An Emergency in Practice

Dumfries and Galloway Council's Climate Emergency

Councillor Archie Dryburgh 1st October 2019





"We are actually powerful at the moment; we're just choosing not to exert that power. And that gives us even greater scope for more rapid change. Because it's not that we've got to wrest that power back from vested interests; we already have that power. We are just choosing not to exert it." – KEVIN ANDERSON **Deputy Director Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research** Interview, October 14, 2014

We have already almost halved emissions

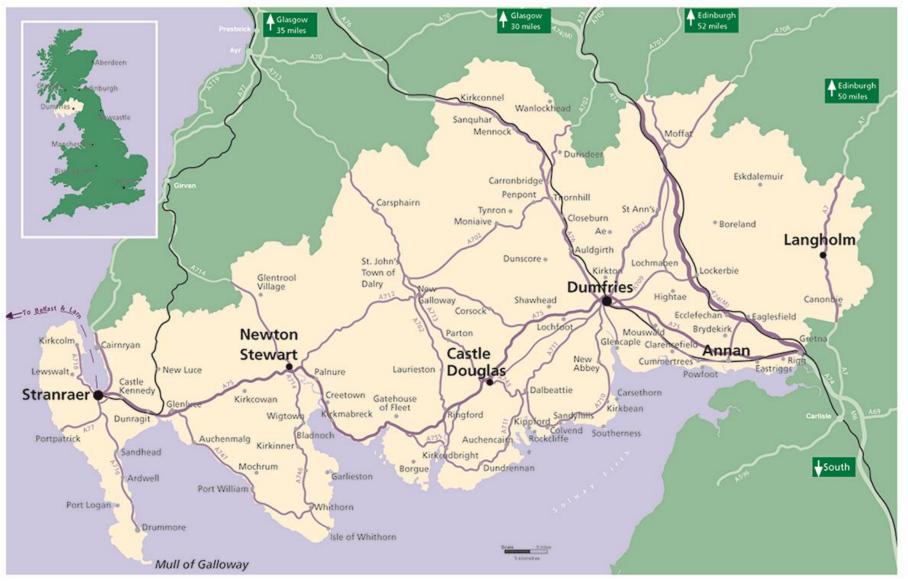


Legislation and Duties - What's new?

- Programme for Government 2019-20
 - Scotland's 'Green New Deal'
- New legislative context
 - Timeframes
 - Emissions
 - Decarbonisation
- The role of Public Sector Bodies in Tackling Climate Change - consultation

50ish miles

Dumfries and Galloway



120ish miles

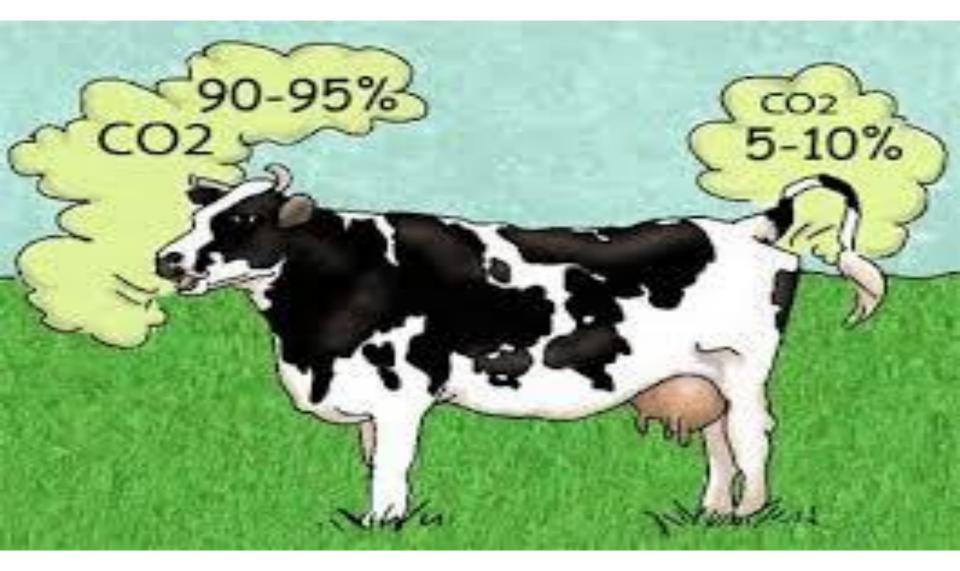
Dumfries and Galloway Position

- Carbon Management Plan/Carbon Management Plan 2
- Environmental Policy Framework
- Predominantly rural region
 - 6,427 sq km 8.2% of the land area in Scotland
 - 4,200km of roads 3rd largest Roads Authority
 - Large Council Fleet
 - 150,000 people, 47,000 households, 79 communities <3000</p>
 - 1,500 Council buildings across the region
 - 40% Beef stock 60% Milk stock in Scotland
- 42% reduction in carbon emissions since 1990
 - Energy efficiency in Council buildings
 - Low emission vehicles
 - Installation of renewable energy generation

Climate Emergency Declaration: The Drivers

- Our awareness of international and national focus
- The huge interest amongst our politicians and local communities
- DGC has already been successful and continues its mainstreamed activities and duties
- Much more needs to be done: doing nothing is not an option
- Political will across all Elected Members; commitment to push ahead and push 'outside the boundaries'
- Appointment of Environment Champion welcome CIIr Dougie Campbell
- Environment Champion what's the role?

It's no all aboot coos ferting!



Key focus in our 12 point Action Plan

- Support for the Cross Party Working Group
- Establishment and support for a Citizens' Panel (Climate Emergency Declaration Action Point 9)
- Urgent review of all policy and practice across Council services to identify ways to move further and faster on carbon reduction measures (Climate Emergency Declaration Action Point 4)
- Development of arrangements to deliver the Climate Change Strategic Action Plan and new Council Priority (Climate Emergency Declaration Action Points 3 and 10)



A Whole Council Approach - Emerging Thinking

- Cross Party Working Group
- No decision-making powers; not bound by Standing Orders
- An interactive and dynamic Group
- Advise, advocate, scrutinise, monitor
- Honest and frank round the table discussion and debate
- Will make recommendations for action to the Economy and Resources Committee and other Committees
- Supported by cross service tactical officers' group

How will we develop community ownership?

- Citizens' Panel looking at best practice and experience across the UK and beyond
- Will reflect Council's Community and Engagement
 Participation Strategy
- Advisory role, sounding board, develop thinking
- 'Healthy' creative tension
- Will include communities of interest and communities
 of place
- Membership?
 - Reflective of our region's diversity
- Panel will give advice to Cross Party Working Group



Dumfries and Galloway Climate Emergency Project Officer

- Lead Officer to co-ordinate the implementation of the Climate Change Strategic Action Plan
- Visibility and accountability
- Engagement with national drivers and networks and legislation
- Resource to assess the Council's performance on climate change, mitigation and adaption, and carbon reductions in line with the Council's agreed deadline of 2025

Our Future 12 Months From Now

- What will we have delivered
- Our route to zero carbon region
- New and existing housing
- Energy efficiency and renewable generation

HI TT HAT HAT AND A THINK TO HE TAT AT TAT IT IT

Other activity

"Incrementalism and those little steps are not enough. Not right now. Not on climate change.... We have a global crisis. **Pope Francis reminded us that** we are on a suicide course. ... We have got to move urgently – urgently and boldly."

> - SENATOR BERNIE SANDERS Democratic Presidential Debate April 14, 2016