

Cambridge
**Carbon
Footprint**



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

CHAIR'S STATEMENT



Looking back at 2019 through this Annual Report, I'm reminded what a great year 2019 was for CCF. Our events programme continued to expand, reaching people across the city and beyond. The highlight of course was the tenth anniversary of Open Eco

Homes, a project which over the years has seen hundreds of people inspired to retrofit their own homes by visiting successful projects around Cambridge. Many thanks and congratulations should go to Tom Bragg in particular for his passion and dedication that has made it such a successful annual event.

Of course, 2020 so far has been radically different due to the impacts of Covid-19. The planned second year for our Sustainable Fashion Festival had to be cancelled, as were many other events; however we've adapted, taking Repair Cafés and many other events online. Trustees are very grateful to our funders for their flexibility, and our dedicated staff for adapting so well in difficult circumstances.

Nationally, the growing number of calls for a green recovery from the pandemic and announcements of major investment in home energy efficiency and cycling are hugely welcome. We can only hope that this is just the start, and governments around the world truly heed the message Covid-19 has sent: that we need to tread gently on the earth and reshape our relationship with nature, for all our sakes.

At CCF these next few months should be exciting ones, with the launch of our new website and the Cambridge Climate Change Charter, a partnership project with Cambridge City Council. We are grateful to our many volunteers and supporters for continued commitment to our mission and look forward to sharing this new work soon.

Sarah Whitebread

SARAH WHITEBREAD
CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

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WHO WE ARE & HOW WE WORK

CCF helps individuals to understand and reduce personal carbon emissions across the areas over which they (not we) have direct control. That includes the way we commute and travel, the food that we eat, our energy usage at home, and all of the other things that we buy.

OUR APPROACH

Cambridge Carbon Footprint (CCF) aims to help individuals make real carbon reductions in their personal lives and empower them to take the lead on carbon reduction in their social circles, communities and places of work.

We centre our approach on what climate action means to people in their everyday lives – in terms of their beliefs, values and capabilities to make real change. Based on a broad range of research on climate science and communication, our outreach is intended to involve everyone, no matter their previous engagement with the issue or situation in life.

OUR METHOD

We want to make connections with people to support behaviour change and long term commitment to low carbon living. We do this by:

- A programme of events and workshops that inspire individual action, underpinned with training that foster the practical skills necessary.
- Providing resources and support that empower other local groups to deliver carbon reduction events and activities. Building the capacity of others enables us to increase our reach and influence new audiences.



CCF takes sustainable living to the public at Chesterton Festival

SUPPORTING CHANGE

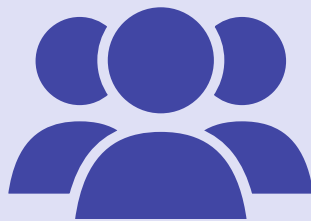
Supporting changes in behaviour and attitude will be critical to reaching net zero emissions. The Committee on Climate Change (CCC) estimates that the average UK household will need to reduce annual emissions from 8,798 to between 1,160 and 1,661 kgCO₂e by 2050 to reach the UK Government's net zero target. This will require a reduction in energy use, changes to the way we travel, what we eat, how much we buy and how we dispose of things. The CCC estimates that 60% of the changes needed will require some sort of behaviour change.

CCF's work focuses on achieving behaviour change via effective communication and engagement, developing and sharing skills, and providing tools and resources.

2019 ACHIEVEMENTS & HIGHLIGHTS



72
events
run



4,489
event
attendees



3,050
new people
engaged

5

stalls run

11

outreach talks
given

11

new Repair Cafés
established

24

events run with
CCF support

32

events run by CCF
and partners

2,219

tonnes CO2
saved

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Cambridge Remakery (p. 6)
- Brown's Field Swap, Collect & Fix-Fest (p. 7)
- 10 years of Open Eco Homes (p. 9)



Volunteer Bart Hommels leads an Open Eco Homes tour of his Coton home

SWAPPING, SHARING, REPAIRING & REDUCING CONSUMERISM

CCF delivered many popular events in 2019 aimed at tackling the 30% of global greenhouse gas emissions arising from consumerism. Events themed around repairing, swapping and sharing rather than buying new are how we demonstrate and communicate the shift we need from a linear 'take, make and dispose' economy, to one which is circular, where resources are maintained and reused.

