

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change have warned that we have 12 years to make the necessary changes to limit a rise in global temperatures to 1.5c. Failure to act will see a marked increase in sea levels and flooding, extreme and abrupt changes to weather patterns, crop failures, extinctions of plant, insect and animal species and global economic disruption and crisis. The increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events that we have experienced locally highlight why this is such an important issue for Calderdale Council to respond to.

At the Global Climate Talks in Poland last December the UK along with over 200 nations agreed action on climate change with a much greater role strongly implied for Local and Regional Authorities like Calderdale Council in assisting Governments to achieve their carbon emission savings.

This Council therefore:

- Declares a Climate Emergency.
- Notes that the Council and Borough are on course to meet their 2020 CO2 reduction target of 40%.
- Notes that our current targets are inadequate to respond to the challenge of keeping global temperature rises below 1.5c.
- Requests that the Cabinet set up a Calderdale Climate Change Committee to respond to this challenge, that meets in public with wide representation including from all party groups.
- Requests that the Cabinet through this Committee sets a new target and action plan for Calderdale to be carbon neutral.
- Resolves to work with other local authorities and West Yorkshire Combined Authority on carbon reduction projects to ensure the UK is able to deliver on its climate commitments.
- Calls on the Government to provide the resources and powers so that Calderdale can make its contribution to the UK's Carbon Reduction targets.