

Low Carbon and Environmental Programmes and Organisations (Oxon)

Oxfordshire has been a focus for innovation in the UK for centuries. National and local investments in both the public and private sector have built up a network of organisations, resources and support programmes across the county. Today, many of these are addressing the significant environmental challenges faced by the county, the country and the world. Help exists for SMEs addressing these challenges and some of these are presented here in this information sheet.

This information presented is accurate at the time of writing. The list of schemes, programmes and organisations is not intended to be exhaustive but affords an illustration of the resources that may be available to SMEs. Please check directly with the organisations listed for up to date information and let us know of any inaccuracies or missing programmes that you think are relevant. The list is not presented in any order of priority and descriptions reflect the providers' own promotion.

OxFutures. A £3.2m project to boost low carbon economic development in Oxfordshire. Provides funding for low carbon innovations that are being developed by Oxfordshire-based businesses and university spinouts. Feasibility and implementation grants are available up to £25,000 on a 50:50 matched basis. Grants can cover up to half of development costs.

<https://oxfutures.org/grants/innovation/>

Oxfordshire Greentech. A business focused network supporting the growth of the low-carbon sector in Oxfordshire. It is part of the OxFutures programme. The network helps with the identification of partners, promotion of local initiatives and projects, and promotion of commercial and funding opportunities.

<https://oxfordshiregreentech.co.uk/>

Low Carbon Hub. An organisation and initiative focused on community energy. Creates projects owned or controlled by communities, which aim to reduce energy demand or to supply renewable energy to power local buildings. Install and manage renewable energy generation projects alongside businesses, schools, and communities all over Oxfordshire, as well as supporting communities with energy efficiency projects.

<https://www.lowcarbonhub.org/>

Low Carbon Oxford. A network of partners bringing together organisations from the private, public and not for profit sectors to transform Oxford into a sustainable and inclusive low carbon economy. Promotes awareness, events, resources and collaborative initiatives.

<http://lowcarbonoxford.org/>

Project LEO (Local Energy Oxfordshire). One of the UK's most ambitious, wide-ranging and innovative energy trials, seeking to accelerate the UK's transition to a zero-carbon energy system. Project LEO runs trials in Oxfordshire to understand how new technologies and services, particularly at the 'edge' of the network – closest to the point where people are using energy – can benefit local people, communities, and the energy system.

<https://project-leo.co.uk/>

Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership (ZCOP). A group of the Oxford's largest and most significant organisations, including a number of the Project LEO consortium, coming together to collaborate on carbon reduction and tackle the climate emergency. The partnership provides a space for collaboration of local organisations.

<https://project-leo.co.uk/the-zero-carbon-oxford-partnership/>

Oxford Institute for Sustainable Development (OISD). One of the UK's largest research institutes dedicated to sustainable development research in the built and natural environments. OISD is contributing to major Research Council programmes such as Living with Environmental Change, Energy Research, Sustainable Urban Environments and Lifelong Health and Wellbeing, through various research grants. Can provide access and opportunities for involvement in collaborative R&D for SMEs.

<http://oisd.brookes.ac.uk/>

Community Action Groups (CAG) Oxfordshire. An association of over 80 groups across Oxfordshire who are at the forefront of community-led climate change action, organising events and projects to take action on issues including waste, transport, food, energy, biodiversity and social justice. The CAG Oxfordshire team provide free day-to-day support to the network members.

<https://cagoxfordshire.org.uk/oxfordshire-groups/>

Low Carbon South Oxford. A community group which aims to help South Oxford residents, groups and organisations work together to reduce their carbon footprint; to raise awareness of environmental issues; and move towards more environmentally sustainable ways of living and working.

<https://cagoxfordshire.org.uk/oxfordshire-groups/low-carbon-south-oxford/>

Energy Solutions Oxfordshire (ESOX). A partnership between the Low Carbon Hub and Oxford Brookes University's Environmental Information Exchange. Provides energy audits and advice for SMEs on energy efficiency measures.

<https://www.energysolutionsoxfordshire.org/about/>

Wild Oxfordshire. A local charity which provides a co-ordinated and strategic approach to nature conservation in Oxfordshire.

<https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/>

Bioregional. A charity and social enterprise now providing a range of sustainability consultancy services based around their One Planet Living framework. Offers a range of useful resources for innovating businesses and organisations.

<https://www.bioregional.com/>

Environmental Change Institute (ECI). An internationally renowned research group with a track record for research in climate, ecosystems and energy and a growing expertise in the fields of food and water.

<https://www.eci.ox.ac.uk/>

Stockholm Environment Institute Oxford (SEI). Conducts frontier research to bridge science and policy on climate-related issues and sustainable development. The work informs effective adaptation to climate change, and climate-related governance and policy-making.

<https://www.sei.org/centres/oxford/>

Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE). An independent environmental funder for Oxfordshire. They raise funds and allocate grants to support a better future for people, wildlife and the planet. TOE is both a grant seeking and a grant making organisation.

<https://www.trustforoxfordshire.org.uk/>

Living Oxford. A community-focused organisation co-creating a framework for living lab projects, places and organisations to analyse and share learning, across all sectors via a centralised independent data trust for the benefits of citizens, organisations, the Oxfordshire region, the Ox-CAM Arc and UK Plc.

<https://www.livingoxford.org/>

Eco Bicester Living Lab. An initiative for sharing the learning and innovation from the UK's first eco town.

<https://bicesterlivinglab.org/>

A Selection of National Organisations and Programmes

KTN:

<https://ktn-uk.org/sustainability/>

Clean Growth Fund:

<https://www.cleangrowthfund.com/>

Ofgem:

<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-and-social-schemes>

The Carbon Trust:

<https://www.carbontrust.com/>

wrap (circular economy):

<https://wrap.org.uk/>

End of Listing.