

# **BRIDLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

## **CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY**

### **1. General Statement**

Bridlington Town Council recognises the impact industrialisation has had on the climate and the importance of everyone taking action to reduce their own carbon footprint so that future generations can appreciate the beauty of our community.

A carbon footprint corresponds to the whole amount of greenhouse gases <https://youmatter.world/en/definition/definitions-greenhouse-effect-what-is-it-definition-and-role-in-global-warming/> produced to directly and indirectly support a person's lifestyle and activities. Carbon footprints are usually measured in equivalent tons of CO<sub>2</sub> during the period of a year and they can be associated with an individual, an organization, a product, or an event among others.

A greenhouse gas is a gas which reflects radiation that the Earth emits and stops it from being lost into space. This makes the Earth hotter than it would be without greenhouse gases.

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stressed the importance of limiting global warming to well under 2 degrees and set a target of 1.5 degrees. Bridlington Town Council, East Riding of Yorkshire Council and the UK Government have declared a Climate Emergency.

### **2. Aims**

- a) To highlight the importance of Climate Change and the actions we can all take to reduce its effects and to lead by example.
- b) To work towards being recognised as a Benchmark Council.
- c) To promote methods which can be taken to reduce both business and personal impact on the climate.
- d) To reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

### **3. Objectives**

The Council will:

- a) Consider the environmental impact of all its contacts with suppliers and contractors.
- b) Investigate the Council's carbon footprint and work to reduce it.
- c) Continue to invest in the natural world.
- d) Continue the partnership with East Riding of Yorkshire Council and community organisations to maximise benefits for the residents of Bridlington.

- e) Use websites and other media to provide information which is beneficial to the climate.
- f) To encourage a reduction of fossil fuel usage through a review of electric vehicle charging points, bus services right across Bridlington together with cycling and walking routes.
- g) Investigate actions designed to encourage local shopping.

#### **4. Responsibilities**

- a) The Council acknowledges its responsibilities to achieve the Aims and Objectives.
- b) Communicate the Climate Change Policy and train staff to ensure its effective implementation.
- c) Prepare, implement and monitor action plans to improve performance.
- d) Review actions and report annually to the Parish Council Meeting.
- e) Support and encourage contractors and suppliers to minimize their carbon footprint in line with the Climate Change Policy.

#### **5. Related Policies**

- Environmental and Sustainability Policy
- Community Engagement Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Safeguarding Policy