

A toolkit for city regions and local authorities:

Chapter 6: Useful resources



Climate action co-benefits
Cutting carbon and improving people's lives

Guide to this toolkit

This toolkit is primarily intended for use by local authority officers when briefing elected members, mayors and senior managers. Each of the co-benefits sections includes facts and figures, links to data for local areas, the business case for taking action, opportunities for action and inspirational examples of successful initiatives from around the country. Case studies are shown in boxes with Ashden Award winning organisations indicated via the Ashden logo.



These can be used as the building blocks for making the case for action in your area; the intention is that users can pick and choose the messages and examples that will resonate in their areas.

The following links take you to different sections of the toolkit, or you can click [here](#) to download the whole document.

The links to films in this toolkit are designed to bring to life some of the challenges that people in towns and cities face. The aim is to facilitate conversations around the co-benefits of climate action, ‘multi solving’ climate and social issues.

1 Introduction

2 Health and wellbeing

3 Economic opportunity and job creation

4 Resilience

5 Equity and social cohesion

6 Useful resources

7 Videos

Click on button to link to PDF

Acknowledgements

This toolkit has been produced with support from CAG Consultants (Denny Gray) and with input from Dr Neil Jennings, Sarah Woods, Paul Bourgeois, Leanne Wilson, Jane Wildblood and Simon Slater. We would like to thank all of the Ashden winners who have allowed us to feature their work in the toolkit.

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Ashden’s work on co-benefits

Ashden is working with UK cities to help them realise their sustainability ambitions. Our vision is of healthy, liveable cities where people want to live and work. Through our Liveable Cities programme, we created the Sustainable City Region Network – to help sustainability leaders to realise this vision and tackle common challenges. Realising the wider benefits of climate change such as better homes, more money in local economies, clean air, healthier travel options, and new employment opportunities is essential to connect climate policy to the needs of all citizens, demonstrating that action to combat climate change can improve lives, not diminish them. We are working with city regions to develop policy that delivers these wider benefits, securing a Just Transition. Find out more about our work: <https://www.ashden.org/programmes/liveable-cities-programme>

Climate action co-benefits – useful resources

Resource	Link
Ashden resources	
Co-benefits videos	
Detailed case studies on all the Ashden Awards winners	https://www.ashden.org/winners/awards-winners
Ashden news	https://www.ashden.org/news-and-events/news-and-opinion
The LESS CO ₂ sustainable schools programme is a free energy efficiency programme available to any UK school. Through a series of half day workshops spread through the year, peer mentoring, expert advice and resources, staff are empowered and equipped to make changes and improvements to their school to reduce their energy usage, save money on bills and lower their CO ₂ -emissions.	http://www.lessco2.org.uk/ 
Fit for the Future is an environmental sustainability network with over 100 charities, heritage organisations, cultural venues, public sector organisations and more in its membership. By collaborating and sharing knowledge, our members are becoming climate-friendly, adaptive and resilient.	www.fftf.org.uk 
Health and housing	
Citizens Advice and Cornwall Council have produced a Local Authority Toolkit: Supporting Fuel Poor and Vulnerable Households, for local authorities, health and third sector partners to work together to reduce fuel poverty in their localities through energy efficiency initiatives.	https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/Global/CitizensAdvice/Local%20authority%20cold%20homes%20toolkit.pdf 
HACT have developed a social value toolset to help housing providers, their suppliers and partners understand and implement social value measurement and to use social value as a tool to inform decisions.	https://www.hact.org.uk/hact-value 
HACT have also produced a tool to calculate the social value and mental health impact of energy efficiency work.	https://www.hact.org.uk/mental-health-social-value-calculator 
NICE published guidance on how to reduce the risk of death and ill health associated with living in a cold home; see Chapter 9 for the evidence base Guideline NG6 Excess winter deaths and illness and the health risks associated with cold homes.	https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng6/chapter/9-The-evidence 

Resource	Link
Health, travel and air quality	
<p>The World Health Organisation has produced the Health and economic assessment tool (HEAT) for cycling and walking which is designed to enable users without expertise in impact assessment to conduct economic assessments of the health impacts of walking or cycling.</p>	<p>http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/environment-and-health/Transport-and-health/activities/guidance-and-tools/health-economic-assessment-tool-heat-for-cycling-and-walking</p> 
<p>Quantifying health costs of air pollution: Tool developed by Dr Daniela Fecht with Imperial Business School and Public Health England:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows local authorities to quantify the potential costs to the NHS and social care due to the health impacts of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and particulate matter (PM_{2.5}). • Costs include primary care, secondary care, medication use, social care, and the combination of all the above costs. • Provides the ability to test different general 'what if' scenarios for the reduction of air pollution. • Can be used to estimate the health cost savings of low carbon transport projects. 	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/air-pollution-a-tool-to-estimate-healthcare-costs</p>  
<p>Essential evidence on transport and health brings together a range of evidence on the health impacts of different transport interventions. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing the potential for carbon emissions savings from replacing short car trips with walking and cycling. • Can environmental improvement change the population distribution of walking. • Sustainable Travel Towns: An evaluation of the longer term impacts. 	<p>https://travelwest.info/essentialevidence</p> 

Resource	Link
Health and sustainable development	
<p>The Sustainable Development Unit (SDU) supports the NHS, public health and social care to embed and promote the three elements of sustainable development. It is committed to helping local authorities and their Health and Well-Being Boards (HWBs) to help embed the principles and benefits of sustainable development within local cross system approaches to health and well-being. The Health and Well-being Toolkit focuses on embedding sustainable development approaches into local public health action and engaging Health and Wellbeing Boards in sustainability, resilience and climate change.</p>	<p>https://www.sduhealth.org.uk/areas-of-focus/community-resilience/health-and-wellbeing-board-toolkit.aspx</p> 
<p>The Sustainable Development Unit (see above) has produced a range of guidance on supporting healthy, sustainable and resilient communities.</p>	<p>https://www.sduhealth.org.uk/areas-of-focus/community-resilience.aspx</p> 
Social value	
<p>The Social Value Hub is a free resource hosted by Social Enterprise UK, partnered with NCVO, National Housing Federation, NHS Confederation, and NAVCA. It is designed for anyone who wants to understand more about social value, and especially about the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, which requires public bodies to consider how the services they commission and procure might improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the area.</p>	<p>http://www.socialvaluehub.org.uk/</p> 
Green space	
<p>Public Health England produced a health equity briefing (2014) on Local action on health inequalities: improving access to green spaces.</p>	<p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/355792/Briefing8_Green_spaces_health_inequalities.pdf</p> 

Resource	Link
Local energy	
<p>Local Partnerships and Cornwall Energy (2016) have published guide to local energy for local authorities: Local Energy Options – A Guidance Document for Local Government</p>	<p>http://localpartnerships.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Local-Energy-options-guide-web-version-1.pdf</p> 
Planning for climate change	
<p>TCPI and RTPI have published (2018) Planning for Climate Change A Guide for Local Authorities</p>	<p>https://www.rtpi.org.uk/media/2852781/TCPA%20RTPI%20planning%20for%20climate%20change%20guide_final.pdf</p> 
Vulnerability to climate change and fuel poverty	
<p>Climate Just is a free webtool for public service providers designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify who is vulnerable to climate change and fuel poverty and why • Highlight neighbourhoods where climate disadvantage is highest • Explain the factors involved and help you decide what actions to take 	<p>https://www.climatejust.org.uk/</p> 