

Towards a Carbon Neutral Exeter

Recommendations for a carbon-neutral Exeter by 2030



Working collaboratively with the City to build a healthier and more sustainable Exeter



A Carbon Neutral Exeter

Executive Summary

On 15th March 2019 Exeter City Council, declared a commitment to [make Exeter a Carbon Neutral City by 2030](#). This ambition is aligned to the vision for the City and has potential to make a vital contribution to our planet and all its people.

Exeter has been playing a role in rising to the critical climate change challenge for some time and the City already has a world-class reputation in climate and environmental research. Over the past decade the City Council have pioneered Passivhaus standards in the UK, deployed renewable generation across their public sites and delivered large-scale district heating networks.

In 2016, Exeter City Council and Global City Futures established Exeter City Futures Community Interest Company (ECF CIC), as an organisation to support the creation of a vibrant and sustainable Exeter. Joined in 2018 by Devon County Council, Exeter College, the University of Exeter, Global City Futures and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Trust, ECF CIC provides the supporting environment and governance that can deliver a carbon neutral City.

Exeter has the opportunity to show leadership among cities through decisive implementation of policies, innovations and investment that shape the way we live and our environmental impact for decades to come. This paper provides an overview of the approaches Cities around the world are following to become carbon neutral and, in this context, makes recommendation that the following actions are taken:

1. The Exeter target is framed in a way that links to wider regional targets. This shows Exeter's intention to decrease its emissions without increasing emissions in the wider region.
2. All ECF CIC Member organisations commit to their operations becoming carbon neutral ahead of the 2030 date and mobilise resource to develop internal plans to deliver the target.
3. A **“Carbon-Neutral Working Group”** is convened by ECF CIC to establish a city plan for delivery that builds on the [Energy Independence Roadmap](#) produced by ECF CIC and uses the 12 Goals as the basis of the approach.
 - a. Draw together existing evidence and data to establish baseline state of the City presented under each of the 12 Goals
 - b. Conduct a full audit of the City to highlight gaps between current plans and what is required to achieve a carbon neutral City

- c. Define a clear city plan showing outcomes that will need to be met to deliver a carbon neutral city, how existing activities support and where there are gaps.
 - d. Identify immediate opportunities and crucial first steps
4. The Carbon-Neutral Working Group should be comprised of resource from Member organisations and, due to the urgency required, should be co-located with ECF CIC to ensure that organisations share learning and identify common challenges.
5. A “**Carbon Neutral Mandate Group**” is convened by ECF CIC through a series of summits to validate, challenge and endorse the Roadmap produced by the Carbon-Neutral Working Group. The terms of reference would need to be defined but the Group should consist of:
 - a. Exeter’s global expertise in climate science from the MET Office and University Of Exeter
 - b. Key Politicians (Leader and Portfolio Holder for Climate and Culture).
 - c. Other key stakeholders from the wider community e.g. youth, faith, and activist groups
6. ECF CIC request assistance from the University of Exeter to establish an academic team that can
 - a. Agree a robust definition of what is included in the measurement of Exeter’s carbon emissions and how this accounts for the carbon emissions created in the wider region by commuters.
 - b. Define the measurement framework for the carbon neutral journey (real-time or periodic)
 - c. Define the optimal way for Exeter to consider its carbon-reduction strategies and the impact on wider regional emissions
 - d. Analyse potential solutions to consider carbon savings, cost and social impact.

Introduction

The Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C (SR1.5)¹ identifies that Cities have a duty to act quickly, collectively and concertedly to avoid the worst of the predicted outcomes of climate change. Recognising this responsibility, Exeter City Council has declared a commitment to make Exeter a Carbon Neutral City by 2030. This ambition is aligned to the vision for the City and has potential to make a vital contribution to our planet and all its people.

Exeter has been playing a role in rising to the critical climate change challenge for some time and the City already has a world-class reputation in climate and environmental research. The Met Office and the University of Exeter inform the international response to climate change every day and Exeter's Local Industrial Strategy sets out the ambition to be the global leader for addressing the challenges of climate change and urbanisation.

