

Building a climate-ready Cotswolds

The climate is changing – are you?



CLIMATE CHANGE ADVICE & SUPPORT

The Cotswolds Conservation Board actively supports the development of cost effective practical measures which improve the resilience of businesses and communities.

Since January 2012, the programme has achieved:

- **20** mitigation projects saving over **500 tonnes of CO₂** equivalent to date.
- **11** solar PV installations (total of **803KW** capacity).
- **2** solar thermal installations (total **20KW** capacity).
- **6** biomass installations (total of **590KW** capacity).
- **1** ground source heat pump (total of **9KW** capacity).
- **13** whole farm carbon footprint audits. *A useful tool to establish a baseline for business improvement.*

Over 70 adaptation schemes have also been delivered including:

- 40 improved farm resilience plans.
- 30 resource management actions such as energy efficiency and rainwater harvesting.



www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/climatechange

PROJECT CASE STUDIES

Overbury Estate – Farm Innovation

Climate change trends suggest that we will experience hotter, drier summers and warmer, wetter winters, plus more frequent severe weather



events. This is an important issue for the Cotswolds AONB as agriculture is the dominant land use.

Overbury farms are trialling the use of a precision bio-drill enabling the combined drilling of new and novel crop varieties and cover crops in just one pass over the ground. With funding from the Cotswolds Conservation Board they are reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing their farm resilience.



Funding awarded = **£5,900**



Total project value = **£10,000**



Projected carbon saving = **5+ tonnes per year**



Project annual savings = **£2,000**

Witcombe and Bentham Village Hall – Energy Efficiency

This is a key energy efficiency exemplar project within the Cotswolds AONB, focussed on structural improvements to the fabric of a community hall including upgraded floor and roof insulation, low flush toilets and other water saving devices.

The hall has been completely refurbished to comply with current user needs and the latest building regulation requirements. A small grant from the Cotswolds Conservation Board has enabled the village hall committee to enhance the fabric

insulation, and energy efficiency components of the premises including new thermal glazing, low voltage lighting controls and circuits plus water saving toilets.



Funding awarded = **£7,000**



Total project value = **£200,000**



Projected carbon saving = **8+ tonnes per year**



Project annual savings = **£2,500**

Cotswold Council for Voluntary Service, Cirencester – Rainwater Harvesting

A 'Technik' rainwater harvesting system has been installed within a small business unit at the College Farm buildings in Cirencester. The water will be used to wash the CCVS community mini-buses on a regular basis.

Jane Winstanley Chief Executive said: 'we now have the capacity to collect up to 4,000 litres of rainwater to wash up to 15 vehicles each week, which will reduce our fleet mileage by 5,850 miles representing a total saving of at least 4 tonnes of

carbon per year. The system will effectively pay for itself within 12 months as there is an annual saving of £100 off the water bill, and a significant financial saving of £3,510 per year as our buses will not now need to use commercial washing facilities'.



Funding awarded = **£2,000**



Total project value = **£3,500**



Projected carbon saving = **4+ tonnes per year**



Project annual savings = **£3,500**



Greystones Farm, Bourton-on-the-Water – Solar PV

This is the site of an important nature reserve owned and managed by the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust within the popular village of Bourton-on-the-Water.

The farm plans to become more productive and self-sufficient in its need for energy and resources, and has

installed a 15KW solar PV array to its existing farm buildings providing electricity for the offices and dairy unit. This will save the business up to 40% off its annual electricity bill, and with feed-in-tariff and grid electricity bill savings, will pay for itself within 6 years.



Funding awarded = **£10,000**



Total project value = **£18,000**



Projected carbon saving = **8+ tonnes per year**



Project annual savings = **£3,000**

Dowdeswell Forestry – Business Advice and Bid Writing

The wood-fuel market is creating a variety of new business opportunities within the Cotswolds AONB, helping drive the transition towards a low carbon economy. The Cotswolds Conservation Board's Climate Change Adviser helped develop a business case for a European Rural Development Grant of £15,000 towards the purchase of energy efficient forestry equipment including chipping and kindling machinery.

Business Director Liz Huggett said "I would never have applied for the RDPE grant from Defra had it not been for the expertise and project management

support received from the Cotswolds Conservation Board. The Adviser gave us the confidence to apply for this European funding by clearly setting out the eligibility requirements and funding priorities, and has continued to assist the business with our evaluation paperwork. This support has transformed our business and created 2 new jobs".



Funding awarded = **£15,000**



Total project value = **£35,000**



Projected carbon saving = **3+ tonnes per year**



Project annual savings = **£3,000**

Kiln Bank Farm, Stow-on-the-Wold – Farm Resilience Planning

Kiln Bank Farm is a small 12 acre agricultural holding with 1 acre of woodland, 50 sheep, and a 2,400 egg-laying poultry enterprise. The business recently needed to address a major soil water run-off issue which had an adverse impact on the overall operation and productivity of the farm.

The climate change adaptation demonstration

project has enabled the farm and other land based businesses, communities and visitors in the Cotswolds AONB to better understand what practical land drainage and tree planting measures they can take to become much more sustainable and resilient through planned improvements in farm infrastructure and the installation of a 4KW Solar PV System.



Funding awarded = **£3,800**



Total project value = **£5,500**



Projected carbon saving = **6+ tonnes per year**



Project annual savings = **£5,000**



For further details contact:



Cotswolds Conservation Board
The Old Prison
Fosse Way
Northleach
Gloucestershire GL54 3JH

T: 01451 862000

E: info@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Supported by

nationalgrid

www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/climatechange