



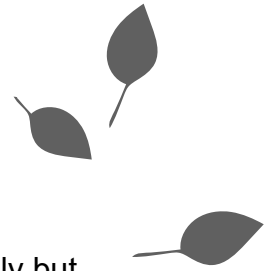
Broxtowe
Borough
COUNCIL

Green Futures

A climate change resource pack for
our Community Groups



Overview



Climate Change is one of the most important issues we face, not just locally but worldwide. Thank you for wanting to help with the campaign.

In July 2019, the Council declared a 'Climate Change Emergency' and committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2027.

Our Green Futures campaign launched in February 2020 showing our commitment to reaching this target as an organisation and as a Borough.

There will be lots of projects and initiatives taking place as part of the campaign to help us move towards this target, as well as raise awareness.

We are also asking individuals, community groups, schools and businesses to take collective responsibility for raising awareness and making changes to how they do things that will reduce their carbon footprint.

This pack has been designed to help you understand why climate change is important, what the Council is doing to tackle it and how you as groups, businesses or individuals can do your bit.

It includes promotional material that you can use through your own channels, as well as practical steps which you can take or encourage others to take.



What is climate change?

Climate Change isn't new. It's been happening for years but scientists are increasingly concerned about the rate at which climate change is occurring.

In the last 100 years we have seen 1°C of warming of the atmosphere of our planet, which is already causing serious impacts. Climate scientists predict that passed 2°C of warming the consequences of climate change will drastically affect our current way of life.

These impacts will be felt not only by us but our children, grandchildren and future generations.

It's vital that we act now before it's too late.



What is the Council doing?

Since 2009, we've been working with the Carbon Trust to reduce CO² emissions.

Between 2005 and 2017, there was a 25.4% reduction in CO² emissions within the Borough. That's a reduction of 5.9 to 4.4 tonnes per capita.



Other Projects

We've also undertaken 60 projects as part of our Carbon Management Plan including:

- Rationalisation of buildings
- Introduction of solar panels on Council buildings
- LED lighting
- More accurate metering
- Reduction in printing devices and encouraging online channels
- Installation of combined heat and power units
- Reduction in business mileage by over 40% over the last 10 years.



In our parks and open spaces:

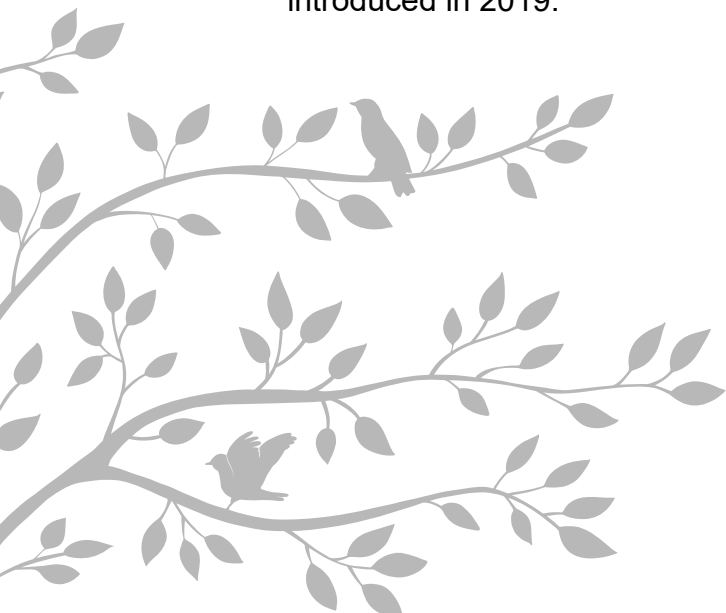
- Seats and picnic tables made from recycled plastic.
- Rubber safety surfacing made from shredded recycled car tyres.
- Old bark is re-used at allotment sites and used as a soil conditioner.
- Shred tree prunings and use these as walkways within woodland areas.
- Larger logs as used to create habitat piles for insects in woodland areas.
- Planted more wildflower meadows to encourage local wildlife.