Exeter City Council is strongly committed to renewable energy and to playing a part in pushing the boundaries of what local authorities can do to deliver a low carbon future. Over the past decade the Council have pioneered Passivhaus standards in the UK, deployed renewable generation across their public sites and delivered large-scale district heating networks.

The choices we now make about the growth of Exeter are incredibly important and will shape the way we live and our environmental impact for decades to come. The SR1.5 outlines the need for Cities to make significant changes to their urban planning in order to be on a pathway to limiting the global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees. Its [Summary Report for Urban Policy Makers \(December 2018\)](#) states:

“Urban planning that decreases the long-term reliance on carbon-intensive transportation (e.g. compact, pedestrianised cities and towns) will play an important role in limiting future emissions. Such planning, coupled with policies that encourage zero emission vehicles and modal shifts toward walking, cycling, public transport, as well as shorter commute distances, will be key to decarbonisation. Delivering these policies will offer additional benefits to Cities including reduced air pollution, congestion and road fatalities, and improved health outcomes from more active travel and cleaner air.”

Exeter has the opportunity to show leadership among cities through decisive implementation of new policies and through embracing innovations in: renewable energy generation associated with battery storage; energy efficiency; efficient appliances; electric vehicles, better public transport and local shared mobility; active transport; low-energy buildings; reduced food wastage; ecosystem restoration; and more sustainable land-use and urban planning.

¹ Full title: '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.'

Defining “Carbon Neutral”

Cities around the world are setting their sights on becoming carbon neutral, and many, like Exeter, have made commitments to achieve this target. There is no standard or absolute definition of a “carbon neutral” City but the term is generally used to define a **significant and aggressive reduction over current emissions**. Furthermore, there is no clear indication as to whether targets should be met by 2050, 2040 or 2030 with different cities selecting different targets to be achieved by different dates.

In order to limit global warming at any level, the requirement is to reduce global carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions to zero. The SR1.5 report states that if global CO₂ emissions reach zero in thirty years (2048), there is a one-in-two chance of limiting warming to 1.5°C. To increase this probability to a two-in-three chance, CO₂ emissions must be reduced to zero in twenty years (2038).

The [Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance \(CNCA\)](#) is a collaboration of leading global cities working to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 80-100% by 2050 or sooner. The [CNCA Framework for Long-term Deep Carbon Reduction Planning](#) uses a measurement of carbon emissions produced (both initial assessment and periodic monitoring) and establishes an overall reduction target in emissions against a baseline level; for example, an 80 percent reduction by 2050 from 1990 levels, with an interim goal of a 40 percent reduction by 2030.

The framework also offers a second way of expressing an absolute emissions reduction goal as a per-person goal, something that allows Cities to take into account population growth or loss over the years.

[ICLEI](#)² define a carbon neutral city as one that *“after measuring their carbon emissions, they reduce those emissions as much as is cost effectively possible, and use equivalent offsets to balance the residual emissions and achieve a net zero carbon footprint.”*

Most Cities recognised as being on a sustainability journey have adopted the goal to have reduced their carbon emissions by between 80%-100% by 2050. There are also a range of commitments other than “carbon neutral” and these include being “Fossil Free” and “100% green energy”.

There is significant public interest in making these commitments and delivering emissions reduction as early as possible. [The Green Party](#) promotes a policy of the UK emissions being zero by 2030 and [Extinction Rebellion](#) and the youth group [Fridays for Future](#) are campaigning for the declaration of carbon neutrality by 2025 in order to attempt to halt further climate warming.

² ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 1,750 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development

Recently a number of Cities, like Exeter, have publicly committed to being carbon neutral by 2030 or earlier. A full list of UK Cities and regions that have committed to be carbon neutral by 2030 can be found in [Annex A](#) of this document. The sections below provide a summary of the commitments and plans of a range of leading Cities:

Adelaide

The City of Adelaide in Southern Australia adopted its Carbon Neutral Strategy in 2015 with a target to have 100% reduction over 2006 emissions by 2025. The City of Adelaide council aims to have zero net carbon emissions from its own operations by 2020.

