

Dear

Will you support action on climate change?

I am writing on behalf of

Our group is a member of the South East Climate Alliance (SECA) and together we are campaigning for all local councils in the South East to declare a 'Climate Emergency'. We would like to get your support in backing this idea, should you be elected to the local council.

Why declare a Climate Emergency?

We are in the middle of a climate emergency which threatens our health, our planet and our children's and grandchildren's future. The IPCC tells us that we have only 11 years to act.

District and Borough Councils have a crucial role in addressing this. A Climate Emergency Declaration, issued by a local council, can be a powerful catalyst for community-wide action if paired with a clear action plan. It is a way of shifting climate change from the fringes of council agendas to the centre, and of recognising publicly that 'business as usual' is not going to be good enough to tackle this global challenge.

So far over 50 councils across the UK have taken the step of declaring a Climate Emergency, including Portsmouth, Hastings, Brighton and Hove, Somerset and Wiltshire. Many of them have set targets to become carbon neutral by 2030.

What can you do as a local election candidate?

- You can publicly confirm that, if elected, you will support a Climate Emergency declaration.
- To publicise your support, we'd be grateful if you would download and sign our **Pledge Card** (<http://bit.ly/SECApledge>), take a photograph of yourself holding it up, and share it on social media. Please email a copy to SECA so we can keep track of who has signed the pledge, and tag us in Facebook or Twitter using the details below.
- You can learn more about climate issues and the actions that councils can take by looking at the **Resources for Councils** section of the SECA website.
- If elected, you can **keep up the pressure for action** by proposing or supporting a motion to declare a climate emergency (SECA can help with this).

We hope we can rely on your support on this crucial issue.

Thank you, we look forward to hearing your response,

About the South East Climate Alliance (SECA)

SECA is a new umbrella group set up to coordinate action on climate change. We represent around 25 local environmental, community and faith groups across across the South East of England. Website: www.seclimatealliance.uk Twitter: @SECA_UK Facebook: @seclimatealliance Email: southeastclimatealliance@gmail.com

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