

## *Newsletter update – November 2021*

Welcome to the latest newsletter for the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership! It's great to see that momentum is building, with lots of progress to tell you about. Here are some brief updates covering:

- [Cumbria Sustainability Network](#)
- [Community Climate Grants](#)
- [Spotlight on Sustainable Carlisle](#)
- [Zero Carbon Battle Bus](#)
- [Citizens' Juries](#)
- [Youth climate summit](#)
- [Events and training](#)
- [Climate and Carbon Literacy Training](#)
- [Local authority updates](#)
- [Monitoring and evaluation](#)
- [Communications update](#)
- [Other news](#)
- [Names and contact details](#)

### **Cumbria Sustainability Network**

A number of groups linked to the Cumbria Sustainability Network took part in activities across the county to celebrate Great Big Green Week (18 – 26 September) as a means of promoting community awareness of the COP26 UN climate summit in Glasgow. Events during the week included stalls and exhibitions, film screenings, guided walks, repair cafes, workshops, picnics, and even drummers in the park in Ambleside.

The Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership was able to support a number of community initiatives during the week, contributing National Lottery funding of over £2,000 to eight local groups to enable them to deliver events.



On Sunday 7 November members of climate action groups from across Cumbria came together with local residents for a day of discussion and celebration at the National Trust's Footprint building in Windemere. The event, entitled 'Seeds of Resilience', was organised by CAfS and the National Trust to mark COP26 Nature Day and to reinforce the message that everyone can take positive action locally to contribute towards global efforts to reduce the levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. For more information please see [Seeds of Resilience - CAfS](#)



## Community Climate Grants

The Zero Carbon Cumbria Community Climate Grants scheme has now been launched to provide funding for voluntary and community groups to take action to combat climate change.

Groups can apply for grants ranging from £200 to £10,000, for projects and events to raise awareness of the urgent need to stop climate change and to reduce carbon emissions from energy use, land use, waste and transport.

There are full details about the grant fund at <https://cafs.org.uk/climate-grants/>. Groups can also find out more at a webinar to be held on Thursday 25 November at 1pm. Booking details for this event can be found at [Community Climate Grants - Launch Webinar \(cafs.org.uk\)](#)

The Community Climate Grants are supported by a £100,000 commitment from the National Lottery Communities Fund as part of the £2.5 million Zero Carbon Cumbria initiative. The new fund is also supported by Allerdale Borough Council, who have pledged an additional £10,000 towards carbon reducing projects led by voluntary sector groups in the Allerdale area.

Additional support and advice is available for potential applicants – please get in touch with any queries via [communitygrants@cafs.org.uk](mailto:communitygrants@cafs.org.uk).





## Spotlight on Sustainable Carlisle

Sustainable Carlisle has been very busy over the last few months. As well as organising a very successful event in Carlisle city centre as part of Great Big Green Week, (see <http://www.sustainablecarlisle.org/great-big-green-week> ) they organised a series of fantastic events linked to COP26. From polar bears to red rebels and cyclists, there was a great mix of different groups who were making their way through the British Isles, by way of Carlisle, to Glasgow for COP26. See <http://www.sustainablecarlisle.org/cop-26-hub>.



Carlisle also took part in the 'global day for climate justice' during COP 26 with a brilliant climate rally in the city centre.



Despite the full force of the elements there was a fantastic turn out, with a diverse mix of speakers and music. People from all different walks of life in the community spoke out about topics linked to the climate crisis, ranging from addressing disabilities to education and climate jobs. Singers, musicians and a choir kept spirits high with climate themed songs.

The rally was featured on [ITV news](#)

Sustainable Carlisle are delighted that their newsletter subscribers and Facebook followers have been growing over the last year.

For more information about Sustainable Carlisle please contact [katie@sustainablecarlisle.org](mailto:katie@sustainablecarlisle.org) or visit <http://www.sustainablecarlisle.org>.

## Zero Carbon Battle Bus

Burneside hosted the only Cumbrian stop on a UK tour of film makers documenting low carbon initiatives in a big, blue zero-carbon bus.

