

Lancaster City Council | Report Cover Sheet

Meeting	Individual Cabinet Member Decision	Date	03/11/2021
Title	The Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration		
Report of	Director for Communities and Environment		
Purpose of Report: To request that the Leader adds Lancaster City Council as a signatory to the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration, during the period that COP26 is taking place.			
Key Decision (Y/N)	N	Date of Notice	NA
		Exempt(Y/N)	N

Report Summary

The report sets out the declaration and how it supports the Council priority of responding to climate change and our local partners who are delivering actions to progress our Sustainable Food City status.

Recommendations of Director for Communities and Environment

That Lancaster City Council becomes a signatory to the declaration.

Relationship to Policy Framework

Priority – Sustainable District/Theme – Climate Emergency: net zero carbon by 2030 while supporting other individuals, businesses and organisations across the district to reach the same goal. SDG 5- ending hunger

Conclusion of Impact Assessment(s) where applicable	
Climate- as outlined in report	Wellbeing & Social Value- as outlined in the report
Digital - NA	Health & Safety- NA
Equality- as outlined in the report	Community Safety- NA
Details of Consultation- the Council facilitated Peoples Jury identified the need for food resilience in its recommendations.	
Legal Implications	
<p>The Council needs to ensure consistency of approach to policies, processes and decisions. This includes the scrutiny and consideration of policies, processes and decisions against declarations of policy.</p> <p>Signing of the declaration may affect the formation, interpretation and application of policy.</p>	
Financial Implications	
There are no financial implications arising as direct result of this report.	
Other Resource or Risk Implications	
The Council is currently reviewing its recently adopted Local Plan with the aim of improving development outcomes for climate change adaption and mitigation. In undertaking that work the Council is exploring policies on protecting the natural environment and strengthening references to local food growing.	
Section 151 Officer's Comments	
The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.	
Monitoring Officer's Comments	
The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.	
Contact Officer	Mark Davies
Tel	01524 582401
Email	mdavies@lancaster.gov.uk
Links to Background Papers	

1.0 Report

- 1.1 COP26 in Glasgow faces the task of bridging the gap between countries' current climate commitments and the significant transformation needed to tackle the climate and nature emergencies. The momentum is growing to link food, nature and climate at a number of key events this year including the first UN Food Systems Summit, making COP26 a unique opportunity to bring food systems reform at the forefront of the climate debate.
- 1.2 Building on this momentum, the [Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration](#) unites the most forward-thinking sub-national and local authorities with a pledge to accelerate the development of integrated food policies and a call on national governments to act
- 1.3 Councils signing the Glasgow Declaration renew their commitment to take a food system approach to the climate emergency and continue to work on adopting and implementing sustainable integrated food policies. In doing so, signatories also add their voice behind the call to action targeted at national and international policy-makers at COP26
- 1.4 The Lancaster District has already achieved bronze status as a sustainable food city and is currently working towards a silver award.
- 1.5 Lancaster City Council contributes directly to this via direct and in kind contributions via formal partnership arrangements with LESS.
- 1.6 The recent Peoples Jury into the emergency of climate change made a number of recommendations in relation to food policy.
- 1.7 Signing the Glasgow Declaration will not create further resource implications for the Council but it will –
 - Demonstrate that the Council's leadership and commitment with regards to this aspect of mitigating climate change.
 - Allow our partners to continue to deliver progress as a Sustainable Food City.
- 1.8 The whole declaration is attached as an appendix. However the substantive points are as follows-
 - We, the undersigned elected leaders of subnational governments, in anticipation of the 26th Conference of Parties of the UNFCCC in Glasgow, commit to accelerate climate action by building and facilitating sustainable food systems transformation, by:
 - ***Developing and implementing integrated food policies and strategies*** as key tools in the fight against climate change; and ensuring that these instruments adopt a food systems approach that involves actors across all parts of the food chain; include metrics to assess GHG emissions reduction targets from food

systems, as well as opportunities for cooperation and best practice sharing between subnational governments.

