



OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION

02 DECEMBER 2020

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION

The following presentations were shared at the meeting.

Kevin Gibbs
Executive Director: Delivery

	Page No
5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	3 - 4
To receive submissions from members of the public which have been submitted in advance in accordance with the Council's Public Participation Scheme for Overview and Scrutiny.	

Climate Change

As part of its focus on Climate Change the Commission has invited guests to address the Commission before considering the Council's Strategy and proposals.

- Professor Nigel Arnell (Meteorology dept. University of Reading) who will address the committee on the scientific evidence and effects of climate change (15 minutes)
- Professor Tim Dixon (Chair Sustainable Futures - University of Reading) who will give a short overview of work including that undertaken by other authorities (15 minutes)
- Kathryn O'Neal representing Bracknell Climate Change Action Group to speak on their views on climate change measures (15 minutes)
- Update from Climate Change review group about the activity to date (10 minutes)
- Kevin Gibbs, Executive Director: Delivery to speak to the Council's Strategy and proposals on Climate Change (20 minutes) followed by questions (15 minutes)
- Councillor Mrs Hayes, Executive Member for the Environment to answer questions on her portfolio in relation to climate change (20 minutes)
- Councillor Turrell, Executive Member for Planning and Transport to answer questions on his portfolio in relation to climate change (20 minutes)
- Next steps

8. **WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE**

49 - 50

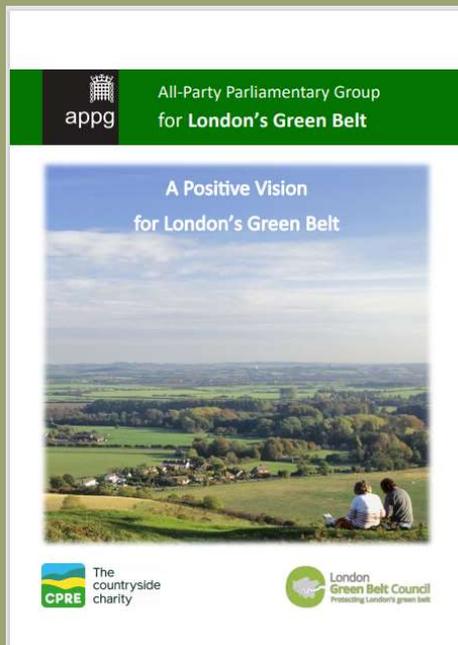
Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairs to provide a verbal progress update on the work programme.

The Commission to consider any proposed changes to the Overview and Scrutiny work programme such as scope, scheduling or duration and its potential impact on the delivery of the overall programme.

Public Participation Rebecca Murphy on behalf of CPRE Berkshire



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CHANGING CLIMATE RISK IN THE THAMES VALLEY

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Professor Nigel Arnell

Department of Meteorology, University of Reading

2 December 2020

Headlines

A changing climate will alter appreciably climate risks and resources in the Thames Valley

Changes in climate over the long term are strongly affected by global actions to reduce emissions

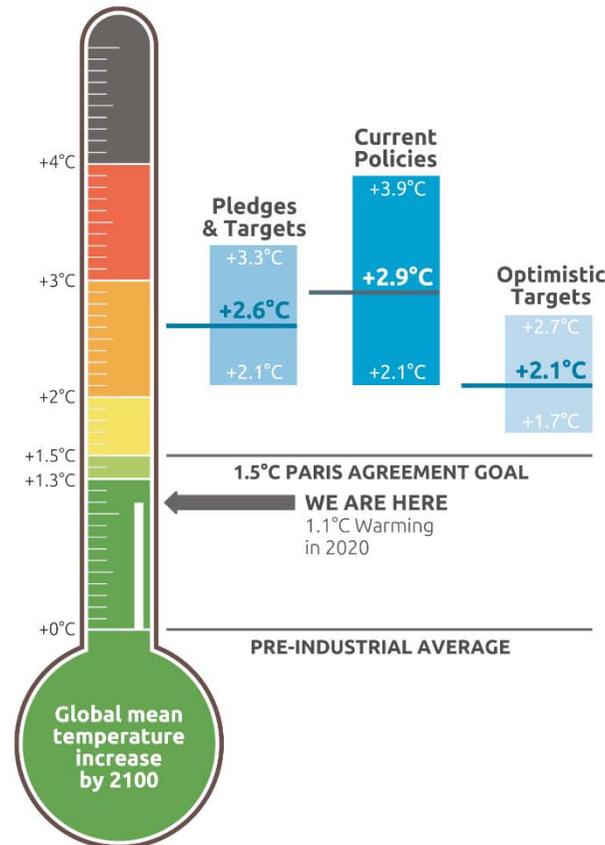
Over the next 20-30 years, changes will not be affected by how we reduce emissions now

Climate will change – but it might be difficult to identify a trend in the short term

The global picture

Future emissions depend on

- Changes to the global economy
- National and international policies to reduce emissions



