

Draft outline of carbon literacy rollout to CBC

Context / overview

As part of our wider climate change action plan (CCAP) additional work will be taking place to:

- Develop a pipeline of potential projects to address climate change that can be expanded to take advantage of external funding and CBC/partnership resources
- identify the largest carbon costs associated with council operations and develop alternatives to save both financially and in terms of carbon.

The recommended mechanism for delivery is to develop a multi-disciplinary working group to identify and assess potential projects. These employees will also act as carbon champions within their directorates to identify the opportunities, benefits and costs of the projects gather feedback and suggestions from within their teams and to help disseminate further information about climate change.

These champions should ideally:

- Have sufficient skills and seniority to embed changes throughout the organisation
- Have a proportion of their time dedicated to improving the climate performance of the organisation and the wider borough.
- Have access to sufficient training to understand the need and urgency of climate action, and the technical support to identify opportunities within their work areas

The course

The Carbon Literacy Project <https://carbonliteracy.com/> is a not for profit organisation funded via BEIS who deliver well-regarded training materials and accreditation on climate change.

- The course materials are all available from CLP for free, and there are tailored versions for elected members, senior officers, and wider staff.
- The course takes around 8 hours to run, and this can be delivered as a single day event, or over a number of smaller sessions as needed.
- Assessment is via a written submission by each candidate giving details of how they will reduce carbon emissions in their own workplace and how they will work to promote changes more widely. Formal assessment of each candidate costs £10 to be certified, and the pass rate is in the 90%+ region.
- Delivery can be commissioned externally, and a session has been booked for September for the elected members as part of our agreements with the LAEP. Going forward, a more effective strategy would be to deliver training in house, to reduce overheads and improve flexibility.

Proposed Delivery

Stage 1: Foundation (total cost £1k + staff time)

Will Rolls (WR) to attend a standard course run by APSE (21/7/21) cost £175

WR and Helen Brightmore (Member and Civic Support Officer) to attend the Carbon Literacy Trainer course, also run by APSE (19-20/8/21) cost £379 each.

Rina Jones from the LAEP has already been booked in to deliver the training to up to 20 elected members in September (priority for portfolio holders and scrutiny members). This is paid for out of our LAEP subscription and will incur no additional cost. This will also be attended by WR, and Helen Brightmore (HB)

WR to deliver an internal course as a pilot to the first tranche of climate champions estimated total cost £100-150 + champion's time.

The financial cost of this phase can be met from the climate change budget

Stage 2: phased rollout

Following evaluation of phase 1, and the context in terms of climate champion recruitment, and the results from the carbon accounting and project identification exercises. WR to deliver additional training to the corporate leadership team as a priority. A commitment will also be made to include carbon literacy training in the member induction for all new members (By-election) from 2021/22 and as part of the full member induction following the May 2023 election.

Stage 3: ongoing delivery

Depending on evaluation of phase 2, delivery CBC to continue a programme of internal training for all staff with decision making and budgetary responsibilities. This will be delivered via a set number of training days per annum for example once a quarter by WR. Climate Change Champions can assist with induction activity as officers join the council.