

Cumbria Association of Local Councils Statement on achieving Net Zero Emissions by 2030

CALC has resolved that it “will endeavour to achieve carbon neutrality from its own operations by 2030 and will develop a strategy to achieve this. CALC commits to working with member councils in Cumbria to help them become carbon neutral by 2030.”

CALC as an organisation

Travel

All CALC employees currently work from home.

Consequently, we have reduced the amount of carbon emissions created by employees due to them not having to travel regularly to a central office location.

The majority of CALC meetings (staff) are held on-line.

The majority of CALC Training is delivered on-line.

All CALC Board meetings are held on-line.

The majority of Forums and Information Events for CALC members are held on-line.

We promote car sharing to employees such as attending external meetings that are held face-to-face.

Energy

As all staff are home working, we rarely heat, light or power a central office.

Administration and Communications

CALC has adopted a near paperless administration and communications system using electronic filing systems, and electronic information sharing such as e-mail, e-newsletters, CALC social media platforms and the CALC website.

Staff Training

Some of CALC employees have attended and passed Carbon Literacy Training, delivered by Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAFS), and consequently are certified as Carbon Literate.

Climate Action support for Town and Parish Councils

Information and Resources

CALC has a range of information and resources available to support Town and Parish Councils to take Climate Action. These include the following, all which are available to download on our website <http://www.calc.org.uk/about/climateaction.asp>

- Community Energy Support Pack for Town and Parish Councils
- Green 2 Grow Support Pack
- How to declare a Climate and Ecological Emergency

- Parish Council Climate Change Toolkit
- Biodiversity Net Gain Guide for Local Councils
- Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy Workbook

Peer knowledge sharing

We share case studies and examples of town and parish council climate action activities and projects in CALC News, at events by asking them to present as key speakers and in the CALC Annual Review.

Training

CALC has co-ordinated Carbon Literacy Training for local council members, delivered by Futureproof Cumbria (formerly CAFS), with the most recent session held in March 2026.

Events

CALC co-ordinates, hosts, and presents at events and forums that support local councils in taking climate action. These have included:

- The Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy workbook launch event on 23 March.

Partnership Work

- Cumbria Local Nature Partnership (CLNP) Board: CALC participates in the CLNP Board, contributing the perspective of local councils to discussions on nature recovery, environmental priorities, and strategic planning across Cumbria. Through this role, CALC helps ensure that parish and town councils are informed about regional nature initiatives and can engage with opportunities to support biodiversity and nature recovery in their local areas.
- Zero Carbon Cumbria: CALC attends the Zero Carbon Cumbria partnership meetings, working alongside a range of organisations to support the transition to net zero across the county and to ensure that local councils are represented in county-wide climate action discussions.

SDH March 2026