REPAIR CAFÉS

CCF and Transition Cambridge together delivered three 'How to run a Repair Café in your community' skillshares in 2019 which led to 11 new Repair Cafés being added to the Cambridgeshire Repair Café Network. Diverse new delivery partners included the University of Cambridge, businesses and local councils.



11

new Repair
Cafés set up in
2019



Connecting over repairs at Cambourne Repair Café



Cambridge University Press and Cambridge Assessment's first Repair Café

“

...fascinating and so rewarding repairing rather than throwing away!

”

COMMUNITY CLOTHES SWAPS

The brand new Community Clothes Swap Kit that we were able to purchase with money from SCDC's Community Chest has proved very popular and was an essential piece of kit at Histon's first Swish which attracted 175 people and thousands of items of women's, men's and children's clothes. Histon and Impington Sustainability Group who ran the swish partnered with children from the local eco-council who ran a dressing up exchange.



The very busy Histon swish



Histon Kids enjoy the dressing up exchange



Adam Reed of SUEZ Recycling & Recovery speaks to a packed audience

TALKS

65 people joined CCF for their 2018 AGM and heard Dr Adam Read share his insights on 'The Circular Economy – a solution to overconsumption and the climate crisis'.

CCF and sustainable fashion expert Julie Kervadec delivered Fashion the Future talks at both the Science Festival and Festival of Ideas.

POP-UP REMAKERY

The Cambridge Remakery at The Grafton Centre was one of the stand-out collaborations in 2019. Hosting an entire weekend long event focused on alternatives to mass consumption in the heart of a shopping centre was powerful and allowed us all to engage new audiences. With help from our many partners we were able to run a huge variety of activities, including a Repair Café, skillshares on furniture repair, bike maintenance, PAT testing, jewellery, sewing and upholstery, upcycled arts activities for children and adults, a swish and information stalls about how to live more sustainably in the City. Visitors to the space were also invited to share their ideas for what they'd like to see in a permanent centre dedicated to sustainability in Cambridge. We offer thanks to Sophie Unwin, the founder of the Remade Network for inspiring this event.

“

I had some wonderful feedback from the Team about how lively your event was over the weekend, well done!

Grafton Centre's manager

”

310
visitors

230
visitors
were new
to CCF

60+
ideas shared
for a local
sustainability
hub



Repair Cafe in progress at the Cambridge Remakery

SWAP, COLLECT & FIX-FEST

In February CCF engaged a multitude of partners to bring a Swap, Collect and Fix-Fest to the area around the Brown's Field Youth and Community Centre for the first time. The day celebrated reuse and repair whilst also providing practical help to people needing bulky waste removed from their homes and communal spaces. 270 people joined us in a bonanza of swapping and fixing.

“

The fix hall was fascinating, thank you for inviting us to take part and of course we will support you again with this event.

Christine Heaver, Business Manager Cambridge for Veolia

”



The Veolia team helping out at the Fix-Fest



Browsing the clothes swap



An exchange in progress at the give and take stall



A Pye radio is successfully repaired

IMPROVING ENERGY EFFICIENCY AT HOME

The UK faces an immense challenge. We'll need to retrofit a million homes a year with energy efficiency measures like insulation and renewables to reach the UK Government's goal of net zero emissions by 2050. Although challenging, doing so will have immense benefits. Not only are energy efficient homes better for the environment, they're also more comfortable, healthier and cheaper to run.

THERMAL IMAGING

In 2019 we trained 39 more local people on how to use our two thermal imaging cameras to identify the draughts and insulation gaps causing their homes to leak heat. Thirty-five home surveys vividly revealed to householders where their homes were losing heat over the winter months and helped put them on track to finding solutions.



Thermal imaging camera in use



A thermal image revealing doors and windows leaking heat

“

Just go... It gives you another view on how to refurbish your house.

