

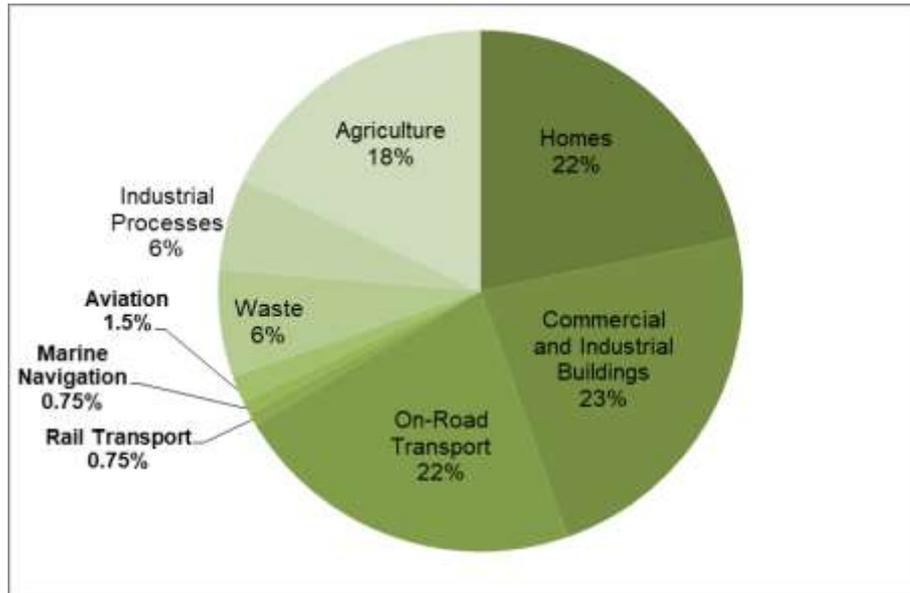
Summary report

Name of meeting	Transformation Board
Meeting date	12 March 2020
Agenda item	Declaring a system climate change emergency
Presented by	Kate Kennally, Chief Executive of Cornwall Council
Purpose of report	<p>At their recent public board meetings NHS Kernow, Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust (RCHT) and Cornwall Partnership Foundation Trust (CFT) each committed to together declaring a climate emergency at the Cornwall wide event on 20 March 2020. Cornwall Council declared a climate emergency in January 2019 and signed off its action plan in July of that year.</p> <p>At today's Transformation Board meeting, the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly (CIOS) health and care partnership is declaring a system wide climate change emergency with the intention to work collectively to action a system wide response to the risks and issues for the health of our population as a result of climate change.</p>
Recommendations	<p>Transformation Board members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm their organisations' commitment to work collectively and develop an ambitious action plan within the next six months • Receive a copy of the action plan and a progress report at the September 2020 meeting • Be aware of the climate emergency event planned for 20 March 2020
Engagement and consultation	<p>Cornwall Council declared a climate emergency in January 2019. NHS Kernow, RCHT and CFT have also agreed to declare a climate emergency for their own organisations within the last two weeks.</p> <p>Wider staff engagement is planned following the launch event planned for 20 March 2020.</p>
Date of next meeting	<p>Contained within the attached paper is the proposal to set up a Sustainability Forum whose date has yet to be established.</p> <p>The Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Leadership Board will also continue to oversee the wider work on climate change which extends beyond the health and care services footprint.</p>

Declaring a Climate Emergency

1 Context

- 1.1 The scale of the challenge that climate change presents us with is unprecedented. The warming climate due to anthropogenic emissions (originating from human activity), coupled with rapid biodiversity and ecosystem loss, is combining to create a mass extinction event that threatens or severely impacts all life on our planet.
- 1.2 No one is insulated from the impact of climate change; it is already being felt across the globe. Climate change will have an enormous impact on all human life, social relations, economic prospects, and ecological health. Children and young people have in particular recognised the potential impact that climate change will have on their futures.
- 1.3 While major national and intercontinental organisations can plan for how we meet this challenge head on, action is incumbent on us all, across multiple systems, communities, organisations and individuals. Only through breaking with traditional leadership models can we hope to tackle this existential threat, and Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly can and should be at the forefront of this place-based, systems leadership approach.
- 1.4 The Committee on Climate Change recently reported that for the UK to reach 'carbon net zero' by 2050, there will have to be a quadrupling of low carbon electricity, major scale carbon capture and storage, and a fifth of our agricultural land must shift to alternative use. All of this would need to be matched by accelerated afforestation and habitat restoration as well as a strategic overview of how the communities in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly will function and enable a carbon neutral future.
- 1.5 In the Queen's Speech (14 October, 2019), it was announced that the National Infrastructure Strategy will set out plans to deliver a step change in infrastructure investment across the UK in all areas of the economy with the stated aim of addressing 'the critical challenges posed by climate change and build on the UK's world-leading commitment to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.'
- 1.6 To understand the current position the University of Exeter were commissioned by Cornwall Council to provide an up to date inventory which found that the following areas contribute the most towards Cornwall's greenhouse gases (University of Exeter, 2019) – see graph overleaf.
- 1.7 Combatting these areas will involve businesses, public and third sector organisations, behavioural change, natural climate and technological solutions, as well as a decarbonisation of transport and home heating. How these types of changes get embedded into the decision making of key organisations, the focus of our collective lobbying and the funding that we shape or pursue that have some influence over these sectors during the coming years will have a major bearing on how successful we are in reducing our emissions.



- 1.8 Like many large sectors the health and care system consumes a significant and unsustainable amount of natural resources and contributes around 7% of all UK greenhouse gas emissions of which the NHS account for 5%. We expect the proportion to be higher in Cornwall than the national average due to the size of the sector within the local economy.

2 Cornwall and Isles of Scilly system response

- 2.1 Cornwall Council declared a climate emergency in June 2019 with an ambition to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2030.
- 2.2 Within Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, we have a powerful leadership lever, enabling action and galvanizing partnerships to take a collective approach to tackling the most fundamental challenge of our time. Combating climate change needs system wide change that involves communities, business, individuals and stakeholders across all sectors of the economy and will need to be addressed through longer term visions and spatial strategies. It will require investments, changes to systems of how we use and interact with energy and changes to how we live our lives and define success. It will also redefine how we manage and interact with our environment. No one organisation can meet the challenge of becoming carbon neutral by 2030 alone.

3 Next steps

- 3.1 In bringing this paper to the Transformation Board the health and care partnership is signalling its commitment to work collectively to become carbon neutral by 2030 with partners joining together on 20 March 2020 to participate in a local climate event organised by community partners with local and national experts in attendance.
- 3.2 Additional actions agreed as part of NHS Kernow, CFT and RCHT boards declaring a climate emergency include:

- Agree to the creation of one joint Sustainability Development Management Plan (SDMP) and establish a sustainability board to oversee and enable it's delivery
- Appoint executive, non-executive and clinical leads on climate change in each of the three organisations
- The risks associated with the need to adapt to and mitigate climate change to be added to each organisation's corporate risk register
- Ensure wide engagement with staff takes place to inform detailed action plans and identify carbon/green champions and identify training and learning needs

3.3. The three NHS boards have committed to the development of an ambitious action plan within the next six months. It is acknowledged there are synergies associated with the sharing of best practice which extends beyond the health care footprint of services. Therefore, joint working arrangements will be put in place that will develop shared programmes with the Cornwall Council carbon neutral programme, where appropriate.

3.4 Assurance is also given that the health and care systems leaders approach to meeting the ambitions of this climate emergency declaration will fit within the wider approach of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Leadership Board and the component organisations which were agreed in September 2019.