

With your help, together we can build on existing work to minimise the potential threats posed by climate change and realise the benefits of a low carbon economy.

NEXT STEPS

Nottinghamshire already has a growing body of commitment to tackling the causes and effects of climate change, along with some really excellent examples of what can be done and the benefits that such action can bring.

Six of our nine local authorities have already signed the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change:

- Ashfield District Council
- Broxtowe Borough Council
- Mansfield District Council
- Newark and Sherwood District Council
- Nottingham City Council
- Nottinghamshire County Council

But what we urgently need now is to increase the level and scope of this commitment and translate this into effective action.

The Nottinghamshire Agenda 21 Forum steering group will:

- work to influence regional activity on climate change so that it supports and adds value to action in Nottinghamshire
- encourage other organisations in Nottinghamshire to sign up to the vision contained in this framework
- encourage organisations and sectoral groups in Nottinghamshire to develop their own climate change action plans in support of this vision. This could involve a specific climate change plan or integrating actions into existing plans, such as travel plans, biodiversity action plans, environmental management plans, economic development plans and land use plans

- specifically encourage local authorities and local strategic partnerships to develop their own plans in support of the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change
- continue to raise awareness about climate change in Nottinghamshire
- continue to work to establish baseline information for carbon dioxide emissions in Nottinghamshire and to measure and monitor progress in moving towards a low carbon economy
- review progress against this framework in 2 years time.

PLEASE LEND YOUR SUPPORT.

STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT

"Gedling Borough Council recognises the vital and immediate importance of addressing the impacts of climate change and welcomes this Framework for Action."

**Councillor Ivan Gollop
Gedling Borough Council.**

"Nottinghamshire is a county with a significant heritage in the supply of fossil fuel from our coal mines and energy from our power stations. It is also a county where the threats of a changing climate are very real, not least from flooding along the Trent Valley. It would be fantastic to see Nottinghamshire continue its prominent association with energy, but to see this transformed to a reputation for leading the way to

a low carbon future and to adapting successfully to the challenges and opportunities of climate change.

I strongly urge you to lend your support to the achievement of our vision."

**Tony Wilkinson,
Chair,
Nottinghamshire Agenda 21 Forum**

THE TIME TO ACT IS... NOW

CLIMATE CHANGE IN

"... there is no doubt that the time to act is now. It is now that timely action can avert disaster. It is now that with foresight and will such action can be taken without disturbing the essence of our way of life, by adjusting behaviour not altering it entirely."

**Tony Blair
speaking on climate change,
September 2004**

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Please support us by signing up your organisation and/or by giving your own personal support to our vision.

Name:	Organisation:	Telephone:
Address:	Position:	Email:
	Signature:	Date:

I/The above organisation support/s:

- the vision and milestones for tackling climate change in Nottinghamshire
- the need for all sectors, organisations and individuals to take responsibility for meeting, as a minimum, a 60% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2050;

and pledge(s) to play my/its part in working towards this vision.

Please let us know what you/your organisation/sector is doing to address the causes and effects of climate change. Use the space below or write/email and tell us.

Send to: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AGENDA 21, C/O NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, ENVIRONMENT, FREEPOST (MID 20768), NOTTINGHAM, NG2 1BR1

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998

The personal information collected on this form will be processed on computer to provide and manage the information or service that you have requested. For further details regarding your privacy, please see our Privacy Statement: <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/jome/privacystatement.htm>

"Nottinghamshire Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) strongly endorses 'Climate Change - a Framework for Action.'"

**Stuart Byfield
Chairman, Nottinghamshire CPRE**

"There is clear evidence to suggest that climate change is happening now and that its effects will become ever more obvious and dangerous to us and future generations. In Nottinghamshire and beyond, we need a concerted effort through a partnership approach to mitigate and adapt to these changes."

**Newark and Sherwood
District Council**

"Global climate change is also a local issue. The fragmented wildlife of this county will find it hard to adapt naturally. This 'Framework' is useful in highlighting individual and corporate responsibilities."

**Paul Learoyd
Chief Executive,
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust**



Climate change is evident now and swift action is essential to tackle its causes and adapt to its effects.

Any changes in the emissions of greenhouse gases that we can effect now will have little impact on global temperatures until the 2050s, by which time a temperature rise of 1 or 2°C is widely considered to be inevitable. **Therefore we need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the changing climate.**

A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

For further information please contact:

Nottinghamshire Agenda 21
c/o Environment Department
Nottinghamshire County Council
Trent Bridge House, Fox Road
West Bridgford
Nottingham NG2 6BJ

Tel: (0115) 9777 4222 / 4623

Fax: (0115) 977 4054

Email: localagenda21@nottscc.gov.uk

Web: www.nottsagenda21.org.uk

Published: September 2005

Printed by: Hawthornes Printers

Photographs: Amanda Miller

Paper: 130gsm Evolution Satin,
containing 75% recycled fibre,
including 55% post-consumer waste.



