



You've declared a Climate Emergency. Now what?

Cllr Pippa Heylings

Chair, Climate Change and Environment Advisory Committee

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## South Cambridgeshire council vows to reduce carbon emissions to zero

4 December 2018

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Climate change



South Cambs has vowed to reduce carbon emission locally to zero by 2050

A local authority has pledged to beat government targets and reduce local carbon emissions to zero by 2050.

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## Climate emergency declared by South Cambridgeshire District Council - but one councillor votes against it

By Ben Hatton, Local Democracy Reporter

Published: 09:42, 04 December 2019 | Updated: 10:15, 04 December 2019

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South Cambridgeshire District Council has passed a motion to declare a climate emergency in response to rising global carbon emissions.

A meeting of the full council voted in favour of the motion – 36 to one – making a commitment that “all strategic decisions, budgets and approaches to planning decisions by the council are in line with a shift to zero carbon”.



# Zero Carbon Strategy



South  
Cambridgeshire  
District Council

2020



Currently being drafted with intermediate targets for reduction of carbon footprint by 2030 in:



# Around one-and-a-quarter million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent were produced in South Cambridgeshire in 2018-19.

As a Council, we only have direct control of a tiny proportion – less than 1%. But there is lots we can do to influence the remaining 99%, and our approach is to use our influence wherever we can.



## 3 Spheres of influence for Councils:

1. Direct Influence: Estate (Offices, Council Homes) Operations, Procurement
2. Indirect Influence: Planning Policy, Standards, Licensing
3. Leadership by example, Communities & Partnerships

We have split our approach to lowering the district's carbon emissions into how we can influence these areas, which we discuss in detail on the following pages:



Setting intermediate targets for 2025 and 2030:

- ✓ Office Buildings
- ✓ Waste Management vehicle fleet (currently 67% of total emissions of SCDC)
- ✓ Council housing stock

And actions towards Local Plan, Construction standards, Licensing, Land-Use and Partnerships for excellence and innovation in meeting zero carbon





# Green to our Core Business Plan, 2019 - 2024

## BEING GREEN TO OUR CORE

We will create a cleaner, greener and zero-carbon future for our communities.

**In recognition of the global climate and health emergency we will develop an action plan to deliver a zero-carbon future for South Cambridgeshire by:**

- Reducing how much waste we generate as a community, increasing recycling and reducing recycling contamination
- Assessing the current levels of carbon and committing to an action plan to meet our 2050 zero-carbon pledge
- Generating more green energy in the area and promoting environmentally friendly energy consumption
- Supporting community groups to promote behavioural change and reduce the reliance on fossil fuels
- Helping communities to secure grants to fund green projects
- Installing new air quality monitors so that we can track, maintain and improve air quality
- Making sure our bin lorries are as environmentally friendly as possible
- Installing electric vehicle charging points at Council offices and incentivising taxi operators and drivers to make the move to electric vehicles
- Protecting and enhancing the district's heritage and environment
- Making sure the environment is fully considered in all new major transport routes, including tree planting and habitat enhancement to offset developments
- Tackling fly tipping



2018-2019 Survey of 94 local councils put South Cambs and Oxford City Council as the top Councils in the UK for level of investment to tackle climate change in response to their 'declaration' of a climate emergency.



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## Local Councils Commit £2 million to Tackle Climate Emergency

By Sophie Yeo • Monday, October 28, 2019 - 06:01

Read time: 9 mins



Councils across the UK have committed more than £2 million to tackling climate change in response to declarations of a "Climate Emergency", an investigation by DeSmog can reveal.

In our Budget 2019-2020, we committed £5 million

## Councillors agree to invest £5 million to help tackle climate emergency



£5 million has been pledged in South Cambridgeshire to tackle the "global climate emergency".

The money will go towards a raft of improvements linked to the District Council's 'green to the core' priorities. This includes improving the Council's offices to cut carbon emissions and energy bills, providing communities with grants for projects that cut carbon emissions in their areas, making Council houses more energy efficient and helping people cut the amount of food they waste.

The investment was agreed by Councillors yesterday (Thursday 20 February) as the budget and Business Plan for South Cambridgeshire District Council was set.

# 2020-21 South Cambs budget investment

- Nest Egg!! £ 2.6 million Reserve Fund from 50% retained business rates of renewable energy farms (untouched!)
- £120,000 then a further £100,000 on 2<sup>nd</sup> Zero Carbon Community grants for community initiatives to cut carbon emissions and tackle climate change
- £1.9 million 'greening' of offices to cut energy bills and show others how they could go green
- a further £1.3 million on improving energy efficiency of Council homes
- £1 million replacing 1,800 District Council owned streetlights with LEDs to reduce energy consumption by 60%
- Around £400,000 on an electric bin lorry to see whether it is viable to shift from a diesel to an all-electric fleet

