

Welcome back to Sefton's Climate Newsletter

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New Year, New Opportunities

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2024!

In this edition we'll be briefly revisiting 2023 with an overview of the world's largest climate change conference, COP28.

Following this is an update on the Council's work to create a brand identity for climate related work and activity. We share the rationale behind the 'climate stripes' we have adopted.

Money, money, money... We all know how important funding can be when adapting to new and greener ways of working. Energy efficiency is a key area for reducing carbon emissions, and we're sharing the free assessments and funding opportunities available for organisations in Sefton.

Last, but not least, we hope you will be interested to learn more about Eco Savers, a school climate league within Sefton.



Roundup of COP28

The 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates in November 2023.

198 nations were present with the aim to make progress on tackling climate change.

Here are the big takeaways from conference:

- Every country agreed to 'transition away from fossil fuels'. This is the first time such an agreement has been reached.

- COP28 saw a landmark agreement to support vulnerable nations most impacted by climate change.
- Other key commitments include tripling energy capacity by 2030, increasing the reduction in non-carbon emissions, and speeding up the reduction in emissions from road transport.
- Some scientists said the document did not go far enough for world leaders to honour the promise they made to keep the planet from heating 1.5C above pre-industrial temperatures by the end of the century.
- Several countries said they were frustrated by the lack of a concrete plan to adapt to climate change and money to do so.



We've earned our 'climate stripes'

No words. No numbers. No graphs. Just a series of vertical coloured bars, showing the progressive heating of our planet in a single, striking image.

They show clearly and vividly how global average temperatures have risen over nearly two centuries, with the graph beginning in 1850 up until present day.

The climate stripes were [created by Professor Ed Hawkins](#) at the University of Reading in 2018. Since then, they have become a recognised symbol for the climate emergency.

Stripes are available for more than 200 countries, which people can find on showyourstripes.info

We have chosen to create a version of the global stripes that will feature on all Council reports, documents and presentations where climate action and activity is present.

We believe that we're all in this together, and by displaying the stripes this will serve as an important reminder.

[Learn more](#)



[Free Energy Assessments available to VCF](#)

organisations

Sefton CVS have secured '[Community Transition Fund](#)' grant funding from Sefton Council to provide free DEC assessments to voluntary, community and faith (VCF) sector organisation in Sefton.

If your group or organisation would be interested in a free energy assessment as part of this initiative, all you need to provide is 12 months of meter readings and to be available to accommodate an Energy Assessment (this process normally takes a few hours).

To find out more about this opportunity or to arrange a free energy assessment, please email andrew.coulson@volamerseyside.org.uk

VCSE Energy Efficient Scheme

This Government programme is offering free Independent Energy Assessments (IEA) and a related opportunity to apply for a capital grant to help install energy efficiency measures.

Further details are available at:

VCSE Energy Efficiency

Low Carbon Support and Grant Funds

Low Carbon Eco-Innovatory offers businesses in the Liverpool City Region access to University technologies, academic expertise and financial assistance to support their low carbon journey.

Blending university-led research with a capital grant fund, the project helps businesses towards their net zero goals.

The project is a partnership between Liverpool John Moores University and University of Liverpool and funded by the Government.

More information is available at:

Low Carbon Eco-Innovatory



Eco Savers

What is it?

Eco Savers is a service designed to assist schools to reduce their utility use (gas, electric and water), save money and provide education services on topics around energy, carbon, water and climate change.

Support is provided on a prioritised basis and is free of charge to all schools on the Energy Contract in Sefton.

What's included?

Schools who register are provided with an audit of the school site, including a report (listing no cost, low cost and higher cost recommendations) to identify areas for improvement, predominately on energy, water and climate issues.

The report also considers other environmental issues where additional support may be available.

Eco Savers League

- All Schools can join for free
- Presence on [Eco Centre website](#)
- Green Stars for environmental work
- Winners of Primary and High School
- 'Most Improved' recognition
- Links to all environmental themes and Eco-Schools

[Learn more about Eco Savers League](#)

Get in touch!

We would love to hear from you and what you would like to see in our climate newsletter going forward.

- Are there climate-related topics you would like to learn more about?
- Do you want to know more about the Council's climate work and targets?
- Would you like to stay up to date with climate-related events and schemes happening across the borough?

[Email the Climate Team](#)

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