

Notice of Motion by Councillor Yuill: Climate and Nature Emergency

This Council notes:

1. That the global climate and nature crises are evidenced and recognised to be crucial challenges for our time, requiring rapid response.
2. That the climate and nature crises are inextricably linked and must be tackled together, without one negatively affecting the other.
3. The progress the Council is making through its own actions, influencing others and collaborative working to drive action and ambition around net zero targets, carbon reduction, climate resilience and nature recovery. Examples of this include reducing its own emissions; contributing to a reduction in area-wide emissions; adapting to climate change; and protecting and enhancing the natural environment.
4. That there is an urgent need for continued work at even greater pace and scale with relevant agencies, partners and the community to fulfil commitments for the city.

This Council agrees to:

1. Join local authorities across the world which have responded to the twin crises of climate change and nature loss and declare a “Climate and Nature Emergency”; acknowledging the urgency of the crises, their cascading impacts and commit to address these emergencies.
2. Commit to tackling the climate and nature emergencies together; recognising the many and various societal, economic and environmental co-benefits that can be achieved from taking action on climate change and nature recovery; including for skills, products, services, placemaking, health and wellbeing.
3. Reaffirm its commitment to take effective action through the current and successive Council Climate Change Plans to limit the impact from Council assets and operations and meet the Council’s net zero targets, climate resilience and nature recovery priorities.
4. Commit to continuing proactive work with other public, private, third and community sector partners towards Aberdeen becoming a net zero city by 2037 and to build climate resilience and nature recovery, delivering the Net Zero Aberdeen Routemap, enabling strategies; and Aberdeen Adapts, Climate Adaptation Framework.
5. Plan, develop and manage a Just Transition response to the climate and nature emergencies to ensure fair and positive societal change, tackling inequality and injustice.
6. Consider and address the impact, challenges and opportunities of climate and nature in all Council decisions, policies, strategies, plans and projects.