

Climate Action support

Friends of the Earth

Friends of the Earth are offering support to anyone wishing to take climate action:

<https://friendsoftheearth.uk/>

They have produced a useful list of actions that parish councils can do to tackle the climate emergency:

<https://policy.friendsoftheearth.uk/reports/20-actions-parish-and-town-councils-can-take-climate-and-nature-emergency>

FoE have local groups operating across the UK: <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/local-groups/our-local-groups>

They have also recently started up local Climate Action groups to help councils create Climate Action plans:

<https://takeclimateaction.uk/>

Transition Network

The Transition Movement is a collection of grassroots community projects that aim to increase self-sufficiency to reduce the potential effects of fossil fuels, climate destruction, and economic instability.

There are a number of “Transition Towns” across the UK: <https://transitionnetwork.org/>

Wildlife Trust

The Wildlife Trust are a grassroots movement that believes we need nature and it needs us. More than 850,000 members and 35,000 volunteers work together with their Wildlife Trust to make their local area wilder and make nature part of life, for everyone. Every Wildlife Trust is an independent charity:

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/>

Find your local Wildlife Trust: <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/find-wildlife-trust>

Zero Carbon Britain report

Incorporating work from the last 12 years of Zero Carbon Britain research and the latest scientific and technological developments, the report presents a technically feasible scenario showcasing a future Zero Carbon Britain using only proven technology.

<https://www.cat.org.uk/info-resources/zero-carbon-britain/>

BEIS’s regional CO2 emissions data:

Districts or region’s estimated carbon dioxide emissions from 2005 to 2017 can be accessed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-to-2017>

This data was published in June 2019 by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

Met Office’s climate change impacts data:

Regional, county or administrative region climate change impacts up to 2100 can be viewed here -

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/pub/data/weather/uk/ukcp18/science-reports/UKCP18-Key-results.xlsx>

This data was published by the Met Office in 2018 and summarises the results from UKCP18 (UK Climate Projections 2018), a climate analysis tool that forms part of the Met Office Hadley Centre Climate Programme.

Tyndall Carbon Budget Tool

Carbon budget recommendations for your region or local authority area can be viewed here - <https://carbonbudget.manchester.ac.uk/reports/> using The Tyndall Carbon Budget Tool.

This tool presents climate change targets for regions or UK local authority areas that are based on the commitments in the United Nations Paris Agreement, informed by the latest science on climate change and defined by science based carbon budget setting. Ultimately it shows a region or local authority areas 'fair share' of carbon emissions moving forward to achieve the commitment set out in the Paris Agreement.

Developing renewable energy projects

CSE's Resources

Visit CSE's Resources page for a number of free resources to help support communities taking action on energy, including starting up community energy project and renewable energy projects:

<https://www.cse.org.uk/local-energy/resources>

Future Energy Landscapes engagement toolkit

A joint project from the Centre for Sustainable Energy and the Campaign to Protect Rural England. Detailed facilitation guides, slide decks and materials to run a community consultation process to build an ambitious energy strategy. All info can be found here: <https://www.cse.org.uk/projects/view/1315>

CSE can also give a quote for running this process for you in your area.

Community Energy England and Community Energy Wales

Membership organisations for people who want to set up and run community energy businesses such as community owned solar.

<https://communityenergyengland.org/>

<http://www.communityenergywales.org.uk/>

Micro-generation Certificate Scheme

This is the accreditation system for micro generation of renewable heat or electricity. It is essential to have accredited installers and equipment in order to claim subsidies like the Renewable Heat Incentive:

www.microgenerationcertification.org

Customers can search for accredited installers here: www.microgenerationcertification.org/mcs-consumer/installer-search.php

Heat Pump Associations

For information on heat pumps, advice and to find local installers. Heat Pump Association:

www.heatpumps.org.uk, Ground Source Heat Pump Association: www.gshp.org.uk

Renewable Energy Consumer Code (RECC)

The aim of the Renewable Energy Consumer Code is to ensure that consumers wishing to install a small-scale heat or power generation unit for their homes have the necessary confidence and service standards so that they can make an informed choice: www.realassurance.org.uk/consumers

