

Bradford Council

Climate Action Plan

2025 - 2028



Easy To Understand Version



Why do we need to act?

The climate is what the weather is like across the world over many years.



The climate is changing, and the world is getting warmer.

Climate Change causes the weather to change and there are now more storms, floods and heatwaves across the world.



This is because people have been burning fossil fuels and cutting down trees which heat up the planet.

Fossil fuels are things like coal, oil and gas.

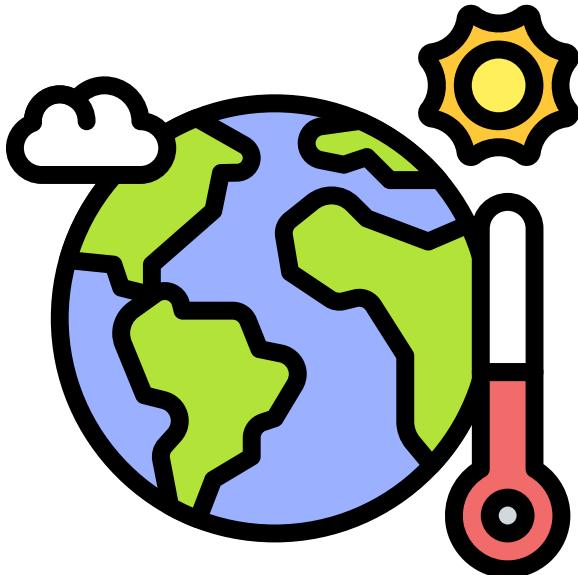


We burn fossil fuels to power cars, planes, buses and other transport.

We also use fossil fuels to heat our homes and make electricity for factories.



As well as making the world warmer, burning fossil fuels causes pollution which is not good for our lungs.



If the world gets too hot, people and nature may suffer because:

- It's harder to grow enough food and plants
- It's harder to keep cool
- We become ill from poor health
- Homes, roads, train tracks, pipes, cables, services and businesses are damaged by dangerous weather
- Animals, trees and plants will have nowhere to live and could die out.

We need to use less fossil fuels, like coal, oil and gas, to slow down or stop climate change and keep our air clean.

In 2015, leaders of countries across the world agreed at a meeting in Paris in France to make changes to stop the earth getting too hot.



Here in Bradford, most fossil fuels are used to

- Heat our homes



- Run cars, lorries and buses



- Power our factories



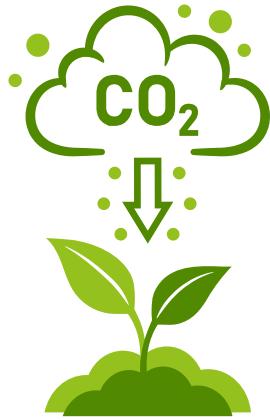
Too much rubbish also damages the planet but helping nature is good for making our air clean.



In 2019, Bradford Council 'declared a **Climate Emergency**' which means an agreement to help the planet stop getting too hot.



Then, in 2023, Bradford Council 'declared a **Biodiversity Emergency**' which means an agreement to look after and improve nature.



We need to change how we do things in our everyday lives to help slow down climate change.

The Climate Action Plan sets out how we can do this by taking out the gases that cause climate change out of the air, such as carbon.



The air will become cleaner, everyone will be healthier, there will be good jobs, and nature will be protected.



Between 2005 and 2022, the air in some parts of Bradford became much cleaner after the Council introduced a Clean Air Zone.

This means that if some types of vehicles come into this area, and they cause pollution, the drivers must pay money. The Clean Air Zone helps families and children to breathe cleaner air and feel healthier.

The Climate Action Plan builds on this good work that we are already doing.



Our Plan – what can we do about climate change?

The Climate Action Plan lists changes that we need to make in the Bradford area. We aim to reach **net zero by 2038**. Net zero means we must make less gas, like carbon, and plant trees to take the carbon out of the air.

To make these changes, we will work with other organisations, businesses, schools, communities and residents. Everyone can do their bit to help save the planet and stop it getting too hot. This plan lists some of the changes we want to work on over the next three years.

