

Warwickshire Climate Alliance DIVESTMENT LETTER CAMPAIGN.

TARGET: Members of Warwickshire County Council's **Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee**,

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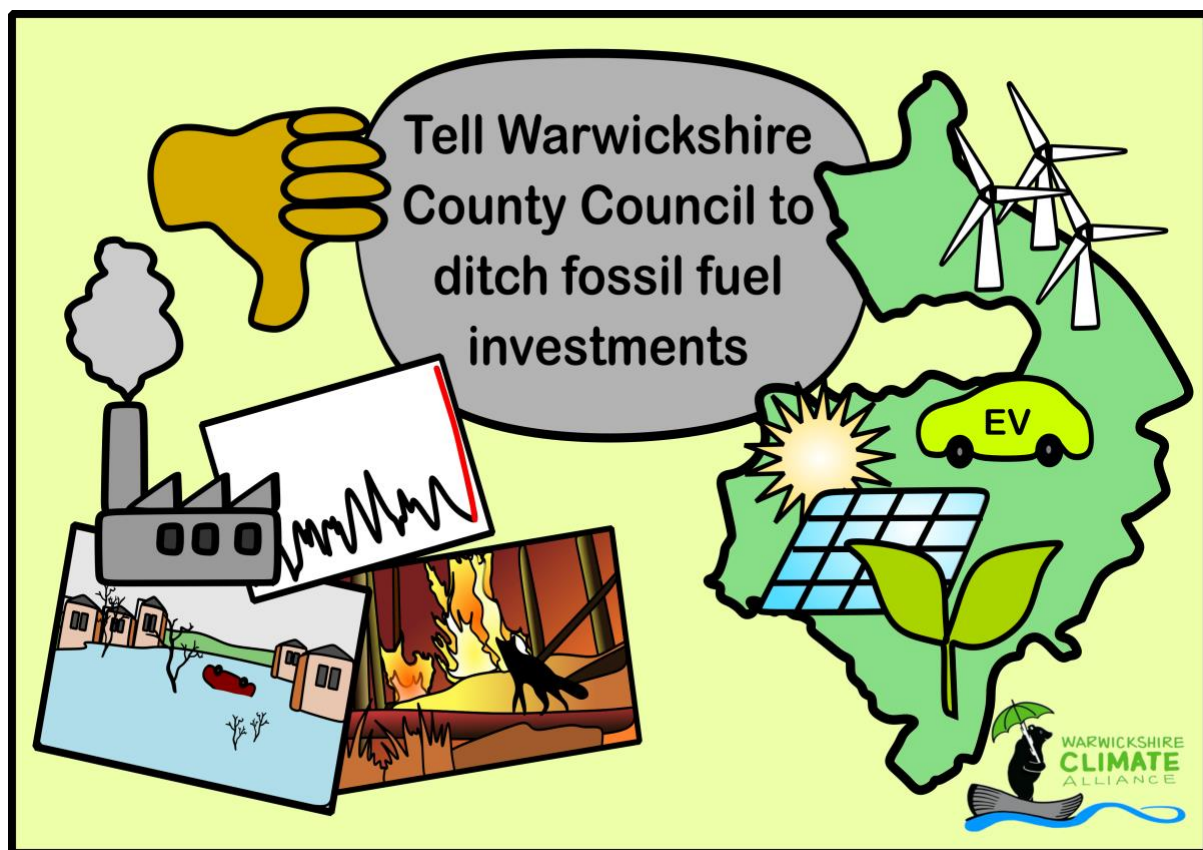
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**Title: Tell Warwickshire County Council to ditch fossil fuels investments**



Warwickshire County Council's local government Pension Scheme still has about £94million invested in fossil fuel producers. We can't go on supporting these industries that are destroying our climate. There is no planet B. It is clear that oil and gas stocks cannot be part of a financially sound long-term investment strategy. **Warwickshire County Council's Pension Fund can choose to divest from fossil fuel producers, stop carbon emissions and support clean industries and green jobs.**

**We know that Warwick District Council has divested completely from fossil fuels as part of its Climate Action Plan, so why hasn't the County Council done the same?**

Can you take two minutes to send an email to the councillors on the Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee, telling them why it is so vital to decarbonise the pension scheme?

#### DRAFT EMAIL

Feel free to use this template without changing it if you are short of time, **but it would be great if you could spend a few more minutes personalising it with your own words as more notice is taken of personal communications.** After the template email, there are other suggestions that you might want to include in your own version.

Dear Councillors....

As a Warwickshire resident (or, as a member of Warwickshire local government pension scheme) I am asking you to decarbonise the Warwickshire pension fund. This is an extremely urgent issue. Pension funds should not be invested in industries that harm our planet. It is too late to argue that "engagement" with fossil fuel producers can be effective. We have very little time left to stop dangerous planetary overheating. By keeping these oil and gas stocks, we are not only risking the safety of our planet but also the financial viability of our future pensions. **Please make sure that the Warwickshire Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee takes immediate action on this issue.**

**Things you might also want to mention:**

- Has the climate crisis already affected you or someone you know?  
**Personal stories have impact**
- Warwickshire has about £94 million indirectly invested in fossil fuel companies such as Royal Dutch Shell, BP, BHP, Glencore, Anglo American, Mitsubishi and ExxonMobil.
- The UK signed up to COP26 goals in Glasgow. Goal 3 is very clear that all financial decisions must be taken with NetZero as a priority and that all

investments must address climate action. Goal 4 is about all governments and institutions playing their role, particularly local government.

- Don't gamble our future pensions by keeping pension funds in stocks that are financially unsound in the long term. Many local authorities have already lost money by holding on to fossil fuel investments.
- Think of the pensioners of the future – what sort of retirement will our grandchildren have if the world continues on its current path?
- The world is experiencing rising temperatures and the effects of extreme weather such as floods and wildfires, so we need to **act now**.
- “Engagement” with fossil fuel producers is not a realistic strategy. Take a look at the Big Oil Reality Check (May 2022 from Oil Change International) <https://priceofoil.org/2022/05/24/big-oil-reality-check-2022/>
- One of the companies that Warwickshire County Council invests in, ExxonMobil, is implicated in the “carbon bomb” that is the Mozambique Gas Project, threatening severe consequences for the climate and nature. It is estimated that the construction phase of this project alone would increase Mozambique’s carbon emissions by up to 10%.
- Look at Warwickshire Climate Alliance's web page if you would like more information. Just click on this link: [Warwickshire Climate Alliance](#)