

REPORT TO ENVIRONMENT AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE  
**CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN**

**Report Reference** EN-21-13  
**Meeting Date** 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
**Agenda Item** 6  
**Prepared by** Town Clerk

---



## **1.0 BACKGROUND**

At the September Full Council meeting, the following resolution was passed:

This council recognises the catastrophic consequences of climate change and declares a climate emergency. The council believes that all governments have a duty to tackle climate change.

The council believes that actions are more important than words and commits to making the council carbon neutral and to considering the climate impact in all its decision making.

The council will develop a Knutsford Climate Emergency Strategy to work with the whole community to reduce Knutsford's contribution to climate change. The council will seek to influence governments at all levels and others tackle climate change.

The council's Environment and General Purposes Committee is tasked with overseeing the implementation of this resolution.

The committee has been directed to further the council's work on tackling the climate emergency.

## **2.0 POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

The Town Council's Environmental Audit will be completed during October and submitted to the November Environment Committee meeting. This will measure the council's performance against its broad environmental objectives and outline areas for improvement. To work towards carbon neutrality, the council will need to ascertain its current carbon footprint. As part of undertaking the Environmental Audit, data will be collected and gaps in data identified.

The production of a Knutsford Climate Emergency Strategy will be best delivered 'from the ground up' with wide community engagement. This could be delivered through an advisory sub-committee / working group comprising councillors, local businesses and residents with an interest in tackling climate change.

The committee should consider the inclusion of a budget for work tackling the climate emergency in its 2022/23 budget.

## **3.0 DECISIONS REQUIRED**

The committee should consider how to take forward its work to tackle the climate emergency.