

NEXT STEPS

WHERE TO GO FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, ADVICE AND SUPPORT

The following are some suggestions on where to go next for advice, support and information to make the project a reality. This is not an exhaustive list, and contacts listed may be subject to change over time.

Organisation/project support and funding advice

[Exeter Connect](#) A voluntary and community sector support service, working to empower and strengthen community groups in Exeter. They offer free advice, training, networks, and events.

[Community Action Group Devon](#) (CAG Devon) focuses on supporting community groups that are developing projects that reduce waste – from repair cafes to food surplus fridges. A large resource section to help set up community groups/projects.

[Planet and People](#) A CIC that has two strands of business. They work with businesses to help them on their net zero journey and use the profits from that to support schools in developing /enhancing environmental impact and engagement.

[The Green Futures Network](#) is a collaborative platform that provides free access to current environmental information and resources, bringing together various organisations, including businesses, community groups, local governments, and charities, to address the challenges posed by the climate and ecological emergencies. The network serves as a hub for sharing knowledge and exchanging ideas related to environmental sustainability. They occasionally organize events in Exeter and provide online opportunities to learn from and collaborate with the University of Exeter.

Sustainable energy and technology

[Exeter Community Energy](#) Their focus is to promote and develop local community ownership and management of energy projects. The website has details on how communities can be active renewable energy producers.

Community gardening and green spaces

[Devon Wildlife Trust](#) this organisation owns and manages many green spaces in Exeter. They work closely with local community groups and [Exeter City Council](#).

[Exeter Green Space](#) is a network of community groups focusing on green spaces in Exeter.

[Exeter Seed Bank](#) encourages sharing different seeds for planting. Exeter Seed Bank is focused on bringing people together through plants. They host events and collaborate with other organisations.

Active travel and transport

[Ride On](#) supports individuals and groups in opting for bikes. They provide courses and workshops for people wanting to service bikes.

[Co Bikes](#) operate a bike and electric car share scheme. You can request a Co Bike location near you.

[Active Devon](#) is a useful website to find resources, inspiration and opportunities in active travel in Devon.

[The Exeter Cycling Campaign](#) is a lobby group with the primary focus to support the transition to cycling in Exeter.

Community action and local climate change support and resources

[Climate Action Hub](#): a physical space to discuss climate change and loss of nature with like-minded people in a safe and friendly place. The Hub is available for groups who are members of [Exeter Community Alliance](#) to use.

[The Climate Café](#) provides a space where people can discuss their fears and worries without judgement in a safe space.

[Transition Exeter](#) is part of the global Transition Network and have various projects throughout Exeter which cover all areas: from energy and food to economics. Useful to explore for inspiration and developing a network.

[The Exeter Civic Society](#) have a variety of groups and projects that relate to environmental concerns. For example from 2023, New projects for 2023 are shaping up: Active Travel and Tree Preservation – Exeter Civic Society

[Wellbeing Exeter](#) provides support, guidance, and opportunities, helping individuals discover and develop their own paths to a fulfilling and connected life. Their Community Builders team focuses on supporting local residents and communities in developing their own ideas and initiatives. Their goal is to foster community engagement, improve well-being, and create a better living environment.

One of [Devon Communities'](#) aims is to work with communities to develop innovative ways to achieve community resilience and a positive impact for climate change and sustainability.

[Devon Climate Emergency](#): raises awareness of climate change and encouraging action to address the challenges posed by climate change and ecological degradation. There are resources for schools, community groups, organisations and local councils, such as carbon footprint calculators and links to funding opportunities.

Funding

The focus of the list below is on local sources of funding. For advice on other options, try contacting some of the previously listed organisations, such as Exeter Connect, who can offer advice on current funding options.

- [Devon Funding News](#) keeps updated news on funding opportunities.
- [information on further sources of advice](#) and support.

Local

[The Exeter Ward Grants Programme](#) offers up to £350 to supports local community projects.

[The Exeter Community Lottery](#) raises funds through sales of lottery tickets, this money can then be used towards good causes in the city. Community and charity groups can register as beneficiaries.

Some [information from the council](#) on climate related grants for residents.

[Devon County Councillor's](#) hold budgets that can be put towards projects in the county.

There are [several funds available](#) that focus on areas such as energy efficiency, renewables, resource management, biodiversity, nature conservation.

[The Green Innovation Fund](#) is a competitive grant scheme run by Devon County Council. The grants can provide financial support for various initiatives such as renewable energy projects, energy efficiency improvements, sustainable agriculture, waste management, and green infrastructure development.

[Devon Environment Foundation](#): an organisation that supports grassroots projects that regenerate nature, especially those that can be replicated and scaled across Devon. Award grants to local non-profit organisations, associations, clubs or unions, social cooperative enterprises or other local bodies, including research centres.

[Devon Community Foundation](#) ensures funds are given to community groups in local areas.

National

[The National Lottery Community Fund](#) gives financial support to projects and activities that transform communities.