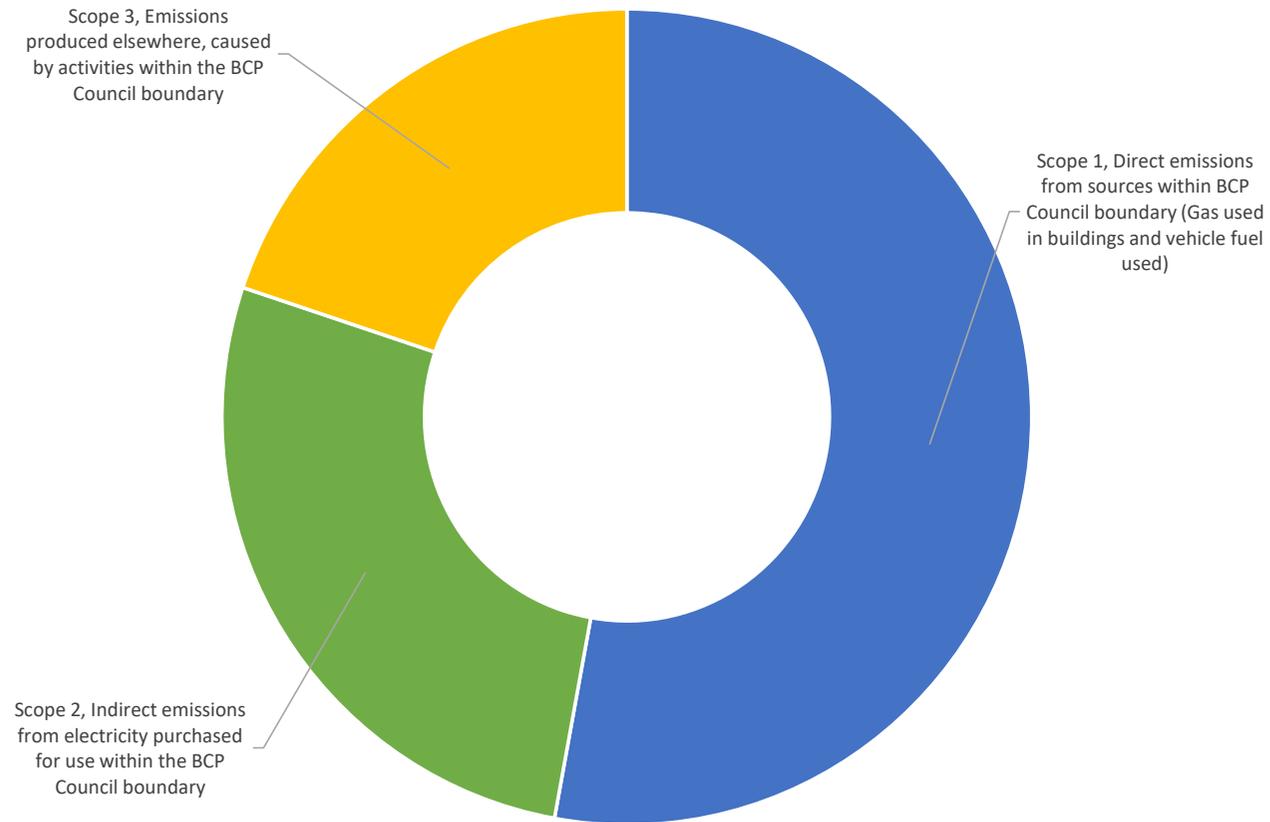
Fancy a drink?

Consider bringing a reusable cup or refillable drinks bottle with you.

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BCP Area: Total 2017 Emissions (2 million tCO₂e) by scope



Our residents said:

- ‘There should be a tree planted for every citizen within next 2 years.’
- ‘Changes definitely need to be made, from the top... don't be afraid to upset people!!!!’
- ‘Educate, educate, educate. Tell all BCP residents just how bad this crisis is...’
- ‘Please use volunteers for projects where able (many of us are ready and willing to help)’
- www.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/climate

Next Steps

- Community engagement campaign starts May 2020
- Citizens Assembly planned
- Youth Assembly planned
- New Local Plan by 2022
- Car Parking Review underway
- Corvid 19 – community resilience (e.g. avoiding food waste, growing own food)



We're doing more to tackle the climate crisis, but we need your help...