CAT warming projections
Global temperature increase by 2100

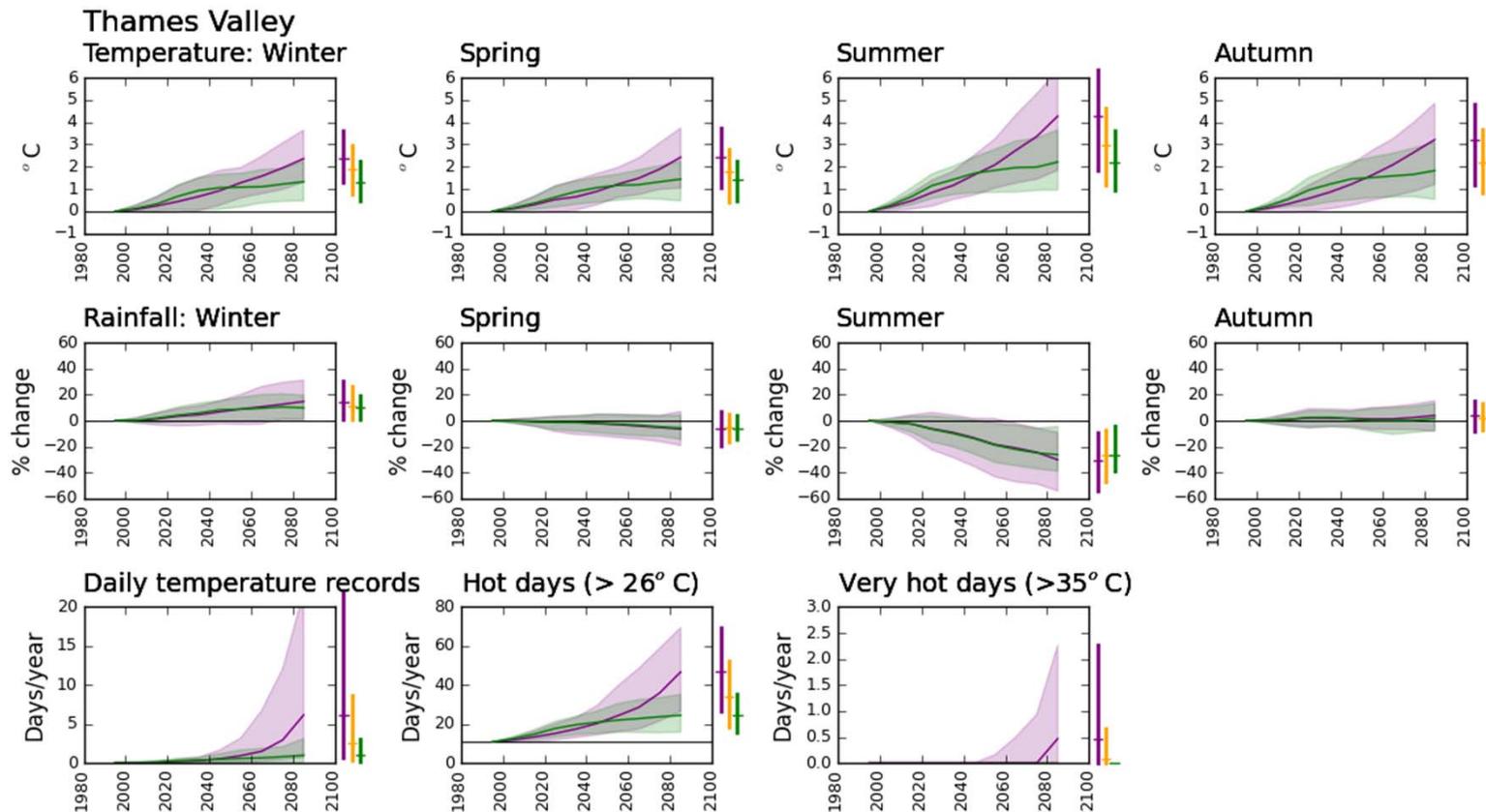
December 2020 Update

Changing climate in the Thames Valley

4° C pathway

3° C pathway

2° C pathway



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UKCP18 probabilistic projections

Sampled for 2, 3 and 4°C pathways: change relative to 1981-2010

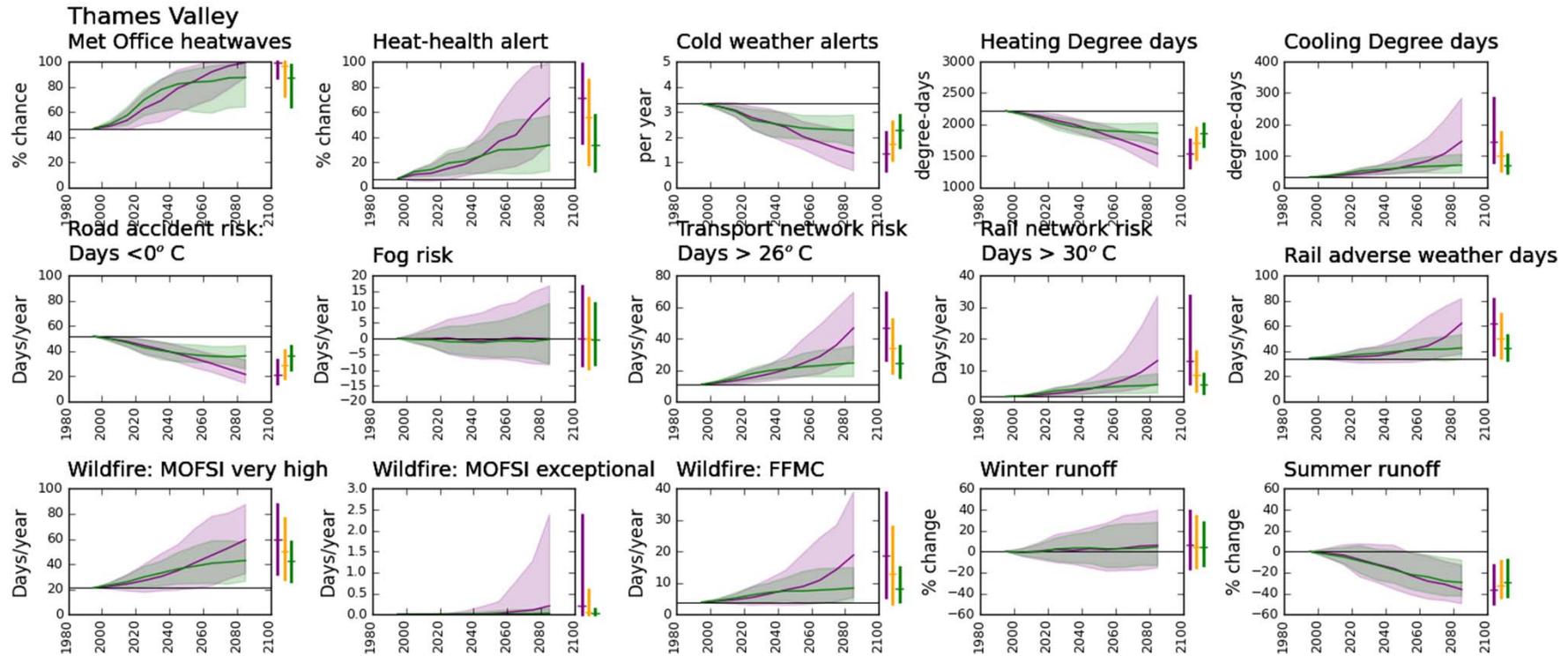
Changing risks in the Thames Valley University of Reading

4° C pathway

3° C pathway

2° C pathway

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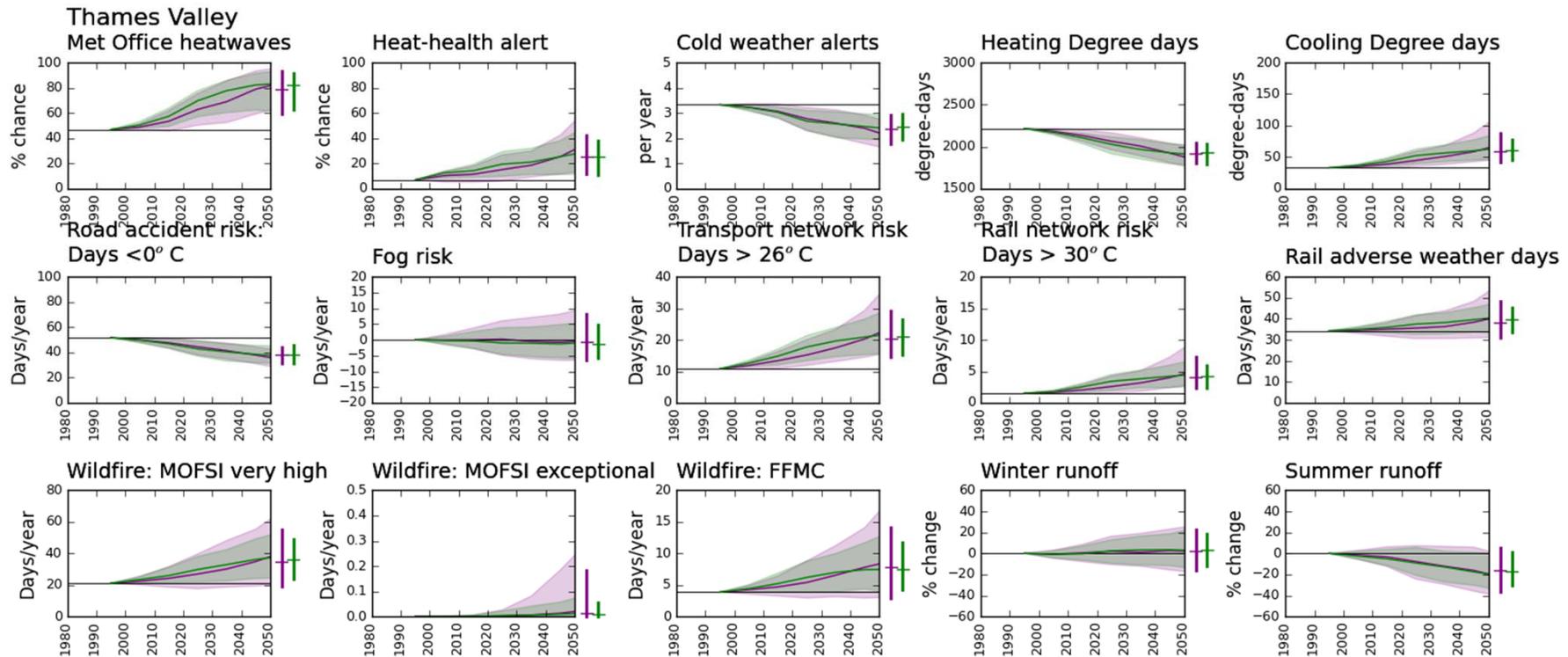


