

Motion to Council

Proposer Martin Pepper
Seconder Murray Johnston

Council notes:

that the impacts of climate breakdown are already causing serious damage around the world;

that the 'Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C', published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in October 2018, (a) describes the enormous harm that a 2°C average rise in global temperatures is likely to cause compared with a 1.5°C rise, and (b) confirms that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society and the private sector;

that all governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to act, and local governments that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies;

that strong policies to cut emissions also have associated health, wellbeing and economic benefits;

and that, recognising this, Gosport Borough Council has already established a Climate Change Working Group to develop a strategy to tackle climate change;

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Declare that 'Climate Change is real' and requires urgent action;
2. Prioritise the work of the Climate Change Working Group;
3. Incorporate the CCWG Strategy in its approaches to planning decisions;
4. Ensure that political and chief officer/section head leadership teams embed this work in all areas and take responsibility for reducing, as rapidly as possible, the carbon emissions resulting from the Council's activities;
5. Take steps to proactively include young people in the process, ensuring that they have a voice in shaping the future;
6. Develop a Citizens' Assembly in order to involve the wider population in this process. This group would help develop their own role, consider the latest climate science and expert advice on solutions and to consider systematically the climate change impact of each area of the Council's activities;
7. Establish a Climate Change Partnership group, involving Councillors, residents, young citizens, relevant experts, businesses, Citizens Assembly representatives and other relevant parties. It will also recommend ways to maximise local benefits of these actions in other sectors such as employment, health, transport and the local

economy;

8. Report on the level of investment in the fossil fuel industry that our pensions plan and other investments have, and review the Council's investment strategy to give due consideration to climate change impacts in the investment portfolio;

9. Work with, influence and inspire partners across the borough, county and region to help deliver this goal;

10. Call on the UK Government to provide the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible, and ask our MP to do likewise.