

This is a printer-friendly version for the Worship and Teaching, Community and Global Engagement, and Lifestyle categories of the Eco Church survey.

For the Buildings and Energy and Land and Nature categories, please select the appropriate pathway to print. To read more about the pathways and please visit the [Eco Church survey page](#).

Please note this document is for church-reference only. To apply for an Eco Church award, you will need to apply via the [Eco Church online platform](#). We are unable to accept paper applications.

Worship and teaching

Please refer to the [Worship and teaching overview document](#) for further guidance about completing this category.

Commitment

1. Our church recognises and teaches that creation care and action to address the climate and nature crises are integral to Christian faith, life and worship and has made a visible commitment to A Rocha UK's Eco Church award scheme.

Yes /No

Theme 1: Worship and prayer

2. Our worship, statements of belief and music acknowledge and celebrate God's relationship with, and work in, creation

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

NA (if your church does not have statements of belief and/or music)

3. Our church celebrates special days and seasons relating to creation care (e.g. Season of Creation, Harvest, Environment Sunday, Rogation Sunday, saints' days, animal blessing services, etc.)

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

4. Our worship provides opportunities to lament the destruction and damage to creation and to confess/repent of our part in this

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

NA (if you don't have a specific time of confession/repentance in your worship)

5. Creation care is embedded in the preaching in our church

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

NA (if preaching is not part of your tradition or within your control)

6. Our church prays/intercedes for global, national and local environmental issues and for those who work to safeguard and renew creation, and provides encouragement and resources for individual and community prayer on these themes

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

NA (if collective intercessory prayer is not part of your worship)

7. Our church worships outdoors, in God's creation (e.g. regular services, Palm Sunday, Easter Dawn)

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

8. Our church is based on or engages with a pioneering model of worship or 'fresh expression' that routinely meets outdoors (e.g. Forest Church, Muddy Church, Messy Church Goes Wild, prayer walks, contemplative liturgy)

Yes – this is what we are / Yes – we support or run one / No

9. Our church recognises that worship resources have an impact on the climate and nature, and chooses those that are as

sustainable as possible, for example local/seasonal flowers, foam-free arrangements, non-fossil fuel wax candles and organic wine.

Mostly / Partly / Not at all

NA (if you don't use worship resources)

Theme 2: People

10. Our ministers, leaders, preachers and intercessors can preach/teach confidently about creation care and environmental issues

Yes, all of them / Some training is needed / No, not at all

NA (if preaching/teaching is not part of your tradition or within your control)

11. Those responsible for pastoral care (or the equivalent) in our church are aware of and feel equipped to respond to environmental concerns including eco-anxiety

Yes, all of them / Some training is needed /

No, not at all

12. Specific callings to take action on environmental issues (including Eco Church) are affirmed equally alongside other ministries/vocations (e.g. social care/action) in our church

Yes / No

Theme 3: Teaching and discipleship

13. The preparation we provide for baptism and/or confirmation and/or membership of our church includes creation care as an integral part of Christian faith

Yes / No

NA (if this is not part of your practice/tradition)

14. Creation care is part of our church's work with children and young people, including schools if appropriate

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

NA (if you don't work with children and young people)

15. The courses we run (e.g. during Lent or Advent, introductory discipleship courses, small groups, house groups, or study groups) include creation care as an integral part of Christian faith

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

NA (if this is not part of your practice/tradition)

16. Our church hosts guest speakers from Christian environmental organisations and/or other Eco Churches and/or denominational environmental leads

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

Community and global engagement

Please refer to the [Community and global engagement overview document](#) for further guidance about completing this category.

Commitment

1. Our church recognises the impact of the climate and nature crises and has a plan or strategy to take action **LOCALLY** and/or **NATIONALLY** and/or **GLOBALLY**. If not, the questions that follow may help you to produce one.

Yes / No

Theme 1: Awareness raising – getting people on board

2. Our church responds to the impact of the climate and nature crises and engages with environmental and social justice issues affecting the **LOCAL** area (e.g. housing and transport campaigns) in the following way(s):

Choose all that apply.

- Discussion and action by the Eco Church team
- Discussion and action involving the wider church community (e.g. Mission team), including the leadership
- Engaging with the community beyond the church
- No engagement

3. Our church responds to the impact of the climate and nature crises and engages in environmental and social justice activities/issues that have **NATIONAL** impact in the following way(s):

Choose all that apply.

