

# Climate Emergency Action Plan Consultation 2020

An online consultation was carried out on the Climate Emergency Action Plan for 10 weeks between August and October 2020. 960 people responded to the online consultation and 9 additional emails were received.

Requests to take part in the consultation were shared with town and parish councils, businesses, Waverley tenants, Councillors and staff members as well as shared in the local news and on social media. Regular social media posts reached 140,500 people across Twitter, FB, Instagram, LinkedIn.

Nine main questions were asked to help focus and prioritise the Climate Emergency Action Plan. Responses below.

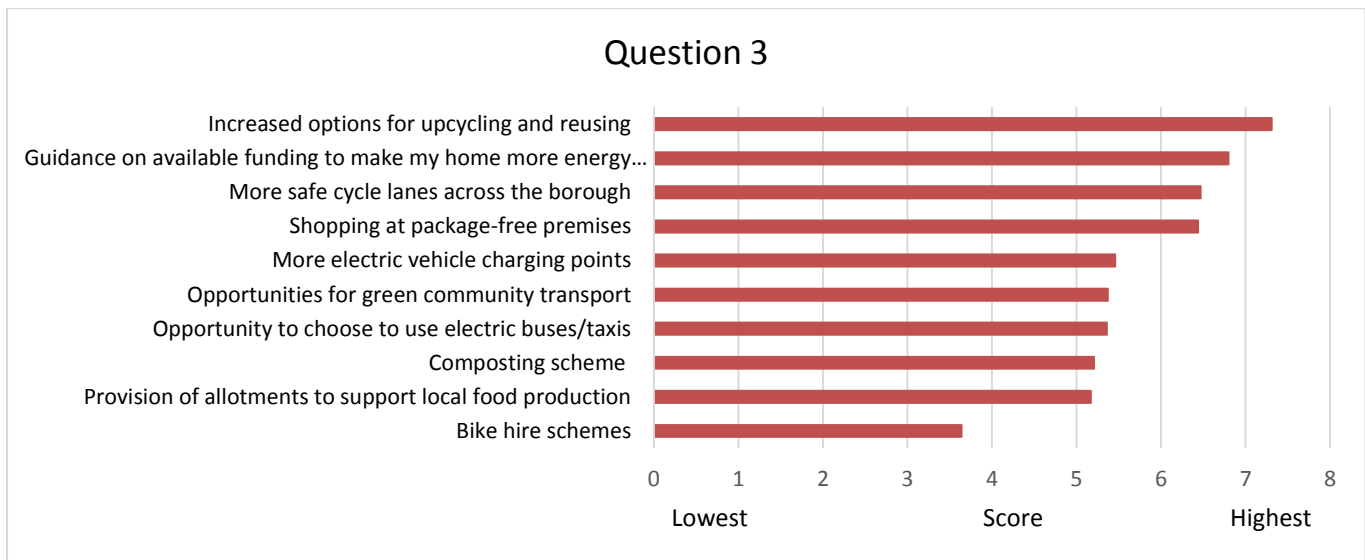
## Q1 How important is climate change to you?

Very important – 76.95% and Quite important – 16.42%

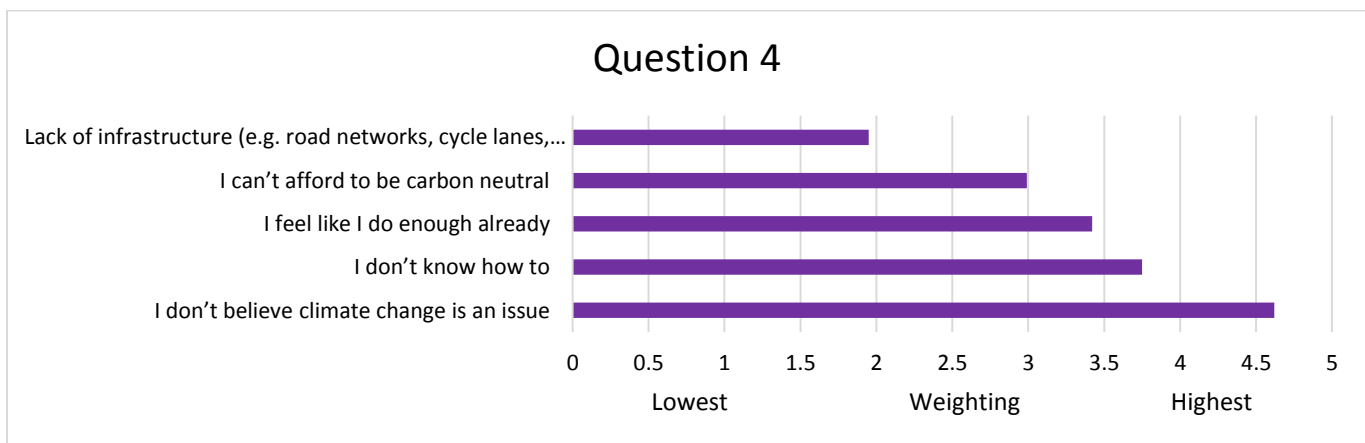
## Q2 Are you more concerned about the impact of climate change now than you were 12 months ago?

