

Community Resilience: Where to start? Horsham Eco Churches – DRAFT 23.3.26

Draft checklist to help us consider how to help build local resilience to climate events and build community resilience. Based on this Climate Majority Project [draft checklist](#), both will evolve over time.

1. **Who to work with:** Local organisations including those with an adaptation or climate focus.

- [Horsham Eco Churches](#) - [Karen Park](#) Eco Church Lead for Horsham Churches Together
- [Sussex Green Living](#) - [Carrie Cort](#) CEO
- [Transition Horsham](#) - [Alison Marshall](#) Coordinator. Energy Group, Community Allotment
- [Community Energy Horsham](#) – community energy share offer coming soon
- [Horsham District Council](#) - [Victoria Wyllie de Echeverria](#) Sustainability Officer
- [South Downs National Park](#) - [Sara Osman](#) Climate Change Officer
[Climate Action Hub](#) and Climate Action Knowledge Hub
- [Sussex Resilience Forum](#) – Karen Park represents Horsham Eco Churches
- [Communities Prepared](#) - Horsham Eco Churches signed up as a member 19.3.26
- [Horsham Churches Together](#) - [Rev Pete Dibdin](#) Development Co-Ordinator
- [Horsham District Foodbank](#)
- [Horsham Community Fridge](#)
- [Horsham Matters](#)
- [Turning Tides](#) the biggest provider of services for single homeless people in West Sussex.
- [The Rotary Club of Horsham](#)
- [Sussex Neighbourhood Watch](#)
- [Flood Action Groups](#)
- [Climate Action Groups](#)
- [NHS Urgent and Emergency Care Services](#)
- **Red Cross**
- **St John Ambulance Brigade**
- **School-based groups** e.g. PTA, school governors
- **Parish Councils**
 - **Pulborough Community Resilience and Emergency Plan Scheme**
[Mrs. Heather Knight](#) Parish Council Clerk
- **Neighbourhood Councils**
- **West Sussex County Council**
- **Local charities**

- **Local businesses**
- **Celebrities who live in the area**
- **People who are well-connected** in our community or have a leadership role e.g. headteacher, residents' association

More information

- [Prepare](#) website, UK Cabinet Office's 'one-stop-shop' for dealing with Emergencies.

2. What to focus on:

- **National Risks** - Look at [National Risk Register 2025](#) and [Chronic Risks Analysis](#) as a backdrop.
- **Local risks** - What risks does, or will, your community suffer from?
 - i. Flooding
 - ii. Heat and cold
 - iii. Water supply
 - iv. Fire
 - v. Food supply
 - vi. Energy supply
 - vii. Emergency response inadequacies

[Local Climate Adaption Tool](#) (LCAT) evidence-based, helps understand local risks and which adaptations to consider.

- **Vulnerabilities** - Understand who in your community may be less able to respond to an emergency - e.g. elderly, people living alone, people with disabilities, people who are not digitally connected, people who are not residents but are temporarily in your community and may not be connected to a support network.
- **Follow the energy** - Where is the energy and enthusiasm locally? Are there any current or past unifying issues that bring the community together? What is the story of this place, and its history?

3. Inner:

How will your initiative support people to cope with climate anxiety, grief and uncertainty? What ways might you reduce burnout, overwhelm and paralysis? How will you build trust, navigate difference and conflict, and create space for open dialogue and collective decision-making within your group?

4. Planning - be realistic:

- What are achievable baby steps to take to make progress and feel like you are making progress?
- What is a realistic vision to have for the next few months, that is achievable given people's available time and resources? How can you bring people to an agreed vision of what needs to be done? There are various tools out there. e.g. [Community Climate Action Toolkit](#) or [Groundwork/GLA London Resilience Toolkit](#)

5. Support:

- **Exemplars:** What can you learn from other organisations in this space? Talk to other folk around the country and learn from them ... being part of a recognised network is really helpful.
- **Resources:** e.g. toolkits, publications, local and national organisations.
- **Funding:** What funding is available to you locally / nationally?