The government-funded Zero Carbon Tour stopped by to feature the successful partnership between Burneside Community Energy (BCE) and James Cropper PLC, which has seen a range of solar PV arrays installed at the firm's plant.



BCE held the event to showcase their successful local energy initiative and welcomed representatives from multiple organisations involved in Cumbria's sustainability efforts.

Director of BCE Phil Davies said: *'We're incredibly proud to have the bus come to us and recognise what we've achieved here in Burneside. What we've got that is really special is a partnership between a big industry leader in James Cropper PLC and the people who live in the village, who got together to see what we could do about the problems of carbon and climate. Our solar panels save around 330 tonnes of carbon a year, and we hope that we could be a template to inspire similar villages and towns throughout Cumbria to do the same.'*

## Citizens' Juries

The Copeland People's Panel on Climate Change has completed its deliberations, prioritising the issues of energy, transport and education/behaviour change. The recommendations of the panel were published at an on-line launch event on 20 October 2021. The statement and the recommendations can be found here [copeland peoples panel rec.pdf](#).

The organisations who are represented on the Oversight Panel are now considering the recommendations before providing a response.



A series of youth group activities were run during the summer of 2021 in Copeland with a total of 62 young people aged between the ages of 11 and 19 taking part. The sessions were designed to bring the voices and perspectives of young people into the local climate change debate as well as to inform the People's Panel on what young people want in climate change policy. Findings from the youth group were collated and presented to the People's Panel on Climate Change and taken into account at the recommendation writing stage of the panel process.

A full report on the Copeland People's Panel on Climate Change in addition to the Young People's Report will be available shortly on the Shared Future website: [Copeland People's Panel on Climate Change - Shared Future CIC](#).

The second district-wide citizens' jury is now under way in the borough of Barrow-in-Furness, facilitated by Shared Future. This will be known as the Furness Citizens' Jury on climate change, consisting of 20 randomly selected local residents. The first session was held on 16 November, with the process expected to complete in February 2022.

For further information contact [natalie.naisbitt@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:natalie.naisbitt@cumbria.gov.uk).

## Youth climate summit

The Cumbria Youth Climate Summit took place online on 15 October. It was organised by Cumbria Development Education Centre (CDEC) and CAfS and funded by the National Lottery's Climate Action Fund. Fellfoot Forward, Cumbria County Council and Eco-schools also provided support.

Over 500 students from 15 schools took part and helped shape key climate recommendations for Cumbria relating to transport, the environment and opportunities to generate clean energy.

*Laura Goad, Director of CDEC, said: "The Youth Climate Summit was Cumbria's third such event; Robert Ferguson Primary School planned the initial summits in 2019 and 2020. This summit showed us yet again how passionate young people are about the health and wellbeing of the planet and how they are equipped – with ideas, plans and vision – to take local action that can have global impact."*

Seizing on the momentum generated by COP26, a delegation of Cumbrian youngsters featuring 17-year-old Hannah Wright from Kendal, presented the outcomes from the summit



to Councillor Celia Tibble (Cumbria County Council Cabinet Member for Environment) and Karen Mitchell (co-chair of Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership and CEO of Cumbria Action for Sustainability). The meeting coincided with Youth and Public Empowerment Day at COP26.

*Fiona, aged 17 from Penrith and co-host of the summit, said: "I think that everyone has the responsibility to do what they can. So if you're a person who is in a position of influence, I'd like to see you using your voice to try and promote change as much as you can. I really think that there has never been a more important time to act."*

*Cllr Celia Tibble said: "I was delighted to have the opportunity to hear the wide range of ideas and views of our young people on climate change, and the actions they are taking to encourage all of us to tackle the most important global issue of our time. Their passion for demanding change and direct action is inspiring, and I have no doubt there are some future leaders among them. Their dedication to the sustainability of our planet must now inspire governments and organisations to facilitate real change, and they have my full support during this vitally important time."*



Karen Mitchell also added: *“Young people have every right to be concerned for their futures and to demand action on climate change There is much that we all need to do and can do here in Cumbria that these young people have highlighted very well and which would benefit all our lives as well as help safeguard their futures. People and organisations across Cumbria must listen and respond to them.”*