UKCP18 probabilistic projections
 Sampled for 2, 3 and 4°C pathways

The next 30 years

4° C pathway

2° C pathway



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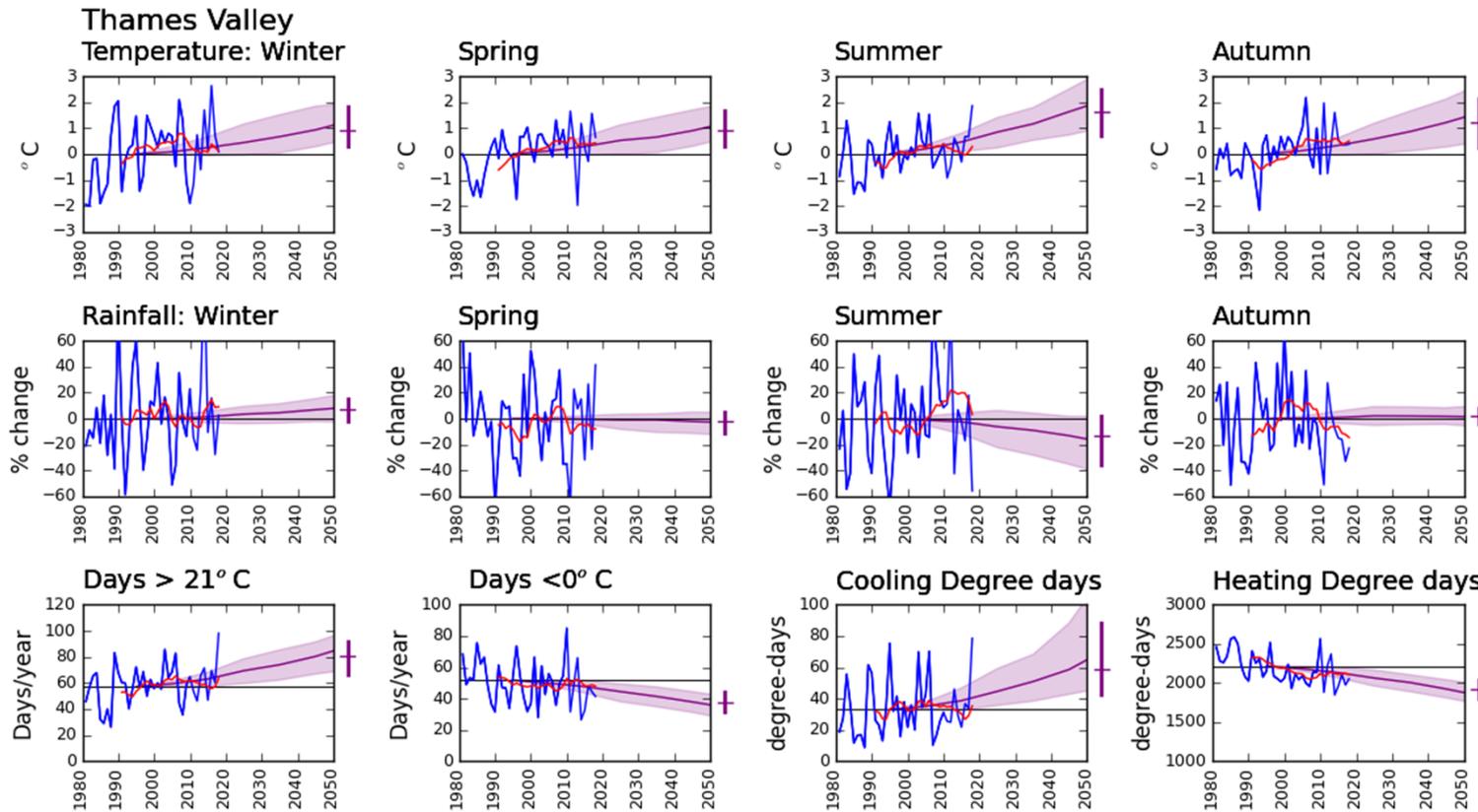
UKCP18 probabilistic projections

Sampled for 2, 3 and 4°C pathways: note change in axis limits

Trends and future changes

4° C pathway

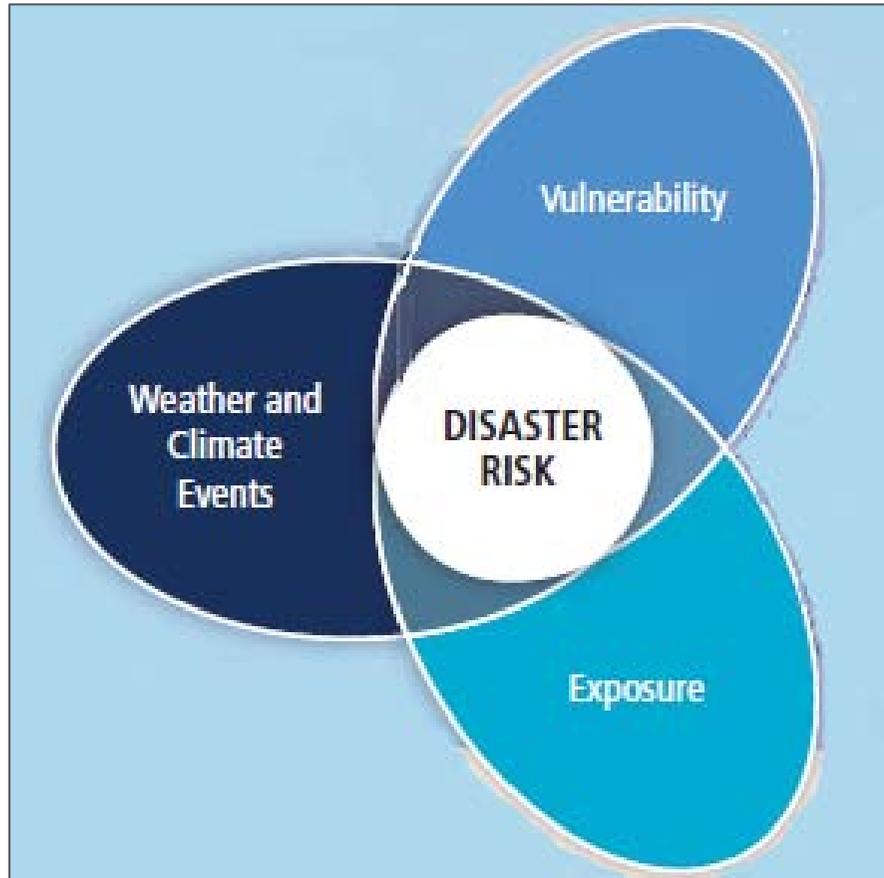
Observed



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UKCP18 probabilistic projections, 4°C pathway
 Observed data to 2018. Red line is 10-year mean

Future risk



Future risk is a function of **hazard**, **exposure** and **vulnerability**.