”

OPEN ECO HOMES TOURS

Open Eco Homes helps people create beautiful, high functioning, low energy homes with householder led tours of renovated and new built eco homes. 2019 was the 10th successive year for Open Eco Homes, a unique achievement for a UK community group. A record 577 one-hour tours of homes, new and retrofitted, were booked for 319 visitors. 60% of visitors on tours were new to OEH, so we're reaching lots of new people.

577
tours



319
visitors

Very informative –great stepping stone for ideas and understanding for your own project.



Taking a peak at the utility room on the Madingley Road tour



Exploring insulation, natural light and air-tightness on the Auckland Road tour

Clever use of space and light to construct a sustainable building.

CAMBRIDGE 2030 - MEETING THE ZERO CARBON HOMES CHALLENGE

We celebrated a decade of Open Eco Homes with Cambridge 2030. We reviewed the highlights of these 10 years and brought together some of the brightest minds working in low-energy housing today to help us chart a course to zero carbon housing. Baroness Brown of Cambridge, Julia King, Deputy chair of the Committee on Climate Change, introduced what's needed over the next decade for a tolerable climate. Other expert speakers shared innovative and inspirational methods of tackling the big challenges we face. Open Eco Homes expects to play a useful part, inspiring and informing low carbon solutions.



Our expert Cambridge 2030 panel



Baroness Brown of Cambridge gives the keynote address

ENERGY SAVING WORKSHOPS

Our Open Eco Homes tours provide loads of inspiration, and with our workshops we aim to provide lots more supporting information and resources. This year we ran four workshops following the tours:

- Draught-Proofing & Ventilation - low cost improvements for owners & renters
- Beginner's Guide to Retrofit - training by the Manchester Carbon Co-op
- Better Insulation - new wisdom on trapping heat
- Your Smart Electric Home - PV, batteries, heat pumps, EVs and export

COLLABORATION

Getting emissions down to sustainable levels is not something CCF can do alone. Collaborating with others enables us to work more effectively, reach new and different audiences, and share resources enabling us to deliver more events and activities.



SOME OF OUR PARTNERS IN 2019:

- Brown's Field Youth and Community Centre
- Cambridge Community Wardrobe
- Recycling Champions
- Community Payback Team
- The Remakery
- Cambridgeshire Repair Café Network



Thank you to all our many collaborators

OUTREACH

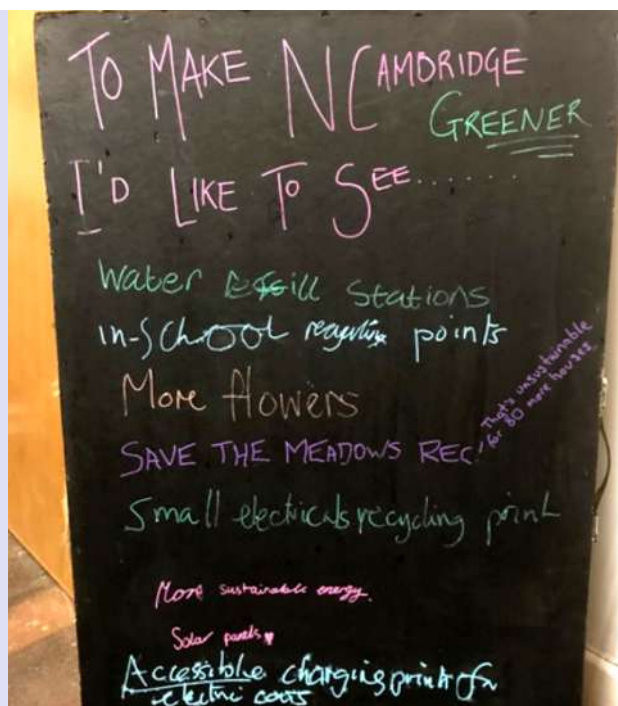
Reaching new audiences is core to our ambitions of supporting people from all walks of life to reduce carbon emissions. We reach out to new audiences via our many collaborations, but also by delivering talks, workshops and stalls in communities and workplaces around Cambridge.