Delivering the Framework Community Strategy for Nottinghamshire

BACKGROUND

Climate changes in Nottinghamshire will be similar to the national picture with higher temperatures, increased winter rainfall, decreased summer rainfall and more storms. Likewise, our sources of emissions, by end user, are likely to be similar to national figures which place industry, housing and transport as responsible for a roughly equal share of about 85% of all emissions, with transport being the only sector with a rising share.

Established in 1999, Nottinghamshire Agenda 21 Forum is now taking a lead role in the county's response to climate change. It has already published a report on the impacts of climate change in Nottinghamshire and a summary leaflet, "Climate change in Nottinghamshire: what does it mean for you". This 'framework' leaflet is a summary of a comprehensive framework for action, which is available along with the other publications from www.nottsagenda21.org.uk or www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/greenissues

This local response supports regional, national and international efforts to tackle the causes and effects of climate change.

FACTS

If we all turned off our taps when we cleaned our teeth or shaved it would save enough water to supply nearly half a million homes in England and Wales

Energy efficiency improvements by businesses and individuals could save £12 billion annually across the UK economy

Every household in the UK creates around 6 tonnes of carbon dioxide each year - 28% of UK emissions come from our homes

The production, distribution and consumption of food in the UK is responsible for around 22% of its total greenhouse gas emissions

Many of the responses to the causes and effects of climate change will provide benefits to our quality of life and opportunities for business.

We want to see public buildings as exemplars for tackling the causes and effects of climate change.

Adaptation measures should not exacerbate the causes of climate change.

OUR VISION
A Nottinghamshire where

- a reduction in energy use, greater energy efficiency and use of renewable energy together achieve:
- a low carbon economy by 2050
- a carbon neutral economy by 2100
- our adaptation to the inevitable changes in the climate minimises risks and maximises benefits to society.

The responsibility for realising this vision should be shared equally across all sectors.

The extra effort needed to reach a point where the county is carbon neutral i.e. a net zero emitter of carbon dioxide (CO₂), will also require some of our emissions to be 'offset' through supporting projects that 'reabsorb' CO₂, such as tree planting.



OUR MILESTONES

Year	% CO ₂ reduction (based on 1997 baseline)
2010	20
2030	40
2050	60
2070	80
2100	100 (carbon neutral)

A LOW CARBON ECONOMY
A low carbon economy is one that can sustain itself within the earth's carbon limits - an economy that produces a minimum of 60% less CO₂ than our current economy. Such an economy is achievable but it will require us to reduce our emissions by about 2% every year - that's **8 times** greater than we've averaged over recent years.

In general, a low carbon economy can be achieved by adopting the 'energy hierarchy' set out in our challenge.

Lifestyles with much less energy use are not only imaginable, but attractive.

The benefits of a low carbon economy are many fold:

- For the local economy**
- more cash stays in the locality and there are new opportunities for local businesses

For our health

- reduced fuel poverty and more active lifestyles, less pollution and improved air quality. Traffic reduction should improve road safety.

For the environment

- reduced pollution, opportunities for wildlife with increased tree cover and woodland management.

Plus there is increased security of energy supply through a diverse, more local provision.

"Working towards this future can lead to multiple benefits for local authorities and their communities: improvements in health, community cohesion, social inclusion and quality of life."

"Dramatic levels of reduction are achievable... through a combination of energy efficiency..., locally-based renewable energy generation, waste recovery and food production, and reduced need to travel."

(from "Leading the Way: how local authorities can meet the challenge of climate change." Local Government Association, June 2005)



ACHIEVING A LOW CARBON ECONOMY Buildings
The development of new buildings represents a big opportunity for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

However, retaining and refurbishing existing buildings to improve their energy performance will almost always be the better option from a 'whole life' energy point of view, than demolition and replacement, no matter how 'sustainable' the new build is.

Nottinghamshire already has an impressive array of what's possible. These examples now need to become the norm rather than the exception.

We need to:
Reduce energy use

- primarily by changing our behaviour at home and at work

Improve energy efficiency

- by doubling the average annual rate in Nottinghamshire for such improvement in households

- by rapidly increasing uptake of energy best practice in private, public and voluntary sector organisations

Support and use renewable energies

- by much greater incorporation, of both grid-connected and non grid-connected renewables into new and existing buildings

- by purchasing, as individuals and organisations, energy derived from renewable resources.

As a priority we want to see public sector buildings, including hospitals and schools, as exemplars for tackling the causes and effects of climate change, committed to sharing their practices amongst their surrounding communities.