Fact:
The Met Office forecast that the annual global temperature **records for 2019 confirm that the past decade was the warmest in record. The data also shows that the past five years were the warmest in 199 years.**

Each day brings new evidence that human activities are causing the planet to get warmer. This in turn is causing changes to our climate that will be extremely harmful to our future if we don't act now.

We declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency in July 2019 and are one of over 200 councils in the UK (84 per cent) to have done so. We have committed to make:

- BCP Council and our operations carbon neutral by 2030
- the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole region carbon neutral, ahead of the UK target of 2050.

Making an area carbon neutral will make it sustainable in the long term bringing many positive benefits including improved air quality, a secure energy supply, a healthier population, better public transport and more.

What is climate change and why is it an emergency?

Climate change is caused by gases released into the atmosphere which hold in the Earth's heat. Greenhouse gases are released when we:

- use fossil fuels for energy - to heat and light homes, workplaces and operate electrical equipment



- travel - using petrol and diesel in motor vehicles and aircraft
- dispose of waste - which decomposes in landfill sites
- manufacture - using certain industrial processes and chemicals
- use plastic - plastic is made from fossil fuels.

Our planet is now warmer than any time since humans first existed. Recent patterns are changing and sea levels are rising with an increased rate of heatwaves, floods, droughts, and fires.



Climate change will also affect crop growth, human health and places certain species at risk of extinction, which is why it is also an 'ecological emergency'.

Our Policy Lead, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment, said: "The effects of climate change are real, and they are already happening. We have seen the devastating effects of global warming already, as many people in the UK and around the world have had to leave their homes due to extreme weather events.

The challenges ahead cannot be underestimated but the benefits of creating positive change are life-changing for future generations. As the 127 signatories

to the Paris Agreement in the UK, we are keen to lead the way when it comes to thinking about the climate in everything we do.

"We are reaching out to all businesses and organisations in our area to work together, so please talk about the climate emergency at work and ask your employer to consider making their own climate emergency declaration and join the council in creating climate action together."

What are we doing to tackle climate change?

By declaring a Climate and Ecological Emergency it is also recognising that our services, businesses and communities must act now and do more to stop harmful emissions as soon as possible.

Just a few recent examples of actions taken so far include:

- switched BCP Council's electricity to 100% renewable UK generation
- offer the 2019 Air Festival, fight emissions and commissioned an Environmental Impact Assessment of the climate festival.
- introduced Beryl Bikes
- expanded the number of electric car charging points.



We now have a draft action plan that includes 150 measures that we could take to tackle climate change to help our council services and the wider area become carbon neutral. Our action plan will soon be open for public consultation so that you can have your say. Look out for more information in libraries, on our website and on social media.

What action can you take now?

We all need to play our part by doing things differently. Even the smallest positive action makes a difference.



Energy at home: You may be eligible for the Local Energy Action Scheme (LEAS) which gives you free help and guidance to help cut down your energy bills. Telephone: 0800 050 7587 or visit: applyforleas.org.uk

Travel: Could you give up the car and start using it for short trips? Try walking, cycling or using public transport more. 'Active travel' is best because it not only reduces carbon emissions but helps you to become healthier too.

Waste: Minimising waste helps to reduce the amount of raw materials used to make new products and saves energy. Reduce, reuse and recycle. Avoid single-use plastic, fix broken things or donate items that are in good working order. Instead of throwing them away, find out more online: bcpcouncil.gov.uk/recycling

Nature: Help to protect, enhance and support nature to flourish. Could you make your garden environmentally friendly? Create homes to encourage wildlife and stop using pesticides to protect bees, butterflies and other pollinators. Try home composting and use your waste to provide nutrient rich food for your plants and flowers.

Shopping: Climate change is also about what we eat and where we get our food from. You could add some meat-free days into your diet to help reduce your carbon footprint. When it comes to shopping, locally sourced and seasonal produce is best.



Find out more

Check your carbon footprint and impact on the environment with some handy online calculators. You can find the details of these and more on our website: bcpcouncil.gov.uk/ClimateEmergency

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Fact:
42 per cent of water bottles, 28 per cent of glass bottles and 27 per cent of beer bottles in Dorset are made from plastic. **Recycling them is one of the best ways to reduce their carbon footprint.**



Fact:
In Dorset we have lost 23 different species of bees (out of 244) and 74 per cent of bee species here are either extinct or rare, scarce, threatened or naturally of low numbers."

Thank you