Welsh Government

The Welsh Government provides energy advice to communities and small businesses, which you can access via this link: <https://gov.wales/energy-service-public-sector-and-community-groups/contact-us>

Centre for Alternative Technology

CAT is an eco-centre in Powys, mid-Wales, dedicated to demonstrating and teaching sustainable development. CAT, despite its name, no longer concentrates its efforts exclusively on alternative technology, but provides information on all aspects of sustainable living: <https://www.cat.org.uk/>

Energy efficiency in our buildings

Green Open Homes website

A website where you can find all the resources and information you need to set up and run a Green Open Homes Peer to Peer learning weekend. You can even set up your own microsite:

<http://www.greenopenhomes.net/>

Futureproof (West of England only)

Futureproof is helping to make it easy for homeowners and builders in the West of England to carry out energy saving improvements & refurbishments with confidence: <https://www.futureproof.uk.net/>

CSE's Resources

Visit CSE's Resources page for a number of free resources to help support communities taking action on energy, including starting improving the energy efficiency of buildings: <https://www.cse.org.uk/local-energy/resources>

CSE's Energy Survey template document is to guide you through an energy audit of your community building so that you can identify the most effective options for energy efficiency improvements: <https://www.cse.org.uk/local-energy/download/an-energy-survey-pro-forma-76>

CIGA

The Cavity Insulation Guarantee Agency provides independent 25 year guarantees for Cavity Wall Insulation fitted by registered installers. Problems are rare, but if they do occur, CIGA has the expertise to ensure that they are swiftly rectified.

You can also search by area for registered installers through their website: www.ciga.co.uk

INCA

Insulated Render and Cladding Association (INCA) is the recognised trade association for the external wall insulation (EWI) industry, representing the major system designers, a nationwide network of specialist installers and the key component suppliers. INCA provides technical advice and installation best practice for EWI to Government, clients and other key stakeholders: www.inca-ltd.org.uk

SWIGA

Solid Wall Insulation Guarantee Agency: swiga.co.uk

FENSA

Fenestration Self-Assessment scheme (FENSA) – for windows and doors: www.fensa.org.uk/about-us.aspx. They have a facility on their website where you can search by postcode for registered FENSA installers: www.fensa.org.uk/asp/member_search.asp

Energy efficiency in heritage and listed buildings

Historic England

Historic England's expert advice helps people care for and protect historic places, including listed buildings. All their advice is free online: <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/find/>

Historic England research suite – a range of documents from Historic England on how to do retrofit well: <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/technical-advice/energy-efficiency-and-historic-buildings/>

Warmer Bath

A householder guide, produced by CSE and the Bath Preservation Trust, it has most relevance to Georgian buildings but many of the principles are useful for all pre-1920's homes.

https://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/reports-and-publications/energy-advice/insulation-and-heating/warmer_bath_june2011.pdf

Oxford City Council Household Energy Efficiency Tool (HEET)

A detailed decision-making framework to help householders make good quality applications, put together by Oxford City Council's heritage and conservation team.

https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20064/conservation/325/heritage_energy_efficiency_tool_heet

The Responsible Retrofit Wheel

Developed by the Sustainable Traditional Buildings Alliance, it is an extraordinarily detailed tool for thinking about appropriate measures for a traditional building.

<http://responsible-retrofit.org/wheel/>

Love your old home

A simple householder guide developed by CSE, drawing on both the STBA Wheel and the HEET tool, that helps householders understand the heritage value of their home before thinking about appropriate energy saving measures.

https://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/file/love_your_old_home_workbook_standard.pdf

Energy advice

National Energy Action

National Energy Action is the national charity working to end fuel poverty in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. They have lots of information and resources on their website: <https://www.nea.org.uk/advice/>

They run a free energy advice service in England and Wales: <https://www.nea.org.uk/advice/wash-advice/>

CSE's Factsheets

CSE has a number of useful information sheets on our website. These can be used to give to people for more information on household energy use and savings, home improvements and renewable technologies:

<https://www.cse.org.uk/resources/category:advice-leaflets>

Energy Saving Trust

EST does not have a telephone advice line but it has a number of tips and resources on their website:

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/home-energy-efficiency>

EST also has a useful guide on buying green electricity: <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/home-energy-efficiency/switching-utilities/buying-green-electricity>

Which?

