



# Warrington Climate Emergency Commission

Teams meeting – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 14:00 – 16:00

## Organisations present:

- Culture Warrington
- Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board
- Warrington Borough Council
- Warrington and Vale Royal College
- Chair
- University of Chester
- Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington

## Agenda:

- 1. Notes of previous meeting and action points not covered elsewhere on the agenda**
  - Notes were approved from the previous meeting.
  - The action log was updated.
- 2. Reflection of the recent workshop**
  - A workshop to discuss the future activities of the commission was held in July.
  - Commissioners agreed that it was a positive session with rich discussion.
  - The commission are considering holding this workshop on an annual basis going forward.
  - The notes from the workshop will be shared with commissioners following the meeting.
  - Following discussion at the workshop about the limited social media material, Warrington & Vale Royal College have agreed to work with the commission to produce promotional materials through student led projects.
  - The opportunity to share the newsletter sign up page and a general call to action on the digital screens at bus stops was highlighted.
- 3. Communications and engagement update**
  - a. Newsletter
    - The mailing list currently has 398 email subscribers.
    - A newsletter was issued in August, containing a range of content from a variety of organisations.
    - So far, the newsletter has been opened by 40% of subscribers which is a good performance rate.
    - The next issue of the newsletter is planned for the end of October, slightly ahead of the forward plan's timeline.
    - This issue will promote the Warrington Climate Emergency Forum as it will be a good opportunity to get the word out to a larger audience.
    - In order to draft the newsletter issue events and the date they will be held on must be confirmed.
  - b. Commission's website
    - An initial discussion has taken place, and work is ongoing to draft the content for a commission website.

- A meeting to discuss the website with comms colleagues should be arranged ahead of the next meeting to ensure progress.
  - There will be an element of funding required to produce a website. It is expected that it will be in the region of 2-3k.
  - There could be some value in changing what type of organisation the commission is. However, this could create complications.
  - Warrington Community Energy may be able to support with funding.
- c. Events (Climate Emergency Forum 2024)
- The comms team are ready to support the promotion of the Warrington Climate Emergency Forum.
  - There are a few events which have not yet been confirmed.
  - Commissioners were encouraged to come forward with an event if they would like it to be included in this year's programme.
  - A press release for Groundworks next Race to Zero event will be published this week.

#### **4. Youth and schools engagement update**

- The commission can access support for youth engagement through Involve who are a technical assistance partner on the Innovate UK programme which the council is part of.
- The proposed project will involve recruiting 16 young people between the ages of 16-20.
- The young people will be tasked with starting conversations with residents about the future of Warrington in the context of climate change.
- The outcomes of these conversations will be interpreted by a local artist to create a visual representation of the vision as imaged by the young people.
- Contact has been made with relevant organisations to support with the recruitment process.
- It is hoped that this will be a legacy project which leads to ongoing engagement with young people.

#### **5. Council / commission partners updates**

- The last public sector forum subgroup meeting was cancelled. The invite to the group is to be shared with wider public sector organisations such as the fire service.
- The council's Carbon Culture project, involving a climate change support programme for officers to help boost capacity across three communities of practice is due to commence this month.
- The Climate Connect Programme has been launched. The programme is a series of engaging and informative events designed to bring staff from across the council together to learn about our climate change response and inspire action.
- The first event scheduled is a tour of the new electric bus depot.
- The support programme should conclude in January 2025.
- The University of Chester is adopting a new environmental management system, Ecocampus.
- There may be an opportunity to replicate healthcare waste procedures in the University of Chester suits for nursing and healthcare to make it more realistic.

- The phased arrival of Warrington's Own Buses new electric fleet is to be shared as part of the Inclusive Growth Commission. Comms materials were requested.

**6. Any other business**

- The terms of reference are currently being updated.

**Next meeting:** Our next meeting is Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2-4pm