STALLS

Stalls are an opportunity for us to talk one on one with people who might not ordinarily attend a CCF event. In 2019 we ran 5 stalls, including two at North Cambridge community events where we shared our new Sustainable North Cambridge Map. We also ran stalls at the Cambridge Literary Festival, Cottenham Eco Festival and the Ladybirds WI's International Women's Day celebrations.



CCF staff and volunteers break for a quick selfie on the Chesterton Festival stall



North Cambridge resident share their wishes for a greener local area

TALKS & WORKSHOPS

CCF often speaks at large festivals to engage new audiences in the work that we do. This year we spoke at the Cambridge University Science Festival and Festival of Ideas, offering our 'Fashion the Future' talk on sustainable clothing and textiles, sharing our Quick Guide to Sustainable Fashion.



16

outreach
activities run



741

attendees



491

new to CCF

We also offer talks to community groups and workplaces, tailoring our material and approach to the audience. Amongst the outreach work we delivered this year, were workshops on:

- Textile reuse and the circular economy, for the Bedfordshire Embroiders Guild
- Personal carbon footprints, at a lunchtime talk for employees at Arm
- Carbon conversations, for the Cambridge University of the Third Age
- Sustainable fashion, for the Histon Brownies



The CCF Stall gets an outing at the Cambridge Remakery

LOBBYING AND CONSULTATION

CCF works for widespread, deep carbon reductions by individuals, businesses and other organisations. But to support this action, urgent, big political changes are required too, which we also work to encourage and support.

CCF coordinated about 50 people from Cambridge to lobby their MP, Daniel Zeichner near the House of Commons at 'The Time is Now' for action on climate, along with people from other Cambridgeshire constituencies lobbying their MPs. Numerous lobbies were coordinated by The Climate Coalition, a national

coalition, of which CCF is one of 130 member organisations.

CCF were asked by the Petitions Committee at the House of Commons to bring together a focus group to help inform Daniel Zeichner MP on the issue of plastics before a debate in the House of Commons.



South Cambridgeshire constituents meet with MP Heidi Allan



CCF and Carbon Neutral Cambridge amongst the throngs of people at the Time is Now mass lobby

CCF also made submissions to these 2019 consultations:

- The Future Homes Standard: revised regulations for new homes that we think should do much more to make them very low-carbon and ready for increasingly extreme weather like heatwaves.
- 'Sustainable Design and Construction' Supplementary Planning Document by Cambridge City Council, which we proposed should go further towards requiring net zero carbon, passive measures to keep cool and reducing mains water consumption.

OUR PEOPLE

Our volunteers, trustees and staff are like the Earth's forests – essential to our survival. CCF is supported by people from all walks of life and with a radiant spectrum of skills. We are grateful to them all for their dedication and commitment.

VOLUNTEERS

The experience our volunteers bring as designers, workshop hosts, bakers, engineers, IT experts, data crunchers, administrators, Trustees, accountants, fundraisers, public speakers, mic runners and event volunteers is inspiring.



*Barrington Repair Café
organisers and volunteers*



*Meet Mark Irving, volunteer
repairer*



*Important work keeping visitors
and volunteers fed*

Thank you to our invaluable and dedicated 345 volunteers who donated an astounding 6,294 hours of their time, knowledge and skills to making 2019 another effective year. Ranging in age from 18 to their mid-eighties, the skills and knowledge contributed by this group to bringing about a more sustainable city and region is awe-inspiring.



6,294
hours donated



345
volunteers



£51,673
time given*



CCF staff and volunteers celebrate the very successful Cambridge 2030 event

STAFF

Our small staff team are the hub at the centre of CCF supporting our many volunteers and coordinating our activities. Alana Sinclair, CCF Manager, Nicole Barton, Volunteer and Events Organiser and Allan Shepherd, Open Eco Homes Coordinator, all contribute way beyond what could be expected. Thanks again to them for their dedication and determination in delivering another outstanding year for CCF.

