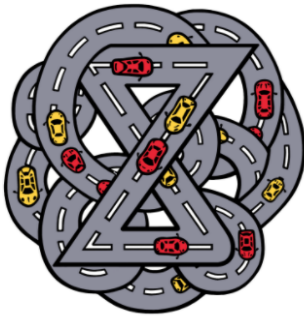




Roads Rebellion

5 May Elections DIGITAL ACTION

Local Transport Decarbonisation Targets and Carbon Budget Setting

The UK Local Elections are 5 May 2022.

Demand your local council to set transport decarbonisation action plans linked to local carbon budgets to 2030. We cannot **phase out fossil fuels without action on transport.**

Councils are ignoring Net Zero 2050 as they think it is a long way away. If they can backload crucial action on decarbonisation to later decades, they will. This is very dangerous and allows emissions to continue to increase now. Even many councils with Climate Emergency declarations are only reducing emissions from their own buildings/properties, usually only around 1% of the total emissions for the area.

The Net Zero 2050 targets set by the government and the Climate Change Committee are, if anything, too vague and too loose. Many climate scientists believe that emissions need to be cut faster, and that the assumptions inherent in “net zero”, about carbon dioxide removal being used to make up for emissions we don’t cut, are false.

In short: emission reductions, especially from transport, are still not clearly written into council policies and action plans. Instead, in many areas, new road building is continuing apace IN A CLIMATE EMERGENCY! eg: The Silvertown Tunnel, The Arundel Bypass, The Norwich Wensum Link, The Rimrose Valley etc. Basic actions like car use reduction targets are not being set and public transport/active travel are systemically underfunded. If local carbon budget setting is in place we can legally challenge new road building.

Yet two recent policy documents from the Government – the Transport Decarbonisation Plan (TDP), and the Net Zero Strategy (NZS) - make it mandatory for local authorities to be doing the opposite and to start taking ownership of transport emissions, to start taking action NOW. Despite their warm policy words, the Government won’t be checking, SO WE NEED TO!

What do we want council leaders to do?

Set local authority (or local transport authority) transport decarbonisation targets which comply with the requirements set out in the TDP and NZS

Set local authority based carbon budgets that include transport emissions, and which have been developed considering science-based carbon budgets from the [Tyndall Centre](#)

Write implementation plans for the practical delivery of reduced emissions based on local carbon budgets and transport decarbonisation targets. For example, Workplace parking levy reducing emissions to enable funding of low-cost bus service, infrastructure for segregated cycling routes.

The letter attached aims to find out what your council is doing, or not doing.

Is your council the local transport authority

The main transport policies in your area will be set by the local transport authority. If you live in a single-tier council area (eg: a Unitary authority), then your local transport authority is probably your local council. If you live in a two-tier council area, then your local transport authority will be the upper tier authority (eg: your County Council) whilst the elections this year are more likely to be for your lower-tier authority (eg: your City Council or District council). If you live in a two-tier area, we suggest sending the letter to both your council leaders, and all your councillors in your local ward - you can find this at <https://www.writetothem.com/>

If you live in an area where transport is also governed by city wide Councils e.g. Transport for London, Transport for Greater Manchester, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, etc. Send a letter both to the local council and to that area transport body.

STEPS

1. 📧 Send this letter to your council leader(s) and local ward councilors
2. 🗳️ Create a graphic on social media demanding a local carbon budget setting at the May Elections
3. 🌳 Demand local carbon budgets and transport decarbonisation targets of candidates at Hustings/Door knocking events etc.

Media and Messaging

#EndFossilFuels

#ReduceCarUse

#SetLocalCarbonBudgets

#DecarboniseTransport

The problem with Net Zero by 2050 is that climate action is being delayed.

We need annual carbon budgets to be set, practical milestones to be met, at a local council geographical area level.

We need transport decarbonisation to be measured against these carbon budgets.

We will not meet the UK carbon reduction targets without reduction of car use and alternative forms of transport being prioritised in every area of the UK.