- Discussion and action by the Eco Church team

- Discussion and action involving the wider church community, including the leadership
- Engaging with the community beyond the church
- No engagement

4. Our church responds to the impact of the climate and ecological crises and engages with environmental and social justice issues that have a **GLOBAL** impact in the following way(s):

Choose all that apply.

- Discussion and action by the Eco Church team
- Discussion and action by the wider church community including the leadership
- Engaging with the community beyond the church
- No engagement

Theme 2: Taking action

5. Our church is involved in advocating/campaigning on environmental and social justice issues (e.g. local air pollution, water quality issues, plastic pollution) in the following way(s):

Choose all that apply.

- Attending local councillors' surgeries
- Engaging with local authority Climate Working Group or equivalent
- Engaging with hustings (e.g. for general elections, local by-elections or local council elections) on climate and nature issues
- Attending MP surgeries
- Attending relevant public meetings
- Online/digital campaigning including letter writing and engaging with petitions
- Participating in prayer vigils, climate demonstrations, etc.
- Inviting elected representatives to appropriate community events
- Other
- No engagement

6. Our church works in partnership with other organisations on environmental and/or climate justice issues, locally, nationally or globally.

Choose all that apply

- With other churches
- With local grassroots campaigning groups
- With conservation groups
- With other community groups
- With national and international campaigns and/or NGOs
- With a local environmental network
- Other (please give details in comments box)
- No engagement

7. Our Church provides opportunities and events that encourage a more equitable and inclusive experience of nature for all through getting outside to enjoy, nurture and protect nature.

Choose all that apply

- Walks, cycle rides, etc.
- Learning events (e.g. guided walks, citizen science activities)
- Actively engaging marginalised and or minority groups
- Other
- No participation

8. Our church recognises that choices about how we use/steward our church's finances – including banking, pensions and the role of divestment – have a significant impact on climate and climate justice. We do the following:

Choose all that apply

- Support anti-poverty campaigns and actions
- Bank with providers with robust climate- and nature-friendly policies
- Do not invest in funds with an interest in fossil fuels

- Invest in or support funds that actively invest in positive change for the climate and nature
- Take part in campaigns about the use of money (e.g. divestment, pensions and banking)
- No engagement

9. Our church participates in the following events:

Choose all that apply

- Events organised by ARUK (e.g. Wild Christian)
- Other events (e.g. Great Big Green Week, Earth Day, Earth Hour)
- Relevant webinars and online training events
- Other awareness-raising events (please give details in comments box)
- No participation

10. Our church uses recognised accreditation schemes/organisations that encourage action on environmental and social justice issues when making decisions about purchasing, etc. such as the following:

Choose all that apply

- Fairtrade Foundation/Fairtrade Place of Worship
- B Corps products
- Rainforest Alliance
- Other
- No engagement

11. Our policy on food/meals provided by our church is:

Choose all that apply

- Wholly/mainly vegan/plant based
- Vegan/vegetarian options always provided
- Food is locally sourced as far as possible
- Food is organic as far as possible
- To adhere to the highest animal welfare standards possible

- Provided in conjunction with local or national food waste schemes (e.g. Real Junk Food project, supermarkets etc)
- No engagement

12. Our church promotes and/or supports sustainable transport.

Choose all that apply

- Promoting public transport where possible
- Encouraging local car sharing
- Installing or campaigning for more electric vehicle charging points
- Making access by bike as easy as possible
- Providing bike racks
- Offering bike repair sessions at least once a year
- Other (please give details in comments box)
- No engagement

13. Our church takes action on waste – we refuse, reduce, reuse, repair, recycle etc. We do the following:

Choose all that apply

- Have a policy/plan to reduce our waste
- Understand our local authority's policy and practice on waste
- Continuously reduce our consumption of materials and resources
- Avoid the use of disposables such as cups, plates, cutlery, and single-use plastics wherever possible
- Re-use or buy second-hand wherever possible
- Recycle materials and equipment (e.g. electronics) wherever possible
- Ensure appropriate food waste is composted
- Actively work towards sending zero waste to landfill
- No engagement

Theme 3: Communication

14. Our church has an eco-champion/ambassador available to participate in external events.

Yes / No

15. Our church communicates the work we do, including our participation in Eco Church, to share ideas, raise awareness and encourage others to engage:

Choose all that apply

- On our website
- In internal communications (e.g. newsletters)
- On public noticeboards (physical or digital)
- At an information station at events
- In local or national press
- On social media
- Other
- No engagement

16. Our church financially supports an environmental charity.

Yes / No

Lifestyle

Please refer to the [Lifestyle overview document](#) for further guidance about completing this category.

