

Derbyshire Climate Change Charter 2014 - 2019

Why have a Climate Change Charter?

Tackling climate change is one of the major challenges for the 21st Century. This Charter sets out our ambition for cutting carbon emissions and preparing our County for the effects of climate change. We cannot do it alone, every organisation and individual in our County can contribute by reducing their impacts. Derbyshire County Council is committed to this agenda and is making Derbyshire a fantastic place to live in today, tomorrow and for generations to come.

The Derbyshire Climate Change Charter has two main aims:

- 1. To provide a Derbyshire wide ambition and course of action to tackle Climate Change based on six key priority areas. This will be done by:**
 - Identifying and developing specific actions to be taken to reduce the risks associated with negative climate change impacts and build countywide resilience to these impacts.
 - A Climate Change Action Plan will be developed across the six key priority areas in the Charter.
 - The Climate Change Action Plan will be developed and delivered through partnership working and the development of joint initiatives. This approach acknowledges that in order to tackle climate change issues; no single organisation can do this in isolation.
 - Enable partnership working to identify and take advantage of the positive effects of climate change.
 - Help organisations, businesses and communities to understand their impact on climate change and their contribution towards reducing that impact
- 2. To provide, our communities, our members and partners with a single point of reference for Climate Change action happening both within the Council and across the County.**
 - Action on climate change has been happening for many years and carried out in many different ways, much of which goes unrepresented. This charter aims to link all the hard work together and provide a starting point and information hub for all to use.
 - It is expected that the Charter will grow and evolve over time to reflect changes in the climate, technology and available resources.
 - The Charter will be an online based document that will be accessible to businesses, community groups and individuals. This will allow for sharing of ideas, avoid duplication and encourage collaborative approaches to tackling climate change.

Derbyshire County Council will support the on-going development of the Charter and future action plans that will arise. The Council also recognises the need for a long term approach to tackling this issue by seeking member commitment for the Charter and the priority areas highlighted within.

THE SIX KEY PRIORITY AREAS



This section of the Charter is designed to highlight key climate change action priorities that affect the Derbyshire community as a whole. The aim is that by working in partnership through the DPF, businesses, community groups, voluntary organisations and other groups begin to think about what climate change will mean to them; will alter the way they operate in the future and look at the actions they can take to reduce the risk of any negative impacts.

The best approach will come from the sharing of ideas and actions. Working together to show that we have thought about climate change in business strategies and plans and the way in which we run our organisations will get us to our carbon targets and reduce the risk of impacts from the downside of climate change.

The following six priority areas will inform an action plan that will be developed by the DPF. These six areas are already embedded into Derby City's Climate Change Strategy. By establishing the same priority areas in this Charter it will allow a more joined up approach to mitigation and adaptation across Derbyshire as a whole. By working towards the same priorities we will create more opportunities to collaborate on projects, develop strong resilience to climate change across Derbyshire and enable Derbyshire to contribute to national targets more effectively.

Community Climate Action

Ambition

Tackling climate change is something in which we can all participate. The Derbyshire Partnership Forum has an important role to play in furthering education and awareness raising. As part of its community leadership role it will:

- Work together to find innovative ways to raise awareness of climate change in Derbyshire.
- Work with local communities to provide them with up to date advice and guidance on ways to reduce their environmental impacts.
- Champion community learning that inspires lower carbon lifestyles, and develops the skills to respond positively to a changing climate.
- Recognise the fantastic work already being done by local community organisations such as Transition towns and Sustainability groups, and work with them to develop locally led initiatives that will contribute towards climate change mitigation and adaptation across Derbyshire.

Sustainable Economy and Food for Derbyshire

Ambition

Collaboration with the University of Derby and Derby City Council will see key areas of this agenda investigated, and notable opportunities for support identified. These will include:

- Renewable Energy technologies and Sustainable Transport opportunities
- Identification of the gaps in Derby and Derbyshire regarding the existing low carbon activity
- Potential to support SMEs with growth and innovation and facilitating knowledge exchange
- Development of purchasing and supply chains
- The interconnectivity of activities e.g. between transport modes, between supply and demand, between school/education and work, between work and leisure all expose opportunities for greater efficiencies in carbon reduction,
- Further research in the area e.g. into the potential for growing 'green' businesses.

We will also continue to support the work of the Local Enterprise Partnership in their aim of supporting businesses, creating jobs and training in the emerging low carbon sector.