Like Exeter, Adelaide has created strong partnerships with its community, including organisations and individuals, believing these to be critical to achieving the carbon neutral goal. Through these partnerships they are seeking to work together to reduce the city's emissions across 4 thematic areas:

- energy efficient buildings, infrastructure and streetscapes
- zero emissions transport
- towards 100% renewable energy
- reducing emissions from waste and water.

Adelaide are prioritising measures that reduce emission and planning to use carbon offsets for remaining emissions that can't be avoided. For more information see [Carbon Neutral Adelaide](#).

Bristol

Like Exeter, Bristol has been working at the forefront of sustainability initiatives for many years. In 2015 Bristol was the European Green Capital and at this time set out a [framework to deliver a CO2 reduction target](#) of 80% by 2050 with key milestones of a 50% reduction by 2025 and 60% by 2035. In this document, Bristol City Council also committed to targets for its own corporate energy efficiency.

In November 2018 Bristol City Council declared a "climate emergency", with the council unanimously backing a commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030 in an effort to avoid catastrophic climate breakdown. Bristol City Council meeting minutes indicate that following the declaration to accelerate the targets the City Mayor has asked the [Bristol Green Capital Partnership](#) to define a route-map to the city's 2030 ambition including the costs involved, and the responsibilities of different organisations. This report is stated to be released within 6 months (April 2019) but has not yet been issued.

The Bristol Green Capital Partnership has also been involved in the development of the Bristol [One City Plan](#) to ensure that environmental sustainability features prominently. A number of City

Boards are proposed to support the delivery of the One City Plan including a new Environmental Sustainability Board to be facilitated by Bristol Green Capital Partnership. This new Board has the remit to will help to deliver the environmental elements of the Plan including the target to become a carbon neutral city.

On 11 January 2019 the Bristol Green Party published its own report, which details possible actions that could lead the city towards its carbon neutral goal. Titled '[Change Starts Now: Towards carbon neutral Bristol by 2030](#)', the report focuses on five key areas where carbon savings could be made:

- energy generation and smart energy;
- house-building, retrofitting and efficiency;
- transport;
- business and industry;
- Food, waste and land use.

Copenhagen

Copenhagen aims to be the first carbon neutral capital in 2025. The population of Copenhagen is expected to grow by 20% in the next decade and Copenhagen want to show that it is possible to combine growth, development and increased quality of life with the reduction of CO2 emissions. The City Council adopted their [CPH 2025 climate Plan](#) in 2012. The plan is based on four pillars:

- Energy Consumption
- Energy Production
- Mobility
- City Administration Initiatives.

Copenhagen's City Council have calculated that whilst energy consumption only accounts for 7 pct. of the total CO2 reduction, energy savings are the cheapest way to cut emissions. Partnerships with private building owners and businesses have been implemented in order reach the saving goals.

The production of electricity and heat for Copenhageners is stated as the biggest source of CO2 emissions and their plan focuses in the replacement of if coal, oil and natural gas with renewable energy. Efforts in this theme of the plan are expected to account for 80 pct. of the total reduction in 2025. Copenhagen are set to open a new biomass fueled combined heat and power plant in 2019 as well as commissioning several more wind turbines.

Copenhagen are recognised globally for their efficient mobility systems and high level of active transport, however their plan states that most of the CO2 emissions from transport come from

road traffic. By 2025 the aim is for at least 75 pct. of all trips to be done by foot, by bike or by public transport. One of their biggest stated changes is large to make a much faster change to vehicles driven by electricity, hydrogen and biogas.

The Copenhagen City Council are aiming to lead by example by cutting energy use and running vehicles powered by alternative fuels. This, they believe enhances the City of Copenhagen's credibility.

Nottingham

In January 2019, Nottingham Labour committed to making [Nottingham a carbon free city by 2028](#), two years ahead of the target of many other cities which have taken similar pledges.

