

# Our progress so far



Jane Nichols — Director



Our purpose

**Inspire, connect and support**  
local nature and climate action



# How we help



We work with **community** and **group** leaders to **share knowledge** and **create connections**



Website



Assemblies




Events





Mentors


# ☐ Focus topics

## Primary


 Nature

 Share, Repair, Reduce,  
Reuse

 Food, Land and Water

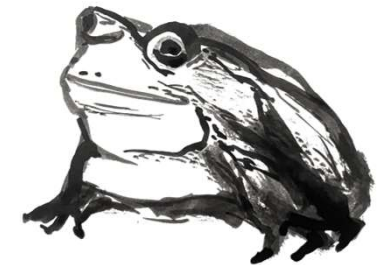
 Education & Engagement

## Secondary


 Energy & Buildings

 Business, Goods and Services

 Declarations & Actions plans



## In development

 Wellbeing


 Travel & Transport

# How We Work



 We focus on skills sharing and project management

 We work with local groups to get projects implemented

 Lots of the people we work with are at the start or end of their careers

**Brainstorm**

**Scope**


**Pilot**

**Scale**

# Plan for 2023–24

## SHDC Grant £40k




 Develop website, comms & social media

 Monthly Changemakers meetings

 Field trips + events

 Follow up on Rivers

 Trial Mentoring support

 Create one new assembly

# Plan for 2023–24



## Website and Comms

### Results so far:

✓ Rebuilt website and updated parishes

✓ Special Interest Groups

✓ Weekly Blog

✓ Monthly newsletters

### Next steps:


Social media strategy



# Website

Visit site





**Home**

**My Area**

Inspiration

Groups

Projects

Support

Topics

About us

Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube icons

**Log In** **Register**


## What's happening near you?

See if your area has declared a climate and nature emergency and if there is a plan that helps to address this.

Understand your area's carbon footprint, discover local climate and nature groups and find out what your community is up to.

[Click map to explore](#)

Missing or incorrect information?  
[Update your area](#)



Climate and nature activity: ● High ● Medium ● Low

The map displays various areas across South Hams, color-coded by activity level. High activity (dark green) includes areas like Staverton, Harberton, and Slapton. Medium activity (light green) includes areas like Plymouth, Sparkwell, and Modbury. Low activity (orange) includes areas like Marldon, Stoke Gabriel, and Dartmouth. Other areas shown include Bickleigh, Cornwood, Ivybridge, and many others.



# Where we've made the most difference



+ Specific support from SusSH

# Plan for 2023–24



## Social Media Strategy

### **Key messages:**

Inspire, connect, support

### **Target Audience:**

Existing change-makers, lonely voices, younger people, people who want to make a difference but don't know where to start

### **Tactics:**

Celebrate success, lead by example, mentor showcase, sustainability top tips, What If...



# Plan for 2023–24



## Changers

Results so far:

- ✓ 3 Share, Repair, Reduce Reuse (1 brainstorming + 2 scoping on compost)
- ✓ Rivers
- ✓ Education Assembly (1 brainstorming + 2 scoping)
- ✓ Thermal Imaging Cameras
- ✓ SHDC Strategy consultation
- ✓ Christmas - Sharing Success
- ✓ Adaptation

**Next steps:**

- Resilience and Adaptation - scoping
- What Next?



# Plan for 2023–24



## ⌘ Changers- numbers

Date	Topic	People	Groups/ organisations
Apr	Follow up from Rivers	10	9
May	Brainstorming - Share Repair, Reduce Reuse	15	11
Jun	Scaling up Composting	17	13
Jul	Starting/ Developing Your Group	21	18
Sep	Back to school - initial consultation for Education Assembly	10	9
Oct	SHDC Climate and Nature Strategy feedback session	30	29
Nov	Community composting - scoping	9	7
Dec	Celebrating Success	18	13
Jan	Thermal Imaging Camera - Lending processes	27	12
Feb	BLC adaptation scoping	40	30

# Plan for 2023–24

## Field trips and events

✓ Community Fridge Tour (7/6)

✓ Field Trip - Yealm Estuary to Moor (13/12)

✓ Workshop: Starting or developing community Group (21/18)

✓ Education Assembly consultation events (8/5)

### Next steps:

Education Assembly

What Next ? Nature mentor?

