

## GENERAL SYNOD

## CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND CARBON REDUCTION TARGET

**Summary**

**There is a climate crisis; indeed, a crisis for creation. Our response is driven by our call to mission, specifically to the fifth mark of mission. This motion encourages all parts of the Church of England to recognise this and to take coordinated action toward a target of Net Zero by 2045.** The urgency and significance of climate change and the degradation of the environment cannot be over-estimated. The Church of England's Environment Working Group (set up by General Synod in 2014) issued a Call for Action<sup>1</sup> in November 2019, and this motion follows from that call.

*"It becomes ever clearer that climate change is the greatest challenge that we and future generations face. It's our sacred duty to protect the natural world we've so generously been given, as well as our neighbours around the world who will be first and worst affected. Without swift decisive action the consequences of climate change will be devastating."*

Archbishop Justin Welby

**Background**

1. The recent International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report warned that humanity has 11 years to take emergency action in order to prevent global heating greater than 1.5°C<sup>2</sup>. Above this, the risks to humanity of floods, droughts, extreme heat and poverty become much greater, impacting on hundreds of millions more people. Increasingly, the national discourse is one of climate emergency and climate crisis.
2. There is a linked but separate bio-diversity crisis/emergency. The world is experiencing a rapid extinction of species, caused by factors including, but not limited to, climate change. A recent UN report found that around 1 million animal and plant species are now threatened with extinction, many within decades, more than ever before in human history. *"This loss is a direct result of human activity and constitutes a direct threat to human well-being in all regions of the world."*<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/news/church-englands-environment-group-calls-greater-action-climate-change-across>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/press-release/natures-dangerous-decline-unprecedented-species-extinction-rates>

3. Everything we do can be seen through the lens of the environment. Thus, we are called to exercise leadership in this area, as in others, prioritising the fifth mark of mission ‘to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth’, and without this being done wholeheartedly the other four marks lack credibility in today’s context.
4. Other denominations are responding. The Pope declared a climate emergency in June 2019, warning of the dangers of global heating and that a failure to act urgently to reduce greenhouse gases would be “*a brutal act of injustice toward the poor and future generations*”. He also endorsed the 1.5°C limit on temperature rises, referring to warnings from the IPCC of “catastrophic” effects if we crossed such a threshold. The Ecumenical Patriarch has spoken of an “environmental crisis”. The Methodist Conference has recognised a climate emergency and called on the UK to achieve net zero emissions well before 2050.
5. The motion before Synod **recognises** the climate emergency rather than **declares** a climate emergency. This is a deliberate choice, acknowledging that the Church has not moved at the pace many would wish on this issue. We are following a wide number of declarations from councils, governments, and bodies. In this context, a declaration, therefore, might ring hollow and open us to criticism. We prefer to recognise the crisis and use this as a spur to action.

### **Where do we start, and what needs to happen?**

6. Above all, this motion is about encouraging all parts of the Church of England to take action – or to ramp up what they are already doing. It must begin by getting our own house in order. Annexe 1 shows some of the excellent initiatives already happening around the Church, but the overall picture remains patchy. Previous motions have set challenges to the Church, and parishes and dioceses have begun to respond, but we need to move faster. For example, the EcoChurch and EcoDiocese initiative is beginning to build. In June 2019 1168 churches were registered across England, but this only represents 7% of Anglican churches. 18 Dioceses have registered as EcoDiocese but only six have received awards. Annexe 2 shows just a small sample of the great work already taking place across the country.
7. A robust system of measuring our carbon output will be needed, based on realistic figures. In February 2019, Synod passed a motion (adjourned from July 2018), proposed by London and Truro Dioceses. The motion asked for the development of a simple tool for parishes to measure their carbon emissions. Since then a great deal of work has been done and the Research and Stats Team will be rolling out a new Church Energy Footprint Tool in 2020 - a simple and effective system for measurement relating to the energy use of churches, using the existing online reporting for parishes.

