

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL
PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
CABINET – 16 SEPTEMBER 2024
QUESTION A

Becca Stevenson to ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor Moran:

“I am glad that the council has a climate change strategy, even if looks like the document hasn't been updated since April 2023. Could you please tell me when the next climate emergency working group meeting will be? As the last one was in October 2023 and no minutes are provided to know what was discussed.”

Councillor Moran, Leader of the Council, provided the following response:

“Thank you for your ongoing interest in this matter. I am pleased to confirm that the Climate Emergency Working Group has met 6 times since October 2023 and the minutes of these meetings are now on the council website.

Following the May elections and subsequent allocation of Councillors to Working Groups, the Climate Emergency Working Group met on 22nd August 2024 and agreed to meet monthly for the remainder of the municipal year.

On the broader issue of the Climate Change Strategy, it is intended that the Council will, at its meeting on 11th December 2024, consider an Adaptation Plan for the Borough which sets out the actions necessary to enable communities and businesses to thrive in a changing environment.

We will be holding a World Café Event at the Benn Hall on 9th November to ask residents for their views on this adaptation plan. This is an exciting new departure for Rugby Borough Council as this is the first time the council will directly engage residents in its approach to climate change. Details are being finalised, but we hope to have a good turnout of residents and stakeholders. Alongside the event we will also be holding a “market place” for stakeholder groups to showcase the work they do around Rugby to increase biodiversity and mitigate climate change.

At its next meeting the Climate Emergency Working Group will consider a forward plan of work which will include implementing the Adaptation Plan, reviewing our actions to mitigate Climate Change, reviewing the climate change targets (and progress towards them) as it is five years since these were agreed, and revitalising the Net Zero website to make it more dynamic, useful and informative for residents. We will also update the Climate Change Strategy taking into account the outputs from the World Café Event. We are in the process of recruiting a Climate Change Officer who will be the lead for this work.”