Reducing exposure and vulnerability reduces risks

Key conclusions

A changing climate will alter appreciably climate risks and resources in the Thames Valley

Changes in climate over the long term are strongly affected by global actions to reduce emissions

Over the next 20-30 years, changes will not be affected by how we reduce emissions now

Climate will change – but it might be difficult to identify a trend in the short term

Thank you

n.w.arnell@reading.ac.uk

Climate Change Strategies & Action Plans: Critical Success Factors

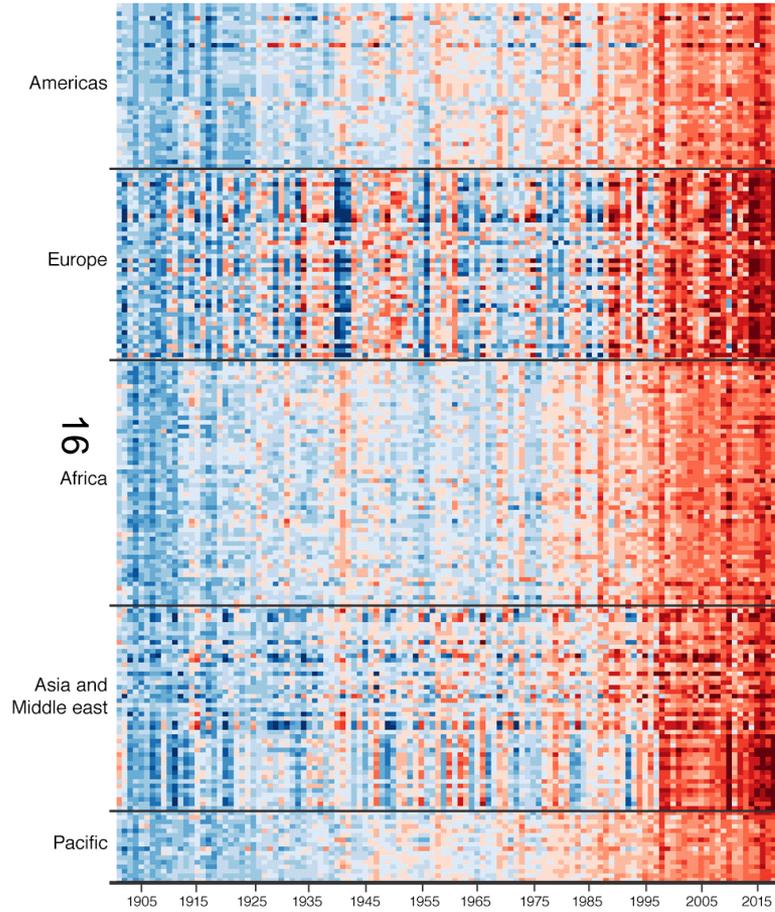
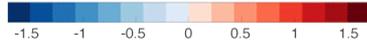
Professor Tim Dixon

¹⁵
Professor in Sustainable Futures in the Built Environment and Co-Chair RCCP



Temperature changes around the world (1901-2018)

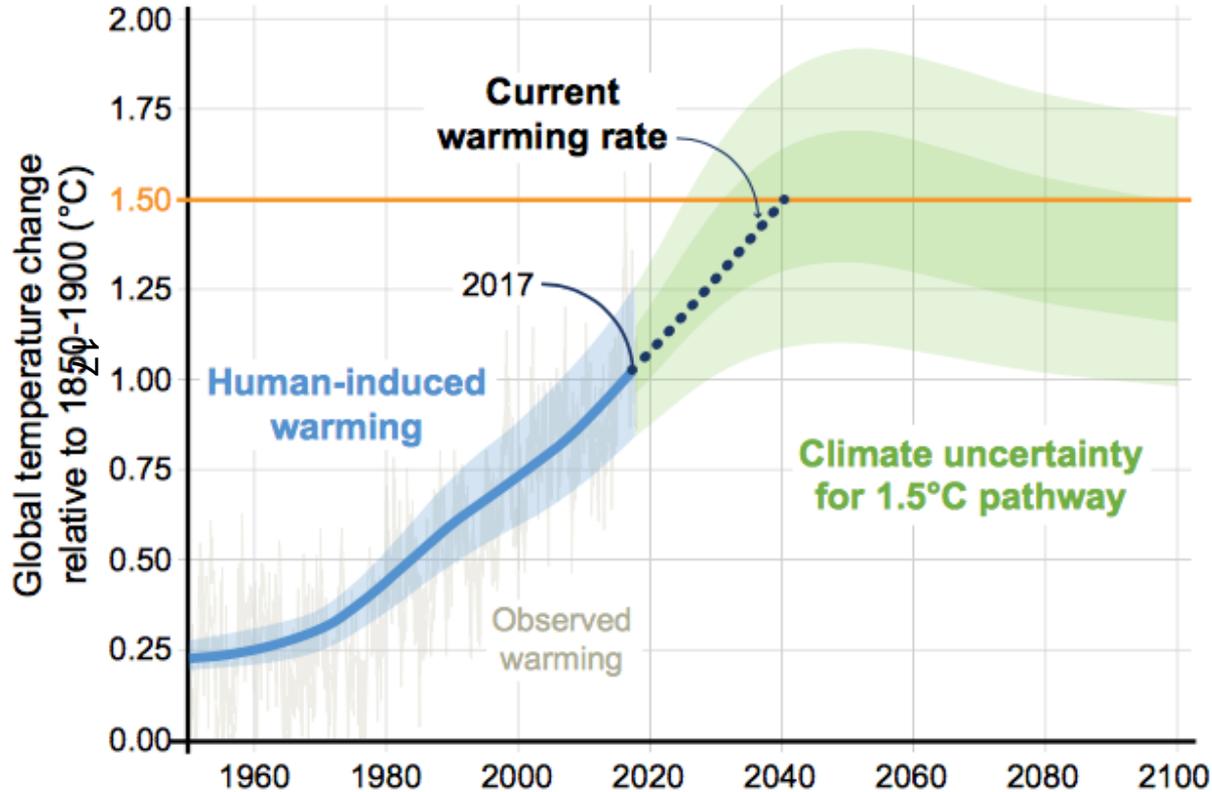
Temperature relative to average for whole period
(degrees Celsius)



Source: Ed Hawkins/Reading University



How close are we to 1.5°C? (IPCC, 2018)



- ‘Acting on the science...’
- Evidence-based
- Winning the argument
- Not if, but how soon can emissions be cut?

Our Key Actions

We will:

- Call on government for increased powers and resources and to lead through national policies, taxation etc
- Develop and deliver a One City Climate Strategy, working with City Office Partners
- Deliver a climate change public engagement programme
- Call on government to review the societal impacts of achieving net-zero carbon
- Urge all public sector organisations in Bristol to commit to at least 30% of their fleet using non-fossil fuel by 2026
- Commit to the Council being carbon neutral for our direct² emissions by 2025
- Quantify the Council's indirect³ emissions
- Train city leaders, councillors and council staff in climate change to enable them to respond to the climate emergency in everything they do
- Deliver significant low carbon energy infrastructure in the city