Food

Ambition

- The Derbyshire Partnership Forum will work towards an integrated approach to sustainable food development and will seek to gain advice and guidance from leaders in the development of a sustainable food system for Derbyshire.
- The partnership will also continue to support the work currently underway by local community food groups and local businesses that are developing more sustainable approaches to their operations.
Derbyshire County Council will lead by example and will investigate options to become a Fairtrade council

Sustainable Travel and Transport across Derbyshire

Ambition

The Derbyshire Partnership Forum will continue to support the joint working arrangements in place with:

- Sheffield City Region,
- Local Enterprise partnerships,
- 3 Counties Alliance and Midlands Highway Alliance,
- Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership and
- Accessibility and Community Rail Partnerships

Alongside this Derbyshire Partnership Forum is well placed to support the County Council in developing potential CO2 reduction initiatives such as:

- Sustainable Travel Town Initiatives including a full package of measures to promote and encourage more sustainable transport.
- Business Travel Planning to include encouraging lower carbon HGV technologies.
- Encouraging walking and cycling, creation of viable cycle networks which link to the wider Greenway network throughout Derbyshire, and promotion and marketing of networks, including production of maps.
- Provision of cycle training for adults if required.
- Smarter driving campaign, potential for provision of discounted smarter driving training.
- Vehicle type and fuel choice campaign - awareness raising campaign, Including providing up-to-date information regarding outlets selling alternative fuels.
- 'Transport Choices' education campaign to be investigated.

Energy Efficient Homes across Derbyshire

Ambition

DPF will support the LAEP on a number of specific projects. The following LAEP led initiatives will be delivered during 2013-2015:

- Develop targeted affordable warmth programmes with Derbyshire Public Health and the NHS to address winter warmth issues amongst vulnerable residents.
- Seek government, ECO and other funding for private sector home improvement schemes
- Continue to deliver advice and information to householders about ways to save energy and tackle climate change.
- Engage community groups through the Community Climate Action Network

A Secure Local and Renewable Energy Supply

Ambition

- Better cooperation with businesses, communities and partners will be the key to identifying and developing local energy supplies. By working in partnership this will also enable a greater understanding of 'potential' sites and their capacity to produce energy.
- Enabling the municipalisation of energy services by actively facilitating collaboration and joint delivery programmes via the Association of Public Service Excellence facilitated Local Authority Energy Group.
- Continue to support the development of D2N2 Smart Energy Communities Plan and the reference group being facilitated by the Local Authorities Energy Partnership. This will ensure local authorities and community groups will be aware of funding and opportunities for low carbon activities and projects as they arise.

Preparing Derbyshire for a Changing Environment

Ambition

The Derbyshire Partnership Forum will continue to support:

- Climate East Midlands in their work to tackle different aspects of adapting to Climate Change.
- Assist where appropriate in the development of Adaptation Indicators for the area and develop 'local adaptation indicators' to provide a useful local picture of adaptation issues
- Disseminate adaptation information to partners, businesses and communities
- Promote the Local Resilience Forum in particular the advice and information available to residents and businesses to help them protect their properties and plan for flooding and other severe weather events.

The Role of the Derbyshire Partnership Forum

The Derbyshire Partnership Forum is the countywide local strategic partnership, and was established in 2000. The Derbyshire Partnership Forum brings together over 60 public, private, voluntary and community sector organisations who work together to improve the quality of life for the people of Derbyshire

The Derbyshire Partnership Forum (DPF) is perfectly positioned to facilitate working on climate change issues and to influence and encourage key sectors in the reduction and avoidance of emissions as well as take action to adapt to climate change.

Climate Change Action Plan

As part of this long term commitment to tackling climate change, the Derbyshire Partnership Forum will develop and implement a Climate Change Action Plan based around the key priority areas highlighted within this document. With an existing Climate Change Working Group already in place, the partnership will be able to develop and implement a focused action plan that will help to cut carbon emissions across Derbyshire and build resilience to the impacts of Climate change.

Monitoring and Review

This Charter will be annual updated to take into account any changes in the council's activities and new regional, national and international developments. The Charter will be reviewed every 5 years to reflect on efforts and achievements and set new goals and challenges for County to take forward into the next 5 years.

For more information on the Climate Change Charter and to download the full version, please visit: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/climatechange

The Derbyshire Partnership Forum Climate Change Group comprises:

