

# PENRITH A CARBON NEUTRAL TOWN

Penrith Town Council, who believe in making a difference by choosing a carbon neutral future

A strategy document supported by  
Penrith Plastic Clever Group



# CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY IN CRISIS

## COMMUNITIES MUST ACT NOW

The rapidly warming climate and the collapse of biodiversity are interrelated, and potentially existential crises that humanity has brought upon itself. The crises are global, and ultimately, they require global action. But global action needs to be the sum of the actions of all of us starting in our own communities.

Individually and collectively across the world, we all contribute to the problem. It is incumbent, particularly on those of us who live in countries that have contributed most to the problems, to take responsibility for changing our relationship with our planet.

This requires change in every aspect of the way we live - how we build, how we travel, how we eat, how we produce food and goods, how we produce and consume energy, how much waste we create and how we manage it. Legislation and action by governments and international institutions is obviously vital, but equally, to achieve the necessary transformation, so is local action by every individual and community.

## PENRITH IS NO EXCEPTION



Recognition of the crises and the need for local action motivated Penrith Town Council to declare a climate emergency.

We are already urgently considering what we can do and have our own action plan in relation to things over which we have direct control. The Council has also developed a draft Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan (PNDP). The policies that have defined the plan promote sustainability. The PNDP once approved would have statutory weight in law. Appended to this document is a summary of the relevant policies and actions the Town Council can take which aligns with the climate change values and priorities of the Council.

We know we can only achieve our ambition to make Penrith carbon neutral by 2030 if we work in partnership with other levels of government, local business and, crucially, the people and organisations of our community.

**THE MORE THE COMMUNITY  
JOINS IN WITH THESE EFFORTS,  
THE GREATER OUR  
CHANCES OF SUCCESS**



Councillor Doug Lawson, Mayor of Penrith



# THE 2020 PENRITH CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The strategy provides an overview of the 2020-21 priorities that we believe would help Penrith on its journey to carbon neutrality. This document sets out our ambition to engage and work with the people of Penrith. We know there are many individuals and organisations that are already taking action. We want to work with and draw on this expertise and energy in the community and bring about the kind of transformation that the crises demand.

It is not a plan for the community but a framework that we hope may assist the development of an overall community plan - one that we can all embrace and together, progress with enthusiastic commitment. This framework is a first step to making a difference. It is not the final word on responding to climate change or biodiversity, but a first step in a long journey.

Penrith needs a community action plan that would help it on its journey to carbon neutrality. We hope that a Penrith Climate Action Group would be established that would co-ordinate some projects and work with many partner organisations to implement others. The combined efforts of the whole Penrith community are needed to make a difference. The more the community joins in with these efforts, the greater our chance of success.



# STEP 1

# LEARN

Science has informed us that we are facing an emergency climate crisis and we need to act **NOW** to make a difference

**The Climate Change facts**



**Source:**

# Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)



The science of climate change is well established:

- Climate change is real and human activities are the main cause. (IPCC)
- The concentration of greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere is directly linked to the average global temperature on Earth. (IPCC)
- The concentration has been rising steadily, and mean global temperatures along with it, since the time of the Industrial Revolution. (IPCC)
- The most abundant greenhouse gas, accounting for about two-thirds of greenhouse gases, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), is largely the product of burning fossil fuels. (IPCC)



## WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS AND IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

- ▶ The global average temperature in 2019 was 1.1 °C above the pre-industrial period, according to the World Meteorological Organization. (WMO.)
- ▶ Impacts of a 1.1 °C increase are here today in the increased frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events from heatwaves, droughts, flooding, winter storms, hurricanes and wildfires. (IPCC)
- ▶ 2019 concluded a decade of exceptional global heat temperatures, retreating icecaps and record sea levels driven by greenhouse gases produced by human activities. (WMO)
- ▶ Average temperatures for the five-year (2015-2019) and ten-year (2010-2019) periods are the highest on record. (WMO) and 2019 was the second hottest year on record. (WMO)
- ▶ The total annual global greenhouse gas emissions reached its highest levels in 2018, with no sign of peaking. (EGR, 2019).
- ▶ Based on today's insufficient global commitments to reduce climate polluting emissions are on track to reach 56 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030, over twice what they should be. (EGR, 2019)





# WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO TO LIMIT GLOBAL WARMING AND ACT ON CLIMATE CHANGE?

- ▶ To prevent warming beyond 1.5° C, we need to reduce emissions by 7.6% every year from this year to 2030. (EGR, 2019) Every year we fail to act, the level of difficulty and cost to reduce emissions goes up. (EGR, 2019)
- ▶ Increased commitments to shift countries and economies onto a path of decarbonization, setting targets for net zero carbon, and timelines of how to reach that target, most typically through a rapid acceleration of energy sourced from renewables and a rapid deceleration of fossil fuel dependency.





This is the level scientists say is associated with less devastating impacts than higher levels of global warming. Every fraction of additional warming beyond 1.5°C would bring worse impacts, threatening lives, livelihoods and economies.

At 1.5°C, over 70% of coral reefs would die, but at 2°C all reefs over 99% would be lost.

Insects, vital for pollination of crops and plants, are likely to lose half their habitat at 1.5°C but this becomes almost twice as likely at 2°C.

The Arctic Ocean being completely bare of sea ice in summer would be a once per century likelihood at 1.5°C but this leaps to a once a decade likelihood at 2°C.

Over 6 million people currently live in coastal areas vulnerable to sea level rise at 1.5°C degrees, and at 2°C this would affect 10 million more people by the end of this century.

Sea-level rise would be 100 centimetres higher at 2°C than at 1.5°C.

The frequency and intensity of droughts, storms and extreme weather events are increasingly likely above 1.5°C.

# WHY IS 1.5°C IMPORTANT?



# STEP 2 ACQUIRE KNOWLEDGE



WHAT WE KNOW NOW -The key issues facing Penrith  
CONSULT, ENGAGE & SHARE - what are the issues and  
priorities of the community



# WHAT WE KNOW NOW

# KEY ISSUES FOR PENRITH TODAY

The priorities for Penrith have been identified via extensive consultations for the Neighbourhood Development Plan and the Council Business Plan.

Sustainability runs as a golden thread through the Council's Neighbourhood Development Plan planning policies and its Business Plan priorities:

- ❖ **Nature** - Protect and provide greenspaces, trees, hedgerows, and wildlife.
- ❖ **Air Quality, Energy and Climate Change** - Improve air quality, and support the transition to a low carbon future.
- ❖ **Housing** - Provide affordable homes with a range of high-quality community and social facilities, delivered in such a way that promotes high quality, environmentally sustainable design.
- ❖ **Infrastructure** - Increase individual and community wellbeing by providing high quality community facilities, greenspaces, and facilities for walking and cycling. Provide appropriate energy, waste, road, public transport and other infrastructure.



# CONSULT, ENGAGE & SHARE

- ▶ We would have ongoing conversations with organisations and individuals in Penrith and beyond, to engage, learn and evolve our strategy and action plans as new challenges and new opportunities arise.
- ▶ We would host **Global Climate Change Cafés** The goal in most cases would be to share ideas and motivate one another to take action such as lowering our own energy usage first, then encouraging others to do the same.  
<http://www.theworldcafe.com/basics/>
- ▶ We would encourage Eden parish and town councils and community groups to come together and share their learning and their struggles in helping their communities to become carbon neutral.



# STEP 3 ACT

Action planning with commitment, and  
action to bring zero waste and carbon  
emission reduction into practice



# Our commitment to our business and changing our behaviour as a local authority

- We have commissioned an independent initial baseline audit assessing energy usage, heating, lighting, transport, policies and procedures and use of information technology and use of paper.
- We would serve as an exemplar to other organisations and businesses in Penrith.
- Members and officers will attend Carbon literacy training to provide awareness about the causes of and solutions to the climate crisis as this is a critical first step to empower our community to play a role in tackling climate change.



# OUR COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

- We would implement community projects over the next two years that demonstrate the Council's commitment to addressing climate change, building on the amazing and successful, voluntary community initiatives led by Penrith Action for Community Transition, the Community Gardeners, The Repair Café, Penrith Food Bank to name but a few.
- We would also consider and deliver longer-term, fully resourced projects that we hope would be supported by our community as we go out to consultation.
- We would measure our impact to ensure that what we are doing is truly reducing carbon emissions and promoting nature restoration, while leaving no one in our community behind.
- We would challenge people's behaviour, and use of energy.
- We would inspire others to undertake similar green initiatives and we would collaborate with like-minded people and groups.



# STEP 4 DELIVER



Implement projects to demonstrate  
commitment

Deliver action plans



# Starting as we mean to carry on

To encourage community engagement, and to demonstrate the Town Council's commitment we would commence a series of projects and activities in 2020



**ACTIONS**  
SPEAKS  
**LOUDER**  
THAN  
**WORDS**

# 2020-21 COMMUNITY PROJECTS



## PENRITH TOWN COUNCIL WILL PROVIDE FUNDING AND SUPPORT FOR:

- ▶ A dedicated officer
- ▶ Climate Action Group
- ▶ Action Planning
- ▶ Budget allocation and fundraising
- ▶ A high street community hub
- ▶ The BIG (Business Is Green) STEP
- ▶ Penrith Grow Nature Fund
- ▶ Penrith Woods
- ▶ World Café Community engagement
- ▶ Training & awareness - We would support and provide services and projects to change:
  - The perspectives & actions of people
  - Ownership and usage of things
  - Waste collection for the Elderly/Disabled
- ▶ Educational programmes for children and young people to learn about waste issues and how to make zero waste.
- ▶ Forum for Eden Parish Councils and community groups

# The Community Action Officer

Would work closely with the Climate Change Action Group to establish networks between councillors and experts to drive action plans that would make going carbon neutral by 2030 a reality for all communities across Penrith, implementing strategies that would make Green policies and action plans a reality!

The officer would have an understanding and a passion for environmental issues and would help shape the future of Penrith through engaging with internal stakeholders, partners, residents, businesses and the wider community to influence positive environmental action and behaviour.

The role would work across the communities in Penrith to deliver projects, taking responsibility for monitoring and reporting on progress and would help deliver our commitments to reducing carbon emissions and delivering services in a greener, more sustainable, and environmentally friendly way.



# Climate Action Group

A **Climate Action Group** would provide the local solution to a global crisis to make Penrith more climate friendly.

## The group would:

Be resourced and have the power to make decisions and spend money on activities and projects.

Be apolitical and consist of six councillor ward representatives and six members of the public.

Be an energetic and enthusiastic, a catalysing group to launch the projects and oversee the action plans and deliver the community-led action plans.

Receive and consider data, research and information to shape and develop policy, approach and strategies.

Work with Cumbria Action for Sustainability to develop a “Whole Place Approach” to produce a very high-level carbon footprint baseline covering both residents and businesses in Penrith.



- ▶ **A series of plans would be developed to progress collaborative work with other partners and the local community.** Using a structured framework we would develop a series of action plans that would deliver this strategy and our commitments:
  - ▶ **A Town Council Internal Business Plan:** The Council would develop an internal action plan to monitor and change its own practices to ensure that it does all it can to achieve carbon neutral emissions by the earliest date achievable. This work has commenced.
  - ▶ **A Business Action Plan:** This plan relates to working with the business community to reduce carbon emissions.
  - ▶ **A Consultation Action Plan:** This plan focuses on engaging and working with the community of Penrith. We would consult widely and use the Council's numerous community conversation platforms and community engagement approaches to regularly reach people using "dialogue" to encourage the community to share their ideas. This plan is concerned both with encouraging action by individuals and through community groups and organisations. We already have a good working relationship with many of the latter and would hope to work in partnership with them. A series of World Café events would be organised which is an easy-to-use method for creating a network of collaborative conversations around questions, ideas, themes and aspirations that matter to Penrith.
  - ▶ **An Adaption Action Plan:** A plan that engages statutory and voluntary sector partners and the local community and businesses in actions to mitigate the negative impacts of local life on climate and develops long-term community resilience to enable Penrith to adapt to climate change. Change adaptation is a long-term response to climate change which seeks to reduce the vulnerability of our environment, economy and society to offset the effects of any adverse impacts - and to make the most of any changes that may arise.



# Budget allocation and Funding raising

Funding would be sourced from the precept, partner authorities, stakeholders, Loans, crowdfunding and grants.



# CLIMATE



A high street community work space that acts as a focal point for communication and engagement and a base for the resilience work to operate from, providing access to free resources, services, advice, support and a link to local groups.

A hub to engage and reach out to people who would be most affected by climate change, letting them know what is happening but also how to access support.

A hub offering practical support and advice such as mending things, advice on making changes at home, how to reduce fuel poverty, household adaptations.

An inclusive hub for community gardening, cooking, eating and sharing.

And in the future, a hub to act as the operational base for numerous projects, such as:

- The **COMMUNITY FRIDGE**
- The **SHARING LIBRARY**
- The **SWAP SHOP**
- The **GREEN DIRECTORY**

A space for our Community Cafes, a series of free climate cafes in 2020 to explore and develop ideas and to find solutions.





# PENRITH GROW NATURE FUND

## Helping communities in Penrith improve their environment

The purpose of the Grow Nature Fund is to encourage and support local green projects and its value represents the approximate number of people in Penrith £15,500.

Funded projects must deliver a clear and demonstrable benefit to the natural environment. Here are some examples:

- ▶ Conversion or restoration of community greenspace to wildlife habitat: community orchards, ponds, wildflower meadows/verges, native hedges, street trees or woodlands
- ▶ Environmental improvements to a community centre or village hall grounds: installation of bee bricks, bug hotels, swift boxes, nest boxes, tree planting
- ▶ Initiatives to reduce single use plastics
- ▶ Local wildlife training and monitoring schemes
- ▶ Schemes to reduce invasive species, litter, noise or light pollution in the environment
- ▶ Environmental aspects of a heritage restoration scheme
- ▶ Initiatives to help local people to connect with their environment.
- ▶ Activities which encourage people to grow nature and increase the public understanding and enjoyment of wildlife and heritage

Priority would be given to schemes which result in tangible examples of environmental growth, for example new habitats or an increase in the health of native wildlife.

Any locally constituted and recognised 'not for profit' organisation which seeks to serve the people of Penrith could be eligible to apply.







# PENRITH WOODS

- ▶ Penrith Woods is not a single area of new forest. Penrith Woods is an ambitious tree planting project with the principle aim of fighting climate change. When complete we hope it would cover approximately xxxxxx hectares. The project would start at Thacka Glen, a large area of land transferring to the Town Council from Cumbria County Council in 2020. It is already a unique green space in the Town that is valued by its surrounding communities which would be enhanced for community use and planted with trees to combat climate change.
- ▶ It's our ambition to significantly increase all forms of canopy cover throughout Penrith, whilst strengthening the protection of our existing backbone of trees, woodlands and hedges. Our Penrith Woods tree planting project would extend to Fairhill and other green spaces that the Town Council owns.
- ▶ The value of the planting and the ongoing maintenance Penrith Woods project represents the approximate number of people in Penrith £15,500.



# BIG STEP

(Business is Green - Supporting the Environment in Penrith)

The project would seek a wide range of improvements to business performance relating to the environment/climate crisis including: use and production of renewable energy, improved insulation, energy efficient heating and lighting, low/zero emissions transport, food/goods miles, reduced use of single use plastics and waste to landfill.

Businesses would be eligible to apply for Penrith Town Council/BID 'Business is Green' awards at bronze, silver and gold standards based on independent audit of their practices.

The value of the project and the ongoing project work represents the approximate number of businesses in Penrith, with added match funding from sponsors.

A pilot project would be developed for two business streets in Penrith.



# 2021 PROJECTS AND BEYOND

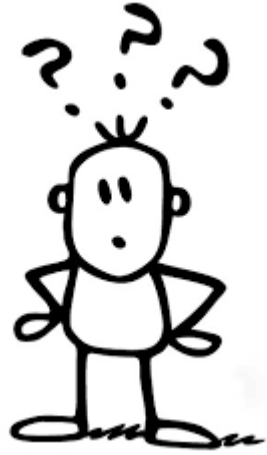
Possible community-based projects



# What else could we do?

- ▶ Partners, stakeholders and the community would shape long-term activities. These projects would be influenced by the aspirations of the Climate Group, the Town Council and most importantly by the drive, commitment and passion of the lead officer.
- ▶ From 2021, the Town Council would provide long-term funding from the Council's precept and external funding.





- The **COMMUNITY FRIDGE?**
- The **SHARING LIBRARY?**
- The **SWAP SHOP?**
- The **GREEN DIRECTORY?**





# THE COMMUNITY FRIDGE

- ▶ Volunteers collect the food from local shops and food outlets
- ▶ The food is then available for anyone to take and make use of

<https://www.hubbub.org.uk/the-community-fridge>



# THE SHARING LIBRARY



- ▶ A SHARE Library of Things (LoT) enables people to borrow instead of buying items which are only sometimes or occasionally needed, such as DIY tools, outdoors and sports equipment, domestic and cooking equipment, which encourages less waste, and saves space, money, and the environment.
- ▶ There are many people who do not have the financial resources in any case to acquire the use of 'things' that would enable them to improve their lives, improve their personal environment, maintain or repair or repurpose items they do have the use of, and learn or practice skills that they would like to.

<https://shareoxford.org/>



# SWAP SHOP



- ▶ Swap clothes, fancy dress outfits, coats, accessories (hats, scarves, jewelry) and shoes.
- ▶ A way of getting a whole new wardrobe at zero cost.
- ▶ The average UK household owns around £4,000 worth of clothing and on average, 30% of the clothes in our wardrobes haven't been worn in the last year.
- ▶ It helps the environment. An estimated £140 million worth (around 350,000 tones) of used clothing goes to landfill in the UK every year (source; [www.loveyourclothes.org.uk](http://www.loveyourclothes.org.uk)).
- ▶ Provide an upcycling Craft Centre working together upcycling discarded clothes





# THE PENRITH GREEN DIRECTORY



The Penrith Green Directory would hold details of organisations and local groups, suppliers and businesses who can help with environmentally friendly home and lifestyle improvements, local green projects, events, activities and volunteering opportunities.



# STEP 5 MONITOR & EVALUATE

We would take time to reflect on progress, seek out best practice, up-to-date guidance and check our understanding of the science.

We would measure our own impact to ensure that what we are doing is truly reducing carbon emissions and promoting nature restoration.

We would monitor, evaluate and report to you on our progress.



# APPENDICES

Summary policies from the PNDP and how they might be applied to support actions related to climate change and action at other levels in Cumbria.

## PNDP Policies:

1. **Nature**
2. **Air Quality, Energy And Climate Change**
3. **Housing**
4. **Infrastructure**

Supporting activities of principal authorities and other organisations:

- **Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership**
- **Zero Carbon Eden**
- **Cumbria Youth Climate Summit 2020**



# NATURE

Protect and provide greenspaces, trees, hedgerows, wildlife.

The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago, the second best time is now.

## ACTION

- 1) We would help **protect** the green spaces, enhance and maintain tree canopies, wildlife and hedgerows.
- 2) We would promote **planting** of pollinator friendly flowers, shrubs, trees and grasses and seek specialist biodiversity and ecological assessments of our green spaces to allow us to develop management plans that facilitate sustainability.
- 3) We would encourage **wildlife havens** in public spaces and planting of fruit trees and other edible plants.
- 4) We would continue to encourage the clearance of litter, supporting local and national campaigns to **Keep Penrith Tidy**.
- 5) We would provide a budget for a **Penrith Grow Nature Fund** that would provide grants of up to £1000 for schools and community groups who have a green project.
- 6) We would grow **Penrith Woods**.

## POLICY

**The Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Policy 8 protects Penrith's green spaces.



# AIR QUALITY, ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

## ACTION

- 1) We would support a comprehensive network of plug-in points for electric vehicles by 2025.
- 2) We would support and invest in public transport, walking, car sharing schemes and cycling routes.
- 3) We would work in partnership with Penrith Chamber of Trade, Penrith Business Improvement District, Penrith Industrial Business Improvement District and other authorities to deliver a project called: **BIG STEP (Business is Green - Supporting the Environment in Penrith)**
- 4) We would continue to discourage the use of single use plastic and continue to support and participate in water refill schemes.  
<https://refill.org.uk/get-involved/refill-revolution/>

## POLICY

### The Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan

#### Policy 3 Energy Use and Reducing Carbon Emissions

Developers of major housing proposals above a threshold of 1,000 square metres or 10 dwellings shall provide at least 10% of the development's total predicted energy requirements on-site, from renewable energy sources, unless it can be demonstrated that this is neither practicable nor viable.



# HOUSING

## ACTIONS

- We recognise that support from Eden District Council, Cumbria County Council and National Government is vital in meeting the challenge of planning policy. Until changes are made to the national planning regulations it would not be possible for Penrith Town Council to insist that new buildings are built to net-zero/carbon neutral standards.
- However, within the bounds set by law, Penrith Town Council would do all it can to promote initiatives that would help bring the town to carbon neutrality by 2030 and support developments that are aligned to the Town Council's statutory Neighbourhood Development Plan once it has been adopted after referendum.
- The PNDP would ensure that all development in the Town is sustainable and meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs and to promote and pursue a transition to a low carbon economy.

## POLICY

### Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan

#### Policy 1 Sustainable Development in Penrith:

Requires that development proposals should be designed to incorporate sustainable development principles and measures. These measures should build in resilience and achieve development that is adaptable to meet the challenges of future climate and socio-economic change.