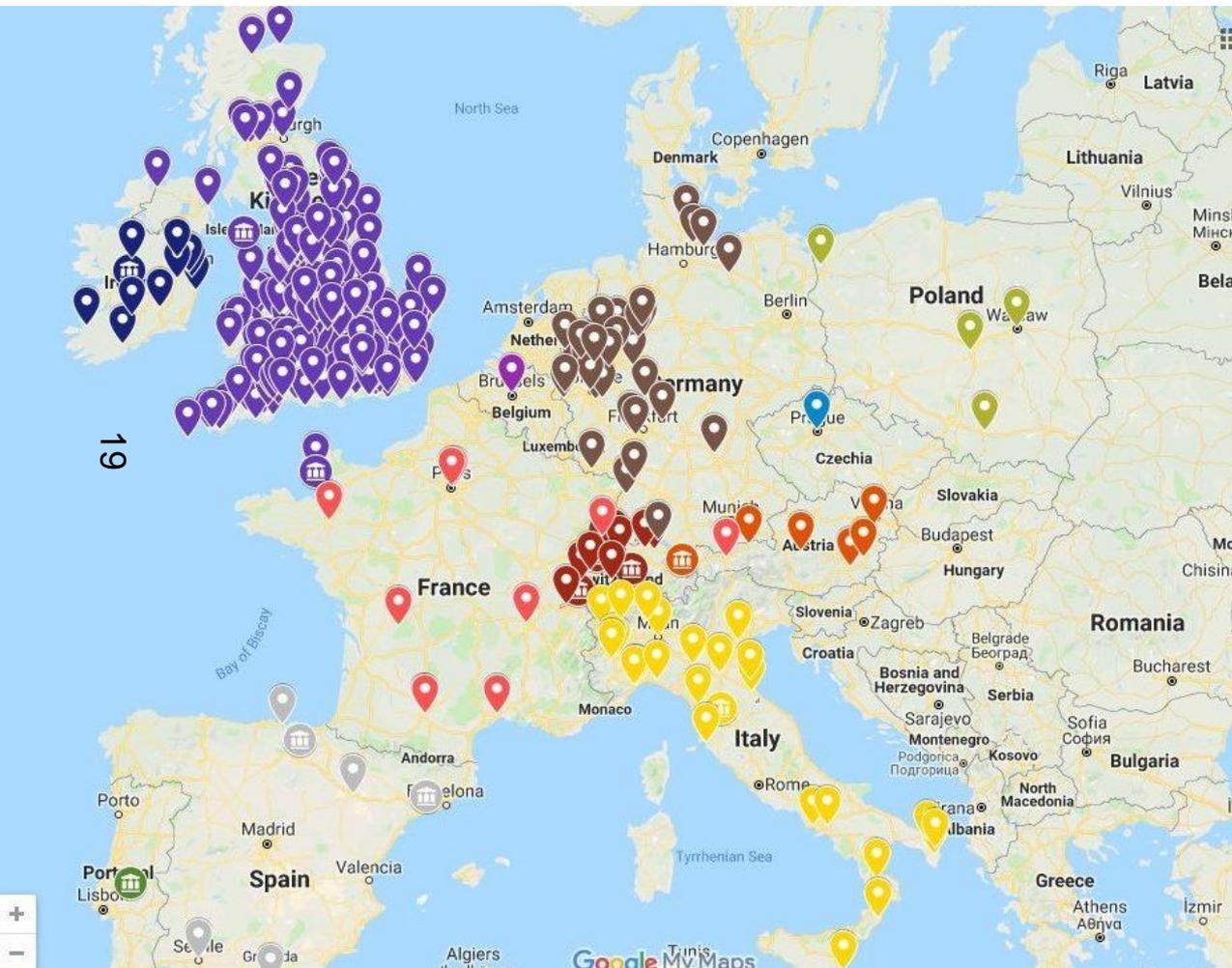
Bristol City Council Mayor's Climate Emergency Action Plan 2019

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Climate Emergency Declarations

- Climate emergency declarations in 1,840 jurisdictions and local governments cover 820 million citizens



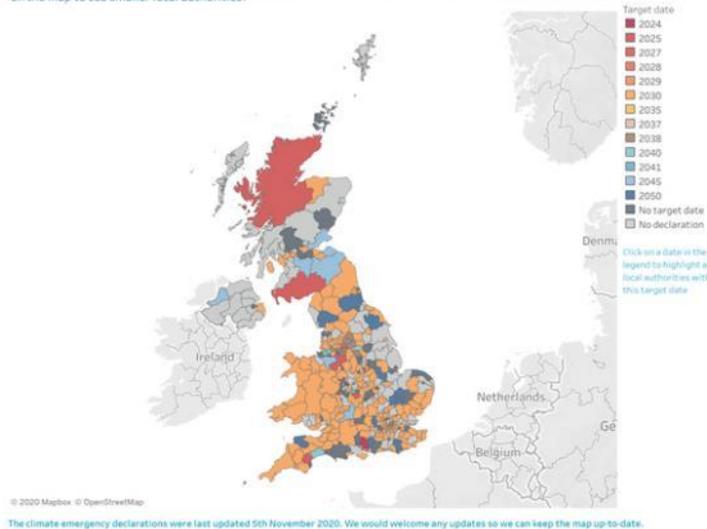
Source: <http://projects.exeter.ac.uk/igov/new-thinking-climate-emergency-declarations-accelerating-decarbonisation/>

Climate Emergency Declarations

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Climate emergency declarations

Hover over the map to see more detail. Click on a local authority to filter the detailed emissions data below, and to view a URL link in the map tooltip for the climate emergency declaration (if applicable). You can zoom in on the map to see smaller local authorities.



Oxford

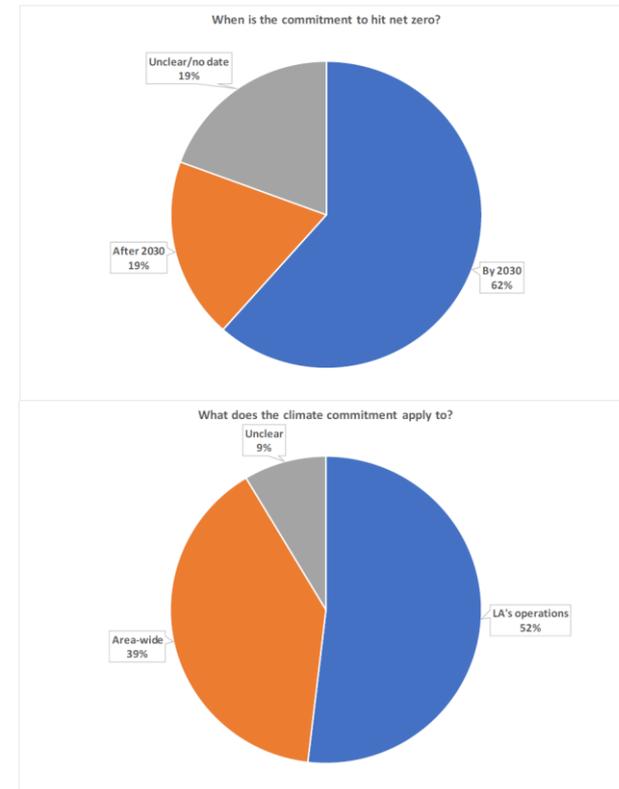
Oxford has declared a climate emergency

The date for achieving target set in the climate emergency is 2050

Between 2005 and 2018, per capita emissions in Oxford decreased by 2.92 tonnes of carbon dioxide

This equates to a -41.3% change in per capita emissions between 2005 and 2018

Source: Aether-UK



Source: APSE, 2020

Berkshire: Climate Change Strategies

Unitary authority	Climate Emergency Declaration?	Target	Year	Strategy/ Action Plan?
West Berks 21	Yes	'Carbon neutral'	2030	Yes (Environment)
Reading	Yes	'Net zero'	2030	Yes
Wokingham	Yes	'Net zero' (carbon neutral)	2030	Yes
Slough	Yes	'Net zero'	2050	In progress
Windsor & Maidenhead	Yes	'Net Zero'	2050	Yes
Bracknell Forest	No	'Carbon neutral'	2050	In progress

