



Climate Emergency: How is local government responding?

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The Research





The purpose

- Declarations into positive actions
- Practical help for our member councils
- Realistic approaches to support frontline services

Some big questions

- Scope: own operations only or whole local area?
- Elements of a good plan: detail? timelines? separate operational and facilitation plans? honesty?
- Council's capacity: what is needed (funding, data, know-how) and by whom?
- LA input into energy network companies' Local Area Energy Plans?

Climate change emergency: from declaration to reality

The importance of a clear and honest story

- Starting before the declaration ...
- relying for its authority on the IPCC's 2018 report ...
- seeing the science as the council's friend ...
- and shifting understanding of exactly what's the goal ...
- using the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) priorities as a framework ...
- and not pulling punches about the hard choices

CCC priorities for 2020s: how could LA's respond?

- Energy efficiency of buildings
- Heat pumps as an established part of the solution
- Public must get it that we must give up natural gas
- H₂ production from carbon capture and storage
- Big rise in electric vehicles + supporting infrastructure
- A step increase in tree-planting
- Better diets; more walk/cycle
- An end to biodegradable waste to landfill

Conclusions

- Time for action
- Local government action
- Government action
- Austerity, finance and resources
- Time for civic leadership – political and managerial
- Time to forge a more sustainable future

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