[Hear the views of young people from across Cumbria in this short video by CAfS.](#)

## **Events and training**

An initial meeting of ZCCP’s emerging Education & Training working group was attended by 15 people. The group recognised the vital role of learning & development to support the transition to zero carbon, and discussed opportunities to effectively support ZCCP’s wider agenda, including scope for:

- mapping existing learning provision across ZCCP
- conducting skills audits
- identifying gaps in current skills / experience / competence
- helping to match learning provision with need
- linking education curricula to the requirements for future green jobs

The group aims to identify the highest priority areas for collaboration, which will add the greatest value at this stage of ZCCP’s development, of course without duplicating or distracting from excellent work already happening across Cumbria in this field. Further ongoing input from the wider partnership will be sought and welcome.

In addition to strategic development to support ZCCP’s overall work, the Events & Training programme increasingly aims to collaborate directly with ZCCP sub-groups, including sector working groups as they form, local authorities, Cumbria Sustainability Network, and youth programmes. The objective is to agree prioritised on-going training & events programmes for these various work strands for the next 12 months.

For more information about any aspect of the Events & Training programme, please contact Nigel Jenkins - [nigel.jenkins@cafs.org.uk](mailto:nigel.jenkins@cafs.org.uk)

## **Climate and Carbon Literacy Training**

The climate and carbon literacy training courses continue to be very successful with huge levels of take up and very positive feedback both in terms of improved knowledge and also attendees feeling more motivated and empowered to take action.

*“The course sets out why action on climate change is needed now and what we can do as individuals and businesses to make a difference. In the past, when I have attended climate change training, I have felt that I have been talked at, judged or blamed (that action has been slow), this isn’t the case with CAfS, the approach is one that is reflective, balanced and pragmatic. It is based on an understanding that not all of us can take every action, inhibited by our ability to change for various reasons, but instead, raises your consciousness to make you want to do something, whatever is right for you or your organisation, and helps you think through the practical steps involved.”* Andrew Seekings, Chief Executive, Allerdale Borough Council.

CAfS has delivered 65 training sessions so far to a great range of organisations and individuals, including Cumbria County Council, Allerdale Borough Council, Copeland Borough Council, South Lakeland District Council and Eden District Council, and with delivery planned for hospitality businesses over coming months, including Langdale Leisure.

Courses range from full-day, accredited climate and carbon literacy training, to shorter courses giving an overview of climate science and solutions for Cumbria. Materials can be adapted for a specific sector group or specific organisation for greatest impact and CAfS can deliver face-to-face or online via Zoom or MS Teams.

Any partner interested in the bespoke organisational training or open audience courses should contact [carbonliteracy@cafs.org.uk](mailto:carbonliteracy@cafs.org.uk). For details of current open access courses available to book, please see [Events - CAfS](#).

## **Local authority updates**

The Local Authority Climate Policy Group for Cumbria continues to meet monthly with officer representatives from the six district councils, the county council, Lake District National Park and the Local Energy NW Hub.

A key focus for the group will be how climate change is addressed in the forthcoming Local Government Re-organisation (LGR) in Cumbria. LGR means that from 1 April 2023, the seven current councils will be replaced by two new unitary local authorities:

- Cumberland Council - covering the current areas of Allerdale, Carlisle and Copeland.
- Westmorland and Furness Council – covering the current areas of Barrow, Eden and South Lakeland.

For further information see: [Future for Cumbrian councils \(newcouncilsforcumbria.info\)](https://newcouncilsforcumbria.info)

A weekly update of climate change news relevant to local authority officers and elected members in Cumbria is available (may also be of interest to other partners). If you would like to see a sample of the update or be placed on the mailing list, please contact Natalie Naisbitt, Zero Carbon Cumbria Local Authority Climate Co-ordinator, [natalie.naisbitt@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:natalie.naisbitt@cumbria.gov.uk).

