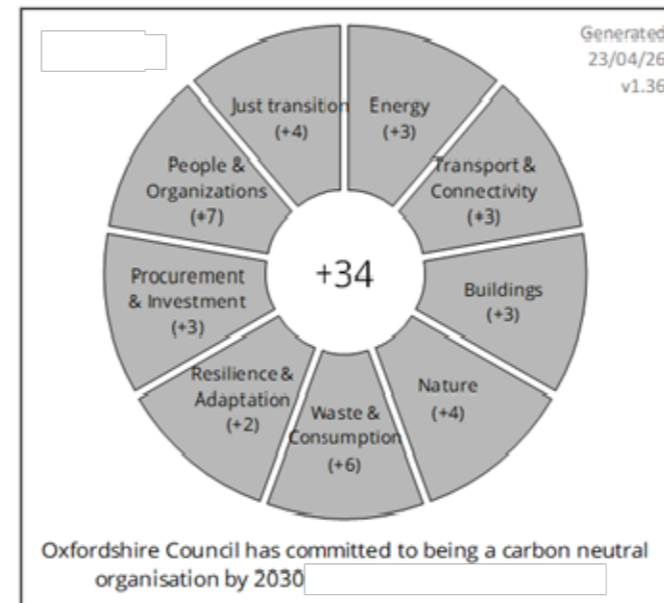


Climate Impact Assessment

Summary

Directorate and Service Area	Waste Management, Environment and Highways
What is being assessed	CAGPOL grant funding
Is this a new or existing function or policy?	Existing
Summary of assessment	THE CAGPOL grant proposal was specifically designed to help us address the climate emergency with local communities and residents. It aims to demonstrate that small actions can make a difference and inspire communities to take action in their local area. The project has scored highly in this assessment (to be expected) but demonstrates the breadth of the activity taking place.
Completed by	Rachel Burns
Climate action sign off by	Franco Gonzalez, Carbon Analyst
Director sign off by	
Assessment date	23/04/2026



Detail of proposal

<p>Context / Background</p>	<p>The Community Action Group (CAG) project is a network of over 117 grassroots community groups working on waste, energy, transport, biodiversity and food. They hold over 8,000 events and activities a year, with over 120,000 attendees, and brought almost £6m in funding and income to the county in 24/25, as well as all the unmeasurable social benefits of thriving, connected communities.</p> <p>OCC has fully funded this network since 2001, firstly through a contract with Resource Futures (RF; a consultancy), and then, after a dedicated Community Interest Company was established, directly with Community Action Groups Project (Oxfordshire) Limited (CAGPOL). The contract is for 'support services' to the network and includes insurance support and practical resources to help groups as well as 2 FTE staff members to advise, signpost, provide training and communications and help groups apply for funding.</p> <p>To help us meet our climate aspirations, in the 2022/23 budget papers OCC committed to increasing support for the CAG network. Public Health have now joined the grant to maximise the synergies and continue their work on community gardening</p>
<p>Proposal</p>	<p>Continuing funding will enable activities to continue, helping to enact more behaviour change and helping to meet the climate aspirations of the council.</p> <p>Supporting the CAG network is part of the range of activities being carried out under the Climate Action Framework. Empowering and supporting communities to deliver local change can be a powerful way of engaging with those who may not traditionally interact with council communications and deliver wider benefits such as increased community cohesion.</p>
<p>Evidence / Intelligence</p>	<p>CAG carry out an annual survey of their members and feedback form from events held.</p> <p>CAG strategy and proposal was developed in conjunction with CAG members.</p> <p>CAG use a tool created with Defra funding to try to quantify the impact if their work on enironmental targets</p> <p>Climate, waste, biodiversity and public health teams have all been sighted on the proposals and, where appropriate signed off on the activities</p>
<p>Alternatives considered / rejected</p>	<p>Climate, waste, biodiversity and public health teams have all been sighted on the proposals and, where appropriate signed off on the activities</p>