8. The closest we have currently to a baseline year is 2006, when estimates of our carbon footprint were made by Faber Maunsell (now AECOM) with funding from the Carbon Trust. These baseline studies covered churches, cathedrals, clergy housing and schools, based on samples. The new Church Energy Footprint Tool will enable us to capture much better figures for church buildings. We will then need to develop a similar tool for our schools, housing and other buildings.
9. We are now in a position where we could, with the right encouragement, and with no less than the current national resources and funding as well as strong support at diocesan and local levels, make great progress. It is important both to achieve net zero carbon emissions in the long term, and to make early and significant reductions in the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> we produce.
10. To achieve a net zero target much would need to happen, including, as examples, the following;
  - a) Energy use for heating and lighting would need to radically reduce in all our buildings, through, for example, the installation of LED lighting where not yet in place, extensive programmes of draught-proofing and insulation.
  - b) The heating of our 16000 churches, 4700 schools, clergy housing and diocesan offices would need to move away from gas and oil, to electric heating powered by green electricity and focussing more on heating people rather than heating spaces.
  - c) This would in turn require the church's electrical supplies to be robust enough to support electric heating, and the National Grid to support this increased electrical loading.
  - d) The travel and transport of staff and volunteers would need to move away from petrol/diesel powered vehicles (even in our rural dioceses).
  - e) We would need to think about our international travel, recognising that there are very strong connections with the rest of the world but also developing ways of nurturing those relationships which are more sustainable, and offsetting flights when necessary.
11. In addition to carbon output, we must also protect and enhance biodiversity across our land and buildings, including churchyards, glebe land, and investment assets. The Church needs to build ecological awareness into everything we do. Caring for creation is an essential element of our mission and ministry.
12. The Environment Working Group, chaired by the Bishop of Salisbury, is working with other parts of the C of E on ways to help a wide base of Christians develop environmental stewardship as part of their personal witness. In 2020 this will include the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book and Lent Campaign, both of which take

the theme of care for the environment.<sup>4</sup> We also plan to build on existing good work in parishes and dioceses, and promote schemes such as A Rocha's Eco Church / Eco Diocese framework, which helps provide a step-by-step approach to the change required.<sup>5</sup>

13. As the impacts of climate breakdown start to accelerate and the impact of biodiversity loss is seen more clearly, we foresee an increasing need and opportunity for the churches to play a missional role in communities across the country. Local churches can act as a catalyst in their community for carbon reduction initiatives and climate resilience strategies, as well as preparing to provide sanctuary in extreme weather events and for climate refugees from within and outside of the UK. Churches can also champion the care of the rich variety of flora and fauna which make up God's creation.
14. The Church's missional role can and should be equally played out on the national (and international) stage exerting its considerable God-given influence prophetically to not just call for change, but to make that change possible. The Transition Pathway initiative (see point 20 below) is an outstanding example of this type of action.

### **Target dates : Why net zero by 2045?**

15. This motion is seeking to encourage action, across the Church of England, by setting a target date for achieving net zero by 2045 at the latest. Net zero means that reductions are reduced as much as possible and then the residual amount offset or sequestered, for example through tree planting.
16. There is much discussion nationally and within the Church about target dates. The C of E's existing commitment is to an 80% reduction by 2050. The main options and a brief discussion of each is shown in the tables which follow.
17. The year-on-year percentage reduction shown against each option in the table would, if achieved every year until the target date, leave residual emissions of <5% of current emissions, which could then be offset. For example, the recommended Option 3 (net zero by 2045) requires a reduction of around 11% year-on-year for 25 years.
18. After careful reflection, the EWG recommends Option 3 in the table below for consideration across the Church – including by General Synod. The commits us to net zero by 2045.
19. We have deliberately omitted the National Investing Bodies from the 2045 target, accepting that the global investment markets in which they operate means that a

