

Torpoint Town Council

Climate Emergency Action Plan



This Action Plan was originally adopted by Torpoint Town Council on 18th August 2022 following the declaration of a Climate Change Emergency in October 2021. Progress to be reviewed twice annually by the Development and Localism Committee, with an annual review in time for the annual Development Plan and a report produced and presented to the Annual Town Meeting.

Thank you to Wem Town Council, where the initial format and inspiration for the emergency action plan was taken <https://www.wem.gov.uk/>

	Action	Timescale/ Ongoing S – 2024/25 M - 2024/26 H – 2026/31	Time Commitment 🕒 low 🕒🕒 medium 🕒🕒🕒 high	Cost £ low ££ medium £££ high	Committee Responsibility	Updated & Last Approved 17/01/2024
	Lobbying and Leadership					
	Organisational Review of Policies to align with Climate Emergency Commitment	Short	🕒🕒	£	ALL	Review in line with Policy review periods - Policies reviewed
	Publicise commitment	Short	🕒	£	WP group	WP group Climate emergency declared on website and social media
	Join Global Covenant of Mayors	Short	🕒	£	WP group	www.globalcovenantofmayors.org
	Request support for carbon neutral status	Medium	🕒🕒	£	F & O	Research CC carbon neutral team
	Climate Emergency Page on Website	Short	🕒	£	D & L	Research other webpages
	Make reference to Climate Emergency and need for renewable energy measures when commenting on planning applications	Short	🕒	£	ALL	Seek guidance from Cornwall Council Planning for CC / Environmental issues to guide decision making / provide evidence to support this
	Add Climate Emergency References in all new contract specifications and Tenders and add to the evaluation process	Short	🕒	£	ALL	Update tender documentation
	Carbon Reduction of Assets					
	Undertake Carbon Footprint Audit	Medium	🕒🕒	££	F & O	Operations Manager is investigating opportunities for this, as part of the solar panel considerations.
	Undertake a Buildings Audit to identify any efficiency measures	Medium	🕒🕒	££	F & O	Buildings audit - will be completed in 2024. Easy fixes, new front door Buller Road quotes received and temporary fix. Operations Manager to complete figures and free audit as a baseline. Monitor wear on Buller Road Door.

	Replace all Council lighting with LED	Short	🕒🕒	£££	F & O	Replacement programme ongoing. Quotation received from G&R to replace lighting with LED or other energy saving equipment. All future replacements will be to current high rates energy saving option.
	Consider climate impact on new purchases of plant & machinery	Medium	🕒🕒	££	F & O	Operations Manager has researched current battery systems & has submitted detail to F & O with the options for using solar to recharge also.
	Reduce carbon footprint of toilets	Medium	🕒🕒	£££	F & O	Consider the proposed redevelopment of Antony Road toilets, plus all others. Monitor water and electricity consumption at Thanckes Park Conveniences, after hand washing units service. Resolved to contract Wallgate to provide regular maintenance.
	Consider carbon footprint of any buildings to be taken on by the Town Council in the future	Long	🕒🕒	££	D & L	PID (project Initiation document) to be reviewed.
	Reduce carbon footprint of Town Council office activities	Short	🕒	£	F & O	Reduce printing, request minimal packaging on items ordered e.g. paper, appliance where possible are turned off at the weekend. Unable to sign up to "Cycle to Work Scheme", exploring options other councils use for cargo-bike for travel to meetings / inspections within the town. Staff are mindful of reducing the carbon footprint of office activities. Costs on individual items being monitored with a plug in energy monitor.
	Renewable Energy					
	Request energy from Town Council's electricity providers is renewable	Medium	🕒	£	F & O	In December 2023 resolved to renew energy providers from May 2024 for 5 years,
	Explore potential for installing Solar/Wind mitigating measures on Council Land/Buildings	Medium	🕒🕒	£££+	F & O	Solar feasibility for Council Chambers being investigated in 2024. Ops Manager will present information to F & O.
	Transport					
	Explore infrastructure requirements and power capacity for electric vehicles	Medium	🕒🕒	£££+	D & L	Awaiting information regarding Cornwall Councils plans for charging infrastructure. Opportunities may arise in the Lower Fore Street redevelopment, via the Town Team Project Board.
	Improve pathways and encourage walking & cycling	Medium	🕒🕒🕒	£££+	D & L	Integrated transport opportunities via the Town Team Project Board - TITAN Feasibility study for 6 mobility hubs undertaken.
	Waste Minimisation					
	Paperless Council Meetings	Short	🕒	£	ALL	Achieved, with the exception of necessary official papers.
	Encourage Contractors to have a "Zero to Landfill" policy	Ongoing	🕒🕒	£	F & O	Additional recycling bins in Council Chambers, contractors' encouraged to reduce disposal to landfill of waste.
	Review Litter Bin Locations	Medium	🕒🕒	££	F & O	Spoken to Biffa and Cornwall Council. Both are hesitant to relocate.