Numbers in brackets = attendees/ groups



# Current Plan for 2023–24



## Field trips and events - Outcomes

✓ IvyFridge now open

✓ > 25 volunteers signed up as CSI samplers

✓ Collaboration with CAG Devon and DCC in progress

✓ Education Assembly scoped and collaborators identified and engaged

✓ Compost pilots scoped and sites identified

? Not sure what other projects we have influenced or how

# Plan for 2023–24



## Follow up on Rivers

### Results so far:

✓ Field Trip YEM Project

✓ South Devon River Champions formed

✓ > 25 new CSI

✓ Avon River Champions formed

✓ Sewage Scrutiny Group - Ivybridge upgrade

✓ WATER Group formed for Erme

✓ Friends of Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary

### Next steps:

Involvement with Education Assembly

No other action planned - yet



# Plan for 2023–24



## Mentoring Support Brainstorm Scope Pilot Scale



Mike Hodges  
Renewable Energy



Martin Fodder  
Sewage Scrutiny



Stuart Saunders  
Composting



Dan Parnell  
Thermal Imaging



Rosa Hannaford  
Education and  
Engagement



Ben Bryant  
Composting

### Next steps:

Formalised mentor pilot

Social Media Campaign

Recruit Rainwater and Nature  
mentors



# Plan for 2023–24

## Mentoring Support



Mike Hodges  
Renewable Energy

- Developed links with National Grid
- Developed tools for identifying site grid connectivity
- Kingwear PC - siting new community renewables
- Ermington - potential solar array on Church
- Malborough - potential solar array and EV charging points
- Ugborough PC and GUP - potential renewable sites

Kingswear - twice  
Slapton  
Halwell/Moorleigh  
Holne

# Plan for 2023–24



## Mentoring Support



Sune Nightingale  
Parish Councils and Energy

- Visited parish councils to share knowledge around climate and nature action including Holne, Kingswear, Slapton and Halwell/Moorleigh
- Helped liaison between local groups and these parish councils especially around funding
- Advised on local production of Gardening for Wildlife Booklet (distributed to approx 10000 homes across South Hams)
- Supported Energy Efficiency in 4 churches and E bike trial in Dartmouth

# Plan for 2023–24



## Mentoring Support



Ben Bryant  
Compost Mentor

- Developed compost project to pilot stage by trialling multiple events
- Networked with existing and potential composting groups
- Built relationship with SHDC: advised on community composting needs
- Established relationships with national composting innovators
- Supported establishment of Marldon composting
- Radio Devon Toby Buckland Show
- Championed needs of existing sites such as South Brent and Ashprington

# Plan for 2023–24



## Mentoring Support



Dan Parnell  
Thermal Imaging Mentor

- Developed process for training and loaning cameras for South Brent
- Run changemaker event in January '24 (attended by 26 people)
- Trained a further 7 groups on how to use and interpret thermal images
- Build a network of interested people and organisations (inc Cumbrian Sustainability Group)
- Career opportunities have opened for Dan and have led to a part time job

# Plan for 2023–24



## Mentoring Support



Rosa Hannaford  
Education and Engagement

- Brings postgrad learnings in climate adaptation and behaviour change into our skillset
- Working with SusSH gives Rosa practical hands on application of academic learning.
- Presently working on Education Assembly
- Networking widely with organisations such as Network Environmental Educators, Let's Go Zero, Devon Wildlife Trust

# Plan for 2023–24 Education Assembly



## **Purpose**

To connect, support and inspire community groups and education services to collaborate for climate and nature

## **Deliverables**

180 group, community and project leaders sharing ideas, case studies and best practices.  
Inspiring and informative speakers  
Spotlight sessions

## **When**

20th April Kingsbridge Community College, 9.30-3.00 pm

## **Who**

Community Groups, Parish councillors, educators, youth services, young changemakers




# Plan for 2023–24

## SHDC Grant £40k




✓  Develop website and comms

✓  Monthly Changemakers meetings

✓  Field trips + events

✓  Follow up on Rivers

✓  Trial Mentoring support

=  Create one new assembly

# Bonus Projects (from Jun'23)



Projects we did not have funding for but that we wanted to do

## Launch Pilots

Composting package

Scope rainwater harvesting

Scope retrofit programme

## More Assemblies

Education

Food and land

Retrofitting and energy saving

Scope Parish and Town council support package

Improve project templates



# Bonus Projects - Progress



## Launch Pilots

✓ Composting package

Rainwater harvesting project

✓ Retrofit programme

## More Assemblies

✓ Education

✓ Food and land

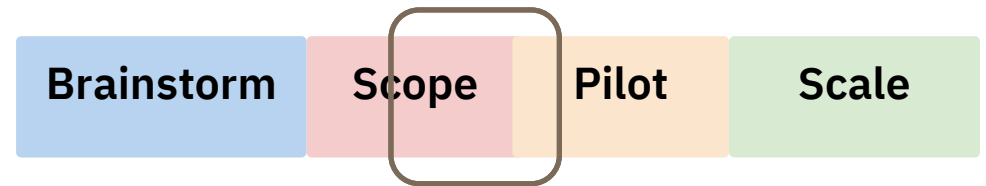
Retrofitting and Energy Saving

Parish and Town councillor support package

Improve project templates

# Bonus Projects

## Compost Pilots



### Current status

Delivery team recruited and 4 pilots starting:

#### **Community composting support**

Marldon up and running

Compost masterclass training April '24

#### **Brown Bin Conversion** - research commenced.

Train the trainer event planned May and June

#### **Home composting**

Demo site commenced at South Brent

Roadshow - Materials in development pending report

#### **Street level composting** - research commenced

### Funding

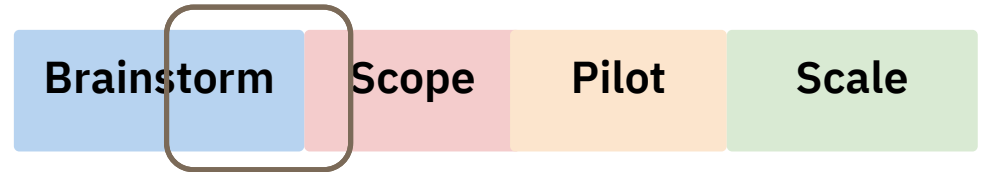
£3k scoping from £40k grant

Extra £21.2k from SHDC 04/24



# Bonus Projects

## Retrofitting and Energy Saving



### Current status

Scoping team recruited

Working with Kingsbridge District Groups

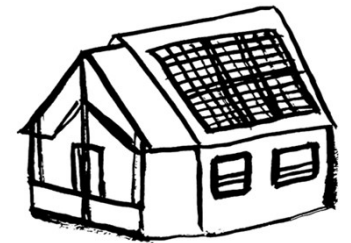
5 initial household surveys conducted

Different engagement methods trialled  
(Posters, Letterbox fliers, WOM)

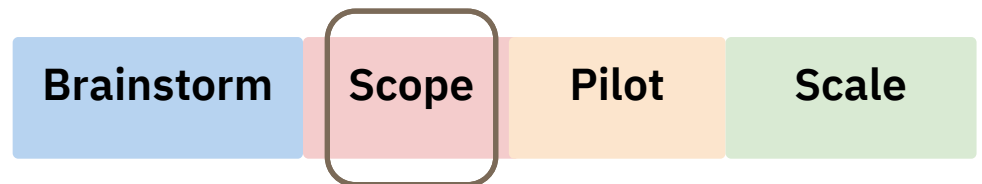
### Funding

£2k scoping from £40k grant

Extra funding for pilots tbc



# Bonus Projects - Food and Land Keep It Local Symposium



## **Purpose** To understand:

What stops producers growing and selling more locally ?

What can SHDC do to help?

## **Deliverables**

[View mind map](#)

[View report](#)

- Clear building blocks for a strategy
- Network of engaged contacts wanting to help

## **Funding**

Extra £4.8k from SHDC  
Pilot funding tbc

## **When**

10th November 2023 Follaton House

## **Who**

[40 food producers, distributors, software specialists and marketeers](#)

# Summary of Deliverables



Budget £40k + £4.8k Keep It Local

## Plan Projects 2023–24

## Bonus Projects



Develop website  
and comms



Follow up on Rivers

✓ Composting Scoping



Monthly  
Changemakers  
meetings



Trial Mentoring  
support

✓ Retrofitting Scoping



Field trips +  
events



Create one new  
assembly

✓ Keep It Local  
Symposium

# Learning and Challenges



**Fluid human resources:** high turnover which has meant spending and delivery lumpy

**Scoping work:** resource scoping work and test practicalities in order to specify pilots.

**Measuring impact:** we sow seeds but don't know if they germinate

**Financial year end:** break timing challenging



# The Bigger Picture 2024-25 plans



## DCIOS Adaptation Strategy

River and surface water flooding

Sea level rise with coastal flooding + erosion

Temperature change with both extreme heat and cold

Reduced summer water availability

Compounded impacts

## SHDC Corporate Strategy

(For Climate and Nature)

Reduce carbon emissions 12% pa

Increase biodiversity 5.5% pa

Form adaptation plan to mitigate climate change

Become an exemplar region

# 2024 - '25 Projects - ideas being discussed



## Business as Usual



Website and comms



Changemakers meetings



Field trips + events

## To complete



Composting pilots



Education - follow up

## To Start

Scope councillor support package

Adaptation Assembly

Rainwater harvesting pilots

Energy efficiency and retrofit pilots

Keep It Local pilots

Improve project case studies

## To Scale

Composting projects





Sustainable  
South Hams

# Thank you!

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# Councillor Support Pack 2024-25



**Why:** Help Councillors identify as being changemakers and enablers of climate and nature action

**Who:** District, Town and Parish Councillors

**Collaborating with:** Bioregional Learning Centre, DCT,

**What:** Inspire, connect and support action for Climate, Nature and Adaptation

**How:**



Context	Objective	Tools - examples
Support Learning	<i>Establish a baseline level of confidence</i>	Carbon Literacy, <a href="#">Learning Journeys</a> , Bioblitz training, Climate Fresk, Impact tools, Videos
Connect Communities	<i>Support councillors to collaborate and engage with their communities</i>	<a href="#">Travelling exhibition</a> , Community challenges, Videos, Social media and newsletter articles for PC's
Inspire Action	<i>To tell the story of positive action on climate and nature across the South Hams</i>	Videos, social media and SusSH blogs Changemaker events, Project showcasing
Operational Tools	<i>Embed climate and nature action within the culture of the councillor brief</i>	Standing agenda item, named contact, templated declarations, support to create plans