

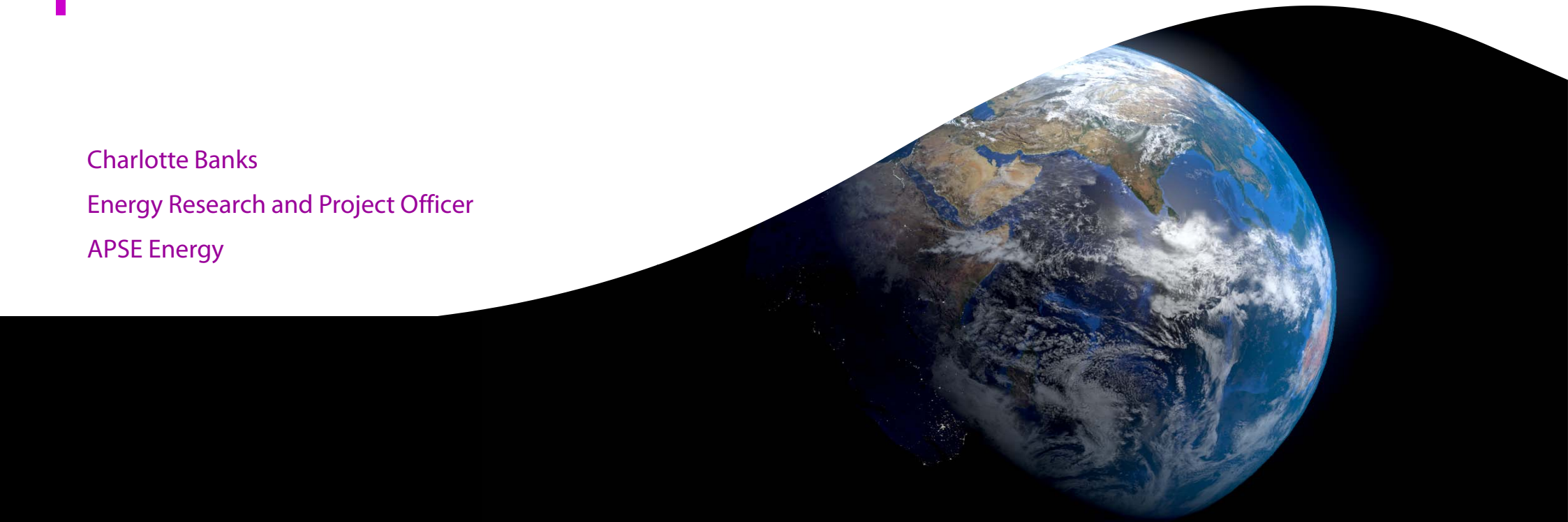
Local Authority Climate Emergency Declarations

The background, purpose, examples, benefits and challenges of declaring a Climate Emergency

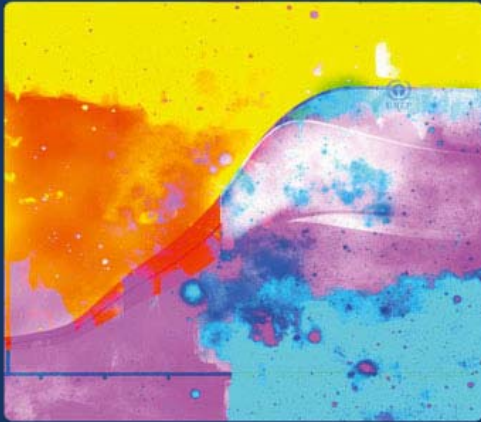
Charlotte Banks

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APSE Energy



Background



ipcc
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change



Global Warming of 1.5 °C

An IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty.



Purpose



- A major motivator for declaring a Climate Emergency is to galvanise support for the climate change agenda and set a clear target by which the council and/or locality will be carbon neutral
- In emergency situations dealing with the problem becomes a top priority, people temporarily set aside business-as-usual and focus intently on determining the safest course of action and doing whatever is required to deal effectively with a threat
- It will empower communities, encourage other councils to follow suit and generally help all of us treat the climate crisis as the emergency that it is
- Greenpeace poll - Two-thirds of people in the UK recognise there is a Climate Emergency

GREENPEACE

Local Authority Case Studies



Bristol City Council

- First UK council to declare a Climate Emergency
- Carbon neutral by 2030
- Councillor said, Bristol declaration could see a focus on renewable electricity, carbon neutral buildings, congestion charges and investment in clean transport infrastructure

Nottingham City Council

- 2028
- Most ambitious carbon neutrality target
- Already met energy strategy targets two years early
- This progress has been driven by a combination of the council's programme of renewable energy projects and a reduction in the city's energy demand, alongside substantial political backing

Manchester City Council

- One of the first authorities to declare a Climate Emergency
- Net zero carbon city by 2038
- Plan developed by the Council's Climate Change Board with input from the University of Manchester's Tyndall Centre
- Plan introduces a science-based 'carbon budget' for the city that caps total emissions at 15 million tonnes from 2018-2100

Benefits and Challenges



Clear Action Plan

- Is the statement made on behalf of the local authority or the locality?
- Supported by and embedded in the local authority as a whole
- Point A to point B, milestones
- Project management skills, communication
- Political risk

Local Authority Activity

- Fleet
- Clean Air Zones, charging infrastructure
- Energy Use
- Procurement
- Behaviour change
- Industries

Renewable Energy

- Generation
- Local authority assets
- Economic and social opportunities
- Energy efficiency too!



