

Green Living

The seventh leaflet in a series produced in September-November 2021 by the Green Living groups of Avenue St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Southampton, and its ecumenical partners, from material in *The Dorset Green Living Guide* and current versions of related websites
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Community

Local action

“Communities that are able to work together and thrive in the face of adversity will be essential as we deal with the challenges thrown at us by climate change,” says *The Dorset Green Living Guide*. This page arises from its suggestions and its web links.

Maybe you are already part of a local community group supporting each other, sharing a common interest, tackling a particular issue – or you might want to discover what is happening and join in.

If there is a need to start something new, a coffee and cake morning can be a good way to meet people. That might lead on to skills sharing, borrowing equipment, repair café, liftshare, swapshop, etc. depending on the needs and opportunities you find.

Even in a pandemic situation! <https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/community-action-response>

The infographic is divided into four colored boxes, each with an icon and text. 1. Blue box: 'BE KIND, CONSIDERATE AND THINK OF OTHERS' with a heart icon. 2. Pink box: 'CONNECT AND REACH OUT TO YOUR COMMUNITY' with house icons. 3. Light blue box: 'SUPPORT EACH OTHER AND BE NEIGHBOURLY' with a rainbow icon. 4. Green box: 'SHARE RESOURCES, ADVICE AND ACCURATE INFORMATION' with a plus sign, info icon, and shopping cart icon. Below the boxes is a dashed line and production credits.

BE KIND, CONSIDERATE AND THINK OF OTHERS
We're all in this together - shop thoughtfully and think of other people when you need to be out and about. Spread a little joy and kindness as you go, even a smile can brighten someone's day.

CONNECT AND REACH OUT TO YOUR COMMUNITY
Feeling connected is critical for our health and wellbeing so join an online group, share phone numbers and stay in touch. Be a positive part of your community conversations.

SUPPORT EACH OTHER AND BE NEIGHBOURLY
Look out for those around you - social isolation and loneliness are key concerns for all ages and anyone can become vulnerable. Sometimes it's the simple things that really make a difference.

SHARE RESOURCES, ADVICE AND ACCURATE INFORMATION
Share what you can - a spare loo roll, a listening ear, supplies to the foodbank or charitable donations - it all helps! Signpost people to accurate advice and information to help keep your community safe.

Produced in association with Community Action Response partner organisations to encourage and support community action

eden project COMMUNITIES COMMUNITY FUND COMMUNITY ACTION RESPONSE

Suggestions to help with more developments in your community

- **Big Lunch** e.g. street party June 1st weekend, over 15m people in UK in 2021; free bag of tips & ideas for Queen's Jubilee month 2022 www.edenprojectcommunities.com/thebiglunchhomepage
- **Growing food** with or for the community, on neglected land
- **Grow trees** Free packs for communities from www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities
- **A community shop or business project**
For advice & support see <https://plunkett.co.uk/>
- **Exhibition or concert** of local artists or performers
- **Community Energy** <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/community-energy>
- **Local producers and economic activity** relevant to the community and its environment – consider further with www.localfutures.org/learn-take-action/learning-guides/learn-about-localization/



Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from community services

The carbon footprint of typical UK residents in 2011, in the diagram on page 2 of our first leaflet, showed 18% came from Public Administration, Health, Education and other community services.

