

Diocesan Environment Group Newsletter

June 2022

Over the past few months we have been growing our list of eco reps, allowing our group to communicate better with the charges across our diocese. If you haven't yet managed to appoint an eco rep, we encourage you to do this, or to ask a neighbouring church whether their rep could cover your church too. Many of you have been busy filling in the Energy Footprint Analyser and thank you to all who have submitted this to the Provincial Environment Group – this data will be so useful as they seek to guide us on the journey towards net zero.

The Big Walk to Net Zero event was such an exciting day to be a part of. Groups walked in pilgrimage to the cathedral from various start points around the city, after which we shared lunch, worshipped together and found out more about net zero. The cathedral used the occasion to make a formal declaration of the climate and nature emergency, pledging themselves to the commitment of caring for God's creation. We heard from Ruth Valerio and Ben Murray as they spoke on the topics of the What and Why of Net Zero. If you missed their inspiring talks, you can listen back to them [here](#). During a time of discussion three areas of interest were highlighted, 'encouragement and hope', 'buildings' and 'getting started'.

Click [here](#) to see the outcomes of the Big Walk discussion groups.

We would like to encourage all churches to think small and big:

1. Start with small easy changes
2. Plan strategically to grow church as part of the wider community

Making small changes can help kick-start movement in the right direction, growing hope and further action. So be encouraged to make a start, no matter how small. Thinking big is also vital as we consider the future of our churches and communities. If our buildings are to be sustainable in the future, we must grasp any opportunities we can to partner with our wider communities and open up the spaces we have to serve and be served by local groups.

Please do engage with the [Environment](#) page on the diocesan website and use the [Diocesan Online Support Forum](#) for any questions or suggestions.