



NORTH  
NORFOLK  
DISTRICT  
COUNCIL

# Our Environmental Charter

North Norfolk's environment contributes to the quality of life of local residents and plays a vital role in supporting the local visitor economy, as well as playing host to a wealth of natural and cultural assets and biological diversity. The Council has declared a **climate emergency** and therefore puts environmental considerations at the heart of its service delivery.

Our Environmental Charter states our commitment to action in order to **achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030**, showing how we will use our own resources wisely to set a direction through: our own actions; working with partners; and influencing others.

## Chapter One

The steps that **we** are taking to achieve **net-zero carbon emissions** across our own estate and operations by **2030**

## Chapter Two

What we will do as **community leaders** to meet the challenges of the climate change emergency **across the District**

## Chapter Three

What **you** can do to **address the climate emergency** and help to promote **environmental excellence**

## Chapter One

# Our Environmental Charter

In April 2019 North Norfolk became the first district council in Norfolk to declare a climate change emergency. Since then we have pledged to achieve net-zero carbon emissions across our own estate and operations by 2030. To deliver this ambitious target we pledge to take the following important steps...

### We will **Measure**:

- We will **measure** and publish **emission baseline data** for the council's estate and operations
- We will **measure** on an **annual basis** the progress we have made to reduce the council's carbon emissions and will **publish the findings**

### We will **Manage**:

- We will **manage fossil fuel consumption** by reducing the carbon footprint of all our operational buildings to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030
- We will **manage the carbon footprint** of our contractors by evaluating their emissions and carefully considering who we work with
- We will **manage waste** by becoming a single-use plastic free council by 2023
- We will **manage staff travel** by developing a council transport scheme which will promote online meetings and access to environmentally friendly modes of transport such as lift-share schemes, electric cars, bicycles and public transport

### We will **Mobilise**:

- We will **mobilise** council staff and partner organisations through a **communication programme** which will promote and raise awareness of the steps the council is taking to tackle climate change across its estate and operations
- We will **mobilise all council staff** to implement this charter and respond to the climate emergency in the performance of their roles

## Chapter Two

# Our Environmental Charter

To meet the challenges of a climate change emergency we are going to need to be outward looking. Beyond the actions that we take to achieve net-zero carbon emissions across our own estate and operations we will also work alongside residents, businesses, schools and community groups to nurture meaningful progress within the District, therefore **we pledge to...**

### We will **Invest**:

- We will invest in **'sustainable communities'** by providing grants of up to £15,000 for green initiatives which local town and parish councils and community groups can apply for
- We will invest in **community transport schemes**, which help residents to access local services
- We will invest in measures which **increase biodiversity** within the District such as **planting 110,000 trees by 2023**
- We will invest in local initiatives by providing advice, support, networks and/or the resources required to **enable green growth**

### We will **Support**:

- We will support opportunities for **Active Travel schemes** that enhance walking and cycling infrastructure across the District
- We will support **the implementation of the 10 point plan** for a Green Industrial Revolution by ensuring that we are best placed to secure funding for investment within North Norfolk
- We will support **the emerging clean energy sector** by working with partners to enable innovative projects such as hydrogen energy and community renewable energy schemes

### We will **Inspire**:

- We will inspire **citizens** throughout North Norfolk by delivering a climate change public engagement programme which will seek to improve 'carbon literacy' across the District
- We will inspire **businesses** within the District by providing a platform to promote 'green business' activities at council run events such as the annual Greenbuild event
- We will inspire **a new generation** of carbon reduction champions – young or old we want to help everyone to reduce their carbon footprint

## Chapter Three

# Our Environmental Charter

### You can **take part**

- You can **take part by joining** in with public consultations and local events such as 'the big tree giveaway' and the 'Environment Forum'
- You can **take part in practical actions on climate change** by joining an environmental campaign, community group or activities in your own local community
- You can **take part in supporting local businesses** that are proactively making changes to improve the local environmental and reduce their own carbon footprint

### You can **Share**

- You can **share news** about council events, local activities and environmental campaigns
- You can **share information** about climate change and environmental challenges with friends and family

### You can **Sign Up**

- You can **sign up to personal pledges** to commit to changing your own actions to ones that will have a more positive impact upon the environment
- [You can sign up](#) to **find out** about to find out news, events and things that you can do to take action to address the climate change and environmental crisis.