

CARBON LITERACY TRAINING FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Carbon Literacy
Project



ABOUT THIS COURSE

On completion of this course, participants will understand

- The climate change impacts we're already experiencing
- What's causing climate change
- What future impacts we will experience on our current trajectory
- What's required from a big picture perspective to tackle climate change
- What we're doing at the global and national level
- The steps councils need to take for local authorities to play their full part in tackling emissions
- What emissions are produced by your administrative area and council as an organisation
- What is being done to tackle these emissions
- The carbon footprint of UK households and what can be done to reduce it
- Which nations and income groups are most responsible for climate change
- The co-benefits of tackling climate change
- How to engage the public in climate action

This course is accredited by The Carbon Literacy Project. Participants will receive eight hours of learning. On successful completion of an evidence form in which personal pledges are outlined, participants will be certified “carbon literate”. The interactive course is delivered through a mixture of presentation, group exercises, polls and discussion.

MODULE 1 – CLIMATE SCIENCE

■ What is ‘the climate’ and what is climate change

■ How has our climate changed?

The difference between long-term averages and weather extremes

■ Why is our climate changing?

How does our climate work naturally? – The Greenhouse Effect, The Carbon Cycle
How humans altered our climate through greenhouse gas emissions
The sources of those emissions

■ Are we really sure humans are responsible?

The Greenhouse Effect is long-established scientific fact, direct measurements show emissions increase, natural factors have had negligible influence.

■ What should we limit the global temperature rise to, to avoid the worst impacts of climate change?

■ Given our current trajectory, where are we headed?

The temperature rise we will experience by 2100
The impacts we’re headed for at global, national and local level

MODULE 2 – SOLUTIONS: BIG PICTURE

- **What do we need to do, according to the science, to tackle climate change?**

How carbon dioxide functions and how to tackle it; why net zero, and what it means; Carbon budgets and the need for urgent emissions cuts

- **What policies are in place globally and nationally?**

How are we doing in terms of achieving those objectives

MODULE 3 – THE ROLE OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES & HOUSEHOLDS

■ **The role of local authorities**

Emissions under direct control vs those they have influence over
The measures councils should take for authorities to play their full part in meeting national emission reduction targets

■ **Your council – entire administrative area**

What are the sources of emissions within your local authority area?
What is the council doing to reduce these emissions?

■ **Your council – internal emissions**

What are the sources of emissions within the council?
What's being done to reduce them? What more can be done?

■ **What are other councils doing?**

A look at best practice examples from around the country

■ **Household emissions**

What's the emissions profile of a typical household and how can we reduce these emissions?

■ **Territorial vs embedded emissions**

The emissions associated with imported goods consumed by citizens

MODULE 4 – RESPONSIBILITIES, OPPORTUNITIES & MOVING FORWARD

■ **Climate justice and equity**

How responsible are developed nations for climate change vs other nations?
How vulnerable are they to climate impacts vs other countries?
Which economic groups bear the most responsibility?

■ **Co-benefits of taking action**

If we take action on climate change what other issues will we also address?
What other benefits does taking action on climate change deliver?
Case studies illustrating multiple benefits of climate action

■ **The biodiversity crisis**

A look at biodiversity loss, and its causes, at the global and UK level
The role of nature-based solutions

■ **Techniques and strategies for engaging others in climate action**

Using co-benefits to frame climate change as fulfilling the audience's values
The role of trusted messengers
Using local, relatable examples

■ **Personal pledges and the certification process**

Why individual action is important
Individual vs group actions
What to consider when deciding on your pledges – ease and effectiveness