

# Bolton is acting on climate change

Find out what we're doing

Read Bolton's full climate change strategy at  
[bolton.gov.uk/climatechangelstrategy](https://bolton.gov.uk/climatechangelstrategy)



Bolton's response to the climate emergency

**Bolton  
Council**

# 1 Climate change in Bolton

Climate change is already having devastating impacts on people's lives, homes and businesses, and for the natural world, both globally and locally. Urgent action is needed.

In August 2019, Bolton Council declared a climate emergency. In response, the Bolton Vision Partnership published its climate change strategy in September 2021, setting a target to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2030.

Action in Bolton will also help to reach Greater Manchester's aim of net zero carbon emissions by 2038.

### 2021 was:

- The UK's third warmest year since 1884; all the years in the top ten are since 2002
- The UK's sunniest on record, and sunnier than most UK summers
- The UK's fifth wettest year on record; six of the ten wettest years have been since 1998

*UK State of the Climate Report 2021*

### Bolton's Big Climate Change Conversation

We wanted to understand what people in Bolton think and feel about climate change so that it could guide the town's plans and actions. The Big Climate Conversation, a consultation that ran from December 2020 to January 2021, had over 1,180 responses.

Eighty-four percent of respondents thought that climate change is important and 64% were more worried than they had been a year earlier.

#### These were people's top priorities for becoming carbon neutral and doing things differently:

- Raising awareness and educating people
- Increasing investment into renewable energy
- Action by businesses

Read the full results of the consultation at [bolton.gov.uk/bigclimateconversation](https://bolton.gov.uk/bigclimateconversation)

*"Bolton shouldn't wait for consensus around the right opportunity – we need to act decisively now."*

*Comment from the Bolton Big Climate Conversation consultation*

# 2 Six pillars of success

For Bolton to be successful in reducing its carbon emissions and tackling climate change, we will need to focus on six important areas that will make the biggest differences.



### Governance and climate leadership

Leaders who are enthusiastic about environmental improvement and good at getting people involved will play an important role.



### Homes, communities and wellbeing

Improvements to homes, green spaces and air quality will not only tackle climate change and its impacts, but also improve the quality of people's lives.



### Buildings, transport and operations

Buildings and transport are often a significant source of carbon emissions because of the energy they need. Meanwhile, council operations like waste collection and recycling have already contributed to big environmental improvements.



### Natural environment and climate resilience

We want to work with community groups and volunteers and put nature at the heart of Bolton's plans. For example, by planting more trees, rewilding green spaces and protecting rivers.



### Skills for a sustainable future

We are aiming to help employees understand climate change and what they can do about it, as well as giving young people opportunities to develop their knowledge and experience.



















### Employment, entrepreneurship and innovation

When it comes to tackling climate change, Bolton's businesses have a critical role to play. There will be opportunities to grow Bolton's economy, create new jobs and enable people to learn new skills.



# 3 What Bolton will do about climate change

Bolton's climate change strategy identifies 32 targets that will be used to measure success on climate change. A snapshot of indicators covering the six key areas is provided below.

KPI	Area	Target
	Governance and climate leadership	50% of the community agree that they are seeing evidence that Bolton is responding positively to the climate emergency and that clean, green and environmental attributes of the borough are reflected.
	Governance and climate leadership	50% of Bolton Youth Voice agree that Bolton is responding proactively to the climate emergency.
	Governance and climate leadership	25% of Bolton businesses that respond to the Green Business survey are putting in place plans to reduce emissions and environmental impacts.
	Homes, communities and wellbeing	All fuel-poor homes to be upgraded to Energy Performance Certificate Band C by 2025.
	Homes, communities and wellbeing	Increase the percentage of journeys of up to 5km made by walking or cycling.
	Homes, communities and wellbeing	Reduce PM2.5 particulates by at least 50% in areas above the World Health Organisation limit of 10 micrograms per m3 by 2025.
	Buildings, transport and operations	Increase green infrastructure associated with new development, plus no net increase in flood risk.
	Buildings, transport and operations	The Bolton Vision Partnership will work to secure carbon neutral electricity for the partnership by 2022.
	Buildings, transport and operations	The operations of Bolton Council to be carbon neutral by 2030.
	Buildings, transport and operations	Five megawatts of renewable energy generation on buildings and land owned by the Bolton Vision Partnership by 2024.
	Natural environment and climate resilience	Increase the area of biodiversity associated with any new developments and ensure there is no net loss.
	Natural environment and climate resilience	Plant 15 hectares of new trees by 2025.
	Skills for a sustainable future	Increase the percentage of adult education courses run with an emphasis on climate change and the environment.
	Skills for a sustainable future	Understand the impact of the Bolton Green Umbrella group.
	Employability, entrepreneurship and innovation	Train engineers in the new skills needed for green technologies in homes.
	Employability, entrepreneurship and innovation	Ensure local businesses are engaged with the Bolton Digital Business Hub.

Find all the details at [bolton.gov.uk/climatechangestrategy](https://bolton.gov.uk/climatechangestrategy)