

CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN 2021: JULY 2021 PROGRESS REPORT



1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the progress, as at July 2021, of the actions set out in the second Climate Emergency Action Plan 2021 (CEAP) as agreed by the City Council at its meeting on 25 January 2021.
- 1.2 The overall outcome of the plan is to strive to achieve net zero in the city by 2030. The City Council intends to lead by example and is putting in place a number of activities this year to demonstrate this leadership and engage with residents, young people and the business community.

2. Progress as of July 2021

- 2.1 As of July 2021, out of the 89 actions of CEAP 2021, 88 have been started and activities are underway to achieve their respective targets. Of these, 8 actions are already achieved.
- 2.2 90% of all actions are achieved in part and progressing well. The actions reported as 'underway' do so because they are ongoing activities spanning during 2021. These actions are currently on course to be achieved in 2021.

CEAP2 Actions Status	July 2021 Progress
Complete	8 (9%)
Underway	80 (90%)
Not Yet Progressing	1 (1%)
Total	89

3. Actions not yet progressing

- 3.1 1 actions have been identified as being at risk of not being fully achieved in this calendar year.

Area of focus	Ref.	Actions	Term 1 Status Update	Term 1 Progress Narrative
Buildings	2.12	Explore mortgages for sustainable energy with South West Mutual.	Not yet progressing	This option was raised informally with SW Mutual. SW Mutual are still applying for their banking licence and envisage launching the bank in 2022. It is likely therefore this action will not be achieved in 2021.

4. Key updates

- 4.1 A number of departments of the City Council are working proactively with partners and residents to offer meaningful engagement activities this year. These include:
- **Action 2.62: Engage with the Youth Parliament to ensure that the voice of children and young people is heard in relation to the Climate Emergency**
- 4.2 Monthly sessions of the Youth Parliament are held with a focus on the Climate Emergency with a shift towards being young people-led, with invited guests of their choice. There has been political and officer engagement with the Youth Parliament at their meetings which has discussed climate change issues; with suggestions and comments made by young people taken away for further consideration, specifically in relation to the wider Climate Emergency plans and the mobility hubs Transforming Cities Fund project.
- **Action 2.63: Organising an Annual Climate Emergency Summit for Young People**
- 4.3 In preparation for the summit to be held in October 2021, young people are designing monthly education sessions on climate change. This work will be aligned with British Youth Council's national climate change agenda. The date is set to coincide with COP 26 and work is beginning with young people to set an agenda that focusses on the areas that they are interested in and have chosen to prioritise. Work also taking place to ensure skills are in place to deliver an event whether virtual or in person.
- **Action 2.64: Organise a themed day at Plymouth Libraries on the topic of climate change**
- 4.4 A 'Look after Your Environment' themed day will take place on Saturday, 09 October 2021 at Central Library to include crafts, storytelling, talks and displays by partners to potentially include bees, and the moths to a flame project among others. All of the branch libraries will also be involved in the first week of October 2021 by either running family craft sessions, story times, baby rhyme times or book displays on the subject. Libraries will put together an online booklist to support environmental/green issues. The school library service will also be involved by promoting all of our related book resources to Plymouth schools.
- **Action 2.67: Remove plastic pollution from source to sea, raise awareness of the impact of single use plastics and develop joined up ways to reduce our plastic footprint on the marine environment through the Preventing Plastic Pollution Programme**
- 4.5 In 2021, the programme team will be working on engaging businesses, communities, schools and tourism groups through signing them up to plastic free charters. A programme of events, beach cleans and educational lessons is being coordinated with the National Marine Aquarium and Ocean Conservation Trust to raise awareness of plastic pollution. Phase two of the sea bin trails (passive marine litter collector) will also begin. Artists are being sought to create a waste sculpture, and a plastic free events protocol is being written for all council events in the city. Thereafter, 200 yellow fish markers will be installed and old boats removed from the waters in and around Plymouth Sound.

- **Action 2.69: Continue to support community-based initiatives through the Climate Change Challenge Fund to encourage local leadership to take action to support the Climate Emergency.**
- 4.6 A second Climate Challenge Event is being planned for autumn 2021. Following revisions to the criteria for the City Change Fund, the City Council will continue to pledge on projects eligible for the 'Climate Emergency Bonus' during 2021.
- **Action 2.70: During 2021 plant over 1,000 trees and complete the Tree Planting Programme for 2022 as part of the Plymouth Tree Challenge**
- 4.7 This season's planting is complete. To date, 763 standard trees and 1,320 whips have been planted.
- **Action 2.78: Work with the Inclusive Growth Group of the Plymouth Growth Board to publish the Resurgam Charter, and deliver on its commitment to encourage and support businesses to respond proactively to the Climate Emergency**
- 4.8 The Resurgam Charter was launched on 23 March 2021. The take up of the environment theme delivery ideas will be monitored. Funding to support the 'C-care' COVID-19 recovery project was secured from INTEREGG in April 2021. The City Council's Economic Development Service are about to recruit an officer responsible for implementing the activities of the environmental theme of the Resurgam Charter.
- **Action 2.87: Continue to raise awareness of climate change issues by supporting the Future Plymouth 2030 conference programme in partnership with Royal Institute of British Architects**
- 4.9 The success of the 2020 Future Plymouth 2030 programme has resulted in a proposal for it to continue to run in the next academic year. The City Council is co-funding the 2021 series with other partners to raise awareness of climate change issues and engage a range of businesses, professionals, community groups and local people.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 There are no significant areas of concern in relation to the deliverability of the actions within the Climate Emergency Action Plan 2021 at this stage.
- 5.2 The Climate Emergency Action Plan 2021 has placed greater emphasis on engagement for 2021, with a number of activities to be delivered in the autumn.