

A Statement of Concern
from Supporters of Gloucestershire Climate Action Network
(GlosCAN)
presented to David Drew MP, Friday 17 August 2018

One of GlosCAN's Aims, which you have kindly signed up to, is 'To raise awareness amongst individuals, organisations, businesses and public figures in Gloucestershire of the inadequacies of the current global and national commitments on climate change'.

Sadly, we have not seen any need to amend that Aim in the two years since we adopted it. We await the IPCC's forthcoming report on limiting global warming to + 1.5 °C, and the responses to it, with foreboding. The chances of the Paris Agreement voluntary commitments delivering 'well below +2 °C' appear very slim, let alone +1.5 °C. The UK's Climate Change Act commitments are inadequate in the context of the Paris goals, and, as you are well aware, the UK is not on track to meeting its existing commitments.

We agree with the Paris goals, but it seems clear to us that something much more robust and enforceable is needed to ensure that there is a good prospect of those goals being met. In particular, we are dismayed at the continuing lack of restrictions on the extraction of fossil fuels, both globally and in the UK.

We are asking you to use the political influence you have to promote the proposition that the globally large-scale extraction of fossil fuels should be brought to an orderly end, perhaps through an internationally enforced licensing system. Countries outside or in breach of such a system would be seen for what they are: threats to global security.

In that context, we ask you to promote the demand that no new licences for fossil fuel exploration or extraction will be issued for the UK and its territorial continental shelf (including the Falkland Islands, etc.). In doing so, the UK would, we believe, be once again showing global leadership on climate change.