

# Tackling the Climate Emergency Together

Area Panel Meetings  
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# Developing two plans

## 1. Somerset Climate Emergency Plan

## 2. SWT Carbon Neutrality and Climate Resilience Plan

### Timetable

**Oct 2019:** Ideas Framework Document ready

**Jan/Feb 2020:** Phase 1 Engagement & Consultation

**Apr 2020:** Draft plans ready

**May/Jun 2020:** Phase 2 Engagement & Consultation

**Aug 2020:** Final plans ready

### Areas of focus

1. Transport
2. Energy
3. Waste
4. Built Environment
5. Farming and Food
6. Water
7. Natural Environment
8. Industry, Business and Supply Chain
9. Communications and Engagement

# Key Messages

- 1. Collective plans** for wider areas, and featuring many stakeholders. Not a plan for the councils. Something we can all buy into, feel involved with and will inspire us to take action.
- 2. Action is already happening** at a district level. We are not simply waiting for these final plans to be developed.

## Action being taken – 8 examples

1. North Taunton Woolaway Regeneration Scheme
2. Retrofitting Council Homes
3. Low carbon regeneration sites
4. Corporate Emissions Impact Study
5. Reviewing the corporate fleet and food sales
6. Re-wilding open spaces and sites
7. Cycling and walking infrastructure
8. EV charging points



# Why are we doing this?

## Impact on Somerset

By the 2070's, predictions show that summers could be 5.8 C hotter, 57% drier and winters 33% wetter.

This could lead to:

- More flooding and erosion in coastal areas
- Higher risk of heatwaves and health risks
- Destruction of wildlife habitats
- Food and water security issues
- Threats to business
- The most vulnerable unable to adapt



# What are the ChallengeS?



- Increased awareness of climate Change
- Taking small scale actions now commonplace (e.g. recycling, buying local)
- Larger actions not though (e.g. flying, buying tech, plastic)
- We need to break the myth that only the government can do!
- Accepting change is difficult (e.g. drink and drive campaign, 5p bags)
- Differing stakeholder situations (e.g. income)

# What is the vision?

**'Working towards achieving carbon neutrality and climate resilience in our district by 2030'**



SWT will work with residents, businesses, communities, partners and decision-makers in delivering action and enacting change to how we all live and work.

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# What is Carbon Neutrality?

Human activity produces damaging gases leading to global heating and impacts

Carbon Dioxide is the largest contributor we are producing far more than the planet can cope with



**We urgently need to get the balance back!**

**“We need action to radically reduce emissions, whilst also finding ways to capture and store carbon so that we are ultimately retaining as much as we are releasing.”**

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# Somerset Consultation

## 4 County Drop Ins

Sat 18 Jan – Glassbox Taunton Library

## 1 Business Summit

28 Jan at Taunton Rugby Club

Visits to schools and colleges

Online surveys

[www.somerset.gov.uk/climateemergency](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/climateemergency)



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# SWT Consultation

**7 Roadshow events** with local plan team

**Staff and member briefings**

**4 page summary doc** plus display materials

**39-page full document** of ideas

**Online survey**

[yoursay.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk/](https://yoursay.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk/)

**Website Pages**

**Phase 2** – stakeholder workshops (April/May)

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## Tackling the Climate Emergency Together

Somerset West and Taunton Council is committed to creating a more sustainable future for our families and the places we enjoy. We are working with partners to produce plans for tackling climate change within our district and across the wider County. This will only be truly effective if we create something that we all feel involved with and that will inspire each of us to take action.

**"We now want to hear your views on what the issues are  
and how we can collectively solve them"**

### Impacts on Somerset

Too often we see the impacts of global heating as something only governments can resolve. The truth is we all contribute to the problem.

From:

- The things we choose to buy
- How we choose to travel
- How we run our businesses
- How we build our homes
- How we help to shape new policies

The Met Office predicts that by 2070  
summers will be up to 5.8°C hotter  
and 57% drier. Winters could be 33%  
wetter.

This could lead to:

- Increased flooding and coastal erosion
- Higher risk of heatwaves
- Destruction of wildlife habitats
- The most vulnerable unable to adapt
- Threats to job security and business



### Join us in making a commitment

We can take action now by reducing our contribution to global heating and by preparing for local impacts.

We will use all our powers to action, enable and support everyone to work towards achieving carbon neutrality and climate resilience by 2030.

**"What will your commitment be?"**

Turn to pages 2 and 3 to view our ideas →

Turn to page 4 to find out how to have your say →

# Roadshow Events

23 Jan – Quaker House, **Wellington** (10-3pm)

30 Jan – WS House, **Williton** (2-7pm)

6 Feb – Orchard Centre, **Taunton** (10-3pm)

10 Feb – Methodist Hall, **Minehead** (2-7pm)

11 Feb – The Sanctuary, Watchet (10-3pm)

20 Feb – Community Centre, **Wivey** (10-3pm)

26 Feb – Deane House, **Taunton** (2-7pm)

# How to have your say

**“We now want to hear your views on what the issues are and how we can collectively solve them”**

- ❖ Find out more about county and district plans
- ❖ View key documents
- ❖ Complete our online survey
- ❖ Email us with your thoughts
- ❖ Attend an event

Visit our website for more information

[www.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk/climate-emergency](http://www.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk/climate-emergency)

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