



**Preston**  
City Council

# INTERIM CLIMATE ACTION STATEMENT

NOVEMBER 2021



**Preston City Council is committed to addressing the Climate Emergency by developing, adopting, and implementing a comprehensive Climate Action Plan in order to reduce carbon emissions to net zero by 2030. This plan will establish clear, measurable actions for the Council to take to reduce the effect of our operations and services on the environment.**

**The Council is also committed to working in partnership with all relevant agencies with the shared objective to make the city of Preston net zero within the same timescale.**

## THE STORY SO FAR....

The climate agenda cuts across all 3 of Preston City Council's core priorities: Your City, Your Council and Fairness for you.

A wide range of activities have already taken place or are now taking place to progress this key agenda, including examples such as:

### YOUR CITY:

- Established the Preston Pledge, as part of Big Green Week 2021
- Developed and adopted a social value procurement framework which includes climate / environmental criteria which can be included in procurements for the Harris Quarter Towns Fund Investment programme.
- Consulted on Issues and Options, including climate / environmental considerations, as part of the Central Lancashire Local Plan, and produced report detailing responses.
- Secured EV charging points on all new dwellings with an off-street parking space granted planning permission since 2015.
- Established differential mowing schedules on some parks.
- Early adopter of double charging points for Electric Vehicles within Avenham multi-storey car park, no additional fees for user.

### FAIRNESS FOR YOU:

- Secured energy efficiencies in all new dwellings (and all new non-residential development of 500sqm or more) granted planning permission since 2015 to a level which exceeded statutory Building Regulations by (at least) circa 20%.
- Working on a project led by UCLan funded through the Place-Based Climate Action Network (PCAN) exploring how we can take a citizen-led co-produced approach to address the climate emergency and promote local economic and social benefits.
- Facilitated significant improvements to the thermal efficiency of private sector housing stock, through grant funded programmes.

### YOUR COUNCIL:

- Convened & completed a cross-party Climate Task & Finish Group.
- Appointed dedicated Cabinet Member for Climate Change.
- Achieved One Carbon World Carbon Neutral International Standard part of the UK's Climate Neutral Now initiatives, in recognition of our work to reduce carbon emissions over the last 10 years.



- **Your council (cont'D):**
- Achieved and sustained a Carbon Neutral print service (held for 5 consecutive years)
- Invested in and applied round optimisation software to assist refuse round efficiencies.
- Exploring how we can meaningfully assess climate impact in our decision-making processes.
- Pilot project to test the suitability of HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil) fuel in select Council vehicles (Expected start date December 2021).
- Reviewing the Core & Major Asset Strategy to incorporate measures that will improve energy efficiency.
- Energy Efficiency measures taken, such as LED lighting installations in Council owned buildings and property, insulation, solar panels and new, double-glazed windows to Town Hall.

\*Since declaring a Climate Emergency in 2019, the Council has taken a Category One Emergency Provider role in supporting Preston through Covid-19, which has had considerable impact on the Council's ability to progress this agenda and unforeseen delays have occurred as a result.

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT...

Preston City Council is working to develop an effective and deliverable Climate Action Plan that will be published in 2022, which is a key priority identified within the declaration of a Climate Emergency, reinforced through the Climate Task & Finish Group.

To this end, the following steps are being taken:

- Review recommendations from Task & Finish Group.
- Review budgetary processes to ensure they take climate into account when preparing annual budgets.
- Engage and consult with our communities and businesses / organisations on actions to take which will help us reduce our carbon emissions as a city and help us get to Net Zero.
- Work with anchor partners to explore collaborative decarbonisation options.

## HOW RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES & COMMUNITIES CAN HELP:

**Small changes add up to make a BIG difference.**

We are encouraging residents, businesses and communities to make the "Preston Pledge" and pledge to make 3 small changes to help make Preston greener. Find out more on our website: [www.preston.gov.uk](http://www.preston.gov.uk), search for "Preston Pledge."