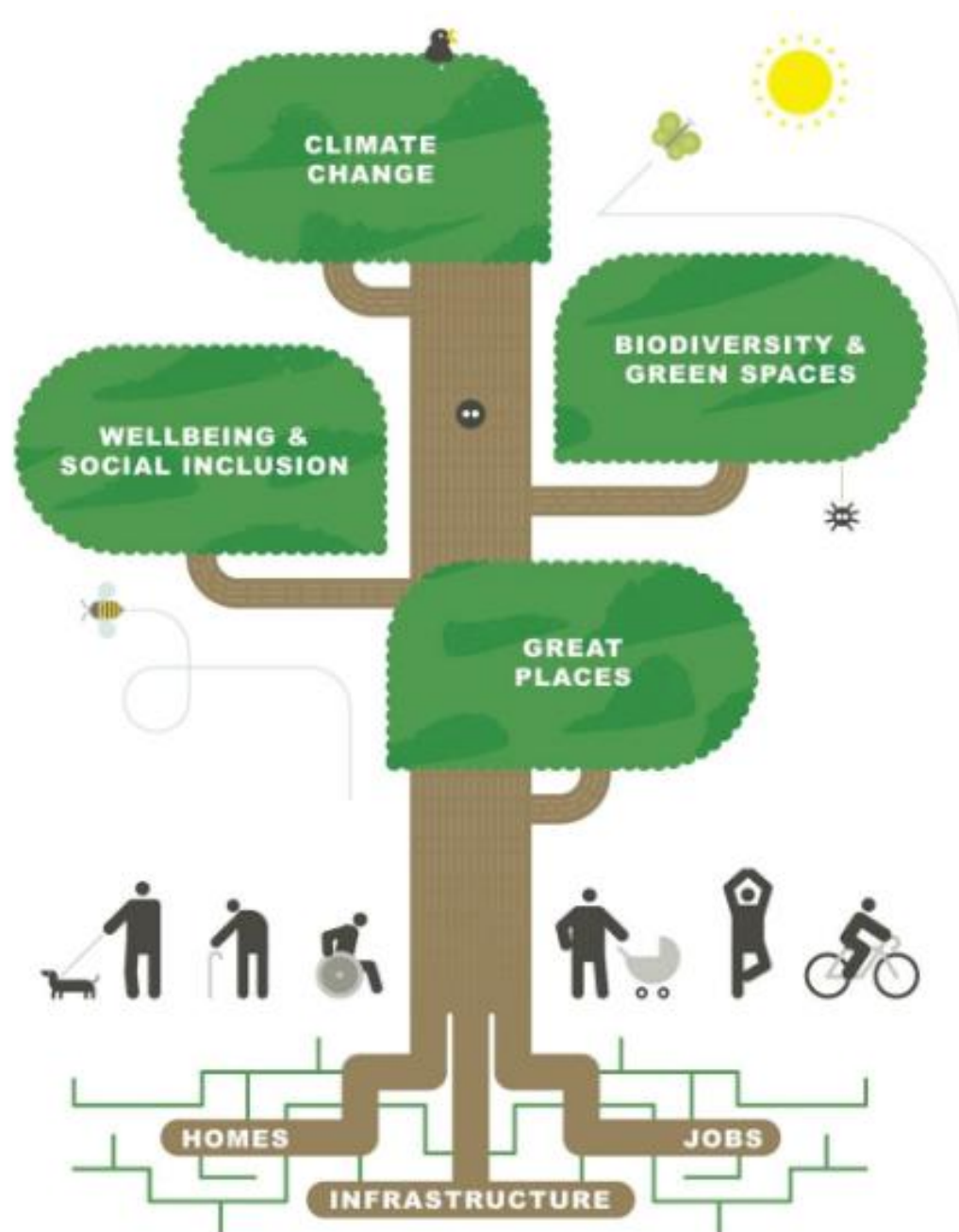


# Greening South Cambs Hall

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<b>Name</b>	Greening South Cambs Hall
<b>Description</b>	Planning permission for our Cambourne Offices for a Solar carport system and a ground source heat pump.
<b>Start date</b>	5/27/2020
<b>Closing date</b>	6/17/2020



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### Greater Cambridge Local Plan - The Big Debate

An evening of quickfire presentations from local groups and lively debat...

The new Greater Cambridge Local Plan will be a huge determinant in whether we meet our Zero Carbon goals – with thousands of homes, workplaces and infrastructure to be built over next 10-15 years.



# Histon and Impington Youth Council tell South Cambridgeshire District Council: We want others to learn so we can make the future better

By Ben Hatton, Local Democracy Reporter

Published: 11:10, 15 July 2019 | Updated: 11:12, 15 July 2019



Five primary schoolchildren raised their concerns for the environment and the planet's future in a South Cambridgeshire District Council meeting.







**Interested in finding out how  
your community can tackle  
climate change?**



Working with Communities across the District:  
1st Round: 19 community projects for raising awareness and nudging behaviour towards zero carbon lifestyles

## **Projects supporting South Cambridgeshire to become zero carbon awarded £120,959**

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The 19 community projects that will receive £120,959 to help South Cambridgeshire become zero carbon were revealed today (Monday 20 January).

South Cambridgeshire District Council's new Zero Carbon Communities grant was established in May 2019 to drive the Council's ambition for the district to become net zero carbon before 2050. The fund will support local groups to undertake ambitious activities to reduce carbon emissions and reliance on fossil fuels, and promote behaviour change towards low carbon lifestyles. Groups were invited to bid for £1,000 to £15,000.

# Solar Together Cambridgeshire

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Group-buying for solar panels and battery storage

# Register today!



#SolarTogether







With the beat and turn  
of a single wing, we  
can each have the  
power to shift and  
switch the direction  
and swoop of the  
whole flock