Nottingham state that they have met their 2020 energy strategy emissions target early, reducing emissions by 39% for the city and 43% per person. To date they have implemented a number of green initiatives that have seen them recognised as a leader in the UK:

- £15 million investment in one of the UK's largest electric bus fleets
- Developing and expanding the electric tram network
- Significant investment in cycle corridors, facilities, bike hubs and a cycle hire scheme
- Introduction of the Workplace Parking Levy – tackling congestion and containing traffic growth, while generating funds to invest in public transport
- Installing solar panels on 4500 domestic properties across the city.

The only public document relating to carbon reduction in Nottingham is the [Carbon Management Plan](#) issued in 2007. This states a 2050 target. There is no additional plan update published and its possible that Nottingham represents a strong example of a City that is achieving early rather than accelerating.

Other Cities with later targets

There are a significant number of other leading Cities who have made substantial commitments but at a later date than 2030. Examples are provided here because they offer interesting insights about how the Cities have approached the targets and framed their plans.

Stockholm

The vision for Stockholm is to fossil-fuel free by 2040. Stockholm is aiming to reduce human impact on the global climate by making a successful transition from a society built on fossil fuels to one based on renewables. Demands for renewable energy, improved energy efficiency and other green solutions are driving the development of a new rapidly growing sector that is providing economic benefits.

In 2015 fossil fuels accounted for approximately 30 percent of total energy use in Stockholm, equating to emissions of 2.7 tonnes of CO₂e per person. The toughest challenge is recognised to be in the transport sector. Electrification and a transport efficient city development are key areas. In 2040 residual fossil fuel is expected to be found in the aviation and shipping industries. To compensate for residues, carbon sinks are to be developed to reduce the city's climate impact by absorbing atmospheric carbon dioxide.

[Stockholms strategy](#) proposes short term measures over which the municipal authorities and companies have the greatest power to act. The measures correspond to a reduction of 533,000 tonnes of CO₂e between 2013 and 2019 and include actions such as bioenergy heat-and-power plants, promoting biking and public transport in the traffic planning, incentives for electric cars and renewable energy production such as biogas and solar power.

San Francisco

San Francisco has already reduced its emissions 30 percent below 1990 levels, while the population has grown 20 percent and the local economy 110 percent. San Francisco has set out to be Net Zero Emissions by 2050. The City's [Climate Action Framework](#) sets out the following targets:

- Zero waste to landfill
- 80% of trips made by sustainable modes (public transit, walking, biking)
- 100% renewable energy to electrify the built environment, including the movement of people and goods
- Protecting urban green spaces and growing the urban forest to enhance biodiversity and sequester carbon

San Francisco recognizes that achievement of its goals requires inclusive and equitable participation of community in climate and sustainability decisions, an investment in capacity building activities such as providing residents tools, education, and job opportunities, and engagement of people throughout the city in programs, policies and initiatives.

Barcelona

Whilst Barcelona is commonly considered to be one of the leading “smart” cities its sustainability goals are not as aggressive as some of its peers.

Barcelona has a [Climate Plan](#) plan co-produced by City organisations to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2030. This they believe puts them on course to prepare the city to meet the Paris agreement.

The strength of the Barcelona plan is the strong level of engagement they have from across the City. The Barcelona Mayor states:

“The future of the fight against climate change is being played out in our streets and squares. We are where most of the population lives, the people most responsible for greenhouse gas emissions and the main focus of innovation. If we want things to change, we have to start by changing ourselves. And that will only be possible if we all take joint responsibility: citizens, companies, associations and authorities.”

Summarising the City Approaches

Whilst all the Cities reviewed show different approaches to delivering carbon neutral outcomes, there are some commonalities that are observed.

