Blaenau Gwent Climate Assembly – Recommendations

43 of the 47 members of the Blaenau Gwent Climate Assembly have voted on the final recommendations. Five recommendations received over 80% of the vote and were officially passed by the Assembly. The breakdown of recommendations and percentage of support is below.

The recommendations will be presented to Housing Associations and the PSB Climate Mitigation Steering Group in April and written responses will be provided.

The final report of the Assembly will be published the week of 18 April 2021. For more information about the Assembly, please see here.

A Welsh Translation of this document will be available soon.

Blaenau Gwent Climate Assembly recommendations

Theme	Recommendation	Strongly Accept (SA)	Accept (A)	Neutral (N)	Reject (R)	Strongly Reject (SR)	% support
Transport	Establish an affordable, intergrated road & rail transport system accessible throughout BG – A one ticket system that links to bus, rail & cycle schemes - inclusivity for purcahsing of tickets (digital or paper). Accessible all hours with safety via lighting, CCTV and kept well maintained.	63	28	5	0	5	91
Transport	Establish & improve a safe, easily maintainable infrastucture for walkers & cyclists, for either recreational or work purposes, with access to the public transport network. Including lighting & CCTV & storage for bikes.	53	35	5	5	2	88
Housing retrofit	Train local trades people, create qualifications and upskill local businesses, involve further education colleges and local Universities. Future proof it and provide the right courses to enable them to do the work in all green construction.	62	24	7	5	2	86
Green space and nature	Implement a programme of woodland preservation and reforestation of BG, using the right tree in the right place for the right reason, increasing opportunitities for jobs, biodiversity and connecting woodlands. Making sure the skills are available so we can create green jobs, e.g. saw milling and timber framed housing.	63	23	9	5	0	86
Housing New Build	Ensure that all new build properties are built using the latest sustainable technologies (E.g. Glanffrwd development as a template), employing local builders and providing a variety of accommodation types appropriate for all inc. homeless/single occupancy up to large families	44	37	12	0	7	81

Cynulliad Hinsawdd
Climate Assembly
Blaenau
Gwent

The following recommendations were not passed by the Assembly but received high levels of support (70-79% of the vote)

Theme	Recommendations	Strongly Accept (SA)	Accept (A)	Neutral (N)	Reject (R)	Strongly Reject (SR)	% support
Housing New Build	Prioritize brown field sites over green belt for new builds and ensure green space created within new developments.	53	26	14	7	0	79
Waste and Recycling	Establish local Repair hubs to Re-use/re-purpose/upcycle items	53	26	5	12	5	79
Green space and nature	Create roles for coordination, cultivation and support of the use of green spaces (allotments, woodlands and urban green spaces) by the community to benefit all generations and create a sense of community ownership. Supporting communites in activites including food growing, recreation, biodiveristy, green prescribing, green space planning and asthetics (e.g. Blaenau Gwent in Bloom).	53	23	16	5	2	76
Green space and nature	Develop a community owned/part-owned green energy programme e.g. solar farms, wind farms, or hydro electric. Supported by community green bonds. Making sure bonds are accessible and provide beneficial return.	40	35	9	14	2	75
Education	Set a goal and support schools to source Welsh/British, sustainable produce and increase the use of these products over time, to include more vegetarian options.	24	50	12	7	7	74
Poverty	Enabling local people and local business to support the foundational economy.	35	37	12	7	9	72
Poverty	Helping people access grants and to know where to ask for help to reduce fuel poverty.	37	33	14	9	7	70
Housing retrofit	Blaenau Gwent must create an accessible, practical, well publicised information platform for all (an upgraded website, an app, information lines and local one stop 'retrofitted shops/hubs' for advice and demonstrations on all things green throughout the area.	48	21	19	10	2	70

Recommendations receiving between 60-69% of the vote

Theme	Recommendations	Strongly Accept (SA)	Accept (A)	Neutral (N)	Reject (R)	Strongly Reject (SR)	% support
Communication	Develop a local Climate Change Communications Strategy for promoting climate change action within the community at all levels by 2022 to be reviewed annually.	26	42	12	16	5	68
Housing retrofit	Every home below EPC 'c' must have a retroffiting survey by 2023, with a view to implementing the actions that are recommended and starting the work within 12 months where funding options are in place	49	19	19	12	2	68
Waste and Recycling	Reinstate community skips - to robustly address fly-tipping & litter - siting of more litter bins that are emptied more often. Install & monitor more CCTV/enhanced measures at known fly-tipping spots. Re-direct flytipping & CCTV costs to community skips and in time it would pay for itself.	37	28	14	14	7	65
Waste and Recycling	Set up an enhanced information website, newsletter & community boards to promote transparency and sharing of information about recycling and how to access these services - this would improve awareness for future consultation on these issues.	28	35	19	14	5	63
Communication	Set up a Climate Change Communications Network that oversee the evolving strategy (to be cross sector including citizens and youth reps) sharing best practice, information and knowledge.	23	40	21	12	5	63
Education	Make climate change and its impacts mandatory, interactive (e.g. competitions, prizes, rewards), relevant to the local area in the school curriculum. The council should assist schools with projects relevant to the age and practical involvement by the young people with the wider community.	36	26	19	12	7	62

Recommendations receiving below 60% of the vote

Theme	Recommendations	Strongly Accept (SA)	Accept (A)	Neutral (N)	Reject (R)	Strongly Reject (SR)	% support
Poverty	Enabling local community hubs to support a happy and healthy community	42	16	21	16	5	58
Education	Offer short courses on climate change to individuals, local businesses, tradespeople, and decision-makers through educational institutions or by children in schools.	31	26	26	12	5	57
Housing New Build	Provide green energy grants to assist all new build purchases to all people and provide green incentives for all energy efficient properties. T's + C's stipulate 5 yr occupancy otherwise grant to be repaid.	35	21	21	9	14	56
Communication	Employ dedicated local Communication Officer(s) to lead on the Climate Change Communication Strategy.	21	33	19	23	5	54
Transport	Incentivise a community based electric car sharing scheme (24/7) where you either hire a vehicle for self or share (Uber system) a vehicle with safety in mind.	26	7	23	19	26	33