

Training and development

Further Information for Eco Diocese award criteria

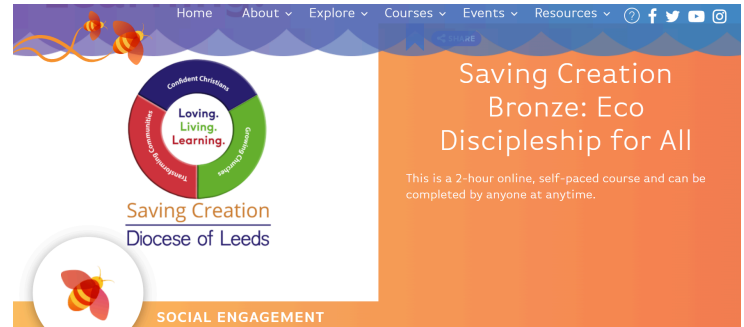
	Criteria	Notes	Evidence examples
Bronze criteria	Embed environmental issues in ongoing training for both lay and ordained ministers.	Within the curricula of training for ministers, both lay and ordained, there is inclusion of environmental issues and creation care theology.	<p><i>List of ministers and training attended in last year.</i></p> <p><i>Annual programme of training for lay and ordained ministers (for example).</i></p>
Silver criteria	Environmental training is included in standard diocesan training for both lay and ordained ministry, and there are opportunities for training and development for other regional staff/volunteers.	<p>Environmental training and creation care theology should not be an optional extra in a package of training, nor left to clergy alone.</p> <p>In order to build and maintain momentum in this area, a network of committed promoters/activists should be equipped to help support and enable uptake, for example among less well-resourced churches. To this end, development opportunities should be offered to staff/volunteers within the diocese to act as eco champions.</p>	<p><i>Record of Church House/Diocesan Office staff training.</i></p> <p><i>Record of ministerial training events/courses attended.</i></p> <p><i>Details of two high-profile mandatory ministerial training events related to the environment (within last four years).</i></p> <p><i>Evidence of support for eco champions (or similar) working within the diocese.</i></p> <p><i>Details of training placements in environmental contexts (church or secular).</i></p>

What does training and development look like?

Training and development will look very different in each diocese. Evidence needs to be provided to show the breadth of training offered to lay and ordained ministers, staff and volunteers rather than a few 'experts'. Training and development will cover practical technical aspects of carbon reduction as well as Christianity, faith and creation theology. Training may be delivered in-house, via other agencies (e.g. A Rocha UK, Wildlife Trust, [Carbon Literacy Project](#)) or external courses leading to certification (e.g. CRES). Attention should be paid to supporting eco champions (or similar initiatives) who can become supporters of those promoting parish environmental work.

Examples of formation

The Diocese of Leeds offers a basic introduction to environmental issues in this 2-hour online [Saving Creation Bronze: Eco Discipleship for All](#) course as part of their lay ministry training programme.



ALM Environmental Stewardship 2024
 Important note: we are encouraging all participants to undertake the Leeds Diocese Bronze [Saving Creation](#) course before they start the ALM course. See [Saving Creation for All - Diocese of Leeds](#) for more information. This is a 2-hour self-paced course online and can be completed by anyone at anytime.

Date & Time	Session Plan
17/01/24 7.30pm - 9pm 1st Zoom	Eco Discipleship for All <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some of the effects of the climate crisis on people in Britain and elsewhere in the world. Why the Church is seeking to respond. How individual Christians might respond as part of their discipleship. Examine one of the Church of England's environmental strategies: Eco-Church. Understand how to access resources to help with creation care.
Over the remaining sessions looking at specific topics within Environmental Stewardship participants will:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gain an understanding of various aspects of the environmental crisis. Gain an understanding of the nature of mission and how environmental mission fits within them. Gain an understanding of the role of lifestyle choices in both discipleship and affecting change. Gain an understanding of how to implement the Church of England Net Zero Target strategy, and Eco-Church in a local parish context. Consider how the resources provided nationally and by the Diocese can be used in a parish context. Receive training in the skills required to be an effective Parish Environment Officer. 	
27/01/24 8.30am - 2.30pm 2nd Zoom (Parish Hall, Fulwood, PE2 8TH)	Carbon & Climate Change (please remember to bring a packed lunch to this session. Cold/hot drinks will be provided)
07/02/24 7.30pm - 9pm 1st Zoom	Biodiversity
13/02/24 7.30pm - 9pm 2nd Zoom	Climate Justice
03/03/24 8.30am - 2.30pm 3rd Zoom (Parish Hall, Fulwood, PE2 8TH)	Animal Welfare, Economics, and Water & Waste (please remember to bring a packed lunch to this session. Cold/hot drinks will be provided)

Blackburn Diocese offers a comprehensive Environmental Stewardship module in their [Authorised Lay Ministry programme \(ALM\)](#). Over two full days in-person and three online evenings, topics include environmental issues, Eco Church, CofE strategy and connection with mission.

Supporting the Diocesan Vision

The diocese aims to equip and train its curates to play a leading part in supporting and implementing the diocesan vision into the future. It is important for all curates to understand the various strategic priorities of that vision and the projects that will support it. Elements of the vision are threaded throughout the IME2 programme, with a specific emphasis on environment, poverty and young people.

A diocese may also make a statement to demonstrate their commitment to training as shown on page 9 of [Norwich Diocese IME2 Handbook](#).

A diocese may support longer-term training or professional development for ministry, staff or volunteers such as the five-week course in [Environmental Theology](#) at Lindisfarne College of Theology in Newcastle Diocese.

Ministerial Formation terminology

Clergy formation

IME 1 (Initial Ministerial Education phase 1) occupies, for most, the first three years of training and is delivered via a theological college, university or training course. It is a criteria to the point of ordination.

IME 2 (Initial Ministerial Education phase two) newly ordained ministers (curates) continue to learn and grow in the roles to which God has called them. IME2 is a programme of formation and learning of three to four years for those at the beginning of their ordained ministry, until the end of their curacy.

CMF or CMD (Continuing Ministerial Formation or Development) courses and study days available to clergy, they may be in-house (run by the diocese), development days, courses, training or learning opportunities, outside the diocese.

Lay formation

There are many roles within the diocese where ongoing formation is offered and encouraged. Lay ministerial roles may be recognised, authorised or licensed and are many and varied; they encompass youth workers, readers, chaplain assistants for example.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/life-events/vocations/exploring-lay-ministry>