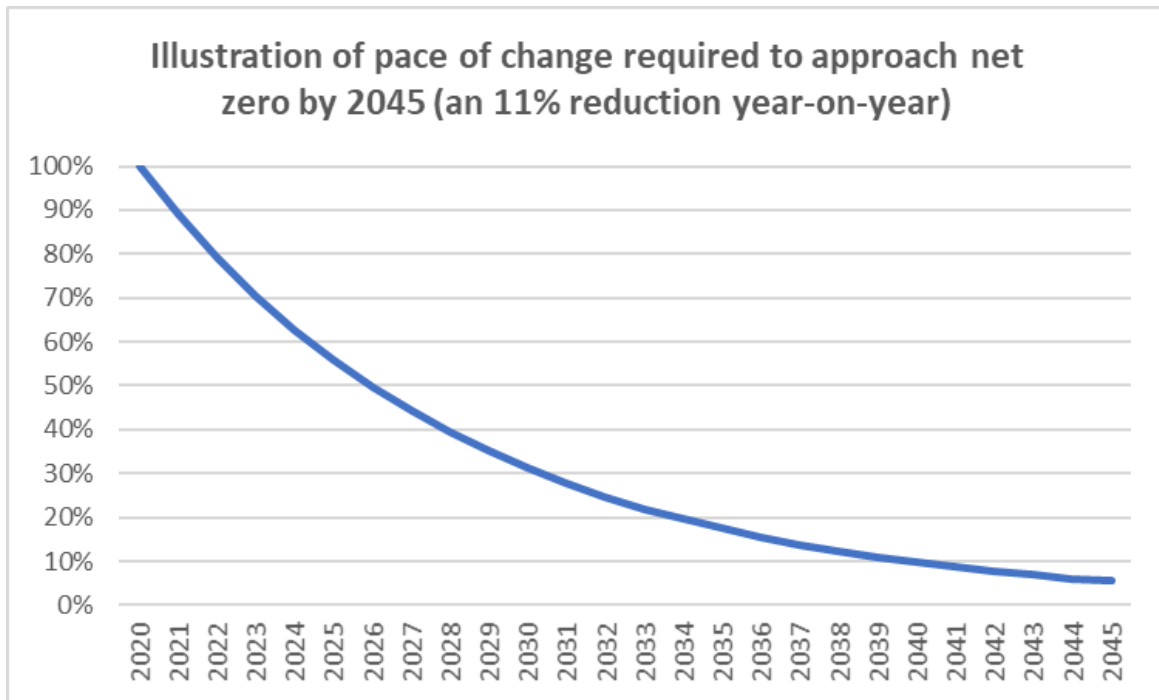
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<sup>4</sup> <https://spckpublishing.co.uk/saying-yes-to-life>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.ecochurch.arocha.org.uk>

target date of 2050 represents a similar balance between achievability and prophetic emphasis in the context described below.

20. Since the Synod debate in July 2018, the National Investing Bodies (NIBs) have continued to pursue action on climate change as their overwhelming ethical investment priority. They have grown the number of companies covered by, and investor support for, the Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI), which is now backed by investors representing over \$16 trillion of assets under management and advice. TPI has also now become the tool to assess public commitments by companies by the global engagement initiative, Climate Action 100 (CA100+). CA100+ is supported by 370 investors with USD\$35 trillion in assets under management.
21. The NIBs have also sought to grow the investor voice for stronger public policy on climate change, with the Global Investor Statement on Climate Change released at COP25 achieving 631 investor signatories with \$37 trillion of assets, the strongest ever call for Paris-aligned policy by the investment community.
22. In advance of the February Synod climate emergency debate, the NIBs are intending to commit to transition their investment portfolios to net zero emissions by 2050 as part of a group of leading asset owners globally committed to the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Achieving this will be a formidable challenge. The NIBs also have greater complexity in our investments being global as well as sectors that are hard to abate such as aviation, cement, steel and shipping. However, the NIBs believe that through continued engagement with policy makers, companies and asset managers, and through low carbon investments, they can, working with other investors, help create the conditions in which net zero emissions can be achieved in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement.
23. The NIBs are seeking through their engagement to encourage as many companies as possible, in industries associated with the highest carbon emissions, to meet their climate expectations. But where companies are not prepared to change, the NIBs will not shy from decisions to implement new investment restrictions. Without prejudice to their discretion to decide to divest from any company at any point, the NIBs are expecting to implement their next round of climate-related restrictions in November 2020 in line with the decision points set at Synod in July 2018 (which were for 2020 and 2023). This timetable allows the NIBs to take full account of the implications first of the 2020 TPI assessments and then of the global Climate Action 100+ engagement programme of which the NIBs are part, which concludes in 2023. The NIBs plan in addition to be fully involved in investor activities throughout 2020 as investors seek to create as much momentum as possible for progress at COP26 in Glasgow in this crucial year for climate action.



