



ROLE SPECIFICATION

Volunteer Community Climate Champion

THE ORGANISATION: Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAfS), Rural Eden Foyer, Old London Road, Penrith, CA11 8ET.

LOCATION: Home-based and in the community

REPORTS TO: Community Climate Champions Coordinator

MINIMUM TIME COMMITMENT: Roughly 5-10hrs per month (to Feb 2024), including induction and training.

BRIEF ROLE SUMMARY: Following extensive free training and ongoing support from CAfS, you'll be equipped to engage new audiences in discussions about the climate crisis and encourage these audiences to take 'climate positive' action. Together, you'll help us reach up to 1,000 people.

WHY SHOULD I APPLY? If you're looking for more climate knowledge and to enable you to positively influence others – this opportunity is for you. Any champions who are parish councillors will be trained in how to use their newly gained climate knowledge to cascade information out within their own area, within the council itself, and influence further parish-level climate action.

BENEFITS:

Our Climate Champions benefit from a free full-day accredited Carbon Literacy training session (worth £139) and Train the Trainer training. We also hope to arrange a one day Zero Carbon Britain training (Centre for Alternative Technology) as an optional extra for those who wish to attend, and a free workshop about using Participatory Practice Methods to increase engagement by the general public in responding to the climate crisis.

All out of pocket expenses will be met to enable you to deliver the training, for example venue and publicity costs, travel expenses, Microsoft Office subscription, Zoom Pro accounts or a webcam.

As part of a structured and supported network of people you'll be fully supported by CAFS climate champions coordinator. You'll develop your existing skills, gain new experience, improve your confidence and empowerment, and increase your network of contacts.

DURATION:

Your induction and training will take place in summer/September 2023. Your events and activities will be delivered from September 2023 to February 2024.

APPLICATIONS: Please apply using the expression of interest form. Please note that champions will be selected based on their application only; no interviews will be held for this role.

About this project and the role

CAFS run a successful Climate Champions project, first launched in 2021. Our team of climate champions run a widespread programme of events and activities on climate science and solutions, supported by a project coordinator.

We want to reach communities who may not have the support of a sustainability group, who are concerned about climate change but not sure what to do about it. Champions will identify groups within their own communities to work with, as trusted messengers, and will be able to support the understanding of and attitudes towards climate change solutions across Cumbria.

This project is possible thanks to funding from Copeland Community Fund and The National Lottery's Climate Action Fund.

Key areas of responsibility

Keeping your own knowledge of climate change and emission reduction measures up to date, you'll plan, publicise and deliver events and activities, either independently or with other champions. You'll help support the Westogether climate action group, which is working to drive implementation of the Copeland People's Panel recommendations. You'll help to evaluate and monitor your events and activities and share your experiences with other climate champions.

Main tasks

- Identify groups and organisations that would like to learn the key messages from current climate science and solutions training. We want champions to be able to deliver these key messages through a variety of events such as talks, facilitated conversations or more creative alternatives, to groups across Cumbria throughout 2023 and beyond
- Work collaboratively with other community champions and the Community Climate Champions Coordinator to build and share resources to deliver events that share key messages
- Deliver events and conversations in the community to groups and organisations – independently or collaboratively with other champions
- Provide peer support, and share lessons learned with the pool of champions
- Help to evaluate sessions for impact.

Useful skills and experience

- A basic understanding of climate science and ways to reduce carbon emissions
- Some experience in public speaking, or running events or training
- Good communication skills, and the ability to communicate with a wide range of people.
- An understanding that there are a range of views around action on climate change.
- Motivated to influence the people around you to take positive action in response to the climate crisis.
- Willingness to deliver training sessions and conversations using online platforms if needed. Support will be given.

CAfS contact

Clare Taylor is the Community Climate Champions Coordinator and will induct, train, support and guide the champions. Please email clare.taylor@cafes.org.uk with any questions.

Some examples of things previous champions have done

- Set up a Facebook group for Cumbrian parents to help them reduce their carbon footprint
- Held a Toy Swap in a Brewery in Kendal and shared ways to reduce consumption at Christmas
- Gave a talk and discussion to children from the Beavers club in St Bees
- Delivered a climate science and solutions presentation and discussion to Grasmoor Mission Community (15 churches grouped near Grasmoor mountain)
- Held a workshop to demonstrate Participatory Practice methods and how these can be used to engage a wider audience to take action against the climate emergency
- Designed and delivered a presentation and discussion, that explained the causal link between climate change and migration from the global south.

GDPR

Please note that we will be sharing details of parish councillors who apply with our project partner CALC (Cumbria Association for Local Councils).