



An introduction to the Climate Action Working Group

When the Council declared a climate and ecological emergency last year, it formed a cross-party Climate Action Working Group, steering and driving forward our work on climate action. Participation from across party groups ensures we are not only co-ordinated but also inclusive. Cllr David Harvey leads the Council's response as Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Chair of the Working Group, and said: "We are all responsible for taking climate action so that we leave to our future generations an environment that we ourselves would wish to live in. The way in which we respond to the climate and ecological crisis today is our legacy. Action is needed and this Group is committed to leading the way by example."



Cllr Alaa Ala-Yousuf



Cllr Nathalie Chapple



Cllr Andrew Coles



Cllr Merilyn Davies



Cllr David Harvey, Cabinet Member
for Climate Change and Chair



Cllr Ted Fenton



Cllr Carl Rylett

Carbon neutral by 2030

We are on a trajectory to becoming a carbon-neutral Council by 2030 after the Council approved the [Carbon Action Plan](#) on 28th October.

This Plan reviews the carbon emissions associated with the operation of Council buildings, leisure centres and facilities and Council vehicle fleet, machinery and travel. Priorities for action have been set with a focus on reducing demand on natural resources and providing what energy the Council does need through low and zero carbon technologies.

Council has separately approved its Recovery Plan. Climate action has now received added stimulus in the shape of funding to support three new staff positions delivering both climate and ecological-specific project work. Building back greener is an embedded principal of the Council's recovery.



Climate action - your views

The results of our climate action survey have given us a really clear picture of how you are already tackling environmental issues and how you would like us to help you do more.

The response was tremendous, the equivalent to one in every 250 people who live in the District. An overwhelming 75% of respondents described climate change as a "high priority".

Your feedback also told us that you wanted to hear more about what the Council is doing for climate action and ways for you to get involved. We have taken these comments on board – this Seasonal Bulletin will be one way we will keep you connected and involved in local climate action. Please find attached, the full summary of our survey results.



Winners announced

A special song and a thought-provoking piece of art have been voted the winners of our [young people's climate action competition](#). The Climate Change Song, by 12-year-olds Nicole Harris and Lexie Boshier, and a drawing entitled Wellbeing, by Millie Freer, 11, topped the entries in our competition which attracted submissions from students, schools and young people from across the District. Well done to all our entrants - we were overwhelmed by your creativity!



Fuel Poverty Grant now available

One of the Council's priorities in tackling climate change is making existing homes more energy efficient. We and our partners are committed to providing residents access to the information and grants they need to help carry out improvements. You can learn more about our [low-cost measures](#) for how to stay warm and save energy this winter: search for "energy efficiency and affordable warmth".

To learn more about our fuel poverty grant in West Oxfordshire, contact our partner, National Energy Foundation (NEF), and the [Better Housing Better Health](#) team for more details.



How to get involved

This season, you could:



Talk to the [Cosy Homes Oxfordshire](#) team for home retrofit advice for homeowners and landlords.



Help build information on wildlife by sharing your sightings with [Nature's Calendar](#) and the [Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre \(TVERC\)](#)



Cut food waste by trying these autumn recipe leftover tips on [Love Food Hate Waste](#).



Take part in UK's largest [annual tree celebration](#) taking place 28 November – 6 December.



Become a conservation volunteer with the [Wychwood Project](#).



Take a look at RSPB's tips on how to [help wildlife in your garden](#) and what to feed the birds.



Join the Lower Windrush Valley Project at their [Annual Forum](#) on Thursday 12th November. Book via Eventbrite:



CLIMATE ACTION for West Oxfordshire

At a time when disposable PPE is generating additional single use plastic waste, you can take care to [reduce your impact](#).



Stay [Warmer this Winter](#), save energy and reduce your carbon footprint. Contact our partner, NEF, to find out how.

You can help us to spread the word and encourage as many people as possible to get involved in taking climate action. The sum of everyone's individual actions will make a huge impact to addressing climate change in the District so please share our Bulletin. To register for future editions, email: Climate.Action@westoxon.gov.uk