## **Monitoring and evaluation update**

One of the key outcomes for the National Lottery funded Zero Carbon Cumbria project is to establish the most impactful way to enable communities and individuals to reduce their carbon footprint and thus deliver net zero by 2037. The National Lottery is looking to the Zero Carbon Cumbria project to highlight interventions that are successful and can be replicated by other projects working beyond Cumbria.

The monitoring and evaluation plan will measure the success and failure against the overall aims in the lottery bid and the proposed outputs for the various different activities that will be undertaken. The plan will also include details of the monitoring and evaluation activities and techniques which will be used to undertake the actual monitoring and evaluation (ie, what, when and who is responsible).

Two workshops were held on the 6 and 7 October for the project leads. The workshops were delivered by Professor Mike Berners-Lee, from Small World Consulting (specialists in carbon accounting and management) and Dr Christopher Shaw from Climate Outreach (social scientists and communications specialists). Both organisations are partners in the Zero Carbon Cumbria project providing expert support. The objective of the workshops was to introduce the project leads to the draft monitoring and evaluation plan, obtain feedback and developed into an adopted recording mechanism across all the projects.

We have been holding post workshop catch-up sessions with project leads which are proving highly beneficial in developing the monitoring and evaluation plan.

## **Communications update**

On behalf of ZCCP, CAfS coordinated some additional media interest during COP26, resulting in coverage on TV, radio and newspapers.

A new comms group & working group has also been set up and we are aiming to have initial strategy finalised and approved in December.

Please remember to fill in the ZCC member details form. We particularly need to know who leads on your communications, as we'll be in touch with all comms leads about the communications strategy. [Fill in the form now >](#)



## Other news

- We are very pleased that **Ceri Holman** ([ceri.holman@cafs.org.uk](mailto:ceri.holman@cafs.org.uk)) has joined CAfS as Youth Projects Coordinator. Ceri will be helping to deliver the Greener Schools project and to take forward the Cumbria Youth Climate Action Programme.

## Names and contact details

Tim Gale	Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership Manager	<a href="mailto:Tim.Gale@cumbria.gov.uk">Tim.Gale@cumbria.gov.uk</a>
John Forbes	Project Manager, (lottery project)	<a href="mailto:john.forbes@cafs.org.uk">john.forbes@cafs.org.uk</a>
Angela Bewick	Project Support Officer	<a href="mailto:angie.bewick@cafs.org.uk">angie.bewick@cafs.org.uk</a>
Hazel Graham	Climate and Carbon Literacy Training Manager	<a href="mailto:hazel.graham@cafs.org.uk">hazel.graham@cafs.org.uk</a>
Jaki Bell	Communications Manager	<a href="mailto:jaki.bell@cafs.org.uk">jaki.bell@cafs.org.uk</a>
Natalie Naisbitt	Local Authority Climate Coordinator	<a href="mailto:natalie.naisbitt@cumbria.gov.uk">natalie.naisbitt@cumbria.gov.uk</a>
David Pickup	Carbon Monitoring Officer	<a href="mailto:david.pickup@lakedistrict.gov.uk">david.pickup@lakedistrict.gov.uk</a>
Helen Attewell	Cumbria Sustainability Network Coordinator	<a href="mailto:helen.attewell@cafs.org.uk">helen.attewell@cafs.org.uk</a>
Nigel Jenkins	Events and Training Coordinator	<a href="mailto:nigel.jenkins@cafs.org.uk">nigel.jenkins@cafs.org.uk</a>
Ceri Holman	Youth Projects Coordinator	<a href="mailto:ceri.holman@cafs.org.uk">ceri.holman@cafs.org.uk</a>
Katie Lock	Development Worker (Sustainable Carlisle)	<a href="mailto:katie@sustainablecarlisle.org">katie@sustainablecarlisle.org</a>
Rosie Bradshaw	Community Action Officer (PACT)	<a href="mailto:rosie.bradshaw@penrithact.org.uk">rosie.bradshaw@penrithact.org.uk</a>
Anna Lichfield	Arts Project & Social Media Manager (Art Gene)	<a href="mailto:anna.litchfield@art-gene.co.uk">anna.litchfield@art-gene.co.uk</a>