- **Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from urban and regional food systems** in accordance with the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals, and building sustainable food systems that are able to rebuild ecosystems and deliver safe, healthy, accessible, affordable, and sustainable diets for all.
- **Calling on national governments to establish supportive and enabling policy frameworks and multi-level and multi-actor governance mechanisms**, allowing coordinated decision-making on food systems. These mechanisms will support the drafting of inclusive national food policies to be included into the revisions of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

4.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

4.1 Option 1- to sign the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration

4.2 Option 2- to not sign the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration

4. Officer Preferred Option (and comments)

4.1 The officer preferred option is Option 1.

The Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration (ENG)

This Declaration brings together all types and sizes of local authorities – from small and medium sized towns to mega-cities, districts and regions, territories, federal states and provinces – to speak with a unified voice in renewing their commitments to develop sustainable food policies, promote mechanisms for joined-up action and call on national governments to put food and farming at the heart of the global response to the climate emergency.

Concerned that the COVID-19 crisis has exposed the fragility of our food systems, the vulnerabilities of large parts of urban and rural populations and the critical need for preparedness and resilience in the face of shocks;

Acknowledging that food systems currently account for 21-37% of total GHGs, and are at the heart of many of the world's major challenges today including biodiversity loss, enduring hunger and malnutrition, and an escalating public health crisis;

Recognizing that unsustainable dynamics are locked in along the whole food chain, primarily stemming from industrial food and farming systems;

Recognizing that extreme inequalities are pervasive throughout the food system, and are disproportionately affecting communities including people living in poverty, people experiencing racism, people displaced due to climate change or conflict, people with precarious legal status, and many others; and furthermore that many of these same groups are exploited for their labour globally;

Convinced, therefore, that only a food systems approach targeting all the Sustainable Development Goals can identify effective intervention points to accelerate climate action while delivering many co-benefits, including the promotion of biodiversity, ecosystem regeneration and resilience, circularity, equity, access to healthy and sustainable diets for all, and the creation of resilient livelihoods for farm and food workers;

Recognizing the need to involve all food system stakeholders in decision-making for a sustainable and just transition – including food and farm workers, civil society groups, researchers, indigenous communities, women, and especially youth whose future are the most at risk from the effects of climate change and biodiversity loss;

Recalling that cities and regions are leading the way in pioneering integrated food policies and strategies at the local level to reduce their environmental footprint, drive positive food system change and ensure greater resilience to shocks;

Building on the number of commitments on sustainable urban and regional food policies already made by cities, local and regional governments over the last two decades, in particular the 2014 World Urban Forum Medellin, the 2015 Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP), the 2015 Seoul Declaration, the 2016 New Urban Agenda, and the 2019 C40 Good Food Cities Declaration;

Recognizing that actions must be aligned horizontally (across policy areas) and vertically (between different levels of governance) to accelerate the transition to sustainable food systems;

Emphasizing that cross-sectoral, multi-level, and multi-actor governance of food systems is required in order for sustainable and just food systems to take root, and that this requires national governments to take a proactive and enabling role;

Acknowledging that cities and regions are becoming a high ambition coalition for sustainable food system development, and that the rapidly growing global movement of city and regional food partnerships provides a uniquely powerful mechanism to deliver these reforms;

Acknowledging that without accompanying regulatory and legislative reforms at the national level, the impact of such partnerships and policies will be limited;

We, the undersigned elected leaders of subnational governments, in anticipation of the 26th Conference of Parties of the UNFCCC in Glasgow,

commit to accelerate climate action by building and facilitating sustainable food systems transformation, by:

Developing and implementing integrated food policies and strategies as key tools in the fight against climate change; and ensuring that these instruments adopt a food systems approach that involves actors across all parts of the food chain; include metrics to assess GHG emissions reduction targets from food systems, as well as opportunities for cooperation and best practice sharing between subnational governments.

Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from urban and regional food systems in accordance with the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals, and building sustainable food systems that are able to rebuild ecosystems and deliver safe, healthy, accessible, affordable, and sustainable diets for all.

Calling on national governments to establish supportive and enabling policy frameworks and multi-level and multi-actor governance mechanisms, allowing coordinated decision-making on food systems. These mechanisms will support the drafting of inclusive national food policies to be included into the revisions of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).