Wiltshire Climate Alliance Review

Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy Consultation

Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy

WCA initial view (1 of 2)

- Acknowledges the climate emergency,
- re-iterates the 'ambition' for a carbon neutral county by 2030
- states 'we need to put actions in place now'
- Sets out valid objectives,
- lacks any specific commitments or timescale for reducing emissions outside of the Council's own operations
- No sense of the urgency needed for taking action,
- no meaningful commitments to action except for more research and investigations
 - States strategy will 'influence' future plans and policies (e.g. Local Plan) but no commitment that these will be obliged to deliver the strategic objectives

Wiltshire Council Climate Strategy

WCA initial view (2 of 2)

- No mention of the Council's own Climate Emergency Task Group's recommendations
- Lacks measurable objectives, associated milestones and proposed investments,
- No plan for implementing the necessary policy changes (simply 'aspired to') or channeling the necessary investment ()
- Little more than 'encouragement' for active travel and no clear path for improving public transport
- No mention of enabling zero emission taxis through changes to licensing
- No mention of the potential for Wiltshire Council's farms and County farms to become exemplars of renewable and regenerative solutions.
- Complete dependency on other plans and strategies that are yet to be developed which in themselves present a significant risk of increasing the County's emissions

Key milestones

- Consultation launch
- Council Launch Webinar
- Council consultation webinars
- WCA members planning meeting
- WCA members review meeting (Wiltshire Council -NB & AC attending)
- Consultation closes
- Full Council meeting

1/9 9/9 15/9 and 30/9 8/9 6/10 17/10 19/10 1030am

Overall aim:

Council forced to develop a meaningful AND timely strategy as a result of massive public pressure, through:

- Authoritative responses from WCA, widely publicised in media
- Massive community response to consultation achieved via mobilising WCA members and local groups, Area Boards, town and parish councils, other community groups and opinion formers
- Direct contact with Wiltshire Councilors to raise concerns

| Detailed Action thoughts | Due date |
|---|----------------|
| Immediate 'quick reaction' media/social media release | Done |
| Initial WCA point of view at members' meeting | 8/9 |
| Decide whether to launch petition (5000 signatures needed) and hold demonstration (consult with members) | 10/9 |
| Member 'toolkit' for responding to consultation | 13/9 |
| WCA Working Group input to overall WCA response | 30/9 |
| Topic groups/other experts examine strategy themes in detail and feed into WCA report | By 30/9 |
| Social media/mainstream media campaign | 1/9-17/10 |
| Contact opinion formers for public reaction: MPs, Army, NFU, CSE, Academics, FOE etc., and engage with local councilors | 10/9- 17/10 |
| Write and publish full WCA report | 30/09 |
| County Hall demonstration (if agreed) | 19/10 |

WCA member 'toolkit'

Set of materials on website to help member groups and individual s to respond effectively to the consultation:

Press releases

- Guidance on how to respond formally
- Suggestions on how to encourage local communities to respond, e.g. via town and parish council meetings, Area Boards, local group meetings, events and mailshots
- More detailed response to consultation (full report end Sept)
- Links to petition and tips on how to maximise response
- Information on demonstration at County Hall for Full Council meeting 19th October

Initial thinking on responses

- 1. Be very positive about the strategy aims, they are generally in line with what we would hope
- 2. Use the comments section at the end to decry lack of solid commitment or detailed planning and ask for action, including:
 - Timeline for delivery of results
 - Commitment to funding
 - Moratorium on development until Strategy is adopted and fully incorporated into Council Policies. Interim policy changes needed ahead of Local Plans.
 - Demonstrable engagement by Council with business and communities to guide, and support carbon reduction measures

WCA Preliminary Action Plan Let's talk

- response planning and toolkit
- detailed response development
- community engagement and guidance
- council engagement
- media management
- petition
 - Demonstration

Your ideas AND Volunteers

