

Community Leisure UK Climate Change Action Plan 2022 – 2023

Introduction

After publishing our COP26 briefing and first member-informed Climate Change Action Plan in summer 2021, more members have stepped forward and requested support on climate action.

The business year 2021 – 2022 was a formative year with Community Leisure UK seeking out more partnerships and expert advice on what environmental sustainability means for public leisure and culture. We created an environmental policy for our organisation and our Annual General Meeting in November 2021 saw members sharing best practice on environmental sustainability. We have also started work on an actionable guidance note in collaboration with partners for public leisure and culture operators to check and challenge their journey to environmental sustainability.

We have developed a three-year Environmental Sustainability Strategy, with the following aims:

1. Identify and raise national awareness within the public leisure and culture sector as well as the Community Leisure UK membership of the climate impact of public leisure and culture trusts.
2. Make the case for nationally supported investment in increased environmentally sustainable operations for public leisure and culture trusts.
3. Clarify the funding opportunities for members to invest in environmental sustainability.
4. Support the responsibility of a leisure and culture operator on climate action.

After consultation with members, the following priorities for 2022-23 were identified:

- ✓ Understand green energy solutions, increase energy efficiency, and reduce the use of fossil fuels.
- ✓ Create wide-spread awareness of climate change and action amongst leisure and culture operators.
- ✓ Set priorities based on local strengths and networks.
- ✓ Recognise the importance of, and support the move to, active travel.

In line with the aims and objectives of our three-year Environmental Sustainability Strategy, the below Climate Change Action Plan was created to support members in becoming more environmentally sustainable.

Climate Change Action Plan 2022-23

Objectives	KPIs
Members understand their own climate impact and the actions they can take to increase their environmental sustainability.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set up a new Environment & Sustainability Special Interest Group to facilitate peer learning on positive climate action and wider understanding of environmental sustainability between members. 2. Deliver support through a series of workshops so all members can review and assess their own climate impact, including the areas where they can take action to increase their environmental sustainability.
The contribution of public leisure and culture facilities to a Local Authority's carbon footprint under their scope 3 emissions is understood and reported upon.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Work with local authority bodies across England, Scotland, and Wales to understand the extent to which Local Authorities have calculated their carbon footprints, and what is known about the contribution of leisure and culture. 4. Use this data to advocate for the inclusion of leisure and culture trusts in the journey to environmental sustainability for Local Authorities.
Members have a business case for investment in energy efficient approaches.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Work with a professional organisation to understand current operations, challenges, and opportunities for members' environmental sustainability to research and create a business case for investment.
Community Leisure UK supports strategic working groups in Government and in the public leisure and culture sector on environmental.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Attend at least one (governmental) group and/or network in each nation to represent leisure and culture trusts and their work on environmental sustainability.
Community Leisure UK reports nationally on what support members need to achieve more environmentally sustainable operations, including the consequences if no support is provided.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Deliver a national report on the progress to more environmentally sustainable operators for leisure and culture trusts, including an outline of the current state of play and recommendations for further investment.
Community Leisure UK understands the national policies around net zero and environmental sustainability and can inform members on the national targets.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Identify and develop a partnership with organisations that can provide guidance and support on understanding the Government(s) net zero agenda and climate action, in England, Scotland and Wales.

<p>Members understand how to fund effective climate action and what support they can access.</p>	<p>9. Create a database of guidance for members on funding opportunities for members to finance their climate action, including most effective business investments, and best practice on working with local authorities to access government-supported funding.</p>
<p>Members understand how their role as local organisations and partners can steer and guide long-term climate action.</p>	<p>10. Facilitate a workshop with members and local authority partners on active travel and place, the role of public leisure and culture and the intersectionality with climate action in achieving those public policy objectives.</p>