



# TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IN UK AND IRISH LOCAL AUTHORITIES

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Provided to NFLA All Ireland meeting 5<sup>th</sup> June &

NFLA English and Welsh Forum joint meeting

12<sup>th</sup> June 2020



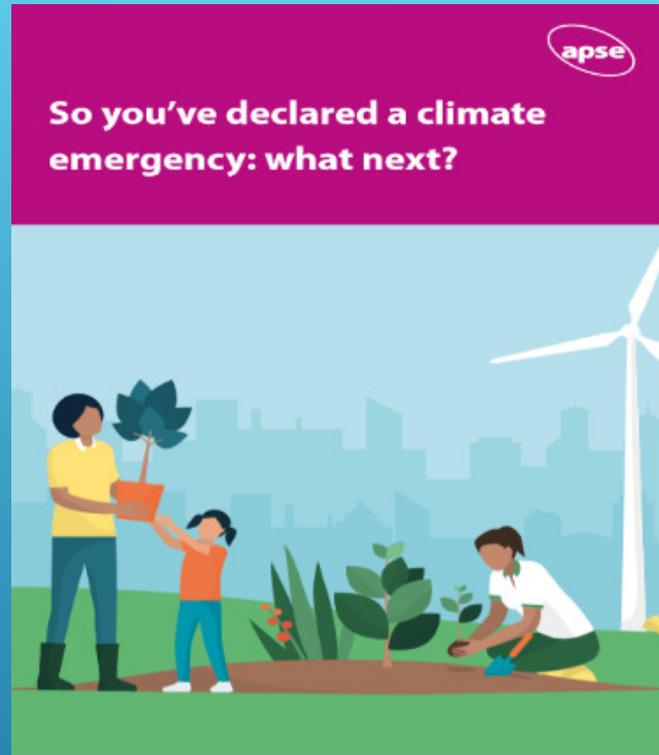
## CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

Almost 300 local authorities across the UK and Ireland have declared a climate emergency since Bristol City Council made the first declaration in November 2018.



- ▶ 1. Buy renewable energy;
- ▶ 2. Build renewable energy;
- ▶ 3. Do and enforce energy efficiency improvements on council properties, social housing and new buildings;
- ▶ 4. Stop buying fossil fuelled vehicles immediately;
- ▶ 5. Start replacing current vehicles with EVs and hydrogen powered vehicles;
- ▶ 6. Install EV charging points;
- ▶ 7. Plan for tree planting;
- ▶ 8. Switch to locally grown food sources in council run institutions. More allotments;
- ▶ 9. Prioritise pedestrian and cycling strategies;
- ▶ 10. Draw up a detailed climate emergency plan with citizens' assemblies and large institutions.

## NFLA'S TEN ESSENTIAL ACTIONS



- ▶ Zero carbon targets need actions which need funding;
- ▶ Despite National Targets there is a reluctance to grant LAs powers and funding;
- ▶ Councils need to work together to persuade government;
- ▶ Some Councils are moving forward quickly; others falling behind;
- ▶ Central and devolved governments should seek to create low carbon energy partnerships with LAs, rather than supporting projects in a haphazard way.

**CENTRAL GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO WORK WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT IF ITS GOING TO MEET ZERO CARBON TARGETS**

- ▶ In Warrington, Nottingham, West Suffolk solar projects generating income for the Councils;
- ▶ Bristol's City Leap aims to attract investment of up to £1bn;
- ▶ EU Regional Development Funding (e.g. to install solar & batteries in council housing);
- ▶ Salix Funding in UK (interest-free)
- ▶ Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland funding for low carbon energy zones;