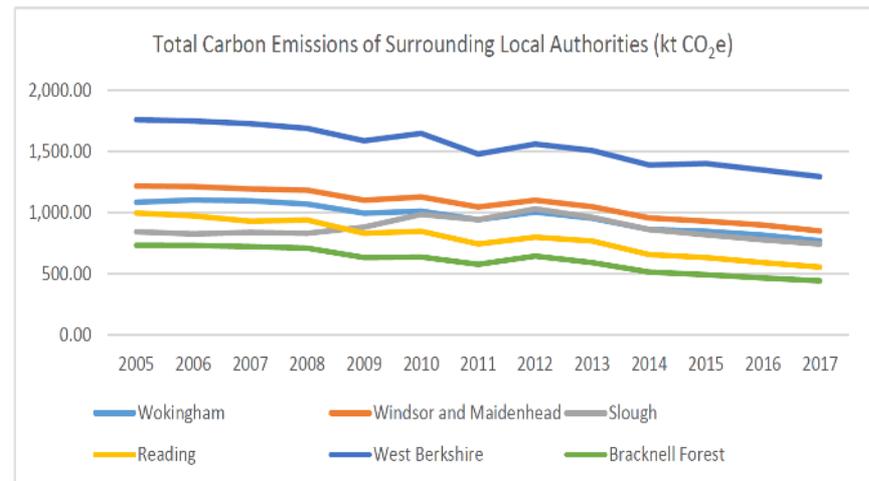


Figure 3 Total Carbon Dioxide Emissions of Surrounding Local Authorities (kt CO₂)

Source: Wokingham BC

Benefits of taking action on climate change

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Economic benefits	Social benefits	Environmental benefits
Clean and inclusive growth in the local economy	More active, outdoor lifestyles	Improved air quality
Reduced energy costs	Healthier diets	Better access to greenspace
Increased energy security	Warmer, healthier homes	Improved connection with nature
Reduced congestion	Quieter, safer streets	Healthier water
New jobs in the low carbon economy	Vulnerable people protected locally and globally	Improved biodiversity
Reduced economic costs of climate impacts	More cohesive, engaged communities	Reduced risk of flooding and extreme weather
New commercial opportunities for businesses	Improved physical and mental health	Global environment safeguarded for future generations

New opportunities post-COVID-19?





Learning from other cities during COVID

- 'Climate positive' behaviour
- Cycling lanes
- Improved air quality
- Pedestrianisation
- Redesign of city economies
- 15 minute city?

What can councils do?

- Energy and carbon efficiency of council's own estate
- Electricity generation and grid (and green electricity purchase)
- Low carbon EVs
- Active mobility
- Procurement
- Tree planting, biodiversity and woodland management
- Waste management
- Area-wide leadership/partnership: direct & indirect influence



Source: <https://www.bracknellnews.co.uk/news/18309136.bracknell-forest-council-climate-change-five-things-learnt/>

Toolkits and networks

- Place Based Climate Action Network (<https://pcancities.org.uk/>)
- Tyndall Carbon Budget Tool (<https://carbonbudget.manchester.ac.uk/reports/>)
- UK100 - UK100 is a network of highly ambitious local government leaders, who have pledged to secure the future for their communities by shifting to 100% clean energy by 2050.



Source: PCAN, 2020

Climate Commissions

- Climate Commissions are independent city- or area-wide partnerships bringing together people and organisations from the public, private and civic sectors who work collaboratively to help drive, guide, support and track climate action (PCAN 2020).



Climate Commissions

- ‘Independent’: independent voices and partnership-based
- ‘Expert-led’: small expert groups which advise
- ‘Local authority’: broader groupings but LA-led
- ‘Third sector’: networks of NGOs etc

<p>Independent</p> <p>Leeds Climate Commission Manchester (Climate ‘Agency’) Reading Can Climate Action Network Sheffield City Partnership Swansea Environmental Forum</p> <hr/> <p>Expert-led</p> <p>Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change London (LCCP) Haringey Zero by 2050 Commission</p> <hr/> <p>Local Authority</p> <p>Oxford (Citizens Advisory Council) Lancaster (Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group) Liverpool (Spatial Development Strategy (SDS) Cool Wirral Partnership Bradford District Environmental Partnership Doncaster Climate Commission Glasgow Climate Emergency Working Group</p>	<p>Birmingham Climate Taskforce Newcastle Climate Change Partnership Southend Climate Change Partnership</p> <hr/> <p>Third Sector</p> <p>Portsmouth (Climate Action Network) Derby (Climate Coalition) Sheffield Climate Alliance Winchester Action on Climate Change</p> <hr/> <p>Climate Governance Beyond the City</p> <p>Fit For the Future The Climate Coalition The Climate Change Commission for Wales Suffolk Climate Change Partnership Sustainability West Midlands Lancashire Climate Change Partnership Devon Net-zero Task force Climate East Midlands</p>
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Table 1

(Creasy et al, 2020)



Critical Success Factors

- **Relative independence**
- **Attracting a representative range of sectors** from across the area is important in building a relevant and collaborative body
- **Engagement across the LA area is key**
- **Scale and focus**
- **Funding is important to maintain momentum** and ensure that meaningful action is taken

Citizens' Climate Assemblies (or Panels and Juries)



ICLEI Principles : City Climate Action

Guiding Principles for City Climate Action Planning

City climate action planning should be:



Ambitious

Setting goals and implementing actions that evolve iteratively towards an ambitious vision



Inclusive

Involving multiple city government departments, stakeholders and communities (with particular attention to marginalized groups), in all phases of planning and implementation



Fair

Seeking solutions that equitably address the risks of climate change and share the costs and benefits of action across the city



Comprehensive and integrated

Coherently undertaking adaptation and mitigation actions across a range of sectors within the city, as well as supporting broader regional initiatives and the realization of priorities of higher levels of government when possible and appropriate



Relevant

Delivering local benefits and supporting local development priorities



Actionable

Proposing cost-effective actions that can realistically be implemented by the actors involved, given local mandates, finances, and capacities



Evidence-based

Reflecting scientific knowledge and local understanding, and using assessments of vulnerability and emissions and other empirical inputs to inform decision-making



Transparent and verifiable

Following an open decision-making process, and setting goals that can be measured, reported, independently verified, and evaluated

UN Sustainable Development Goals



Community Energy and Green Finance: Oxford, West Berkshire and Reading



Reading Climate Change Partnership

- Formed in 2007
- Originally part of the Local Strategic Partnership
- Governance review underway
- Multi-stakeholder partnership – volunteer Board, supported by part-time co-ordinator
- Runs on sunshine (from solar feed-in-tariff income)!
- Hosted by Reading Borough Council
- Links with Reading 2050 Vision (<https://livingreading.co.uk/reading-2050>)



All RCCP/RCAN slides permission of RCCP



www.readingcan.org.uk

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**Communities and organisations
coming together in Reading
to tackle climate change**



**Strategy vision:
a climate-
resilient,
net zero town
by 2030**

**Target audience:
everybody who
lives, works
or studies in
Reading**

The pathway to a Net Zero Reading by 2030

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Transport: reducing traffic and the need to travel by more polluting modes of transport, promoting walking, cycling and public transport, and phasing out petrol/diesel in favour of electric vehicles

Housing: retrofitting and building new homes and other buildings to low/zero carbon standards

Renewable energy:
generating more energy from renewable sources

Consumption and waste: buying and using less 'stuff', reducing waste and developing Reading's 'circular economy'

Nature-based solutions: working with nature to help tackle climate change, in terms of measures to reduce emissions, capture carbon and to help us adapt to climate impacts

Developing the 2020-25 strategy and action plan



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- Written by six theme leads, each supported by a small task force
- Consultation draft considered by RBC Policy Committee March 2020
- Final draft endorsed by RBC Policy Committee 9th November 2020

Help Reading reach net zero by 2030

Join us now to take action!
Visit www.readingcan.org.uk

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READING
CLIMATE
FESTIVAL
2020

What next? Climate Action Planning



1 OWN

Find a senior owner to co-ordinate climate action across different departments and functions.



2 UNDERSTAND

Assess the key contributing causes and local impacts of climate change to inform focus areas.



3 PLAN

Agree targets, set milestones, identify what needs to be done, by when, to meet the target.



9 MONITOR

Don't skip this step! Obtain good quality data on results and performance, use and share this learning to drive continued progress.