If we take action, we will:

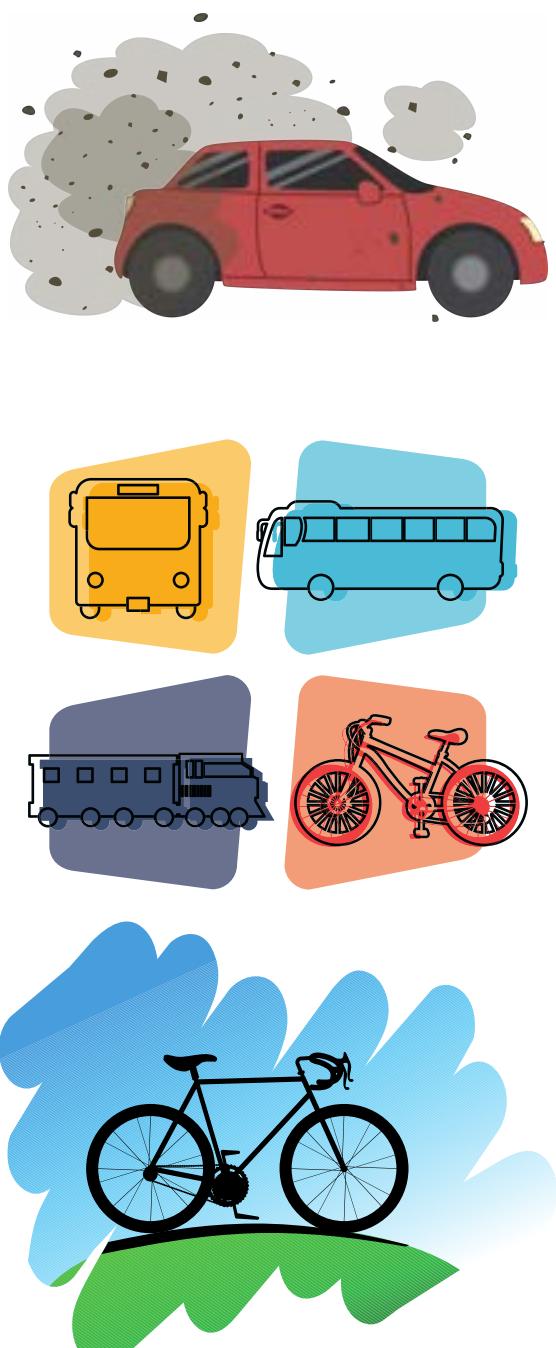
- Enjoy better health from cleaner air and water
- Save nature and enjoy lots of parks and trees
- Have more jobs for more people
- Safe supplies of clean energy, fuel and food

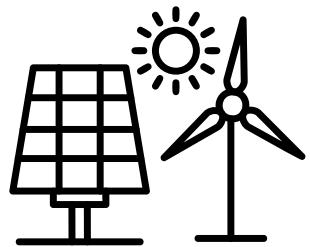
There are eight important goals that we want to achieve:

1. Cleaner and greener transport to get around

There is too much pollution from cars, lorries and buses. We can reduce this by using healthier and cleaner ways of travelling:

- Using public transport like trains and buses, and the new tram system that will run between Bradford and Leeds.
- Walk and cycle instead of taking the car, which also keeps us fit.
- More cycle lanes and making it easier so that more people will want to walk and use their bikes more.
- Hiring electric bikes for leisure, fun or getting to work or college.
- Using buses that do not cause pollution.
- Using taxis that do not cause pollution
- Being able to use more electric cars.





2. Clean fuels and green energy

We need to use less fossil fuels and use renewable energy instead. An example of this is using the sun through solar panels on buildings to make electricity to heat our homes and offices.

New fuels like green hydrogen are cleaner than fossil fuels and can be used to power lorries, buses and factories. More businesses will use new technologies like heat pumps to heat their buildings.

3. Clean air from factories

There are lots of factories in Bradford that use energy to make things, like parts for cars, materials, chemicals, metals and food. We will work with factories and businesses to switch from fossil fuels to energy that is made from solar, wind and clean fuels, like green hydrogen.

This will save money, save jobs and create new jobs.



4. More jobs that are good for the planet

We want more businesses that are good for the planet to come to Bradford so that there are more jobs for people. We will help businesses become cleaner and greener by providing information and advice. We will also work with schools and colleges to offer training courses so that people can learn more skills, for example in housebuilding and technology.

When we build new homes and offices, we want them to be warm and eco-friendly, close to parks, trees, nature and local shops, schools and health care.

5. Cosy homes that are cheap to run

We can make improvements to our homes to make them warmer in winter and cooler in summer, which save energy and are more comfortable to live in as well as reducing the bills.



6. Helping communities to take action

Schools and residents can play an important role in stopping climate change. Doing things like tree planting, litter picking, growing food and gardening, can make people feel happy, help protect plants animals, and build our feelings of community.



7. Save nature and green spaces

We will work with other organisations to plant more trees and make more green spaces. These actions will help to prevent flooding, protect nature and keep our air clean.

If we grow our own food or buy food from local people, we can save energy and money. Eating more food made from plants is good for the planet. When we do eat meat, we should try to buy it from local farmers in Bradford.



8. Less waste and rubbish

If we re-use, repair things and recycle more, we will buy fewer things and create less rubbish.



Conclusion

We hope that the actions in our Climate Action Plan will:

- Cut pollution
- Save nature
- Create more jobs and businesses
- Help communities be happy, safe and healthy

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