Possible targets	Indicative % year-on-year reduction needed to achieve this	Comment
1. Retain the current target (42% reduction by 2020 vs 1990 levels, <b>80% by 2050</b> )	Hard to say since it is relative to a benchmark we do not have	Our current target is no longer in line with UK government policy, and is not sufficiently ambitious. We do not know how we are performing against our benchmark year, because we have not yet developed a measurement system.
2. Align with UK government targets (57% by 2030, <b>net zero by 2050</b> )	<b>10%</b> per year	A target of net zero by 2050 would align with UK government policy. The <a href="#">UKCCC</a> recommends net zero by 2050 <i>however</i> this <u>includes</u> emissions from the country's airports, shipping and manufacturing, none of which the NCIs and Dioceses need to tackle. (Note: The NIBs are intending to set a target of 2050, because their investments are invested throughout the global economy.)
3. Align with the Climate Coalition target ( <b>net zero by 2045</b> )	<b>11%</b> per year	The Climate Coalition <sup>6</sup> calls for 2045, on the basis that, with faster technological development, net-zero could be achieved sooner than the UKCCC has recommended.

<sup>6</sup> The largest climate focused organisation in the country, including the Church of Scotland, URC, Scottish Episcopal Church, CAFOD, Christian Aid, Tearfund, A Rocha, The National Trust, RSPB, the WI, Faith for the Climate and many others in its membership.

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>		A 2045 target reflects the fact that the Church is capable of moving faster than the UK's 2050 target, because we do not need to tackle aviation, shipping or manufacturing.
4. Align with many councils ( <b>net zero by 2038 or 2030</b> )	<b>24%</b> per year for 2030	The Diocesan synod motions from Birmingham and Bristol have set a target of 2030, in line with many councils around the country (see Appendix 2). The ambition contained in these rapid targets is to be greatly admired. These Dioceses can lead the way, forging paths that others can learn from and follow. However, the view of the EWG is that a target of 2030 is not practically achievable for the whole of the Church (diocese, parishes, schools, and the NCIs).
5. Align with the Extinction Rebellion's call for <b>net zero by 2025</b>	<b>45%</b> per year	Extinction Rebellion calls for net zero by 2025, which would require a reduction by 45% year-on-year for the next decade. This pace of change does not appear practically possible.

24. The target of 2045 is less ambitious than the target dates set by two recent Diocesan Synod motions but still requires a very rapid rate of early reductions in order to be realistically achievable. In proposing 2045, we have sought to find a balance between a target date that is achievable and one that spurs us to renewed action. If we focus too hard on achievability we will be drawn toward caution and risk allowing our ambition to waver. If we focus too strongly on offering a prophetic challenge we risk setting ourselves and others up to fail.
25. Setting a target date is not just a practical exercise but a theological one. Any target date will be contested, since the balance between practical action and prophetic action is never obvious. But we believe that proposing 2045 as the date by which the Church of England should aim to have reduced its carbon consumption to net zero is both achievable and will help “hold our feet to the fire” to face the challenges and difficulties that meeting this target will entail.

### **The vital role of Diocesan Environment Officers**

26. We encourage Synod members to speak with their Bishops and Dioceses, to prioritise and raise awareness of climate issues. A vital part of achieving this is to take up the call from the Feb 2019 General Synod to have a well-resourced and well-supported network of Diocesan Environmental Officers, each reporting to a named lead members on their Bishop's senior staff team. The EWG is conscious that there are gaps in this network at present, and some DEOs are under-resourced and over-stretched. While mindful of the many pressures on diocesan budgets, the EWG can

only encourage all dioceses to resource this vital environmental work to give it the focus it needs to bring about real change.

### **Focus on action**

27. The core message of this motion holds true whatever target date Synod adopts: that unless we get moving, across the whole church to make significant carbon reductions in the very short term, we will not meet any longer term target. So our motion calls upon Synod to set a target date, but then to focus on the immediate response. Our call for regular reporting back to Synod is so that we can hold each other to our commitment as a church, noting with celebration what we have achieved whilst recognising how much further we have to go. With a 2045 target Synod would be looking for a 30% reduction by February 2023, and a report that demonstrates that we are on track towards Net Zero.
28. The Christian faith is about living as if Christ returns tomorrow whilst also preparing for the fact that God's timescale is not our timescale and that God has made us stewards of the earth for the very long term. In terms of the climate emergency, 2045 is pretty long term – many of us will not be around to hear the Synod report that we have met our zero emissions target. We hope very much to be able to come back to Synod in three years and report on whole rafts of activity and measurable progress toward carbon zero. For the climate of our world, the short term is now, tomorrow and perhaps the day after. This debate was called to communicate that urgency and to encourage the whole church to make 2020 a year of climate action.

