

Council meeting – 19th November 2019

Motion on Notice – Climate Emergency

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.

It is noted that the impacts of climate breakdown are already causing serious damage around the world. It is also acknowledged that strong policies to cut emissions have associated health, wellbeing and economic benefits

Recommendations:

1. Tamworth Borough Council declares a 'Climate Emergency' that requires urgent action;
2. Make the Council's activities net-zero carbon by 2050;
3. Ensure that political and chief officer leadership teams embed this work in all areas and take responsibility for reducing where practicable, as rapidly as possible, the carbon emissions resulting from the Council's activities;
4. The Council (including the Executive and Scrutiny Committees) consider the impact of climate change and the environment when adopting and reviewing Council policies and strategies;
5. Receive a report to the relevant scrutiny committee regarding the level of investment in the fossil fuel industry that any of our investments have;
6. Ensure that all reports in preparation for the 2021/22 budget cycle and investment strategy will take into account the actions the council will take to address this emergency.
7. Ask Council to note there will be an as yet undefined financial impact to any plan to achieve net zero carbon operations.

Supported by:

Councillors R Ford, S Goodall, R Pritchard, B Price, J Oates.