

## North Yorkshire Council Election 5 May 2022

### NY Climate Coalition survey of candidate views on key environmental issues

Candidate name	Party	Division
Janet Frank	Independent	Kirkbymoorside & Dales

Thanks for taking part in this survey. We hope you will see this as an opportunity to share your thoughts with voters on important climate and environmental issues. While we would ideally like candidates to answer the survey in full, we appreciate that some of the points are quite technical. Candidates come from many different backgrounds and may be drawn to local government because of a passion for other aspects of service delivery and community interest. Please feel free to focus on the questions you feel are most relevant to you. You can always add more information later if you wish.

1. The newly elected members of North Yorkshire Council (NYC) will be responsible for overseeing the county's net zero strategy. Would you support the provision of carbon literacy training (e.g. through the [Carbon Literacy Project](#)) as part of the induction programme for new councillors?

Yes

2. Transport, agriculture and domestic energy are the biggest sources of greenhouse gas emissions in North Yorkshire. In your view, how should the new NY Council tackle these most effectively?

Through effective planning and enhanced public transport. Initiatives like BioYorkshire should be supported for our agritech innovation.

3. Many politicians support net zero commitments, but some argue that "green" measures to protect the environment and climate are too expensive, will cost jobs and need to be delayed. Where do you stand on this?

We all need to play our part, individually and collectively, not taking action is more costly both financially and for the planet and our communities.

4. As we seek more energy independence nationally, what role do you see in our region for onshore wind, solar farms and fracking?

I do not support fracking. Wind and solar have their place in the energy mix, but not at the expense of agricultural food producing land so placement is key. I would like to see more innovation in hydro and anaerobic digestion for small scale local energy production.

5. How could the future NYC use its powers under the planning system to promote sustainable development? Should there be a presumption against high-carbon development proposals in NYC's planning policies?

**Innovation in building materials is critical. Hemp Crete is an example of new materials in sustainable building. I support circular economy models and energy efficiency measures for new builds.**

6. There are plans (in the [NY Local Enterprise Partnership strategy](#)) to double the current area of woodland in the region. Would you actively support this target?

**I do support this generally with some reservations about trees taking farmland and affecting food security. I support native species planting in appropriate locations and would like to see more orchards being supported.**

7. Will you sign the UK Divest Pledge: "If elected, I pledge to support the council divesting its pension fund out of fossil fuels and redirecting those amounts into sustainable investments and the local economy over an appropriate time-scale. I promise to do everything in my power to make sure this happens within the first year of my term in office."

**I look forward to hearing more debate and evidence on alternatives, if elected.**

8. Would you support net zero measures as a spending priority for the new council?

**Yes**

9. Most districts/boroughs in NY and around 75% across the UK have declared a climate emergency. In your view, should the new NYC adopt a similar motion to underpin its decarbonisation and planning policies?

**Yes**

10. Is there anything else you'd like to add on your environmental or climate views?

**I have concerns about our skills shortage in retrofitting and would like to see apprenticeships supported in this sector. I would like to see increased recycling and up cycling with a circular economy model. I would champion the NYC working more closely with the two National Park authorities on combined strategies for peatland conservation and nature recovery. North Yorkshire has a great role to play in the UK's net zero ambition.**