



Oxfordshire Community Action Groups (CAGs)

Grassroots community action on climate change

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Community Action Groups (CAGS)

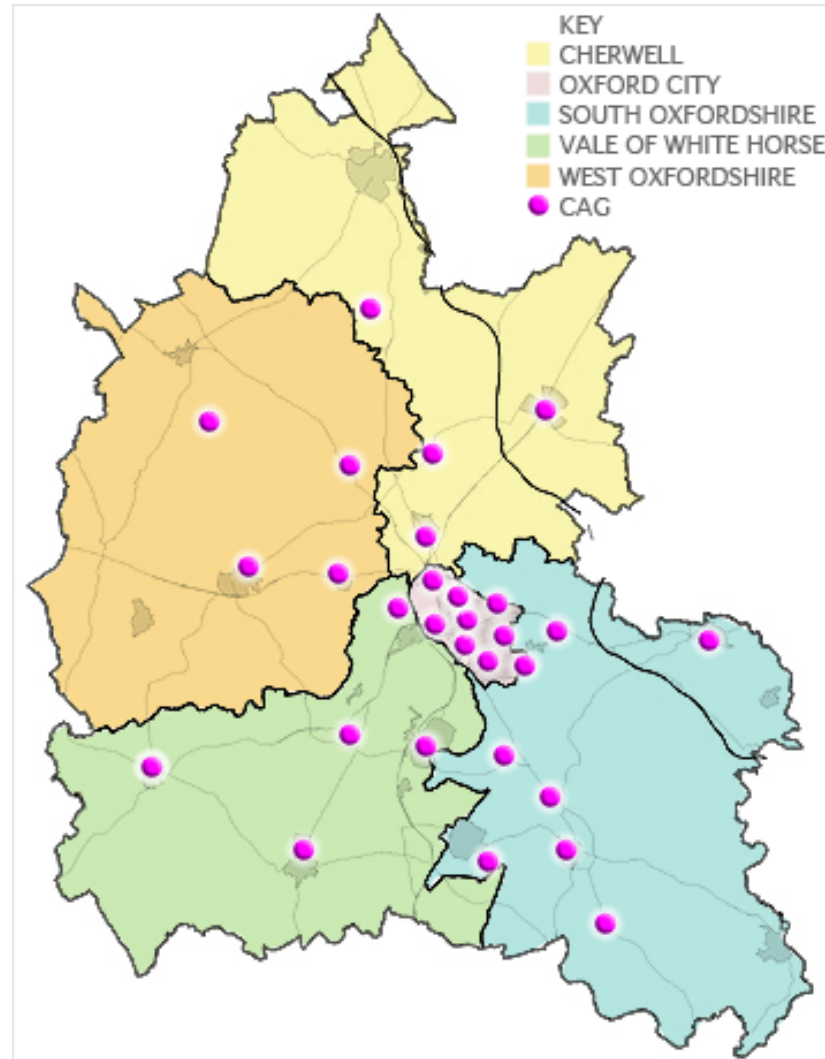
Providing the support to build local communities capable of tackling waste & carbon reduction.

- Active since 2001, funded by OCC since 2003
- Provides the tools to effect change – including finance, insurance, publicity, training and expertise
- Works in partnership with local authority and other organisations but remains **apolitical and autonomous** eg: media
- Currently supports 30+ CAGs across Oxfordshire & >200 events annually

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Distribution of CAGs



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Community Action
Groups

'Towards Zero Waste Places'

DORCHESTER CARBON PROJECT

Focus on modular & replicable initiatives

- Schools waste
- Reuse
- Junk mail
- Waste reduction skills
- Nappy waste
- Refill station
- Business waste



Green / Food Waste

- Shredding Events
- Master Composter Scheme
- DIY Wormeries
- WRAP Love Food / Hate Waste
- BOGOF Buddies
- Local Sourcing
- Share Cropping
- Food Hubs



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Community Action
Groups

Low Carbon West Oxford

- Inc: **Waste reduction, Sustainable transport, Local food, Biodiversity, Green Energy**
- 'West Oxford Community Renewables' IPS
- Big Green Challenge - £800,000
- Low Carbon Communities Challenge - £100,000
- Largest array of PV on a UK school

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Mathew Arnold School



100kWp on three roofs.

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'Runaway Climate Challenge'

SHOWCASING OXFORDSHIRE AS A LEADER ON WASTE & CARBON REDUCTION

- Workshops & skill sharing
- >150 people / 52 groups
- >3000 unique web hits
- Pooling resources & creating sustainable networks



Putting Oxfordshire on the map



“Local solutions to the global problem of climate change are vital if we are to make the shift to a cleaner, greener future. LCWO is a great example: they’ve come to grips with the issue, developed local action plans, and then simply got stuck in and made things happen.”

Ed Milliband, July 2009

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How does CAG Project link to Oxfordshire County Council?



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How does CAG Project link to Oxfordshire County Council?

- Promotes LA messages through independent sources
- Helps achieve waste / carbon reduction targets through qualitative and quantitative ways
- Links schools, businesses and householders together
- Support of community groups in an equitable way
- Works with OWP, OEP, County and Districts together for better community outcomes
- **The Big Society** – whatever it may be!

Bang for Buck

CAG Project costs 2011/12: £76,000

However....

External Funding levered by CAGs: £1,154,806

Advertising equivalent value which CAG provides: >£22,000

Financial value attributed to CAG volunteer hours: >£105,000

Awards for the CAG Project

‘Best Statutory Authority use of the Voluntary Sector’

OCVA Awards, Nov 2010

‘Best Charity – Low Carbon West Oxford’

OCVA Awards, Nov 2010

Greatest contribution to community ‘Involvement’

OCC E&E ‘CHOICE’ Awards, Dec 2010

Greatest contribution to community ‘Involvement’

OCC Corporate ‘CHOICE’ Awards, Dec 2010

Moving forward...

- **15% EFFICIENCY SAVING**
- **EXPANDING** the team & **CONSOLIDATING** expertise
- Focus on **WASTE & CARBON REDUCTION** inc **MENTORING**
- Exploring solutions to **THE BIG SOCIETY**
- Working in areas of **LOW ENGAGEMENT**
- Creating **SUSTAINABLE NETWORKS** by partnering schools, businesses and other organisations in and out of Oxfordshire
- **MARKETING** a low carbon life

THANK YOU

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