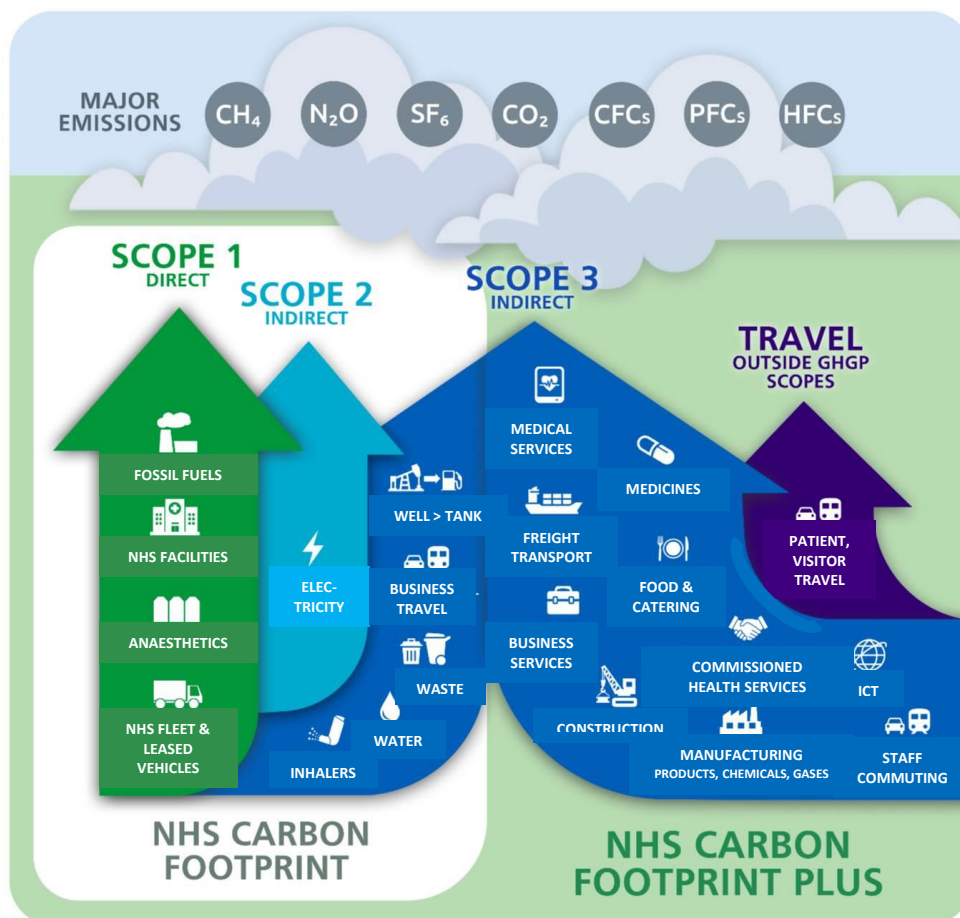
To consider action on your behalf, and how you might help, here are some examples to look into:

Southampton City Council	Winchester City Council	Eastleigh Boro' C'ncil
<p>"Greener City Plan commits to achieving net zero emissions in council commercial buildings by 2030, and recognises the interconnected nature of our environment, so has more than 60 specific actions across five themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable energy and carbon reduction, Delivering clean air, Our natural environment, Resources, waste and water management, Sustainable travel." <p>https://www.southampton.gov.uk/environmental-issues/pollution/green-city-plan-2030/</p>	<p>"declared a climate emergency in June 2019. The council is committed to becoming a carbon neutral council by 2024, and is aiming for the wider district to be carbon neutral by 2030."</p> <p>https://www.winchester.gov.uk/climate-change-and-energy has four main sections, on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Carbon Neutrality Plan, the Biodiversity Action Plan, calculating your carbon footprint, leaflets on Climate Change and how you can do your bit and save money. 	<p>declared a climate change and environmental emergency in 2019.</p> <p>https://www.eastleigh.gov.uk/council/energy-and-climate-change/our-climate-change-strategy shows the strategy which "aims to be carbon neutral by 2025 and to support communities and businesses across the Borough to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030."</p>

Health In [Delivering a 'Net Zero' National Health Service](#) this diagram from page 11, and quotes from the Summary on pages 4-6:

- "Two clear and feasible targets
- for the emissions we control directly (the NHS Carbon Footprint), net zero by 2040, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2028 to 2032
 - for the emissions we can influence (our NHS Carbon Footprint Plus), net zero by 2045, with ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2036 to 2039."

"Meeting this commitment will only be achievable if every part of the NHS – more than 1.3 million of us – are working together."



Education

Southampton University Sustainability Strategy 2020-2025 <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/susdev/>

Solent University Strategic Plan 2020-2025 <https://www.solent.ac.uk/about/environment-sustainability>

Winchester University [Environmental Strategy](#) re climate; [Sustainable Development Policy](#) re UN Goals

You might like to find out what your local health services and schools are doing, and support them.