In our Council homes:

- Solar power systems fitted at three of our Independent Living Schemes.
- 420 Council homes have been improved with external wall insulation.
- Over 1,300 Council homes have been improved with new SEDBUKA rated efficient boilers.
- The Council supports the award winning, Warmer Homes on prescription scheme which helps low income residents with cold-sensitive long-term health conditions to achieve affordable warmth.

Transport:

- 28 electric vehicle charging points have been installed in car parks in Beeston, Eastwood, Kimberley and Stapleford.
- 32,000 litres less fuel was used by our refuse fleet in 2017/18.
- Two new electric vans were introduced in 2019.





What you can do

Whether it's cutting down on how much plastic you use or taking the bus rather than driving to work, there are lots of small changes we can all make to make a difference and the more of us make small changes, the bigger impact it will have!

Not only are these changes better for the environment, they can also help you to save money and improve your physical and mental health.

Getting Started

A good place to start is by completing the WWF Carbon Footprint Tool to assess what your current footprint is so you can measure how much you've reduced it by.

The tool also gives tips to help you reduce your carbon footprint in specific areas.

Try it out at www.footprint.wwf.org.uk



Travel

- Broxtowe has great public transport links so wherever you can, take the bus, tram, train or cycle.
- Why not try the Last Mile Challenge? Park further away from your destination or get off a stop early and walk the last mile.
- Try a staycation or take one less air trip this year.
- There are a range of local journey planning services to help you plan your journey using public transport instead of your car such as Sustrans www.sustrans.org.uk or www.ridewise.org.uk
- Broxtowe also has 28 electric vehicle charging points so if you're thinking about a new car, why not make the switch to electric?

At Home

- Help us reach a 50% recycling rate in Broxtowe by making sure you put the right things in the right bin! Around 15% of waste put in the general waste bin could be recycled.
- Switching your energy supplier could help save you money and make you home more energy efficient.
- Switching off lights and devices when they're not in use.
- Switch to energy efficient light bulbs.
- Planting trees or wildflowers in your garden can help support wildlife.

Please recycle these items in your kerbside recycling bin

15% of the items in your general waste bin could be recycled.

✓ Paper

✓ Cardboard

✓ Tins and cans

✓ Plastic bottles*

*Please take your lids off and put them in your general waste bin.



Food and drink

- Try to reduce how much meat you eat – it's better for the environment and can help your health and helps save money! Meat-Free Mondays are a great way to introduce more vegetarian or vegan meals – recipes ideas can be found at www.meatfreemondays.com
- Making a meal plan and shopping list means your less likely to overbuy and waste food. It can also help you to make the most of your leftovers for another day or tasty lunch for work.
- Eating locally and seasonally means less transportation costs and energy use to get your food to your plate. You could also try growing your own fruit and vegetables.
- Switch to re-usable containers, bottles and coffee cups. You can also buy re-usable food bags rather than plastic ones or clingfilm.
- Home composting saves money, energy, water and provides free garden compost year after year. Visit www.broxtowe.gov.uk/composting for more information.



Lifestyle

- Swap make up remover wipes and cotton wool for flannels or reusable bamboo cotton pads
- Make sure you take a re-usable shopping bag out with you
- Buy less or focus on quality items, second hand or recycled items.
- Support and buy from companies who are more environmentally friendly and sustainable



Getting involved

Printable posters

It's quick and easy to put up a poster in your workplace, shop window or noticeboard with tips on reducing your carbon footprint.

Social Media

These graphics can be used on your social media accounts to help spread the message and share your commitment to tackling climate change, along with the suggested messages.