Which? also has a useful article that explains more about green electricity tariffs:

<https://www.which.co.uk/news/2019/09/how-green-is-your-energy-tariff/>

The four energy providers which are deemed to provide 'true' green electricity are; Green Energy, Good Energy, Ecotricity and Octopus Energy.

Citizen's Advice

Citizen's Advice often offers energy advice, especially around issues of debt or dealing with energy suppliers. They have some resources on their website:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/>

Visit a local branch for face to face advice.

NEST (Wales)

The NEST scheme offers energy advice a range of free, impartial advice and, if you are eligible, a package of free home energy efficiency improvements such as a new boiler, central heating or insulation to people in Wales: <https://nest.gov.wales/en/>

SustIt - appliance calculator

Guide to buying efficient appliances. Useful when people ask about how to choose the right appliances for their home: <https://www.sust-it.net/energy-saving/washing-machines>

Local energy advice agencies

There are hundreds of local energy advice services run by local charities and sometimes local authorities. Familiarise yourself with what service exists in your local area so that you can signpost people to them if they need energy advice.

Neighbourhood planning

CSE's Neighbourhood Planning support

CSE offers free support for Neighbourhood Planning groups to make sure their area contributes to a sustainable future. You can contact us for bespoke support or access a number of free resources on our website: <https://www.cse.org.uk/local-energy/neighbourhood-plans>

Locality

Neighbourhood planning groups can access grant and technical support for the development of their plans through Locality: <https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/>

Informing and supporting your community

Ashden Trust 'Co-Benefits' toolkit

A great way of showing people how the actions we take to tackle the climate emergency will also create other benefits such as cleaner air, healthier lifestyles, more comfortable homes and more resilient communities: <https://www.ashden.org/programmes/co-benefits>

Climate Outreach

Climate Outreach are Europe's leading climate change communicators, bridging the gap between research and practice and helping to widen engagement across a broader spectrum of society. They have a number of resources on how to communicate climate change effectively: <https://climateoutreach.org/>

CSE's Resources

Visit CSE's Resources page for a number of free resources to help support communities taking action on energy: <https://www.cse.org.uk/local-energy/resources>

Tree planting and biodiversity

Woodland Trust

The Woodland Trust is the largest woodland conservation charity in the United Kingdom concerned with the creation, protection, and restoration of native woodland heritage: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>

Woodland Trust have developed a tree plan and can provide packs of trees for local planting projects: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/publications/2020/01/emergency-tree-plan/>

Plantlife

Plantlife is a wild plant conservation charity: <https://www.plantlife.org.uk/>

Plantlife have a guide to managing your road verges and other mowed areas for better biodiversity outcomes: [https://www.plantlife.org.uk/application/files/4614/8232/2916/Road verge guide 17 6.pdf](https://www.plantlife.org.uk/application/files/4614/8232/2916/Road_verge_guide_17_6.pdf)

Buglife

The Invertebrate Conservation Trust is a British-based nature conservation charity: <https://www.buglife.org.uk/>

Wildlife Trust

The Wildlife Trust are a grassroots movement that believes we need nature and it needs us. More than 850,000 members and 35,000 volunteers work together with their Wildlife Trust to make their local area wilder and make nature part of life, for everyone. Every Wildlife Trust is an independent charity: <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/>

Find your local Wildlife Trust: <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/find-wildlife-trust>

Low-carbon transport

Office for Low Emission Vehicles

The Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) is a team working across government to support the early market for ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEV). They offer guidance and grant opportunities for EV schemes and charging infrastructure: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/office-for-low-emission-vehicles>

Campaign for better transport

Campaign for Better Transport lobbies and collaborates with national and local government, developers, employers, operators, NGOs, and communities to make transport better, greener, healthier and affordable: <https://bettertransport.org.uk/what-we-do>

Sustrans

Sustrans are a charity making it easier for people to walk and cycle. They run a number of projects to help get people out of their cars. Find out how you can get involved: <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/>

Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership

The LCVP is a public-private partnership that exists to accelerate a sustainable shift to lower carbon, cleaner vehicles and fuels and create opportunities for UK businesses: <https://www.lowcvp.org.uk/>

They have a resource library: <https://www.lowcvp.org.uk/resource-library.htm>

Co-wheels

The UK's biggest car-club operating in 60 locations: <https://www.co-wheels.org.uk/>

Co-wheels can help manage a car-club fleet for local authorities: https://www.co-wheels.org.uk/local_authorities

Ecargo Bike Grant Fund

The Department for Transport has made £2 million funding available for the acquisition of ecargo bikes, to support green last mile deliveries. This funding is available to limited companies, sole traders, partnerships, charities and not-for-profit organisations operating in England.

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/transport/freight-and-retrofit/ecargo-bike-grant-fund>

Propensity to cycle tool

The PCT was designed to assist transport planners and policy makers to prioritise investments and interventions to promote cycling. The PCT answers the question: 'where is cycling currently common and where does cycling have the greatest potential to grow?'. The PCT can be used at different scales.

<https://www.pct.bike/>

On Street Residential Chargepoints

The Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) announced the continuation of the [On-street Residential Chargepoint Scheme](#) (ORCS), to increase the availability of plug-in vehicle charging infrastructure for residents who do not have access to off-street parking.

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/transport/local-authorities/street-residential-chargepoint-scheme>

Waste, recycling and circular economy

Ellen MacArthur Foundation and WRAP resources

Waste, recycling and circular economy support: <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/> ,
<http://www.wrap.org.uk/>

City to Sea

City to Sea are a campaigning charity that help tackle the excess use of single-use plastics:
<https://www.citytosea.org.uk/>

They run the Refill campaign which aims to get more people using refillable water bottles and more businesses and places installing refill stations: <https://refill.org.uk/>

Fundraising

Crowdfunder

The UK's leading crowd funding platform which is free to use to raise funds for projects:

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/>

Abundance

Abundance helps Local Authorities and other Public Sector Organisations finance infrastructure projects through citizen and stakeholder investment. They are offering grants to local authorities wishing to pilot the Community Municipal Bond model which utilises the crowdfunding approach to create an efficient, scalable, and cost effective alternative to conventional funding sources such as the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB): <https://issuers.abundanceinvestment.com/local-authorities>

Public Works Loan Board

The Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) is a statutory body that issues loans to local authorities, and other specified bodies, from the National Loans Fund, operating within a policy framework set by HM Treasury. This borrowing is mainly for capital projects: <https://www.dmo.gov.uk/responsibilities/local-authority-lending-pwlb/monthly-loans-report/>

Salix Loans

Interest-free finance is available through Salix funding. This funding comes from the Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy and support over 100 different energy efficiency technologies types: <https://www.salixfinance.co.uk/loans/schools-loans>

Rural Community Buildings Loan Fund

Defra's Rural Community Buildings Loan Fund, managed by ACRE, helps community buildings such as community centres and village halls fill temporary gaps in funding, either for specific projects or for urgent work connected with the building. Communities are encouraged to raise funds, knowing a loan could be available to help them meet their target and win funding from other sources.

<http://www.fundingforall.org.uk/funds/defra-rural-community-buildings-loan-fund/>

Rural Community Energy Fund

A BEIS-funded scheme to give grants for the development costs of community owned renewable energy projects, such as solar farms and wind turbines. Run by the 5 regional Local Energy Hubs run by BEIS.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rural-community-energy-fund>

CSE's funding page

CSE's Local Energy site has a funding page that we keep up to date with new funding sources for community groups and other organisations: <https://www.cse.org.uk/local-energy/resources>

You can also sign up to our newsletter to receive news of new funding sources: <https://www.cse.org.uk/local-energy/news>

Power to Change

Power to Change are an independent charitable trust that supports and develops community businesses in England. They can offer support for community businesses, especially on financing community businesses:

<https://www.powertochange.org.uk/>

Power to Change have a useful resource on how local authorities, including local councils, can use PWLB funding to provide finance to community businesses:

https://www.socialfinance.org.uk/sites/default/files/publications/power_to_change_localism-working-paper.pdf