# Climate Action Fund 2023/24



### PROJECT RESOURCES

Whether you're at the start of your journey to take action to address the climate emergency or have been working with your community to protect the planet for many years, we know that everyone can make a difference when we work together.

<u>Vale of White Horse District Council</u> have a number of ideas and different resources that you may find helpful when planning your project to apply to the Climate Action Fund.

Projects could focus on areas such as:

- The natural environment
- Energy
- Waste and consumption
- Transport and travel

#### The Natural Environment:

If you're considering planting trees in your community, check out our <u>tree</u> <u>information</u>, which includes our new <u>tree planting policy if you're interested in</u> planting trees on council-owned land. There's also a really useful <u>guide to planting trees for community groups</u>. All tree planting projects are eligible for the Climate Action Fund, not just those for planting on council-owned land. <u>Wild Oxfordshire</u> have a wealth of advice and resources on taking action for nature.

## **Energy:**

You may be helping your community to make homes and local businesses more climate friendly by creating awareness of practical steps that can be taken. The <a href="Energy Savings Trust">Energy Savings Trust</a> has plenty of home energy advice and <a href="Cosy Homes">Cosy Homes</a>
<a href="Oxfordshire">Oxfordshire</a> offers retrofit surveys, advice and installation. <a href="The Low Carbon Hub">The Low Carbon Hub</a>
helps local schools, businesses and community groups to develop their own renewable energy projects and offers a wide range of support.

## Waste and consumption:

Reuse of existing products, reducing consumption, and recycling are some of the best ways we can make a difference to our climate as individuals and within our communities. There are several community action groups in the Vale who organise regular events and initiatives to encourage people to reduce, reuse and recycle waste, and offer guidance on how to live more sustainably. The Community Action

<u>Groups website</u> have great resources to share ideas and help make your project run smoothly, whether you're campaigning to reduce single use plastics, setting up a local <u>repair café</u>/swap shop or establishing a <u>Library of Things</u>. Why not talk to your <u>Town & Parish Council</u> about a shared allotment or space to grow a community garden.

## **Transport and travel:**

Projects which encourage short journeys by foot and by bike, instead of by car, can be a great way to get people more active, support local shops and businesses, and reduce congestion. For example, providing bike storage for community spaces or improving awareness of neighbourhood cycle paths and walks, helping residents decide to use a different, climate friendly, way of travel. With the installation of the Park and Charge Electric Vehicle scheme in Vale of White Horse, you may wish to organise a hands-on demonstration and information event for electric vehicles. Car clubs also offer an alternative model to private car ownership, helping the environment and saving residents money. Collaborative Mobility UK have developed a community car clubs handbook and can provide advice, support and share best practice on setting up a community car club.

#### Other useful resources:

- Further funding options can be found via <u>CAG Oxfordshire's</u> grants database. They also have helpful information to support the running of your group
- The council has a really useful <u>guide to running your own event</u> and securing the necessary licenses and permissions
- The <u>planning permission page</u> on the council's webpage can help you assess if your project needs planning permission
- Oxfordshire Community & Voluntary Action (OCVA) can help with advice for recruiting volunteers and keeping them safe and motivated
- Find out more about how the council is tackling climate change in our <u>Climate</u> <u>Action Plan</u> 2022-24
- For inspiration, take a look at the <u>climate projects we have funded</u> in previous rounds of our Climate Action Fund