



**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE  
5 FEBRUARY 2020  
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE  
10 FEBRUARY 2020**

Agenda No

**6**

**Responsible Officer:** Helen Ball - Town Clerk

**Climate Change**

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**Purpose of Report**

To update members on Climate Emergency

**Recent Activities by Officers**

A number of staff have been taking part in the first of 5 Webinars on Climate Emergency run by the Centre for Sustainable Energy. The Webinars taking place between now and early May include:

1. Declaring an Emergency & Action Plan
2. Reducing Energy Use in Buildings
3. Community Based Energy Projects
4. Zero Carbon Neighbourhood Planning
5. Community Engagement and Social Media

**Declaring an Emergency & Action**

There were a number of key messages that were coming across and areas we might need to reconsider.

- The Action Plan should show
  - Commitment around addressing the council's operations
  - Commitment to help combat the wider town issues
- The Plan should look to addressing not just Mitigation but Adaptation – the IPC Report was looking to get the planet on the least damaging warming path – ie 1.5degree Celsius increase
- The Plan needs to have local relevance
- Don't get hung up about accounting for carbon emissions (i.e. the Scope 1/2/3 scenarios) – the view is “Not everything that counts can be counted and not everything that can be counted counts”

**Action Plans should focus on 13 areas**

1. Hugely reduce energy demand from all buildings
2. Use energy more smartly
3. Decarbonise power
4. Decarbonise heat delivery
5. Reduce private car travel and increase active public transport
6. Movement towards electric vehicles
7. Reduce Air travel
8. New buildings should be net zero
9. Reduce/Reuse/Recycle



10. Recycling rates should be 65-70%
11. Alter dietary patterns and reduce food waste
12. Change the behaviour in the agricultural sector
13. Better strategies for carbon storage

The Action Plan should only include things that are proven, investable and real therefore messages like we are awaiting technology to come up with solutions is not appropriate in a Plan

The Town Council has 6 Drivers of Influence

1. Things in our Direct Control – Land, Buildings, Plant, Transport
2. Procurement and Commissioning
3. Place Shaping
4. Showcasing
5. Convening
6. Engaging

1&2 are classed as complicated issues to address whilst 3-6 are complex. In effect it isn't as much about how we can become carbon neutral more how we can influence and engage with others be it residents, stakeholders, business, local government or central government; this show the Council's role as Civic Leaders

Much more needs to be done to show the co-benefits of doing action, including:

- Reducing traffic
- Improving air quality
- Improving health & well being
- Improving economy and skills audit