1. **Format of Target:** Most Cities have, in some form, stated a clear undertaking related to a % reduction in total carbon emissions. Leading organisations such as CNCA require that Cities adopt a definition of carbon neutral in the format:
 - Long-term Goal: **[80-100]** percent reduction by **[2030]** based on **[date]** level
 - Interim target: **[zz]** percent reduction by **[date]**
2. **Importance of Engagement and Partnering:** Strong engagement and partnership approaches are evident across all the Cities under review in this document. Many Cities propose co-creation approaches and both grass-roots (bottom up) and major infrastructure (top-down) change projects. The philosophy of engaging everyone across the City is widely observed as necessary for sustainable change.
3. **Thematic Approach:** Across many, if not all Cities, the routes to deliver the carbon neutral ambition are set out within a thematic framework. The priority focus and themes for each City are strongly reflective of local resident and business desire. Themes of energy and mobility are common across all Cities and the inclusion of themes relating to improvement of City policies and raising of community skills are also evident in many.

Creating a Carbon Neutral Exeter

Exeter's carbon reduction target is significantly more aggressive than the targets declared by the wider region. Devon County Council have made a commitment to be carbon neutral but by the later date of 2050.

The City recognises that a proportion of carbon emissions in the wider travel to work region are due to journeys into Exeter for employment, education or leisure. Additionally, much of the new housing development required to support the economic growth (and increased employment opportunities) in Exeter will be located within the neighbouring regional authorities.

In defining the target for Exeter it is critical to ensure a robust linkage to the wider regional targets. Whilst the first step is to enhance Exeter's policies and development plans to ensure that the City itself becomes carbon neutral, there is a vital role that Exeter must play in driving emissions reduction across the wider region.

It is critical to work in partnership with neighbouring authorities and with Devon County Council to develop schemes that help to reduce the carbon emissions of transport into and around the City and in doing so to accelerate the reduction of carbon in the wider region.

Defining the Approach

Exeter has already taken steps to engage the City residents and organisations to create the supporting environment and governance for delivering the commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030. Exeter City Futures Community Interest Company (ECF CIC), brings together the City Council, Devon County Council, Exeter College, the University of Exeter, Global City Futures and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Trust to identify and implement programmes of innovation and investment focussed on outcomes that link closely to the mitigation pathways identified within the SR1.5 and also linking to the UN sustainable development goals of health, clean energy, cities and communities, and sustainable consumption and production (SDGs 3, 7, 11, and 12, respectively).

Since its incorporation in 2016, ECF CIC has produced the [Energy Independence Roadmap](#) that shows technical feasibility of a carbon neutral city and have undertaken extensive engagement activities to establish 12 Goals that reflect the priorities of the residents and business within Exeter.

These activities form the basis of the approach to delivery of a carbon neutral City. The 12 goals can be grouped into 4 themes that align strongly with the themes of many other leading Cities.

- **Energy:** renewable energy generation, energy reduction, energy efficient buildings, affordable energy efficient residential
- **Mobility:** reduced dominance of cars, increased active transport, reliable journey times
- **Sustainability:** improved air quality and health outcomes, reduced waste
- **Capability:** increased entrepreneurial output, enhanced analytical skills, innovative financial models

The inclusion of the focus on affordable energy efficient homes, skills for the future of work and journey time reliability also link to SDGs of no poverty, decent work and growth and reduced inequality (SDGs 1, 8 and 10 respectively).

ECF CIC offers many of the features identified in the analysis of other leading Cities on the same journey. The strong collaborative governance structure coupled with the support of a growing business [Partner Network](#) provides Exeter with an effective “City Office” that is well placed to lead the delivery of a carbon neutral Exeter.

Actions / Recommendations

Setting a Clear Target: The political commitment to the 2030 target was made by Exeter City Council and not by the wider regional authorities. The effects of the City’s more aggressive actions will bring benefit to the wider regional target and best practice can be shared in order to try and deliver wider targets early.

The target must be defined in a way that enables Exeter to have influence and authority over measures to deliver the target. Areas outside of Exeter’s control will need to be clearly understood and the risks considered.

It is recommended that:

- The Exeter target is framed in a way that links to wider regional targets. This shows Exeter’s intention to decrease its emissions without increasing emissions in the wider region.