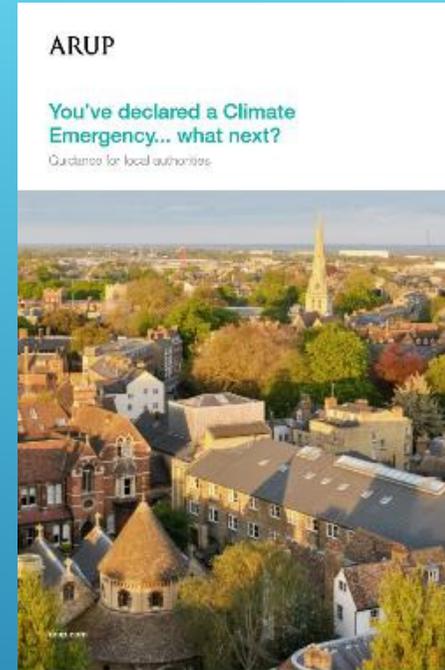
## FINDING THE FINANCE



- ▶ Work with community co-ops who raise money through share offers e.g. Newport and Egni to develop renewables;
- ▶ City of London plans to meet its renewable energy targets with a Power Purchase Agreement;
- ▶ South Somerset selling grid balancing services after having invested in an energy storage battery;
- ▶ Introduce a workplace parking levy (Nottingham, Scotland considering it).

## FINDING THE FINANCE (2)

- ▶ **1. Own:** Find a senior officer or councillor to coordinate
- ▶ **2. Understand:** Assess the key contributing causes;
- ▶ **3. Plan:** Agree targets, set milestones, identify what needs to be done, by when, to meet the target;
- ▶ **4. Collaborate:** with a wide variety of organisations, individuals, businesses and government;
- ▶ **5. Prioritise:** What action can you take that will have the biggest impact? What has to be done to adapt to unavoidable risks?
- ▶ **6. Budget:** Cost your actions and prepare your business case;
- ▶ **7. Invest:** Secure investment and procure partners;
- ▶ **8. Implement:** Set out a detailed implementation programme and stick to it;
- ▶ **9. Monitor -** Obtain good quality data on results



## NINE KEY STEPS TO EFFECTIVE CLIMATE ACTION, PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

- ▶ The Local Government Association identifies the top 5 projects for carbon savings out of 31 actions put forward by Ashden/FoE:
- ▶ Projects which identify and invest in renewable energy sources are the ones which generate the greatest carbon savings;
- ▶ Projects focussing on transport issues such as encouraging a rapid shift to electric vehicles by offering EV charging points are next best;



## TOP CARBON SAVINGS



- ▶ Nottingham CityHomes is the first housing association in the UK to pilot net zero retrofits using the Energiesprong approach.
- ▶ Energiesprong is a Dutch concept delivering energy efficient homes.
- ▶ Typically an Energiesprong retrofit solution includes new highly insulated outside walls and windows, a solar roof, state of the art heating system, plus monitoring equipment to verify actual energy performance.

## NOTTINGHAM – ENERGIESPRONG

- ▶ Central & Local Gov across UK has a fleet of 75,000 vehicles;
- ▶ EVs will come back to depots probably with a 90% charge which could be sold back to the grid during the peak (red zone) period of 4.30 to 7.00. Charge up again in the small hours.

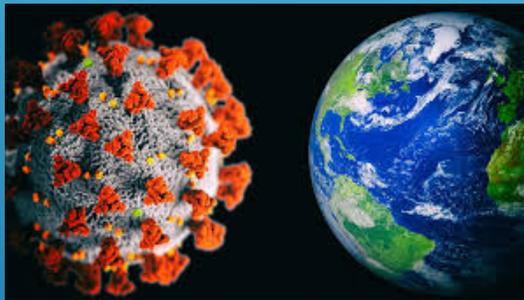
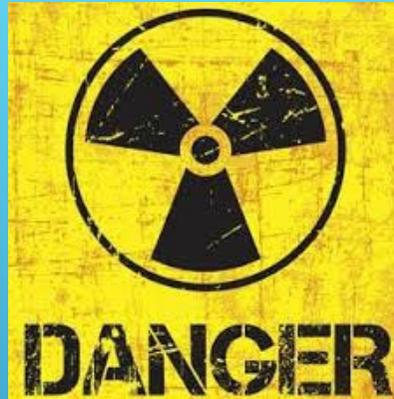


## SOLAR CAR PORTS & FORECOURTS



- ▶ Stirling Council has installed solar on over 2,600 council homes Over 7MW of capacity.
- ▶ Has now installed batteries in 94 properties.

## SOCIAL HOUSING - STIRLING



- ▶ Hinkley mud detailed submission.
- ▶ Bradwell B and Sizewell C responses.
- ▶ Covid-19 and a green recovery
- ▶ Covid-19 and nuclear weapons policy
- ▶ Impact of radiation on women's health
- ▶ NFLA Steering Committee meetings

OTHER NFLA REPORTS DURING LOCKDOWN