



Climate Change is one of the most serious threats facing the world's environment, society and economy. The UK Government published its UK Climate Change Programme in November 2000 as a result of the Kyoto Protocol.

The Programme sets out the action required across a range of sectors to cut UK greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% below 1990 levels by 2008-2012.

Why should we act?

Global temperatures have increased by 0.6°C during the last century and are forecast to rise by approximately 3°C during this century. Average temperatures have also risen in the UK. In England, four of the five warmest years in a 340-year record were experienced in the 1990's.

How can we act?

The Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change requires local authorities to work with the community to develop an action plan to tackle climate change at a local level.

In October 2000 Nottingham hosted a major conference on climate change, designed to promote local action on climate change around the country. This is where the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change came from.

It is a voluntary scheme for local authorities to show their commitment to climate change. By signing the Declaration, localities can show a commitment to action and reducing greenhouse gas emissions locally.

By signing the Declaration, local authorities are showing a commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the delivery of more sustainable services.

The Next Steps

The greenhouse gas emissions from the impact upon Darlington are significant. ADAPT to these changes is essential to avoid irreversible. However, action to reduce and adapt to the impacts through MITigation is essential.

By developing a Climate Change Strategy through consultation with the community, a strategic framework can be developed together and build upon existing initiatives as home energy efficiency, energy minimisation and renewable energy can provide the basis for climate change measures for climate change planning, flood defence and more sustainable Darlington.