

PRESS RELEASE

LUDLOW JOINS LIST OF SHROPSHIRE COUNCILS SUPPORTING NEW CLIMATE BILL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

15 March 2023

Ludlow Town Council has become the latest Shropshire authority to back the Climate and Ecology Bill.

At a meeting on Monday night, councillors decided to unanimously back a motion calling on Ludlow Town Council to express its support for the Bill. The town clerk will now write to South Shropshire MP Philip Dunne, urging him to support the draft legislation as it makes its way through Parliament. So far over 200 UK councils and 125 MPs have expressed their support for it.

The Climate & Ecology Bill aims to introduce a new UK law to deal with the full extent of the climate and nature crisis. It would ensure the UK slashes emissions in line with the 1.5C target; reverse UK biodiversity loss by 2030; ensure that the entirety of the UK's global carbon and ecological footprints are accounted for; and invite the public to be part of the discussion on how to tackle the crisis.

Jane Cullen from South Shropshire Climate Action, who spoke in favour of the motion in the public session of the town council meeting, said: *'I am pleased and relieved that Ludlow Town Council is backing this Bill. We're already seeing the effects of the climate and ecological emergency here in South Shropshire, and we're desperate for new laws to protect us, our beautiful county, and the wildlife we share it with.'*

Ludlow Town Council joins Shropshire, Bishop's Castle and Ryton & Grindle Parish Councils on the list of Shropshire authorities that have come out in support of the Bill, with motions being tabled at Shrewsbury, Whitchurch, and Oswestry Town Councils later this month. So far only one of Shropshire's five MPs – Liberal Democrat Helen Morgan – has publicly expressed support for the Bill. It will be reintroduced into Parliament later this Spring.

Jamie Russell, a spokesperson for campaign group Zero Hour Shropshire, which is campaigning for the Bill locally, said: *'We're extremely grateful to Ludlow councillors for supporting this motion. At Zero Hour Shropshire we're hoping that more parish and town councils will back the Bill and we'd love to hear from any councillors who would like to know more about this very simple motion of support. Every Council that gets behind the Bill will help encourage more of Shropshire's MPs to realise that the time for this vital legislation is now.'*

Ends

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

For more about the Climate & Ecology Bill please visit: <https://www.zerohour.uk/>

A full list of supporting councils can be found here:

https://www.zerohour.uk/council_supporters/

More on Shropshire Council's support for the Climate & Ecology Bill here:

<https://www.shropshirestar.com/news/environment/2023/02/13/council-backs-a-new-bill-aiming-to-address-the-climate-crisis--after-two-years-of-asking/>

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