

Annual Report for Sheffield Campaign against Climate Change (SCACC)

Sept 2016 to August 2017

Introduction

Sheffield Campaign against Climate Change (SCACC) has over the past few years hosted and facilitated the larger and broader Sheffield Climate Alliance (SCA), a network of 30+ local organisations as well as individuals. SCACC has concentrated on co-organising campaigns and actions with other groups and broaden involvement through Sheffield Climate Alliance. SCACC's role in Sheffield Climate Alliance allows for an agreed constitution, an elected committee for oversight and a bank account to deal with Sheffield Climate Alliance funds.

Environmental Justice Fund and beyond

Sheffield Climate Alliance has received three and a quarter years' funding from the Environmental Justice Fund (EJF) which ended in August 2017. This allowed for a part-time, paid campaigns worker as well as for work to broaden the network and our audience, and to provide materials for campaigns and expenses for volunteers (travel to conferences etc).

Our financial position remains stable, though we do not currently have the means to employ a new worker. Thus, we are now entirely reliant on volunteers, whilst our fundraising efforts continue.

Campaigns and Activities

SCA events in partnership with others, most recent are listed first:

- 'Speak Up Week of Action' - supporting meetings with MPs about climate, 1st-9th July, collaborating with Sheffield Environmental, Christian Aid
- Peace in The Park' Festival, where we ran the "climate zone" – 10th June
- 'Going Greener at Crystal Peaks' event – 20th May, supporting Emmanuel Church and St Andrews Psalter Lane Church, Eco-churches initiative
- Climate film showing as part of 'Festival of Debate' - 18th May, collaborating with Regather
- 'Buried Sunshine' fundraiser as part of 'Festival of Debate': night of theatre and music - 5th May, collaborating with Anarchist Bookfair and Coal Action Network
- Organised 'Trade Unions, Work and Climate Change' seminar - 4th April - collaboration with Westminster University ProBE Unit, Adapting Canadian Workplaces project, Sheffield TUC.
- Stall at Sheffield LGBT+ History Month event – 25th February - collaboration with Friends of Edward Carpenter
- Two representatives at Campaign Against Climate Change's 'Climate Refugees' conference.
- 'Show the Love' outreach stall at Crystal Peaks Mall - 9th February - contribution to The Climate Coalition's week, specifically collaborating with the Woodland Trust
- 'Make Santa Happy'; Christmas cards on climate change to MPs, held at Union Street and Moor Market – 10th December
- Climate change workshop with Muslim Youth Group, Darnall – 25th November
- 'Speak Up Week of Action' (The Climate Coalition) 1st Oct - training session with Paul Blomfield MP on how to lobby your MP on climate, and 'Walk and Talk' lobby on 8th October for Brightside and Hillsborough and Sheffield East constituencies, collaborating with Christian Aid, Cafod, Hope for the Future

Campaign Groups

Divestment (South Yorkshire Fossil Free)

- Attended Beighton Gala

- Worked with Christian Aid on 'The Big Shift' project
- Attended ongoing anti-fracking protest, Preston New Road
- Continued work on petitioning and 'pestering' South Yorkshire Pension Authority, including for Global Divestment Mobilisation day on 6th May (Sheffield) and 10th May (Doncaster)
- Several meetings with South Yorkshire Pensions Authority
- Reported on Sheffield City Council motion to divest from fossil fuels
- Design work on 'only dinosaurs invest in fossil fuels' leaflets and promotions

Food

- Presence at 'Sheffield Food Fair' with mini-stall
- Produced "Food" banner, since used for public displays, including in Sheffield Central Library
- Initial presentation on 'Food and Climate' developed
- Contribution to development of Sustainable Food City work
- Meetings with Gill Furniss MP and Linda McAvan MEP

Anti-Fracking (supporting Sheffield Against Fracking and other local groups)

- Encouraging individuals to sign objection letters (Harthill and Marsh Lane shale gas schemes)
- Individuals attending SAF meetings and various rallies, including Tudor Square in late spring
- Continued support and advertisement for SAF and Frack Free South Yorkshire events
- Lobbied Sheffield City Council to adopt shale gas planning policies, including meeting with Head of Planning
- Support at Lowedges Festival stall, 13 March
- Individuals going to support Preston New Road
- Assistance in SAF fundraising event in November (folk music and pizza at Shakespeare's Pub)

Climate Jobs

- Wrote and distributed response report to Sheffield City Region's 'A Better Future Together' Prospectus
- Organising for 'Zero Carbon Yorkshire- Make it Happen!' weekend (28-29 October 2017)
- Continued meetings with Sheffield City Council Cabinet members and officers
- Helped organise and took part in 'The Big Air Pollution Hunt', AQ monitoring exercise
- Continued to work with CCC on national campaigns (such as 'Make Santa Happy').
- Met with Paul Blomfield MP and Clive Betts MP
- Maintained active links with trade union campaigns including New Lucas Plan, Trade Unions for Energy Democracy and CACCTU, and presented at PCS Green Reps' Conference.

Regular, continued work

- 2-weekly email newsletter (publicising others' events as well as our own), updates and blogs on website, specific communications with members/affiliates, and presence on social media
- Sheffield Telegraph's 'The Big Challenge' full-page feature - contributions from a wide range of members and appearances on Sheffield Live radio 'Sounzaboutright'.
- Continued fundraising bids and activity

Future activity for your diary...

- Planned Ceilidh fundraiser (Sun 14th January 2018)
- Planned collaboration with 'Common Thread' (likely to be Sat 9th December)
- Zero Carbon Yorkshire weekend – 28th-29th October
- Presence at National Eco Church event in Sheffield – 21st October