Mr Mark Sheard, Chair of the Mission and Public Affairs Council

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## ANNEXE 1 : EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY IN 2019

Bath and Wells	<p><b>Lent 2019 campaign</b> focused on the environment. 6 weeks of materials (video interviews, practical tips, biblical reflection etc.) with the School/Children team and produced separate booklets for individuals, families and school assemblies.</p> <p>Worked with DAC secretary to plan a <b>training day for DAC architects and surveyors</b> focusing on sustainable solutions for church buildings.</p> <p><b>Eco Church</b> - Have held two day conferences promoting Eco Church.</p>
Bristol	<p><b>EcoSchools</b> – working with the Diocesan Board of Education and Academies Trust to encourage schools to pursue EcoSchool accreditation.</p> <p><b>DAC</b> – set up an annual Sustainability Award as part of the DAC Awards scheme, and identified a biodiversity champion to support the work of the committee.</p> <p><b>Diocesan office</b> –Single use plastics are not used at diocesan events and they have ensured their energy provision is 100% fossil free.</p>
Chester	<p>New <b>partnerships with Chester Zoo</b>; had a World Environment Day service in, &amp; visit to, the zoo.</p>
Chichester	<p>Sale of a closed church enabled the <b>setting up of a charitable trust</b> with a Revolving Investment Fund for parishes to undertake sustainable projects.</p>
Coventry	<p><b>Creation Care course</b> for the Bishop’s Certificate in Discipleship and Mission.</p> <p>Celebrated their Centenary by offering <b>trees to every parish and CofE school</b>.</p>
Europe	<p>Established a <b>‘Sustainable Preaching’ website</b>, giving good ideas about how the Lectionary readings link in with environmental concerns worldwide.</p>
Exeter	<p><b>Discount on electric vehicles</b> for its clergy, staff and readers</p> <p>Special evening <b>service at cathedral on climate justice</b> – talks given by young person from Fridays For Future &amp; ecotheology professor.</p>
Guildford	<p>Became a <b>Bronze Eco Diocese</b> and held Eco Diocese launch event.</p> <p><b>Announced a climate emergency</b> with 7 climate care commitments.</p>
Leeds	<p><b>Greening the Lectionary</b> - sermon a week looking at lectionary readings through a green lens.</p> <p>Youth &amp; Children’s department organised a <b>“Caring for creation together day”</b>.</p> <p>Very successful <b>Churchyard Day Conference</b>.</p>
Leicester	<p>Local <b>“Question time”</b> with politicians and school children on Climate change.</p> <p><b>Day on pioneer ministry</b> through Forest Church type expressions.</p> <p><b>Solar farm</b> on glebe land and <b>PV on parsonages</b> scoping study.</p>
Lichfield	<p>In March, launched a <b>new Diocesan Environmental Policy</b>.</p> <p>A key focus of this has been to get <b>parishes engaged with EcoChurch</b> – since the launch of the policy c.50 churches registered, several reached bronze level.</p> <p>New <b>youth evangelism</b> post just created.</p>
Lincoln	<p>Hosted an in <b>international climate change conference</b> ‘Moana – Water of Life’.</p> <p>Used 2012-13 Carbon Footprint profiles to <b>determine a Carbon Footprint baseline</b>.</p> <p>Board of Education put on <b>WOW days in the Cathedral</b>, drawing in expertise from universities, art groups, cathedral community on the theme of Climate Change.</p> <p>Assets Committee have supported identification of small areas of underproductive glebe land, with the <b>potential for tree planting</b>.</p>

