

Act to Adapt Chard

Supporting communities across Somerset to adapt to climate change through a series of collaborative events



Shaping a plan for your community

Share your ideas for how Chard can adapt to Climate Change!

What is Adaptation?

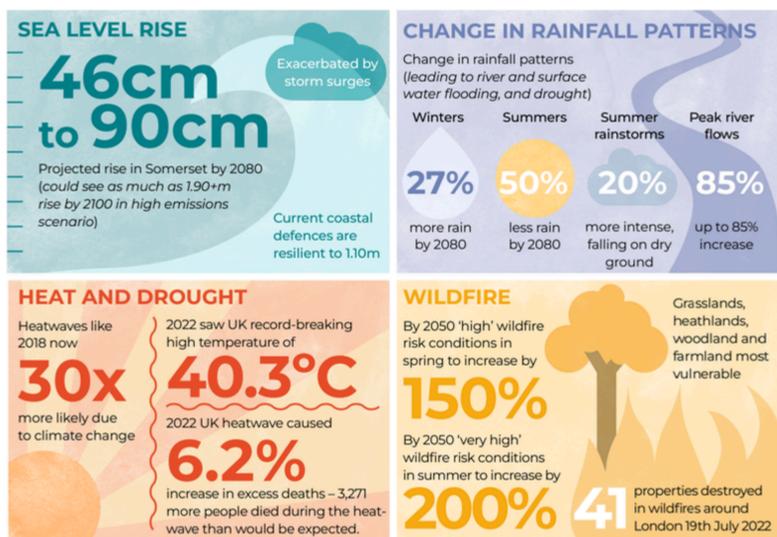
Adjusting to the current impacts of climate change or planning for those that are projected.



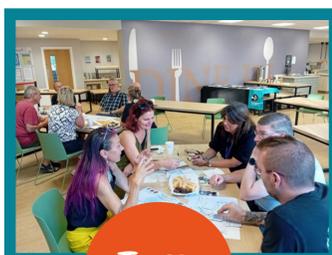
Adaptation can seek to limit or avoid harm, or explore beneficial opportunities.



Why do we need to Adapt?



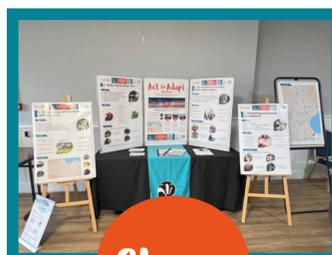
The process



Talk

A workshop to discuss the risks from climate impacts and adaptations.

A community-wide effort with every voice and idea valued and fed into a Climate Adaptation Plan.



Shape

Through online and in-person opportunities, people provide feedback and suggest actions to include in the plan.

This ensures the plan is shaped by local voices and knowledge.



Act

The plan is officially handed over to the community as a guide, with £1000 community seed funding to get adaptation action started.

This recognises community ownership and supports action.



Somerset Wildlife Trust

SCAN ME TO
LEAVE FEEDBACK
ONLINE



Funded by Somerset Rivers Authority



1 - Improving and increasing green spaces

Actions

- Increase tree and plant coverage
- Create wildlife habitats and green corridors
- Support climate-resilient planting
- Develop local food security
- Support green wall and roof creation



Benefits

Mitigates urban heat island effect

Provides shade and refuge

Improves water quality

Benefits health and wellbeing



Captures and holds water above and below ground

Reduces stormwater runoff

Provides habitat for wildlife

Mitigates climate change

Possible projects

Here are some ideas for projects suggested by local residents:



Map and develop inspirational community gardens that are great for nature and climate



Encourage local food growing to enhance community food security and reduce food miles.



Plant a dog walking forest to provide cooling during extreme weather events.



Work with local farmers to implement nature-based solutions.



2 - Adapting to flooding

Actions

- Implement sustainable drainage and green infrastructure
- Promote and strengthen community flood response
- Create natural water storage solutions
- Collaborate with landowners and authorities



Benefits



Reduces stormwater runoff

Mitigates urban heat island effect

Slows water flow during heavy rain

Increases water storage

Provides habitat for wildlife

Improves water quality

Provides a water source for gardens during dry summers

Benefits health and wellbeing



Possible projects

Here are some ideas for projects suggested by local residents:



Work with private residences to install water butts and create small ponds in gardens.



Work with Somerset Rivers Authority to establish improved local flood warning systems and alerts are widely accessible to the community.



Create educational resources about flood risks and resilience measures for residents and businesses.



Promote permeable paving for driveways and other surfaces.



3 - Building local climate knowledge and action

Actions

- Engage with schools
- Host regular climate engagement events
- Strengthen volunteer participation
- Establish community-led resilience initiatives
- Create networks for sharing expertise and resources



Benefits

Raises climate awareness

Motivates sustainable actions

Supports green economy

Enables youth leadership



Builds community collaboration

Facilitates open dialogues

Supports sustainable living

Enables informed choices

Possible projects

Here are some ideas for projects suggested by local residents:



Create series of talks and site visits to inspire residents and showcase successful projects.



Develop case studies from local households implementing measures and share learning across the community.



Use the Guildhall as an example site to trial innovative solutions.



Organise school visits and educational activities to build climate awareness among young people.



4 - Engaging with local planning and policy

Actions

- Improve existing housing
- Lobby for sustainable development standards for new builds
- Partner with farmers to explore land management practices
- Create funding mechanisms



Benefits

Enhances resilience

Fosters collaboration

Facilitates communication

Involves community



Informs choices

Aligns policies

Drives economic impact

Promotes environmental stewardship

Possible projects

Here are some ideas for projects suggested by local residents:



Develop strategies for using buildings like churches as cooling and heating centres during extreme weather events.



Advocate for emergency planning and local climate adaptation strategies to be properly funded and implemented.



Promote crop rotation and diverse farming practices to enhance resilience.



Campaign for new housing developments to include solar panels, greywater systems and sustainable drainage.

Locations