Yes – 73.02%

## Q3 What do you think would help you to reduce your own carbon footprint? Highest score most important.



## Q4 What is currently preventing you from being more environmentally friendly? Lowest weighting most important



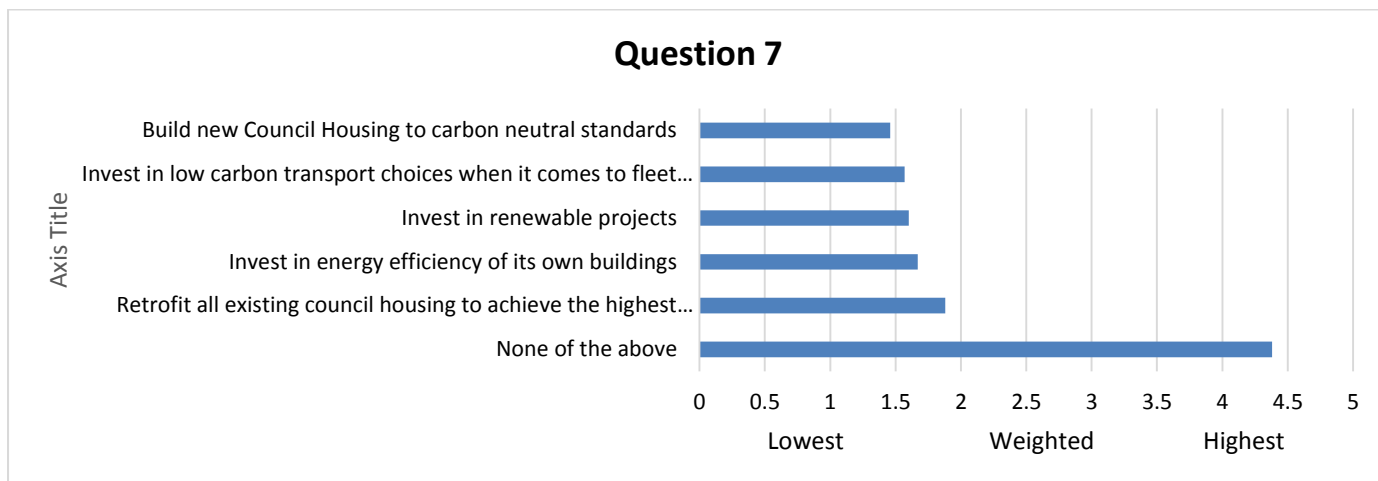
## Q5 How important do you think it is that local councils should lead by example and take action on climate change by declaring a climate emergency and producing a climate change action plan?

Extremely Important – 69.33% and Very important – 18.57%

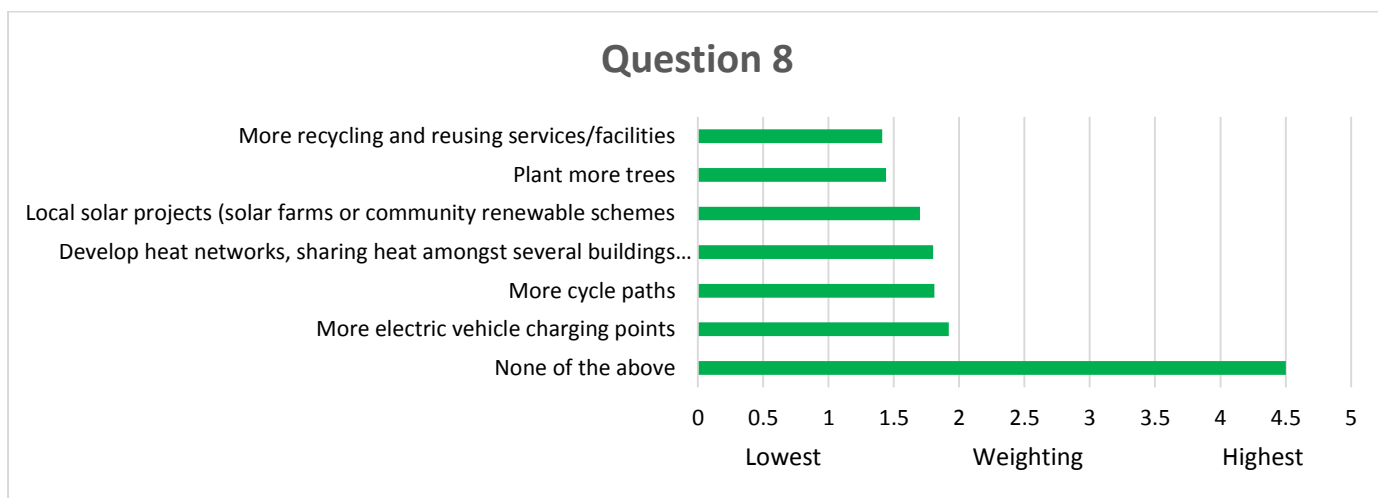
**Q6 Do you think Waverley Borough Council should tackle its own emissions as a priority?**