#### Policy 2 Environmentally Sustainable Design:

Requires that development should be designed in such a way that it promotes high quality, environmentally sustainable design. Innovative sustainable design solutions would be encouraged to ensure that buildings remain at the forefront of sustainable building design.



# INFRASTRUCTURE

## ACTION

- We would lobby for **better public transport services** and infrastructure including electric car charging ports and electric charging sharing schemes.
- We would provide automatic annual funds to **community transport schemes** of a value of £3,000 per community transport scheme every April.
- We endorse and support **Walk to School Challenge** which encourages families to leave their cars at home and where safe to do so, would challenge students across all the schools and colleges to walk, scoot, jog and cycle to school, as travelling to school in an active and sustainable fashion is kind to the environment and has huge health benefits:  
<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school>
- We would provide people with better travel options, working with our partner authorities to improve cycle and pedestrian connectivity and working with local cycle suppliers we would encourage **electric cycle hire**, throughout Penrith.
- We would encourage the use of **greener car share** schemes and would promote and support car hire schemes such as Co-Wheels which is a pay-as-you-go car hire scheme, with vehicles available to hire in convenient locations across the UK providing electric, hybrid & low emission vehicles - <https://www.co-wheels.org.uk/>

## POLICY

### Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan

#### Policy 3 Energy Use and Reducing Carbon Emissions:

Requires developers of major proposals above a threshold of 1,000 square metres or 10 dwellings to provide at least 10% of the development's total predicted energy requirements on-site, from renewable energy sources, unless it can be demonstrated that this is neither practicable nor viable.

#### Plan Policy 11 Walking and Cycling

Requires that new development should include walking and cycling infrastructure that is of high-quality design and accessible to all. The policy outlines a set of principles that would be used to ensure that, where appropriate, new development improves the environment for all so that Penrith becomes a walking and cycle friendly Town.

#### Policy 4 Accessibility and Social Inclusion

Requires that all developments meets the needs of all groups and sections of the community and that the Town can reasonably accessed by walking, cycling, those with mobility aids, public transport and motor vehicles.



Action at other levels in Cumbria

## ZERO CARBON CUMBRIA PARTNERSHIP

Sixty Cumbrian organisations are working together to drive down the county's carbon emissions.

### What's the partnership for?

The Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership includes a wide range of organisations with a key role to play in decarbonising the county at the pace and scale required by climate science, and ensuring that Cumbria benefits from the opportunities this brings. The purpose of the group is to plan and oversee a radical programme of action that will enable Cumbria to become a carbon neutral county and to mitigate the likely impact of existing climate change.

### Who's on the partnership?

Member organisations include the county's local authorities, businesses, local sustainability groups, schools, the NFU, NHS, police, Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), national parks, Natural England, the Environment Agency, Electricity North West and United Utilities and many more.

<https://cafs.org.uk/2020/01/30/meet-the-zero-carbon-cumbria-partnership/>





# ZERO CARBON EDEN

Eden District Council (EDC) has committed to becoming a zero carbon authority by 2030, and aspires for the district to be net zero CO2 in the same timeframe - in accordance with the date set in UN guidance in 2018.

EDC is launching the Zero Carbon Eden (ZCE) Partnership. It will bring together public bodies, businesses, experts and practitioners, who can play a crucial role in reducing Eden's carbon footprint, in improving ecology and increasing biodiversity. The aim is to bring partners together to establish and disseminate best practice and make plans to achieve net zero emissions in the Eden District by 2030.

<https://www.eden.gov.uk/your-environment/zero-carbon-eden/>

The Council hopes innovative plans can be made with and amongst partners which will bring Eden meaningful growth as well as contributing to the ZCE agenda - plans to make the most of new financial and other opportunities in developing green economies, in modern building methods, and in energy generation, for example.



The Town Council will always seek to collaborate with relevant developments at other levels of local government.



# CUMBRIA YOUTH CLIMATE SUMMIT 2020

- ▶ The annual, gathering of young climate activists from schools across Cumbria, with inspirational speakers took place virtually on Wednesday, 22 April 2020.
- ▶ The youth climate summit helped establish a network of schools and students engaging in supported, climate activism.
- ▶ At this important event for schools and colleges, young people from across Cumbria and the country heard from an international, inter-generational panel of environmental activists. Together, young people and their teachers will consider their next steps. This might be to get started with environmental education and personal action, making their schools and homes more sustainable. For others it will go a step further and help them to reach out to their local communities...
- ▶ <https://www.transform-our-world.org/national-youth-climate-summit-2020>

