

CLIMATE EMERGENCY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Local Council Action Planning Day

Background

Since November 2018, hundreds of local authorities, parish and town councils have passed declarations of a Climate Emergency, and in July 2019 the UK's target to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 was enshrined in law.

Both the national target and the Committee on Climate Change models that underpin it, require a step change in pace and scale of change. All levels of government will need to be involved in supporting the rapid transition to a zero-carbon economy.

Town and parish councils have a unique position through which they can stimulate grassroots action, set a leadership example and provide a local, accountable focal point for practical action on the climate emergency. But parish councillors are volunteers, most parish clerks are part time, and there is a very limited level of technical understanding of climate issues and carbon action. There is therefore a need for targeted support that will help them make sense of the scale of the issue, and take action in the way that is most appropriate to their area and spheres of influence.

The Centre for Sustainable Energy has designed a one day workshop, which we will run with a group of local councils to go into the details of climate action planning. The day will be delivered online via Hopin (<https://hopin.to/>), an online events platform.

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*Gill Lungley
Local Councils Trainer and Support Officer, Worcestershire County ALC*

The day will consist of the following core elements:

Intro to the climate emergency, and the radical action now needed.

Facilitated workshops on understanding local impacts, communicating with your residents, and building an action plan.

Online conference 'Exhibition Hall', with stalls from local advice providers, projects and schemes that can help you.

Networking opportunities, allowing with 1:1 informal meetings with other parish councillors and clerks from your area.



Aims

The aim of the workshop is to provide a group of local councils with:

1. A good grounding on the context, drivers, facts and figures in this space from global to local levels.
2. An understanding of the role of local councils and what levers of influence they have.
3. The beginning of a practical action plan for their parish or town and be better equipped to address the climate emergency.
4. Access to CSE resources and continued support.

Outputs

A full day workshop via the Hopin interactive conference platform.

Delegate packs on topics such as 'Climate Emergency Context' and 'Raising Your Precept'.

A report based upon the day's findings.

“The day was excellent! I was sceptical about the whole thing, but the message has moved on from when I last attended any seminar on this issue – now there is no talk about our ‘carbon footprint’, and no domineering insistence on the need to calculate our ‘carbon footprint’, instead we have a much more rounded approach with tangible outcomes. The message has become easier to understand; it’s personal and effective and relevant to parish councils, as we can, and should, act as ambassadors and role models.

I thought the conference day itself was very well planned and engaging. There was opportunity to meet up with other attendees and plenty of comfort breaks. The only thing that was missing was the Danish pastries!

”

TALK TO US

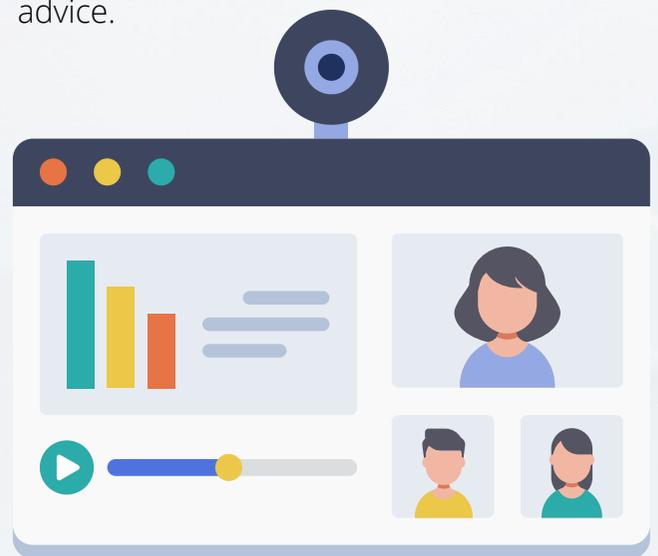
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About CSE

CSE is an independent national charity, established in 1979 to tackle climate change and end the misery of cold homes. We undertake practical work to support households and communities to take action on energy, alongside original research and analysis to inform local and national policy, with a particular focus on modelling, data analysis, and software development.

Since September 2019, through our Climate Emergency support programme CSE has been supporting local authorities and local councils – providing bespoke support, presentations and advice.



Meet the team

Mini biographies of our proposed team – and those of CSE's wider staff group – can be found on our website.

Charlie, Project Worker



Rachel, Programme Manager



Megan, Snr Project Worker



Nick, Intern



Graham, Project Officer