

OPINION

Climate Action

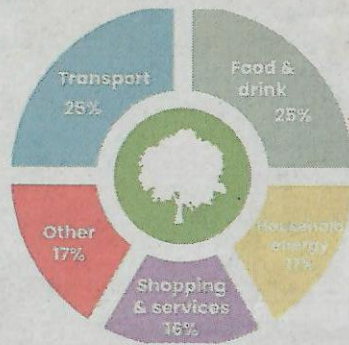
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from **Harborough Climate Action**

We need your voice to help tackle the Climate Crisis

Harborough Climate Action joined in the Global Day of Action in Market Harborough last November.

80 people joined in. 80 people made their voices heard in a peaceful, non-disruptive way. 80 people were concerned enough about the Climate Crisis to try to make others aware about the danger to humankind if we do not stop the ever-increasing rise in global temperatures caused by, amongst other things, the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation.

My question is "Why were there not many more people



The average UK household creates 13 tonnes of greenhouse emissions each year

with us?"

We believe that, by now, people generally are aware about the dangers of rising temperatures.

Indeed, a 2021 Office of National Statistics (ONS) survey found that three-quarters of adults in Great Britain had worries about climate change. They

were particularly anxious for their families and future generations.

Last summer the UK had a grim taste of the future when, for a couple of days, the temperature reached a very uncomfortable 40C+ degrees. Imagine what this would be like for longer periods and with even higher temperatures.

Worryingly, the ONS survey also found that just one in ten respondents had made 'a lot' of lifestyle changes in response to the climate crisis. Three reasons for inaction given by respondents to the survey were first, that they felt helpless to

do anything in the face of such a massive challenge.

Second, they were put off by the expense of making significant changes such as buying an electric car or installing solar panels. And thirdly, they felt that as individuals they could make no difference and that the big polluters should act first.

So how can we extract ourselves from this rabbit-in-the-headlights scenario?

If we are worried, together, we can force governments and businesses to adopt transformative climate policies and to support technological developments. However, the crucial ideal is that social norms must shift to low carbon behaviours, which, in turn, will stoke demand for even more action from politicians and business – a virtuous spiral. So, if you have concerns about the climate crisis, lend your voice and help us lobby Harborough District Council and our MP to do the right thing.