Category	Impact criteria	Score (-3 to +3)	Description of impact	Actions or mitigations to reduce negative impacts	Action owner	Timeline and monitoring arrangements
Energy	Increases energy efficiency		Communications work and group 1 activities cover this area hopefully leading to behaviour change		Rachel Burns, OCC, Katherine Chesson, CAGPOL	Through output monitoring, reported to OCC through regular catch ups and annual report
Energy	Promotes a switch to low-carbon or renewable energy	1				
Energy	Promotes resilient, local, smart energy systems	1				
Transport & Connectivity	Reduces need to travel and/or the need for private car ownership		Communications work and group 1 activities cover this area hopefully leading to behaviour change		Rachel Burns, OCC, Katherine Chesson, CAGPOL	Through output monitoring, reported to OCC through regular catch ups and annual report
Transport & Connectivity	Supports active travel	1				
Transport & Connectivity	Increases use of public transport	1				
Transport & Connectivity	Accelerates electrification of transport	N/A				
Buildings	Promotes net zero new builds and developments	N/A				
Buildings	Accelerates retrofitting of existing buildings		2 Community wealth building aspect focuses on this area specifically		Rachel Burns, OCC, Katherine Chesson, CAGPOL	Through output monitoring, reported to OCC through regular catch ups and annual report
Nature	Protects, restores or enhances biodiversity, landscape and ecosystems		2 Community wealth building aspect focuses on this area specifically		Rachel Burns, OCC, Katherine Chesson, CAGPOL	Through output monitoring, reported to OCC through regular catch ups and annual report
Nature	Develops blue and green infrastructure	N/A				
Nature	Improves access to nature and green spaces		2 Community wealth building aspect focuses on this area specifically		Rachel Burns, OCC, Katherine Chesson, CAGPOL	Through output monitoring, reported to OCC through regular catch ups and annual report

Waste & Consumption	Reduces overall consumption	2	Circular Economy aspect focuses on this area specifically	Rachel Burns, OCC, Katherine Chesson, CAGPOL	Through output monitoring, reported to OCC through regular catch ups and annual report
Waste & Consumption	Supports waste prevention and drive reuse and recycling	2	Circular Economy aspect focuses on this area specifically		
Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience to flooding	1	Communications work and group activities cover this area hopefully leading to behaviour change	Rachel Burns, OCC, Katherine Chesson, CAGPOL	Through output monitoring, reported to OCC through regular catch ups and annual report
Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience to other extreme weather events (e.g., storms, cold snaps, heatwaves, droughts)	1	Communications work and group activities cover this area hopefully leading to behaviour change		
Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience of council services, communities, energy systems, transport infrastructure and/or supply chains	N/A			
Procurement & Investment	Procurement practices prioritise low-carbon options, circular economy and sustainability	1	CAGPOL offer grants to local groups to deliver activities and behaviour change projects aimed at addressing the climate emergency. All procurement or purchases align with this	Rachel Burns, OCC, Katherine Chesson, CAGPOL	Through output monitoring, reported to OCC through regular catch ups and annual report
Procurement & Investment	Investment being considered supports climate action/ is consistent with path to net zero	1			
People & Organizations	Drives behavioural change to address the climate and ecological emergency	3	CAGPOL contract is specifically designed to deliver this objective for the Climate Action Framework	Rachel Burns, OCC, Katherine Chesson, CAGPOL	Through output monitoring, reported to OCC through regular catch ups and annual report
People & Organizations	Drives organizational and systemic change to address the climate and ecological emergency	2			
Just transition	Promotes green innovation and job creation	2	Community wealth building aspect focuses on this area specifically	Rachel Burns, OCC, Katherine Chesson, CAGPOL	Through output monitoring, reported to OCC through regular catch ups and annual report
Just transition	Promotes health and wellbeing	1	Communications work and group activities cover this area hopefully leading to behaviour change		

Just transition

Reduces poverty and inequality

the impacts of climate change can be more disproportionately felt by disadvantaged communities.
1 CAGPOL's work to give a voice to the marginalised and to work across Oxfordshire to address the climate emergency will help this