TRUSTEES

Cambridge Carbon Footprint's trustees are volunteers jointly responsible for steering our strategy and policy. Most also choose to get hands on in other areas of CCF work. In 2019 three new trustees Nicole Dang, Libby Peachey and Oliver O'Donoghue joined the Board bringing with them a wealth of different experiences and skills.

Join the team! Find out more about volunteering at www.cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/volunteering.

COMMUNICATIONS

Media coverage continued to be strong this year with 12 features and articles in the Cambridge Independent and further coverage in the Cambridge News, Velvet Magazine, BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and other regional platforms. Nationally there were two interviews with BBC Radio 5 Live, coverage of Open Eco Homes and the Cambridge Remakery on ITV and Look East and our partners at Soham Repair Café were filmed for BBC1's primetime 'Shop Well for Less' programme. Cambridge 105 broadcast these interviews from the Cambridge Remakery.



ITV help spread the word filming at the Cambridge Remakery



The Cambridge News covers the Swap, Collect & Fix-Fest

We began the work of centralising our social media, merging our Open Eco Homes and Circular Cambridge social media with the main Cambridge Carbon Footprint accounts. Efforts to produce good graphics for social media paid off, particularly for Open Eco Homes (see for example, the three images here).



In 2019 we doubled our efforts to find out what people want for the region. At The Remakery in The Grafton, 67 people shared their wishes for what to include in a permanent city based Sustainability Centre and we produced the Sustainable North Cambridge Map to inspire conversations about sustainable living in this part of the city.



Ideas shared at the Remakery for a permanent sustainability hub in Cambridge



The Map for a Sustainable North Cambridge laid out ready for a stall

FINANCES

Total income in 2019 amounted to £66,517 (2018 £69,014) which, after total expenditure of £69,463 (2018 £72,201) resulted in a deficit of £2,947 (2018 deficit £3,187). The decrease in income in 2019 compared to the previous year was due to a decrease in donations, partially offset by an increase in fundraising and sponsorship. Costs have been under continual review and have been kept to the minimum necessary wherever possible.

At the end of the year CCF had total funds of £13,819 (2018 £16,766), of which £11,669 (2018 £14,416) was unrestricted funds.

Circumstances in 2019 resulted in the reserve being slightly lower than the desired amount but in 2020 the inflow of funds and management of various costs has restored the reserves to the appropriate level.

THANKS TO OUR DONORS AND FUNDERS

Our heartfelt thanks go out to the many individuals and organisations that funded us in 2019. We received funding from Cambridge City Council's Sustainable City Fund, the Rotary Club of Cambridge South, The Restart Project/NESTA and South Cambridgeshire District Council's Community Chest Fund. We are thankful to our grant funders and to our many donors, big and small. It was these gifts that enabled us to carry out the work detailed in this report. Cambridge Carbon Footprint and the work that we do would not exist without your support. Together we work towards a sustainable future for Cambridge.

Support climate action. Donate today at:
www.cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/donate

2020 AND BEYOND

2020 has presented challenging circumstances for almost all organisations, Cambridge Carbon Footprint included. Our second Sustainable Fashion Festival due to take place on March 21 was the first of many events we cancelled due to Covid-19. Where possible we've adapted our activities, running Virtual Repair Cafes, and starting to trial online Open Eco Homes workshops and tours. It's also been a learning opportunity, giving us time to experiment with and improve our online communications.

The national lockdown at the end of March happened to coincide with a period of internal work for CCF, meaning staff and volunteers have been able to continue with useful work from home. Our primary focuses have been on launching:

- a new Cambridge Carbon Footprint website featuring an online carbon footprint calculator and advice hub
- the new Cambridge Climate Change Charter, a project CCF is delivering for Cambridge City Council supporting individuals, businesses and other organisations to reduce emissions

These projects fit with and stem from our current focus on:

- Helping people understand their carbon footprint
- Providing locally relevant advice on how to reduce emissions
- Developing a supportive community taking action on climate change

Events that we supported by building capacity in others accounted for 33% of our activities in 2019. We plan to expand that further in 2020 and beyond, offering more and new types of training and support.



Keep in touch

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