

Model council motion

Council notes:

1. **Climate change is a reality** and a world-wide effort is essential to cut greenhouse gas emissions in order to avoid a catastrophic temperature rise of more than 2 degrees.
2. **The UK has a world-first Climate Change Act** with a legally-binding target of an 80 per cent emissions cut by 2050, and shorter-term national carbon budgets ensuring year-on-year emissions cuts.
3. **Local authorities have a big say** in how we heat and power our homes and how we get around, and are vital to building low carbon communities and meeting our national climate commitments.
4. **This council has already started to tackle climate change** including by [insert an example of local action that councillors would like to see acknowledged eg signing up to 10:10 or NI186] but more ambitious action is needed.
5. **If this council does its bit** to tackle climate change on the scale needed, it will boost the local economy, create jobs and slash fuel bills.

Council resolves to:

1. **Commit to reduce emissions in the local authority area by at least 40 per cent by 2020** (on a 2005 baseline).
2. **Produce a climate change strategy** to show how the emissions cuts will be made.
 - The plan to be considered by [insert council body eg. the Executive] no later than [insert date which should be decided following dialogue with the council about what is reasonable/achievable].
 - Integrate the at least 40 per cent goal into all relevant future council plans, strategies and decisions
3. **Report annually on progress** towards the delivery of the 40 per cent 2020 target.
4. **Support the Friends of the Earth *Get Serious About CO2* campaign** for
 - More money and support for local authorities to take action to cut carbon
 - The introduction of Local Carbon Budgets for every local authority area