Waste Services and Climate Change

- Services heavily reliant on vehicles – significant emissions
- Sheffield and Westminster pilot vans. Topography. [Magtec](#)
- Despite cleaner fuels vehicle emissions globally have barely changed in last decade.
- Ban all diesel and petrol vehicles in UK by 2040
- Recent report proposes to ban any biodegradable waste going to landfill by 2025 and reducing food waste as much as possible. – **anaerobic digestion** one route to deal with such waste.
- Waste to landfill key issue – biodegradable waste in particular.
- Anaerobic digestion provides bio gas a low carbon alternative fuel.
- Landfill produces methane 23X more effective in trapping heat than CO₂.
- Landfill major contributor despite methane gas extraction technology.
- Issue of unregistered sites, poorly sealed sites and leaks – estimated lifetime recovery efficiency could be as low as 20%



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Support

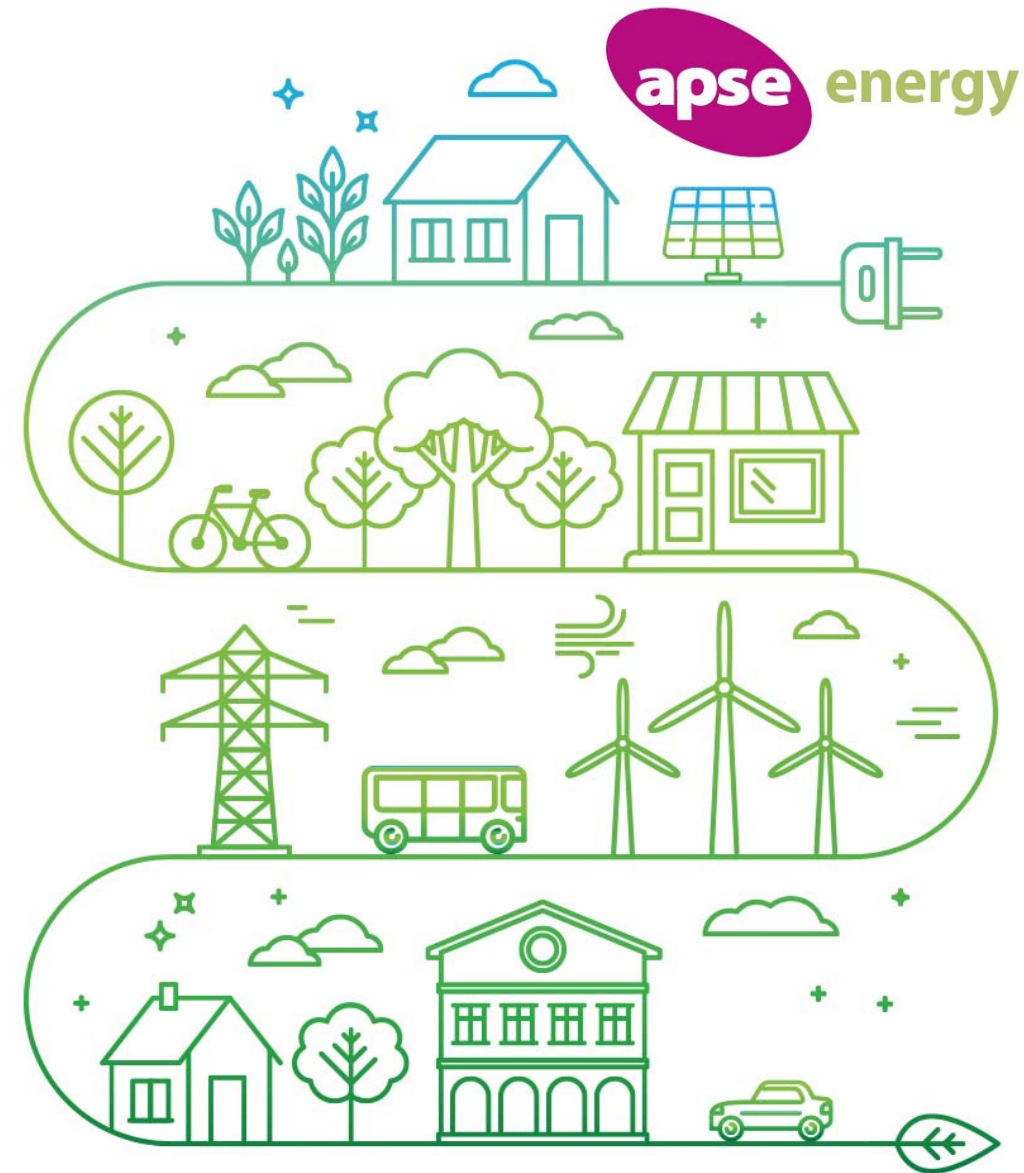
- Has your council declared a climate emergency?
- Do you have a plan to address it?
- Do you have the staff, capacity and expertise to put your plan into action?

APSE Energy was established to help inform and support local authorities in exactly this kind of situation

Climate Emergency Publication

- This document explores Climate Emergency declarations in more detail
- Background to the agenda
- Examples of declarations
- Action that can be taken

APSE Energy members free electronic and hard copy



APSE Energy Publications



Discussion



1. Has your council declared a Climate Emergency?
2. Has your authority set a carbon neutrality target?
3. Do you have a plan in place in meet this target?





THANK YOU



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