	Ensure all waste is recycled and reused wherever possible	Short	🕒	£	F & O	Office waste is recycled and reused where possible. Ensure signage is clear, review hirers terms to include removal of glass which we are unable to recycle.
	Open Spaces					
	Develop Open Space Management Plans	Medium	🕒🕒🕒+	££	F & O	
	Any future Public Open Space adoption to include any Climate Emergency Needs	Ongoing	🕒🕒	££	ALL	Community groups are being supported to maintain local spaces, with permission from Cornwall Council. Council to ensure climate emergency is included in adoption of public open spaces. Urban Green Shoots presenting to F & O January 2024.
	Develop a long-term approach to tree planting, including, encouraging community tree planting and identifying locations for bulk planting	Ongoing	🕒🕒	£££	ALL	Working with Cornwall Urban Tree planting to plant up to 150 trees in the town in 2024. Working with Cornwall Council distributing free trees for local planting to community residents.
	Use own compost, then subsequently purchase Peat-Free Compost	Ongoing	🕒🕒	££	F & O	Ongoing.
	Reduce the amount of herbicides used by the council	Short	🕒	£	F & O	In discussion with Contractor. Reduction to twice a year for chemical application, advise residents in advance.
	Consider alternative location for the provision of additional allotment space in the town	Ongoing	🕒🕒	££	D & L	Have liaised with the Torpoint Allotment Association for initial advice and guidance and approached local landowners. Currently no land available would expect inclusion, where appropriate, in future development opportunities. Additional community growing spaces being investigated to enhance the community offer.
	Continue replacement of floral planters with built-in water reservoirs to reduce the need for watering	Medium	🕒🕒	££	F & O	Successful move towards drought resistant planting. Move towards rain harvesting. Plants put in last spring are more drought tolerant.
	Community Engagement					
	Consider amending Town Council's grant application form to request evidence of applicants commitment to tackling the climate emergency	Medium		£	F & O	Consider at January 2024 F & O committee
	Encourage and support Torpoint Environmental Action forum to encourage the community to embrace the Climate Emergency agenda	Ongoing	🕒			Established prior to Action Plan – group has met as a standalone group and projects are being developed. Water refill station ongoing.
	Encourage Councillors to promote climate change	Short	🕒		ALL	Ongoing
	Publicise and promote achievements in reducing the Council's carbon footprint on website and in the Newsletters	Medium	🕒	£	D & L	See comments regarding council webpage, above.
	Encourage the community to reuse own drinking containers at home and at community events.	Short	🕒	£	D & L	Promotion through newsletters and webpage.

	Young People					
	Encourage discussion on Climate Emergency in any youth activity	Ongoing	🕒	£		Ongoing. Climate Emergency has been discussed during Mayoral meetings with youth groups.
	Liaise with schools about Climate Emergency initiatives for young people with appropriate incentives	Short	🕒🕒	£	D & L	Possibility of offering Torpoint Town Council Awards for climate change consulting with young people. Web page for schools to show what the council has already achieved.
	Monitoring					
	Climate Actions should be a consideration of all committees	Ongoing	🕒	£	ALL	Climate change to be on the agendas for meetings. Town Clerk to action. Actioned.
	Bi-annual reviews against plan, with follow up ready for budget	Ongoing	🕒	£	ALL	Dates for review January and July and follow up in September for budget purposes.