

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 L – 2026/31	Time Commitment 🕒 low 🕒🕒 medium 🕒🕒🕒 high	Cost £ low ££ medium £££ high	Committee Responsibility	Last Updated 12/03/2025
	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
😐	Request support for carbon neutral status	Medium	🕒🕒	£	F & O	Research CC carbon neutral team, ongoing with Ops Mgr, smart meters being sourced with new energy supplier (Support Officer).
😊	Climate Emergency Page on Website	Short	🕒	£	D & L	Research other webpages, add action plan to new page on the website.
😐	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. Engage with Cornwall Councillors on Cornwall Council practices to ensure consistency. Councillor Goodman regularly attends Climate meetings of Cornwall Council to stay updated.
😊	Add Climate Emergency References in all new contract specifications and Tenders and add to the evaluation process	Short	🕒	£	ALL	Tender documentation has been updated to include the climate emergency.
	Carbon Reduction of Assets					
😐	Undertake Carbon Footprint Audit	Long	🕒🕒	££	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 by budget setting 2024. Operations Manager to complete figures and free audit as a baseline. Monitor wear on Buller Road Door.

☹️	Replace all Council lighting with LED	Medium	🕒🕒	£££	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 to Long	🕒🕒	££	F & O	Operations Manager has researched current battery systems & has submitted detail to F & O. Solar recharging being investigated for when Tennis hut is refurbished. Leased van now replaced with a fully electric vehicle.
😊	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	All future PID (project Initiation document) to include this.
☹️	Reduce carbon footprint of Town Council office activities	Ongoing	🕒	£	F & O	Reduce printing, request minimal packaging on items ordered e.g. paper, appliance where possible are turned off at the weekend. Staff are mindful of reducing the carbon footprint of office activities. Costs on individual items being monitored with a plug in energy monitor. As a result the smaller urn is being utilised for hirers. Looking at current national guidelines on council papers for printing and signature.
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, new energy contracts have been checked and signed.
☹️	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 & clerk to prepare a PID for the next F & O committee meeting, recommendation from this group is to undertake Option 1, which does not require battery units.
Transport						
☹️	Explore infrastructure requirements and power capacity for electric vehicles	Long	🕒🕒	£££+	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	Long	🕒🕒🕒	£££+	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.
☹️	Investigate the Installation of Alternative Recycling Solutions i.e a "Recycling Fish"	Long	🕒🕒🕒	££	ALL	To investigate how other councils with similar initiatives have managed thir project and installation (Contact Plymouth City Council).
😊	Ensure all waste is recycled and reused wherever possible	Short	🕒	£	F & O	Office waste is recycled and reused where possible. Ensure signage is clear,hirers terms have been ammanded to include removal of glass which we are unable to recycle.
Open Spaces						
☹️	Develop Open Space Management Plans to Include Renewable Energy and the Installation of Recycled Furniture etc.	Medium	🕒🕒🕒+	££	F & O	Develop an action plan for devolved parks and tennis courts
😊	Any future Public Open Space adoption to include any Climate Emergency Needs	Ongoing	🕒🕒	££	ALL	Community groups are being supported to maintain local spaces, with permisson 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	Ongoing	🕒	£	F & O	In discussion with Contractor. Reduction to twice a year for chemical application, residents are advised in the Town Council newsletter of the two months when herbicide is used.

😊	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. Councillor Goodman to look at where community/ resident groups are adopting small patches of green space to ensure that Cornwall Council are made aware.
😊	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	Considered at January 2024 F & O committee, now completed.
😊	Encourage and support Torpoint Environmental Action (T.E.A) 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 completed. Large amounts of litter are being collected weekly, planting spaces are being maintained, the implementation of sustainable Sundays and repair cafe at the Library and Community Hub. Look at having T.E.A provide a monthly update with statistics that can be shared alongside the action plan on the climate emergency section of the website to help aid community engagement and track achievements. Implementation of an Environmental Programme for the Harvesting of Sea Grass Seeds (with T.E.A).
😊	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	Achieved and ongoing (see T.E.A update also)
😊	Encourage the community to reuse own drinking containers at home and at community events.	Short	🕒	£	D & L	Promotion through newsletters and webpage. Include in Torfest 2025 publicity. Encourage use of water refill station - look to put information signs in the tennis court to let users know.
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 and Oakwood College about Climate Emergency initiatives for young people with appropriate incentives	Medium	 	£	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 - possibly ties in with adding extra information to the climate emergency section of the TTC website. T.E.A group will be engaging with local schools in 2025 and linking in with their 'eco clubs' etc. Add a diary of achievements to June D&L committee meeting agenda.
	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.