



#WM2041

Our Action to Meet the Climate Challenge

We are clear we need to take action to limit the impact of climate change and prepare for the changes we cannot prevent.

We have set a target for the West Midlands to be carbon neutral by 2041 – an ambitious target that will support the delivery of the Government’s national target to be carbon neutral by 2050 while ensuring no one is left behind.

The West Midlands has a long history of industry and manufacturing – any action must take account of this history and the people involved in it. We will balance our commitments to climate change with our commitments to developing a strong economy.

We have produced a green paper that sets out a number of possible actions we can take to limit the impact of climate change. These are underpinned by five principles:

1. We will make the journey to 2041 without leaving anyone behind
2. We will boost our resilience to locked-in climate change
3. Our future will respect our heritage
4. We will build more places and more connectivity between places
5. We will save energy and resources without reducing prosperity

A selection of our proposed actions are overleaf. We want to know:

- Whether the principles fit with the needs and character of the West Midlands?
- Which are the most important actions to overcoming climate change?
- What actions could be added to those we have identified?
- How can we make it easier for people to take those actions?

To find out more and to be part of this conversation visit wmca.org.uk/climatechange

	Policy	Transport	Infrastructure	Industry	Environment
First 5 Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore skills programmes for industries at risk from climate change • Change planning policy to preserve green space • Adapt National Planning Policy Framework to support climate change • Develop proposals for devolving powers on climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Sprint bus rapid transit routes • New metro lines in Birmingham, Sandwell and Dudley • Encourage more walking, cycling and public transport • Improve environmental standards of bus fleet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make all homes more energy efficient • Introduce LED street lighting • Green roofs on bus shelters • Electric vehicle charging points across region • Develop 5G network • Zero carbon standards for new builds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional plan for renewable heating and cooling • Create low carbon cement supply chain • Google partnership on Environmental Insights Explorer • Increase suburban park and ride • Workforce strategy and investment programme for natural environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand clean air policies • Limit climate impact of public sector food contracts • Extend commitment to eliminate single use plastics • West Midlands National Park • Thousand tree challenge – 1,000 trees for every 100 new homes
5 to 15 Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a National Food Security Institute • Roll-out school education programmes • Work with universities to create ‘cluster’ of climate change education • Local Government Pension Fund cannot invest in fossil fuels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand vehicle scrappage scheme to whole region • All taxis to be electric • Create at least one ‘electric bus town’ • Birmingham Airport commit to net zero carbon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy costs apportioned to boost key sectors • Ensure that large infrastructure or service investments offset their carbon emissions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battery industrialisation centre in Coventry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant green barriers between motorways and homes • Sustainable Urban Drainage investment plan
Last 5 Years		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ban sale of petrol and diesel cars by 2040 in line with national targets 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No putrescible waste sent to landfill or incineration