



**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC  
Wednesday 15 May 2019**

**1. QUESTION FROM MR PETER SCOTT (NOT IN ATTENDANCE)  
Re: Lobbying of Committee for Climate Change**

In the context of DCC's declaration of a Climate Emergency, and following the announcement by the Committee for Climate Change of the new recommended target for emissions reduction of Zero Emissions by 2050, will the leader of the Council consider lobbying the CCC to:

- move the target earlier than 2050 on the basis that Zero Emissions by 2050 is estimated by the CCC to only have a 50% chance of achieving a rise of 1.5 degrees C or less, and is therefore an inadequate target to keep us within the terms of the Paris Agreement
- include air travel emissions, sea transport emissions and embodied emissions from goods we purchase from China and other places in the calculations on the basis that not including them makes the calculations meaningless and opens the UK to Greta Thunberg's charge of 'creative accounting'

and also consider lobbying the UK Government to

- immediately cancel Heathrow expansion, Fracking, new oil exploration off Poole Harbour and new coal mining in Cumbria as simply absurd if we are to have any meaningful idea of what constitutes a Climate Emergency

**REPLY BY COUNCILLOR HART**

The recommendation from the Committee on Climate Change is advice that Government will consider in reviewing the decarbonisation targets within the Climate Change Act. Lobbying Government to ensure that national targets are strengthened would therefore be more appropriate, which is one of the actions that will be taken forward by the newly-formed Devon Climate Emergency Response Group. This is a partnership of almost 20 public service organisations, chaired by the County Council, that have come together to tackle the climate emergency jointly. Specific lobbying activity will be agreed collectively.