	<b>Environmental Theology and Care is taught at Lincoln School of Theology</b> and on IME2&3 programmes and a CMD opportunity is planned.
Liverpool	Christ Church Toxteth first church in the diocese to achieve <b>Eco Church gold award</b> . Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, St James' House and the Bishop's Office (Bishop's Lodge) have <b>all gone through the Eco Church process</b> .
London	Their first <b>Eco Church Gold award</b> : St James Piccadilly. Continuing upgrades to churches in Islington, including <b>solar panels</b> on St James Clerkenwell (Grade II*), St Thomas, St Augustine, and St Stephen's. Joint motion with Truro passed on <b>General Synod</b> .
Manchester	<b>Clergy Training Day</b> (Oct 18) <b>New Laity training</b> (ALM) 2019. Church House <b>Carbon Literacy Training</b> (thru Manchester Carbon Literacy Project) including introduction of Meat Free hospitality at Church House. <b>Eco Pilgrimage</b> with Lutheran church in Tampere Finland
Oxford	Hired <b>parliamentary assistant</b> who works in part on climate, and formed <b>new task group</b> . Climate being raised as major diocesan priority for 2020. Started a <b>programme of subsidised energy audits</b> and implementation grants. Worked on <b>greening our Church House</b> (green energy, energy audit, increased recycling, electric vehicle charging points, etc). <b>Developed a youth programme</b> that has a creation care component and involves link diocese Begun to <b>integrate care for creation into discipleship resources</b> .
St Albans	<b>Living Churchyards workshop day</b> , with over 75 representatives from parishes across the Diocese attended an inspirational day. <b>Beautiful Burial Ground Project</b> workshops at two churches.
St Eds & Ips	Achieved <b>Eco Diocese bronze award</b> , 17% of churches now signed up. <b>Bishops' teaching day</b> on the environmental crisis. <b>Updating clergy housing to green standards</b> <b>Schools' Eco Day at the Cathedral</b> with workshops in July 2019.
Salisbury	Obtained <b>Eco Diocese bronze award</b> ; churches regularly signing up for Eco Church & getting awards.
Sheffield	Offered a <b>green energy tariff</b> to every parish – almost half have switched. Launched a pilot 'revolving fund for boilers'.
Southwark	<b>LESS CO2 workshops with local schools</b> . <b>Therapeutic Garden</b> in Lewisham. Several churches and clergy supported Extinction Rebellion
Truro	Many people taking <b>10 pledges</b> to take climate action. <b>Green Church Awards Scheme</b> , with their congregations, working towards Bronze, Silver & Gold.
Winchester	Obtained <b>Eco Diocese bronze award</b> ; churches regularly signing up for Eco Church & getting awards. Education have done a <b>major project with bees</b> throughout the diocese.

## ANNEXE 2 : A SELECTION OF CURRENT DIOCESAN & DEANERY MOTIONS

<b>Birmingham</b>	<p>That this Synod, recognising</p> <p>(a) that there is a global climate emergency, caused by global heating and climate change and that this is a crisis for God's creation</p> <p>(b) that there is a rapidly increasing issue of climate injustice, as the poorer nations in the global south are affected first, therefore</p> <p>(i) every individual Anglican Christian is strongly encouraged to practise creation care at the heart of their daily, prayerful and sacrificial following of Christ;</p> <p>(ii) sets a target that all parts of the diocese (including in the area of investments) should achieve net zero emissions by 2030 at the latest;</p> <p>(iii) commits as a diocese to develop an action plan and resources for sustainable living including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• policies and procedures to minimise waste and increase use of renewable energies;</li> <li>• the incorporation of creation care into liturgical practice;</li> <li>• discipleship and other resources to support our worshipping communities in deepening commitment and understanding;</li> </ul> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">in order that this target can be achieved.</p> <p>(iv) requests a report to Synod every 2 years on progress, beginning in 2022.</p>
<b>Salisbury</b>	<p>“This Synod recognises that there is a Climate Emergency and</p> <p>"i. Encourages every part of the diocese to engage with the Fifth Mark of Mission as exemplified in the Strategic Aims set out in the Diocesan Environment Policy.</p> <p>"ii. Welcomes the Archbishop of Canterbury’s Lent Book 2020, 'Saying Yes to Life' and recommends it for use in the parishes of the Diocese of Salisbury.”</p>
<b>Bristol</b>	<p>...that this Synod</p> <p>a) resolves to act on the urgent challenge of our times and declare a Climate and Ecological Emergency;</p> <p>b) commits to reach net zero carbon across the activity of the Diocese of Bristol by 2030;</p> <p>c) supports the Church of England’s Environmental Working Group in bringing forward a motion for debate to declare a climate emergency;</p> <p>d) pledges to work with and support other parts of the church, government and other organisations which share the same purpose, at local and national levels, in tackling this Emergency; and</p> <p>e) calls on others to do the same.</p>
<b>Canterbury</b>	<p>‘This Synod recognises the Environment and Climate Emergency, and commits to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Learning the facts about today’s environmental degradation and human-induced climate change;</li> <li>2. Speaking the truth about the Emergency and the change that are needed to safeguard the environment and mitigate climate impact</li> <li>3. Taking the necessary action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2030, and to model ways in which our faith and congregations can enable all of God’s creation to flourish;</li> <li>4. Fighting social injustices caused by the environmental crisis;</li> <li>5. Implementing the Diocesan Environment Policy 2019 and Action Plan.</li> <li>6. Including our Care for the Environment within our diocesan Changed Lives ► Changing Lives strategy.’ </li></ol>
<b>Reading Deanery</b>	<p>That this Synod, affirming the fifth mark of mission (“to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth”), concerned by the scientific evidence that climate change is proceeding at a rapid rate and by the impact of climate events:</p> <p>a) urges the Oxford Diocesan Synod and the General Synod of the Church of England to declare a Climate Emergency;</p> <p>b) urges the Diocese of Oxford, the General Synod and all Anglican leaders to speak out about climate change and its impacts;</p> <p>c) urges the Diocese of Oxford, the General Synod and the National Investment Bodies of the Church of England to seek to be carbon neutral by 2035;</p> <p>d) urges the National Investment Bodies of the Church of England and the Church Commissioners to prioritise investment in renewable energy, and that appropriate committees prioritise creation care in their administrative processes;</p>

