

North Yorkshire Council Election 5 May 2022

Richmondshire Climate Action Partnership Climate Change Survey

Candidate name	Party	Division
Penny Smith	Liberal Democrats	Upper Dales

1. What do you think of the existing North Yorkshire County Council and Richmondshire District Council climate change commitments and targets?

I think they are a starting point but I would like to see the new unitary council going further.

2. What do you think the top climate action priorities of the new Council should be? Please mention up to three.

1) A zero carbon council 2) Good sustainable transport links 3) Green every Home.

3. Which statement below best describes how you feel about action on climate change in the context of all that the new North Yorkshire Council will have to do?

1) All service design and budget decisions should help and not hinder the transition to net zero carbon emissions across North Yorkshire.

2) The impact of service delivery and budget decisions on climate change should only be considered where it does not entail excessive cost.

3) The need to keep costs to a minimum means that climate change should be a secondary consideration in making decisions on service delivery and budgets.

4. If elected, what one thing do you personally want to achieve in the Richmondshire area to tackle climate change?

Improved public transport to encourage less car use.

5. If elected, would you support a minimum commitment to convert all council owned and council contracted vehicles to Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles and Zero Emission Vehicles, and provide associated recharging and refuelling infrastructure?

Yes

6. If elected, would you support the early adoption of local plan policies and the introduction of incentives to ensure all new development and changes to existing buildings help the Richmondshire area to transition to net zero carbon emissions?

Yes

7. What more do you think the new Council could do to help local residents, businesses and visitors to reduce their waste and to recycle the waste that they cannot avoid generating?

Education and improved facilities for recycling.

8. If elected, what changes do you believe are needed over the next 5 years to the use and management of our rural landscape to best address climate change?

The Liberal Democrats are committed to cleaning up our waterways, restoring peat bogs and planting trees to keep and maintain our countryside. We need to protect our National Parks and support them to flourish.

9. And finally, in a single sentence, what would you like local people to know about your stance and commitment to taking action on climate change?

I'm serious about climate change as it affects those who live in rural communities immensely, as it is intertwined with homes and livelihoods.