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4 COLLABORATE

You can't do this alone! Engagement with a wide variety of organisations, individuals, businesses and government will be necessary.



8 IMPLEMENT

Set out a detailed implementation programme and stick to it.



6 BUDGET

Cost your actions and prepare your business case.



5 PRIORITISE

What action can you take that will have the biggest impact? What has to be done to adapt to unavoidable risks? What existing actions can be modified to help achieve your aims?

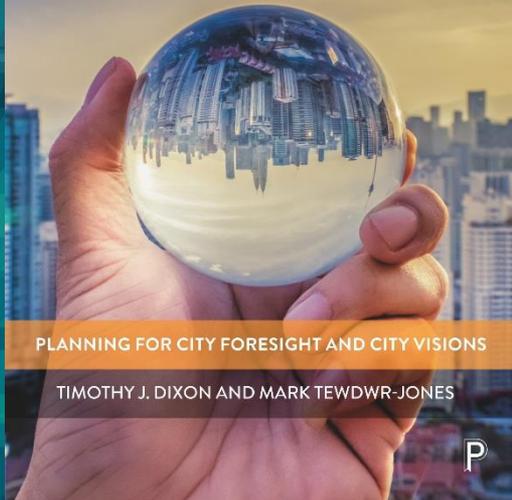


7 INVEST

Secure investment and procure partners.

Source: Arup, 2020

URBAN FUTURES



PLANNING FOR CITY FORESIGHT AND CITY VISIONS

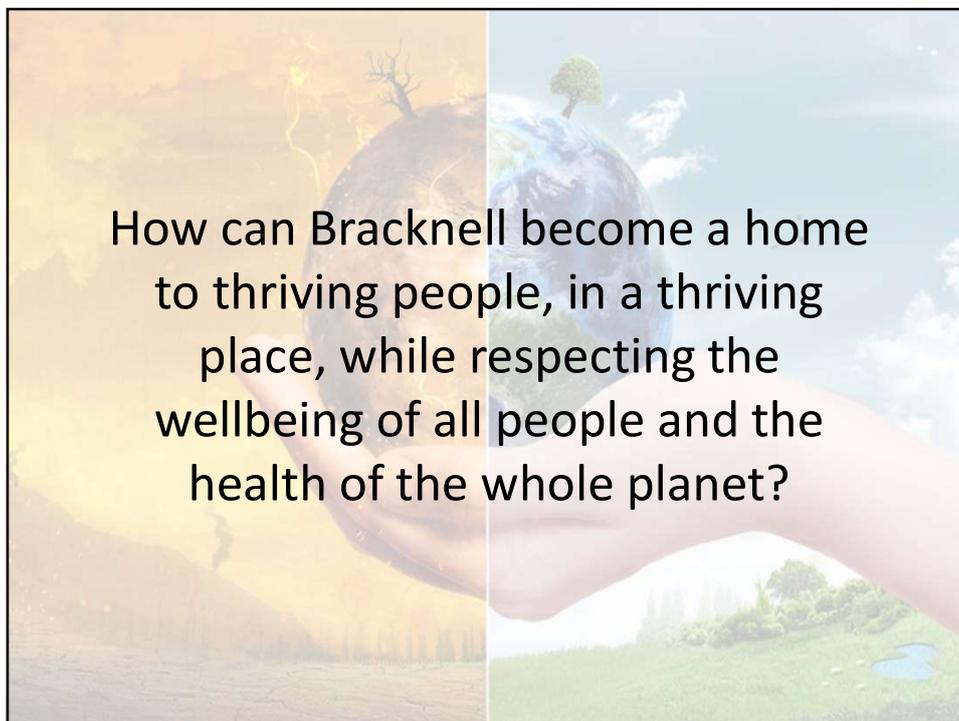
TIMOTHY J. DIXON AND MARK TEWDWR-JONES

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Thank you!

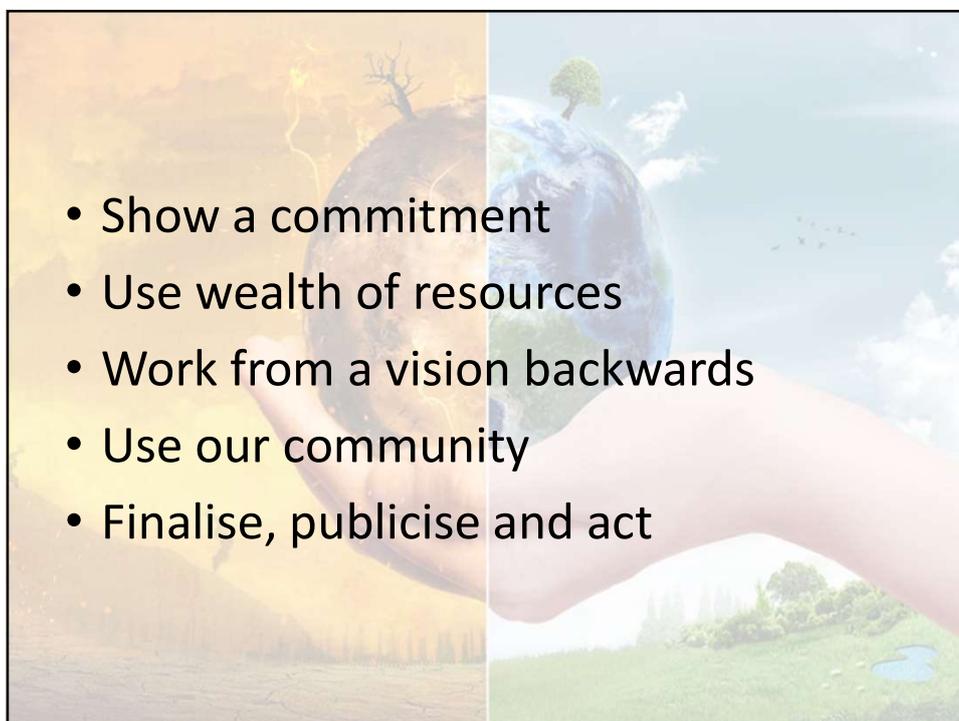
- t.j.dixon@reading.ac.uk

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How can Bracknell become a home to thriving people, in a thriving place, while respecting the wellbeing of all people and the health of the whole planet?

1



- Show a commitment
- Use wealth of resources
- Work from a vision backwards
- Use our community
- Finalise, publicise and act

2

How climate friendly is your area?
Enter your postcode to see the results for your community

Enter your postcode
UK Postcode **GO**

Bracknell Forest

Summary assessment

The Bracknell Forest area needs to do much more if climate catastrophe is to be averted, particularly on renewable energy, public transport and waste recycling. Action on climate change will also improve health, help nature, and boost the economy. Compared to other areas this local authority area has made less progress on addressing climate change.