Transport
Whilst Nottinghamshire is doing comparatively well, in terms of restraining traffic growth and encouraging public transport use, meeting the goal of a low carbon economy requires a massive effort and change in transport.

We need a long term transport strategy for Nottinghamshire that can achieve a 60% reduction in CO₂ from transport by 2050.

You can help, the following all deliver the target:

As individuals

- drive 250 fewer miles year on year

As organisations

- increase vehicle fuel efficiency by 2% year on year

- use an additional 5% biodiesel fraction year on year

In general:

- reduce energy use
 - drive less, walk and cycle more.

- improve energy efficiency
 - drive better, drive better vehicles

- use renewables
 - increase uptake of biofuels.

Waste
Like transport, we need a long term waste strategy for Nottinghamshire that can achieve a 60% reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2050. This will involve the accepted waste hierarchy - reduce, re-use, recycle, recover energy.

We need:

- more focus on waste minimisation, especially through better procurement

- greater re-use of materials, particularly those that are energy intensive such as aggregates and glass

- higher rates of composting and recycling

- to continue recovering energy from landfill and incineration.

Buying Things
What we and our organisations buy can be altered to result in more or less carbon dioxide emissions. For example, a study by Newark and Sherwood Energy Agency estimated that buying food accounted for about 20% of an average household's CO₂ liabilities.

We want to see our 'food miles' reduced by buying locally produced food.

You can also help by buying:

- less

- recycled and re-usable or recyclable products

- green tariff electricity (from renewable sources)

- cars (when needed) from Vehicle Excise Band A or B

- 'A' label fridges, freezers, washing machines, dishwashers and light bulbs

- energy efficient office equipment.

ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

We want to see:

- better water management by organisations and individuals to avoid widespread water shortages

- better land use planning and land management to minimise the potential for damaging flooding

- buildings being adapted, refurbished or built that can cope with the changes, both from the outside and within

- a significant increase in tree planting to provide shading and cooling - for people and buildings

- measures put in place to maximise the ability of Nottinghamshire's wildlife to survive and adapt

- greater steps to help people keep safe and healthy as our climate changes and the risks from things like food poisoning, skin cancer and heat stress increase

- the different sectors and organisations in Nottinghamshire developing their own plans to adapt to climate change in ways that maximise benefits to our communities.



RAISING AWARENESS

Perhaps the greatest challenge is to try and make a global issue local and relevant for people and organisations in Nottinghamshire.

We want to see:

- greater effort to effect positive behavioural changes

- local authorities firmly demonstrating leadership in tackling the causes and effects of climate change.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? Wise up

Here are some of our favourite sources of information.

For the science and climate impacts:

- The BBC www.bbc.co.uk/climate
- UK Climate Impacts Programme www.ukcip.org.uk

For action, policies and stuff for schools and young people:

- The Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climate_change

For achieving a low carbon economy:

- The Carbon Trust www.thecarbontrust.co.uk
- The Energy Saving Trust www.est.org.uk

Get inspired

A visit to Hockerton Housing Project or reading about Sherwood Energy Village? Visit www.sdg-nottinghamshire.org.uk for local examples of sustainable developments contained in the **Sustainable Developer Guide for Nottinghamshire**, some of which you can visit. Or request a copy of **Living for Tomorrow**, Nottinghamshire's local sustainability magazine.

Get going

Here are our top ideas for action

- Get a free home energy efficiency survey - call your local energy advice centre **Tel: 0800 512 012**
- And for businesses - get some advice - save some money!
- Choose energy efficient appliances
- Turn down your heating and turn off appliances (and we mean off, not 'stand by') - from lights to TVs
- Conserve water - take showers, fix drips, collect rain water....
- Walk or cycle for short trips
- Buy local food
- Reduce your air miles
- Switch to a renewable energy supplier
- And spread the word!



Our challenge

Nottinghamshire organisations and individuals should adopt our vision and follow the energy hierarchy: First, reduce the need for energy through careful planning, design, lifestyle choices and behavioural change. Next, use energy more efficiently through a variety of measures such as improving insulation and utilising energy efficient appliances. Then, use energy from renewable sources such as solar, biomass, wind and hydropower. And finally, make clean and efficient use of fossil fuels such as coal and gas.

It can be done!

Houses at Millennium Green, Collingham have up to 70% less carbon dioxide emissions than 'normal houses.' Garibaldi School in Mansfield is heated by a 'carbon neutral' modern, wood-fuelled boiler. Tesco's petrol station at Hucknall meets 20% of its energy needs from photovoltaic roof panels. Rolls Royce reduced its global greenhouse gas emissions by 32% between 1998 and 2003. Attenborough Nature Centre has been designed to achieve zero net carbon dioxide emissions.

Every little helps

"Whatever you do will be insignificant, but it is vital that you do it" *Gandhi.*