Setting Organisational Targets: Many Cities have set clear interim targets which allow analysis of progress and drive engagement by demonstrating success. Several of these targets are related to the City leadership organisations themselves achieving carbon neutral operations ahead of the target date. Exeter City Council has already delivered a significant amount of work that shows how Councils can create a low carbon future and is developing strategies for low carbon heating and energy efficiency in Council owned properties and to reduce energy use in

its operations. In the Energy Independence Roadmap, Exeter City Council states that it is on target to be an energy neutral council by 2022.

It is recommended that:

- All Exeter City Futures Member organisations commit to their operations becoming carbon neutral ahead of the 2030 date and mobilise resource to develop internal plans to deliver the target.

Creating a Delivery Roadmap: Exeter has already delivered a significant amount of work in terms of its carbon-reduction. Whilst we are not starting from nothing, we need to capture the current state of the City in order to be able to fully assess the scale of the ambition and the innovations and investments that will be required. The baseline data will also provide a clear and evidenced case for change. Having a clear baseline also enables us to provide regular reporting to the City on our progress which is vital to ensure we are communicating the benefits of the work to the residents and businesses.

Exeter needs to draw on its extensive City expertise to develop a detailed Delivery Roadmap (referred to by some Cities as a “Framework”) to deliver the carbon neutral target based on the Goals/Themes defined by Exeter City Futures. The Roadmap will need to set out the scale of the challenge and the likely investment required.

The Roadmap should include a range of visible outcomes, along with target dates, that the City should be delivering in order to meet its carbon neutral ambitions. Some of the solutions that we will need to deliver may not, at this stage, be known and in these cases the City should adopt a capability focused model that indicates outcomes rather than solutions. Exeter City Futures offers innovation processes that can be used to acquire the capability and as a City Office will work to facilitate project partnerships to deliver the outcomes.

It is recommended that:

- A “**Carbon-Neutral Working Group**” is convened by Exeter City Futures to establish a city roadmap for delivery that builds on the [Energy Independence Roadmap](#) produced by Exeter City Futures and uses the 12 Goals as the basis of the approach.
 - Draw together existing evidence and data to establish baseline state of the City presented under each of the 12 Goals
 - Conduct a full audit of the City to highlight gaps between current plans and what is required to achieve a carbon neutral City
 - Define a clear city plan showing outcomes that will need to be met to deliver a carbon neutral City, how existing activities support and where there are gaps.
 - Identify immediate opportunities and crucial first steps

- The Carbon-Neutral Working Group should be comprised of resource from Member organisations and, due to the urgency required, should be co-located with Exeter City Futures to ensure that organisations share learning and identify common challenges.

Measuring Progress: The importance of delivering the carbon neutral ambition cannot be underestimated. The choices we now make about the growth of Exeter will shape the way we live and our environmental impact for decades to come. The City has a world-class reputation in climate and environmental research and the expertise we have available to us should be used to validate the plan and measure progress.

It is recommended that

- A “**Carbon Neutral Mandate Group**” is convened by Exeter City Futures through a series of summits to validate, challenge and endorse the Roadmap produced by the Carbon-Neutral Working Group. The terms of reference would need to be defined but the Group should consist of:
 - Exeter’s global expertise in climate science from the MET Office and University Of Exeter
 - Key Politicians (Leader and Portfolio Holder for Climate and Culture).
 - Other key stakeholders from the wider community e.g. youth, faith, and activist groups
- Exeter City Futures request assistance from the University of Exeter to establish an academic team that can
 - Agree a robust definition of what is included in the measurement of Exeter’s carbon emissions and how this accounts for the carbon emissions created in the wider region by commuters.
 - Define the measurement framework for the carbon neutral journey (real-time or periodic)
 - Define the optimal way for Exeter to consider its carbon-reduction strategies and the impact on wider regional emissions
 - Analyse potential solutions to consider carbon savings, cost and social impact.

