

Requisitioned Item

Cabinet Member: All

Division and Local Member: All

Lead Officer: Scott Wooldridge – Monitoring Officer

Author: Scott Wooldridge, Strategic Manager - Governance & Democratic Services

Contact Details: (01823) 357628

1. Climate Emergency – ‘A tree for every baby’

- 1.1** The following requisitioned item will be proposed by Cllr Liz Leyshon and seconded by Cllr Tessa Munt:

As this Council works towards completion of its Action Plan to accompany the Climate Change strategy, leading from the declaration of a Climate Emergency a year ago, we call upon Council to acknowledge the further pressures of Ash die-back and loss of mature trees in recent storms.

Planting trees is beneficial to the environment in the face of accelerating climate change. As we plant trees they help support our wildlife, improve our natural environment as well as reduce the concentration of harmful gases contributing to climate change.

In order to ensure a significant increase in tree planting within the boundary of Somerset, this Council will commit to working with partners, including District and Parish Councils, to support tree planting schemes with local communities and landowners to enable new trees to be planted across Somerset equal to or in excess of the number of babies born in the County this coming year and for the following two years. 'A TREE FOR EVERY BABY'

Note: 2016 births in Somerset, from Somerset Intelligence = 5470.