- *Help give Broxtowe a #GreenFuture by doing your bit to reduce your carbon footprint*
www.broxtowe.gov.uk/greenfutures
- *We've joined Broxtowe Borough Council's #GreenFutures campaign to become carbon neutral by 2027* **www.broxtowe.gov.uk/greenfutures**
- *We're doing our bit for @broxtowebc's #GreenFutures campaign to make Broxtowe carbon neutral by 2027 – see how you can help at*
www.broxtowe.gov.uk/greenfutures

Presentation

You can use and adapt our presentation in meetings, lessons, workshops and events



Click to download the A4 poster (pdf)



Click to download the Facebook graphic (jpeg)



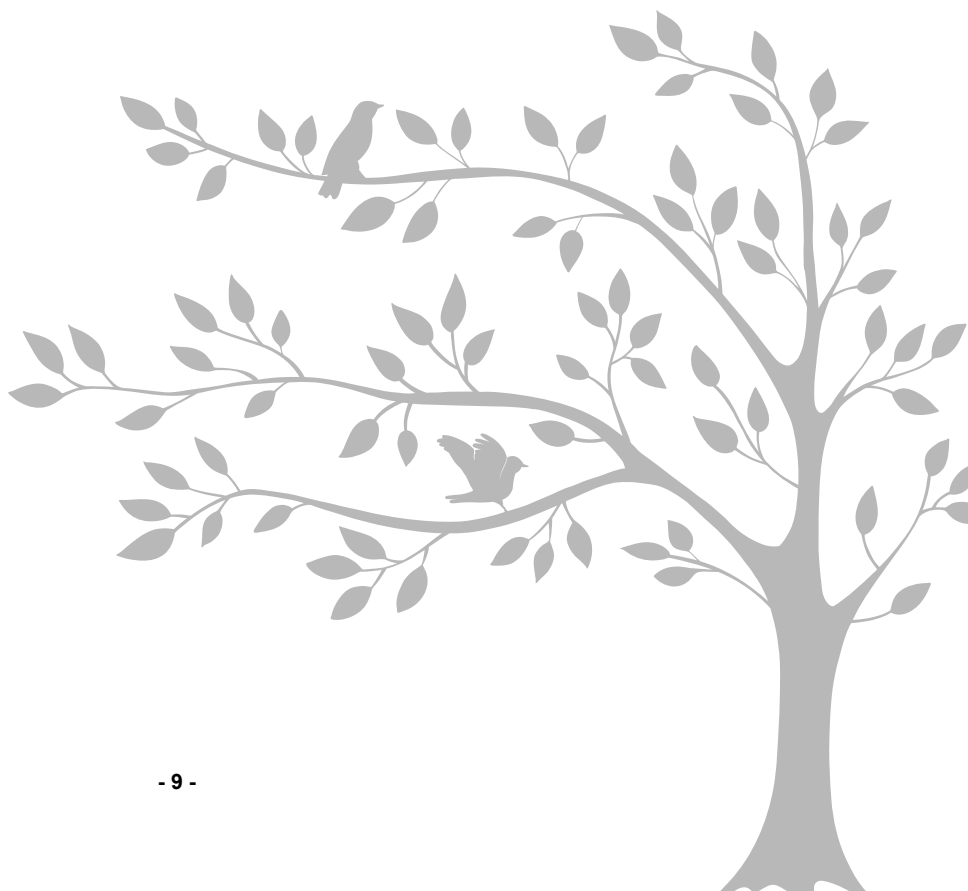
Click to download the Twitter/newsletter graphic(jpeg)



Useful resources

If you're looking for other ideas try:

- Energy Saving Trust - Independent advice and information on energy efficiency and renewable energy generation. Visit the **Energy Saving Trust** website (opens in a new window)
- Everybody's Talking About Climate Change - Get advice and practical information about taking action on climate change in your community. Visit the **Everybody's Talking About Climate Change** website (opens in a new window)
- Carbon Trust or Business Link - environment and efficiency - Find out how your workplace can reduce carbon emissions. Visit the **Carbon Trust** or **Business Link - environment and efficiency** website (opens in a new window)
- Eco Schools- Find out how your school can reduce carbon emissions. Visit the **Eco Schools** website (opens in a new window)
- 2050 Tool - Try the The Department for Energy and Climate Change's (DECC) tool to help bring down carbon emissions to 20% by 2050. Visit the **2050 tool** (opens in a new window)
- Recycle your waste – find out more on our recycling pages
- The WWF has a variety of great classroom resources and activities for all ages.



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