Yes – 89.10%

**Q7 In order to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030, the council will need to change the way it provides some council services. Do you agree with the council doing the following? Lowest weighting most important**

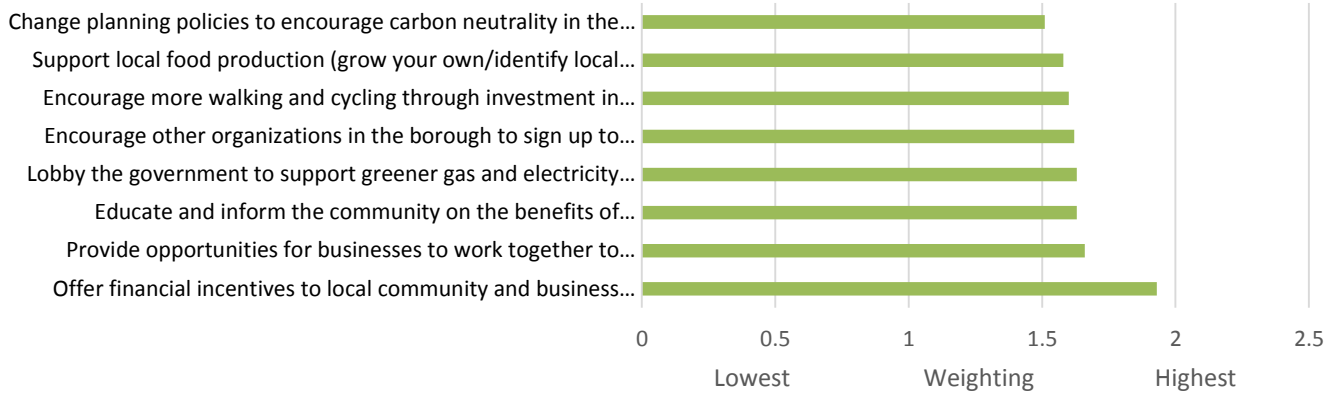


**Q8 Some of the future climate change actions are likely to involve the borough changing. Do you agree or disagree with the following changes? Lowest weighting most important**



**Q9 How do you think the council can best support communities to tackle climate change and increase sustainable activity in the borough? Lowest weighting most important**

## Question 9



As well as the main questions, there was an opportunity to make general comments on the action plan. 503 comments were received across all aspects of the action plan and strategy.

- 53 people took the opportunity to support the climate change action plan and declaration whilst 9 did not.
- A major concern was the cost implication not only for the council but also for already struggling residents. 39 people felt it was just not affordable, services would suffer or council taxes would have to rise which only 1 person felt they would be happy to pay.
- Transport was highlighted by many with 24 asking for improved public transport across the borough including electric buses, 21 asked for more electric vehicle chargers and 15 asked for better paths/segregated paths for pedestrians. Whilst 42 asked for improved cycle paths and promotion of cycling 10 people opposed this with 2 saying that public transport or walking should take priority over cycling.
- Tree planting was also supported with 10 asking that we plan more trees, however 2 people asked that we preserve/manage existing woodlands better. 3 people asked that we preserve or increase the number of green spaces for residents.
- 48 people commented on planning with a majority asking for either stricter requirements or to stop building on greenbelt or near river courses whilst 2 people suggested with should require developers to contribute meaningful amounts to support local communities.