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|  | <p>e) urges Anglican leaders to further develop pre- and post-ordination and lay training to deepen understanding in how care for the earth is part of our Christian faith and a missional imperative;</p> <p>f) urges Anglican leaders and all Christians to seek to support the poorest in the world who are suffering the most from the impacts of climate change, in the awareness that our nation has been among those who have benefited most from the emissions that has caused the crisis;</p> <p>g) commends all Christians to consider their individual responsibilities and how they may change and engage in actions that care for creation.</p> |
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### **ANNEXE 3 : Anglican Communion Resolutions**

The motion should be read in the light of these two important resolutions from the 2017 meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC):

#### **A17:05 Anglican Communion Environmental Network**

##### **The Anglican Consultative Council:**

- recognises that there is a global climate emergency
- encourages Member Churches to make the Fifth Mark of Mission, 'To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth', a living testament to our faith, and calls upon Member Churches to:
  - promote a day during the Season of Creation as a day of public repentance
  - develop an action plan and resources for sustainable living at individual, parish, diocesan and provincial level; including policies and procedures to minimise waste, increase use of renewable energies, and incorporate creation care into liturgical practice
  - prepare a Lenten Fast for Creation
  - hold strategic planning conferences on the Sustainable Development Goals and Climate Change, ensuring the involvement of Indigenous, youth, and women's voices, and to report back to ACC18
  - identify environmental and climate-related threats in their context and to develop or adapt existing tools on disaster preparedness and mitigation.
  - encourages the organisers of the Lambeth Conference 2020 to make the conference as environmentally sustainable as possible.

#### **A17:06 Climate resilience**

##### **The Anglican Consultative Council:**

- celebrates the work undertaken by some Member Churches and the Anglican Communion Environmental Network to shift messaging and action from climate vulnerability to climate resilience
- regrets that the ongoing impacts of climate change are yet to be adequately resourced or responded to with due seriousness or urgency by all Member Churches, and therefore commits immediately to:
  - recognising the important role of Indigenous/First Nation peoples' knowledge in building resilience to climate change in communities
  - encouraging Member Churches to prioritise investment in resources to support education, training and activism in addressing climate change
  - encouraging Member Churches to identify and assist actively the most at-risk communities within the Anglican Communion
  - encouraging Member Churches to develop a strategy for climate-induced disaster preparedness, emergency relief and post-disaster rehabilitation
- calls on the Anglican Alliance to work with the Secretary General, Anglican Communion relief and development agencies, and relevant sections of the Anglican Communion Office to coordinate an implementation report on this resolution to the Standing Committee, before ACC18.