

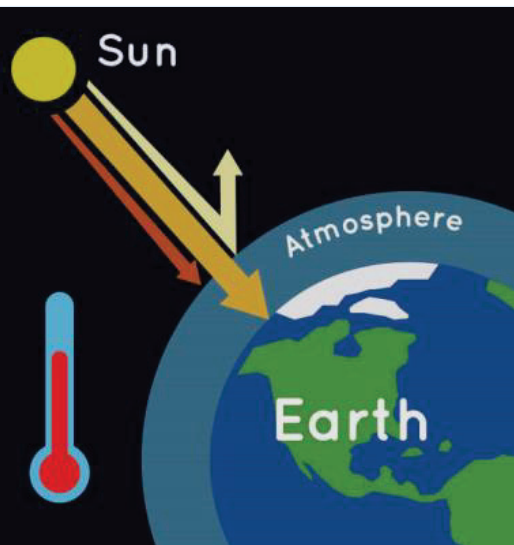
# Canterbury City Council has declared a **Climate Emergency.**

## What does this mean and what can you do?

**CCAP**  
Canterbury  
Climate  
Action  
Partnership



# The weather is changing



This is caused by too much waste gas (carbon dioxide emissions) from our home heating, vehicle exhausts, power stations, factories and farms.

This carbon dioxide is trapping heat inside the atmosphere, changing the earth's weather patterns. If we don't stop making so much carbon dioxide very soon, the weather will become dangerously and irreversibly unstable.

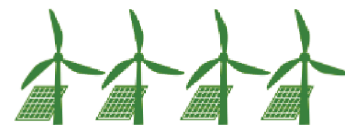
The problem is so bad that our national government and Canterbury City Council class it as an **emergency**.

The world's scientists say that **we must halve our carbon dioxide emissions by 2030**. By 2040 we should produce no more carbon dioxide than the earth's systems can absorb. This is referred to as 'net zero'.

Want to know more about this? See NASA Vital Signs [www.climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/](http://www.climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/)

## What do we need to do?

Over the next ten years, we need to switch away from diesel and petrol in our vehicles and away from gas and oil heating in our homes. Instead, we need to use clean, renewable electricity.



At the same time, we need to reduce the amount of things that we buy and throw away. Every item that we buy takes energy to make it and creates carbon dioxide. We need to choose carefully and keep things for a long time. We need to mend and reuse them for as long as we can.



Want to know more about this? See Committee on Climate Change [www.theccc.org.uk](http://www.theccc.org.uk)

# This change needs a massive collective effort

The scale and urgency of the challenge require a huge response and every person must participate...

## Personal choice



The choices we make as individuals can reduce our impact on the causes of climate change. We can all reduce our shopping for unnecessary items, reduce our travel and save energy at home. Eating less meat helps, too.

...but because some of us require help to do this, our government will also need to make big changes:

## Incentives



Grants and discount schemes will be needed to help people on lower incomes to reduce the emissions from their homes, transport and consumption.

## Taxation



Taxation on activities that lead to high emissions, such as fossil-fuel powered vehicles, building construction and luxury products will need to be introduced progressively to reduce these damaging activities.

## Regulation



New rules such as low- and zero-emission zones, new building regulations, and rules on single-use plastics and business operation will be necessary to reduce emissions.

**The climate emergency requires an emergency response.**

# What can I do?

Everyone should make preparations for a resilient future:

## Plan



Planning for a lifestyle that involves buying and travelling less makes sense. In the short term it will save money and give more time. In the long run it will make you and your family more resilient, happier and healthier.

The effort needs to be collective, and must include everyone and everything that society does. The United Nations have said that rapid transformation of the way our society works is necessary. We are all in this together.

## Participate



Get involved in your local community groups and in the democratic processes for the district. Make sure you have your say in the tough decisions that need to be made on how to reduce emissions in our area.

## Plant



If you can, grow some of your own food. Encourage nature by planting trees and wildlife-friendly plants in your garden, or in a local allotment or community garden.

## People power



You, your family and your friends all have power in the ways that you purchase products, vote in elections, and run your workplace. The more people that voice the desire for changes to address the causes of climate heating, the more likely there will be an effective emergency response.

Want to know more about what you can do? See [www.52climateactions.com](http://www.52climateactions.com)

**CCAP**  
Canterbury  
Climate  
Action  
Partnership



A partnership of local residents, organisations and institutions working together to help Canterbury City and District act on Climate Change.  
Get in touch: [ccap.org.uk](http://ccap.org.uk)

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