In Bracknell Forest **37%** of emissions come from housing, **32%** from transport, and **30%** from industrial and commercial activity.²

There are different estimates of how fast the UK should reduce greenhouse gas emissions if it's to do its fair share in combating climate breakdown, ranging from 7% to over 25% per year.³ Researchers at the Tyndall Centre have published a detailed carbon report for every local authority and say that Bracknell Forest should reduce its emissions by at least **13%** per year.⁴

3

Climate Emergency Action Plan
January 2020

www.wokingham.gov.uk

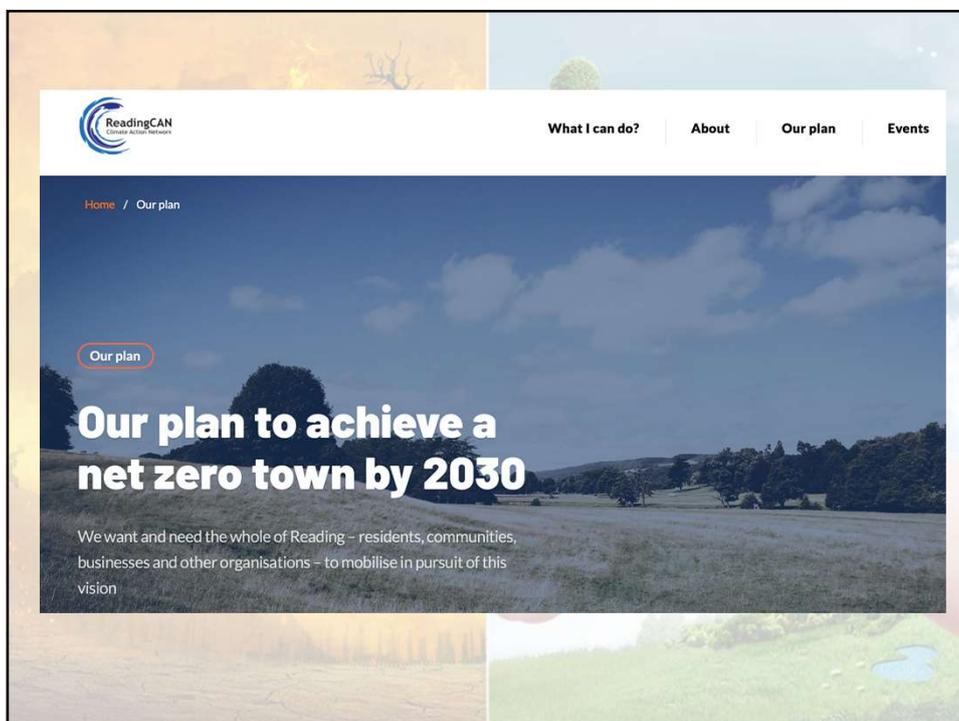
WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

The cover features a collage of images: solar panels on a roof, a group of people in blue uniforms, a field of colorful flowers, and a landscape with a pond. The Wokingham Borough Council crest is visible in the background.

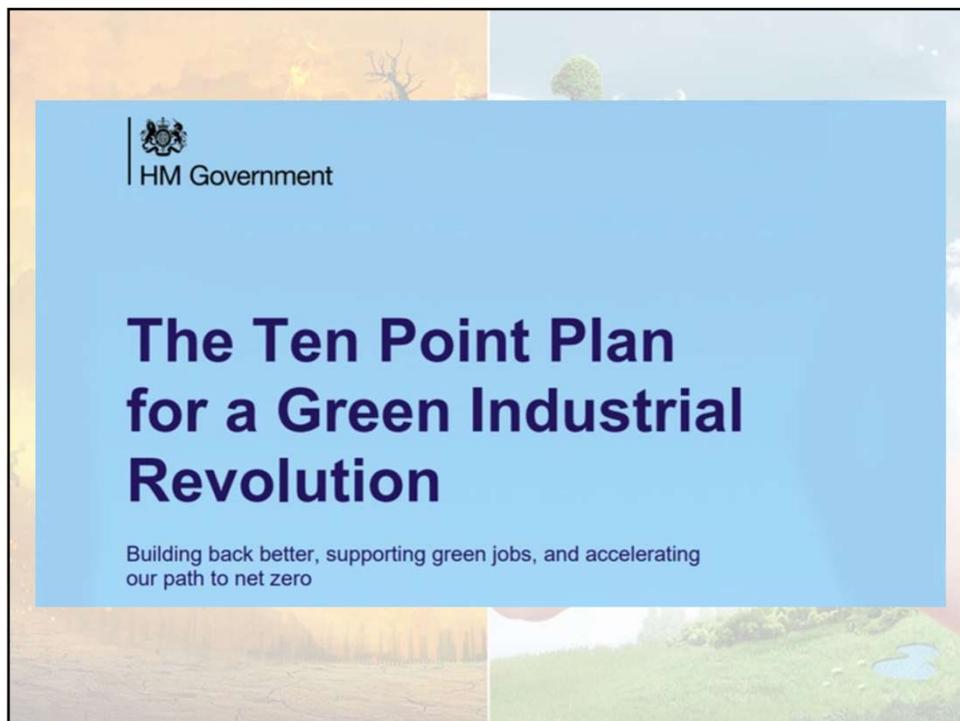
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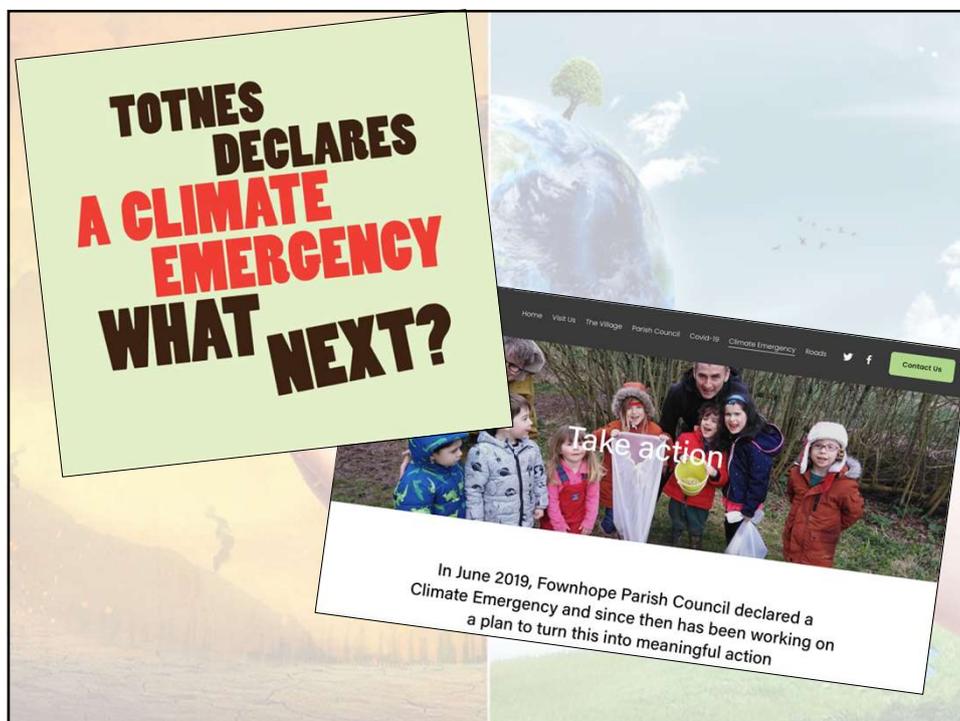
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Overview and Scrutiny Commission 2 December 2020



1

Education, Skills and Growth Panel

Apprenticeships	
Due date of completion	February 2021
Dates of activity	Survey results and recommendations meeting - 16 December Further interviews - TBC
Current RAG Rating	On track
Concerns/remedial work	None highlighted
Progress	The panel has spoken to four witnesses and proposed initial recommendations which has developed further areas of investigation. Next steps: Survey results and further witness questions



2

Environment and Communities Panel

Registered Social Landlords	
Due date of completion	March 2021
Dates of activity	Interviews with officers from housing and the PPP on 10 December. Interviews with 2 RSLs on 16 December
Current RAG Rating	On track
Concerns/remedial work	None identified
Progress	Approach and schedule defined. Evidence pack circulated. Questions for witnesses are in development. Next steps: agree how to involve residents.



3

Wellbeing and Finance Panel

Social Isolation & Loneliness	
Due date of completion	March/April 2021
Dates of activity	Week beginning 14th December – engagement with residents January – activities will begin and these will include interviewing key witnesses ; benchmarking data against our comparator authorities and testing out digital Council and partner systems to check for accessibility.
Current RAG Rating	On track
Concerns/remedial work	None identified
Progress	Schedule of activity and evidence pack being developed.



4