



## Summary

North Ayrshire Council has declared a state of Climate Emergency.

This means we have committed to take action now to reduce carbon emissions across North Ayrshire.

We already have a range of measures in place and ultimately our ambition is to become carbon-neutral. This means there is an equilibrium between our carbon emissions and carbon removal.

## Details of Carbon Neutral Council

We are a Council that takes pride in our commitment to the environment.

We've taken great strides and have reduced the amount of carbon emissions associated with electricity, gas, transport fuel and waste at a local level by almost 40 per cent since 2005.

But these are unprecedented and dangerous times with experts claiming that within 11 years damage to the planet could be irreversible – unless we act now.

Both Scottish and UK governments have taken a decision to declare a climate change emergency. And we have followed suit. Climate change is a global problem, with extreme weather events affecting people across the globe.

We employ over 6,000 staff, delivering services throughout the region. There are over 700 buildings in the Council's estate, together with a social housing stock of over 13,000. The Council also has an extensive fleet of over 500 vehicles – so we are therefore well placed to work in a sustainable manner and lead by example

The North Ayrshire Council Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change Strategy (ESCCS) 2015-20 contained a range of actions to help achieve emission reduction targets. We are now engaging with our communities in a consultation called 'Climate Change: Just Cool It' to learn more from our residents and communities. These responses will help inform our next Strategy. This will help us become a Carbon Neutral Council.

Some of our achievements in recent years include:

- Securing approx. £10.5million of funding to provide external wall insulation to 2,231 homes and approx. £180k of funding for 116 boiler replacements, through the Scottish Government's HEEPS: Area Based Scheme.
- Installation of solar PV panels to 287 houses, saving tenants on average £188 per year.
- Redevelopment of two sheltered housing units, installing heat networks fuelled by biomass boilers.

- Undertaking a pre-feasibility study to investigate the potential for a district heating scheme.
- Investing nearly £1m in energy efficiency measures to 14 non-domestic properties through the Non Domestic Energy Efficiency framework.
- Over 900 members of staff have signed up to the scheme, with 206,795 miles driven in the Council's low emissions pool cars in financial year 2018/19. Around 11% of this total mileage was carried out on EVs.
- Council has acquired 14EVs (5 pool EVs and 9 Fleet EVs)
- Installation of 17 Electric vehicle charge points (5 Rapid and 12 Fast chargers)

