

Forest of Dean Climate Emergency Community Partnership

Suggested Terms of Reference

Mission Statement

To catalyse and coordinate the Forest of Dean District in its just transition to becoming carbon neutral by 2030, through the delivery of community-led climate action that empowers, mobilises and informs local people; utilising the wide range of skills, knowledge, and connections already present within existing local environmental groups, the business community, and other key organisations and individuals.

Purpose and function

- Create a bold vision for how carbon neutrality and climate resilience can be achieved through community action.
- Coordinate, connect and support community-led climate action projects within in the FoD District to address the declared climate emergency and achieve carbon neutrality across the District by 2030.
- Identify the potentially diverse needs and priorities of Forest of Dean residents, businesses and visitors and ensure all perspectives are accounted for in order to help enable a just transition.
- Utilise existing networks of local environmental organisations, businesses, key individuals, Town and Parish Councils etc, and establish and grow new connections with other community organisations, for example schools and young people.
- The partnership will maintain independence from FoDDC and ensure that there is no overriding influence of any one group or persons over others.
- Ensure the partnership is representative and inclusive of all of the Forest of Dean District geographic area.
- Ensure and develop new ideas and innovations that engage and are inclusive of all communities.

Key tasks and responsibilities

- Elect an independent chairperson and agree terms of office.
- The Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency to act as a formal liaison between the community partnership and FoDDC.
- Identify and articulate the Forest of Dean's vision for 2030 for each key sector e.g. travel, energy, food, farming, tourism, industry, gardening etc.
- Agree and implement a communication strategy with key messages to support a proactive approach and galvanise and mobilise community action, as well as to provide educational material and how-to knowledge for residents, schools and businesses etc.
- Monitor and report on the impact of projects in order to measure and demonstrate success, build community moral, and identify learning opportunities for future projects.
- Identify and apply for funding where available and appropriate to enable the implementation of climate action projects.
- FoDDC to provide some administrative support to the partnership. The ways in which FoDDC supports and works with the wider partnership will be kept under review by the Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and the Climate Emergency Cabinet Portfolio Support Group.
- To research and develop learning from other areas of the country, or wider, that will inform and benefit the FoD in this mission.