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UK City Net Zero Declaration

We commit to work with public and private organisations, creating strategic partnerships that will deliver a transformational programme of green growth, bringing billions of pounds of investment to the UK economy.

The pursuit of net zero has become a significant priority for governments around the world in recent years, with many pledging ambitious targets. As local authorities, we recognise the critical role we can play in the efforts to achieving a meaningful and just transition to net zero.

Our combined scale can leverage new opportunities to mobilise finance and drive investment, and our ability to shape, influence, and incentivise citizen choices on waste, energy, mobility and consumption is an important active ingredient in the decarbonisation process. That is why we commit to work with other local authorities towards building partnerships with the private sector to attract global capital generating jobs and growth at a critical economic moment. We therefore call on public and private sector organisations to work with us, to create a transformational step-change and to make our proposals a major plank of future economic growth strategy. Our plan will enable private finance to fund the decarbonisation of commercial and public sector property, transport, waste and housing, as well as increased renewable electricity generation securing jobs, inclusive growth and a just transition.

The green investment potential is huge, and we believe the barriers to this lie not in the availability of finance, but rather the ability to create robust business cases and investment models that address issues of scale, longevity and confidence. We believe that the route to this lies in greater collaboration with the private sector, creating clear business cases based on our collective offer generating greater scale, volume, and predictability, therefore creating a more attractive and substantial proposition for investment. In this way we can drive investment in low carbon technologies and help deliver the Government’s mission to make Britain a Clean Energy Superpower as well as help Great British Energy in the development of its Local Power Plan.

Signed,

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Leader of Medway Council