

North Yorkshire Council Election 5 May 2022

Richmondshire Climate Action Partnership Climate Change Survey

Candidate name	Party	Division
Jane Parlour	Liberal Democrat	North Richmondshire

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

Clearly the North Yorkshire plan is far more detailed and reflects the greater resources allocated to the subject. Both plans are welcome as they illustrate a recognition of the climate emergency and a willingness to act.

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

1. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from housing, whether this is the council's own stock through retrofitting and upgrading or whether this be through the local plan/planning system. Stop allowing developers to get away with meeting minimum standards for energy efficiency, water use etc. 2. Transport sector. areas such as the council's own fleet of vehicles, provision of charging points for electric vehicles, working from home, practical encouragement for alternatives to fossil fuel powered cars such as new and safer footpaths and cycleways and safe routes to school. 3.Reduction in waste and increase in recycling rates. Why does North Yorkshire as a whole perform so badly in the National recycling League table? What can be learnt from the top performing councils to improve our performance?

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?

I would like to see the region move away from its reliance on fossil fuels, with residents and businesses encouraged and enabled to move to sustainable energy options.

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?

Learn from the top performing councils in the country, which are all Liberal Democrat controlled, and adapt and enhance what they already do to suit North Yorkshire.

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?

We need a wider acknowledgement that climate change is happening and a willingness to do something radical about it. Business as usual is not an option and this means massive investment in tree planting programmes, rewilding and changes not just to farming practices but to everything from highway verge management to house-building and onshore renewables.

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?

My own farming practices (for over 40 years now) reflect my passion and commitment to nature conservation, biodiversity and the recognition of the need to take radical action to tackle the climate crisis.....it's a passion and attitude that I'd love to bring to the council chamber!