Commitment

1. Our church has a strategy or plan to promote ethical and environmentally aware consumption

patterns by individuals and households.

Yes / No

Theme 1: Influence

2. Our Eco Church champion or team shares tips/steps for a more ethical and sustainable lifestyle with our church leadership and/or governing body for monitoring and review.

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

3. Information and advice about how individuals and households can respond to the climate and nature crises are shared widely across our church's communication channels (e.g. newsletters, social media, website).

Widely and routinely / Less frequently and/or via some channels only / Not at all

4. Our church actively encourages the whole congregation to take part in social or environmental campaigns the church supports (whatever form this takes, e.g. signing petitions, hosting MP at a church service, attending marches or large demonstrations).

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

Theme 2: Carbon footprint

5. Our church promotes auditing of individual and household carbon footprints (e.g. by using Climate Stewards, Giki, Take the Jump,

the WWF Footprint Calculator or other calculators).

Routinely / Occasionally / Never

6. Our church recognises that energy use for heating and lighting is one of the three biggest contributors to carbon emissions in the UK and promotes:

Choose all that apply

- ways for individuals and households to reduce consumption and increase energy efficiency (e.g. smart
- metering, energy-efficient appliances)
- switching from gas/oil to electricity for heating
- renewable electricity tariffs
- No action on energy

Theme 3: Personal choices

7. Our church recognises the current global, industrialised food system as largely unsustainable. While many people have limited choices about what they eat (e.g. due to cost), food is one of the biggest contributors to UK carbon emissions. We encourage:

Choose all that apply

- mainly plant-based diets
- consuming less meat and dairy products
- locally sourced foods including veg boxes where possible
- rescue initiatives for food that would otherwise be thrown away
- campaigning for a sustainable food system
- No action on food

8. Our church recognises that transport is one of the three biggest contributors to carbon emissions in the UK and encourages:

Choose all that apply

- active transport such as walking and cycling where possible
- ways to increase use of public transport where possible

- ways to reduce personal car use (e.g. car sharing)
- alternatives to flying
- No action on transport

9. Our church recognises that personal choices about how we use our money – including banking, pensions, and investing – have a significant impact on climate and nature. Our church promotes:

Choose all that apply

- information about financial choices that are positive for climate and nature
- banking with providers having robust policies on climate and nature protection and not funding the
- fossil fuel industry
- divestment from funds and pensions with an interest in fossil fuels
- credit unions and other purpose-driven finance institutions that work for positive social and
- environmental impact
- No action on money

10. Our church recognises that consumption of goods and services has a significant impact on climate and nature. Our church encourages individuals and households to reduce their consumption and make ethical choices by promoting:

Choose all that apply

- sustainability comparison websites such as Ethical Consumer
- local cooperatives and sharing initiatives (e.g. community fridge)
- lending/borrowing initiatives (e.g. a Library of Things)
- use of surveys and apps to monitor and reduce consumption (e.g. Creation Care survey)
- buying fairly traded goods where possible
- use of local repair cafe
- other
- No action on consumption patterns

11. Our church recognises that the waste we produce as individuals and households has a significant impact on climate and nature, and promotes:

Choose all that apply

- continuously reducing the consumption of materials and resources
- avoiding the use of disposable and single-use plastics wherever possible
- re-using or buying second-hand wherever possible
- recycling materials and equipment wherever possible
- composting food waste either at home or via a collection scheme
- working towards sending zero waste to landfill
- minimising wastewater
- other
- No action on waste promoted

Theme 4: Nature

12. Our church recognises the importance of opportunities to enjoy, nurture and protect creation, and encourages members to:

Choose all that apply

- sign up for A Rocha UK's 'Wild Christian' programme
- get outside for events and activities
- participate in volunteering activities (e.g. Green Gyms, Wildlife Trust events, etc.)
- No encouragement

13. Our church recognises that private gardens and other outdoor spaces can make a significant contribution to nature, and encourages members to manage their own or local outdoor spaces for nature in some way.

Yes / No