



Notices of Motion

Date: 9 December 2020

Motion to Council: Buckinghamshire Council becoming a Social Housing Provider

Proposer: Councillor Robin Stuchbury

Seconder: Councillor Rafiq Raja

“It is essential that good quality social housing is available at affordable rents; we are all aware Buckinghamshire is an expensive place in which to live, leading to a serious hurdle in the recruitment of key workers such as teachers, nurses and GPs. This has the effect of depressing future growth and has a negative effect on the well-being of our residents. By providing good quality social housing at affordable rents we can ensure this trend is reversed; it is therefore economically prudent and socially necessary.

Council calls on Cabinet to instruct Officers to undertake a feasibility study to determine the business case for the development of additional local authority owned social housing.”

Motion to Council: To Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill

Proposer: Councillor David Lyons

Seconder: Councillor Robin Stuchbury

Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt in the UK and around the world. Global temperatures have increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO₂ levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm) and continue to rise. This far exceeds the 350 ppm deemed to be a safe level for humanity.

Without more significant and sustained action, the world is set to exceed the Paris Agreement’s 1.5°C limit between 2030 and 2040. Therefore the current UK target of net zero by 2050 is not satisfactory. It is too little too late. The likelihood of a pandemic like Covid19 was predicted by scientists: mainstream scientist say there is an overwhelming likelihood of catastrophic climate change without urgent ambitious action. The current Covid pandemic will seem trivial if we fail to limit climate change to 1.5 degrees.

Council notes that

- (i) The Council noted in July 2020 that climate change is a global emergency;
- (ii) Many local authorities have established Citizens’ Assemblies that are playing an important role in assisting them in their plans to achieve net zero by 2030 or before; and that
- (iii) There is a Bill before Parliament—the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill (published as the “Climate and Ecology Bill”)—according to which the Government must develop an emergency strategy that:
 - (a) requires that the UK plays its fair and proper role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with limiting global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees C above pre-industrial temperatures;
 - (b) ensures that all the UK’s consumption emissions are accounted for;
 - (c) includes emissions from aviation and shipping;
 - (d) protects and restores biodiverse habitats along overseas supply chains;
 - (e) restores and regenerates the UK’s depleted soils, wildlife habitats and species populations to healthy and robust states, maximising their capacity to absorb CO₂ and their resistance to climate heating;
 - (f) sets up an independent Citizens’ Assembly, representative of the UK’s population, to engage with Parliament and Government and help develop the emergency strategy.

Council therefore resolves to:

- (1) Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill.
- (2) Inform the local media of this decision.
- (3) Write to local MPs, asking them to support the Bill; and
- (4) Write to the [CEE Bill Alliance](#), the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, expressing its support (campaign@ceebill.uk).