Annex A: List of Cities and Regions Committed to be Carbon Neutral by 2030

(Principal) UK councils which have passed motions relating to a climate emergency and/or targets:

- Bath and North East Somerset
- Bedford Borough Council - aspiring for carbon neutral by 2030
- Bradford Metropolitan District Council - (90% reduction in carbon emissions compared to 2005 levels by 2030)
- Brighton Hove City Council - (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Bristol City Council - (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Calderdale (no fixed target date)
- Cambridge City Council (no new target date, campaign continues to press for a more ambitious target)
- Carlisle (net zero carbon by 2030)
- Carmarthenshire (zero carbon by 2030)
- Cheltenham (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Cornwall County Council (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Devon County Council (but 2030 target was voted down to shouts of 'shame')
- Durham County Council (zero carbon by 2050 - amendment for a 2030 target date defeated)
- Exeter City Council Aims to be a Carbon-neutral City by 2030
- Forest of Dean District Council (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Greater London Authority (call for the Mayor to declare climate emergency)
- Gwynedd County Council (carbon neutral eventually)
- Hastings Borough
- Herefordshire - 'aspiration to be carbon neutral by 2030' (motion p79) - but criticised for their determination to press ahead with new bypass road
- Hull - climate neutral by 2030 (doesn't include the words 'declare a climate emergency')
- Kirklees Metropolitan District Council (carbon neutral in line with IPCC carbon targets)
- Lancaster City Council (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Leicester City Council (carbon neutral by 2025-2030)
- Lewes D.C.
- London Borough of Haringey - carbon neutral by 2030
- London Borough of Lambeth (carbon neutral by 2030)
- London Borough of Lewisham (carbon neutral by 2030)
- London Borough of Newham - carbon neutral by 2030

- London Borough of Southwark - carbon neutral by 2030
- Manchester City Council (carbon neutral by 2038)
- Mendip District Council (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Milton Keynes - (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Newcastle - carbon neutral by 2030
- North Somerset Council (net zero carbon by 2030)
- Norwich (motion amended to 'acknowledge' climate emergency, no target date set)
- Nottingham City Council (carbon neutral by 2028)
- Oxford City Council (carbon neutrality target TBC)
- Oxfordshire County Council - carbon neutral by 2030
- Plymouth (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Portsmouth - carbon neutral by 2030
- Powys County Council (carbon neutral eventually)
- Reading Borough Council (to pursue zero carbon by 2030, but notes 'this date can only be achieved with substantial policy changes from national government'. - final motion on last 2 pages of meeting agenda)
- Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council - aiming for zero carbon by 2030 with the condition that carbon capture and storage will be used due to the heavy industry in the area.
- Reigate and Banstead B.C.
- Scarborough Borough Council (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Sheffield City Council (carbon neutral asap)
- Somerset
- Somerset West and Taunton - carbon neutral by 2030
- South Cambridgeshire (target date of 2050)
- South Lakeland District Council - no fixed date
- Suffolk
- Sunderland City Council - carbon neutral by 2030, subject to public consultation
- Stroud District Council (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Trafford Council - (carbon neutrality target TBC)
- Wiltshire County Council - carbon neutral by 2030
- City of York - carbon neutral by 2030

Parish and town councils which have passed motions relating to a climate emergency and/or targets:

- Alnwick Town Council - (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Bideford Town Council - carbon neutral by 2030
- Dartington Parish Council
- Frome Town Council - (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Glastonbury Town Council - (carbon neutral by 2030)

- Hebden Royd Town Council - carbon neutral as soon as possible
- Holme Valley Parish Council - carbon neutral by 2030
- Ide Parish Council
- Kendall Town Council - carbon neutral by 2030
- Ladock Parish Council - (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Langport Town Council - (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Machynlleth Town Council - (carbon neutral asap)
- Oswestry Town Council - (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Stithians Parish Council - (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Totnes Town Council - (carbon neutral by 2030)
- Trowbridge Town Council
- Tywyn Town Council - (carbon neutral as soon as possible)