

TFN IMPACT REPORT



Name of your Organisation:	Climate Emergency UK
Name of the project TFN funded:	Council Climate Action Scorecards
Date Funded by TFN:	08/12/22
Were you able to undertake your project as planned?	Yes
If no, please outline how the project has changed.	
Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?	<p>With the help of TFN funding and other sources Climate Emergency UK has been able to successfully create and publish the Council Climate Action Scorecards on 18th October 2023. We have also been able to increase our staff team of 3 to include one further part-time staff member to run the Local Climate Academy, our first ever detailed Scorecards training for residents, councillors and council staff. The publication of the Scorecards has been a real success and we have been able to empower councils and residents to use the Scorecards for further climate action. 99% of participants who took part in our Local Climate Policy Programme in Spring 2023 as part of the Action Scorecards creation said they felt more confident talking to their local council about climate action after the Programme. And since launching, we had 41,814 website views in the first week of launching and over 220 media hits (including The Financial Times, LGCplus (https://www.lgcplus.com/services/environment/first-climate-action-scorecards-report-widespread-underperformance-18-10-2023/), on Radio and ITV Northern Ireland (second item:https://www.itv.com/news/utv/2023-10-18/watch-wednesdays-headlines-in-northern-ireland). We have run over 10 workshops with residents, in-person and online, to support residents to learn about the Scorecards and how they can use them in campaigning. As part of this, we ran a workshop with Friends of the Earth and three of our online open sessions on 'How to use the Scorecards' with between 10 and 30 attendees on each call. Residents are using the Scorecards to ask questions to councillors and hold their councils to account. South East Climate Alliance published a detailed blog (https://seclimatealliance.uk/ceuk-council-climate-action-scorecards-go-live/) highlighting the Scorecards story in the South East, and said about the Scorecards "It is telling that we have to rely on a tiny non-profit organisation with a small team and very limited resources to monitor climate progress, rather than a national reporting framework. But CEUK deserves great credit for pulling all this together. ...all parties should be able to use the scorecard results and learn from them. It's the best information we have and time is not on our side!"</p> <p>Among councils, 74% of all UK councils responded to the second stage of the marking process, the Right of Reply in Spring 2023, which shows high engagement and interest from councils in their scorecard and how they can improve. Since the Scorecards launch in October 2023, a further 20+ councils have published their own press releases on the Scorecards, explaining how they find the Scorecards a useful tool. For example, Colchester City Council said, "We welcome the review of our climate action from Climate Emergency UK. It is useful for us to be</p>

	<p>scrutinised to determine how we are performing on this important work” (https://www.colchester.gov.uk/info/cbc-article/?catid=latest-news&id=KA-04504) and Councillor Andy Mackiewicz, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Climate Change & Planning at Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, said: “I’m grateful to Climate Emergency UK for undertaking this nationwide assessment of local authorities’ progress on tackling climate change and appreciate the sheer scale involved in such a task.” (https://www.solihull.gov.uk/news/solihull-councils-climate-action-assessed-nationwide-review)</p> <p>Nationally we are proud to say that our Scorecards have been referenced in the Climate Change Committee Welsh Progress Report (page 101: https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Progress-Report-Reducing-emissions-in-Wales.pdf), the Mission Net Zero report (page 56: https://missionzerocoalition.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/PPP-Mission-Zero-Network-Report_923-Web.pdf) by Chris Skidmore MP and our data on combined authorities and Green Skills was used in the Green Jobs Foundation State of the Nation report, published 2nd November 2023, (page 9: https://greenjobsfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Green-Jobs-Foundation-State-of-the-Nation-UK-2023-Report.pdf). This shows the impact of the Scorecards on the discussions of how best to support local authorities on the road to net zero.</p> <p>TFN funding specifically helped with the following aspects of the Council Climate Action Scorecards: TFN funding ensured that as a remote staff team we were able to meet in-person 4 times this year, including on launch day, by covering the travel and accommodation costs for this. This has built a stronger staff team and contributed to the creation of our first 3 year organisational strategy. TFN funding has part-funded our lead outreach role on the Scorecards, who was able to successfully recruit 215 volunteers to be trained to complete the first mark of the Scorecards and a team of over 50 volunteers for the third stage of the marking process, the audit. With the help of TFN connections and promotion, we were able to secure additional funds this year to employ 4 auditors on short-term contracts in order to complete the audit within the time scheduled and not delay the Scorecards launch. TFN funding also enabled our organisation to become more financially sustainable. We have been able to increase our reserves in-line with our growing staff budgets, providing further financial stability for us.</p> <p>Finally, a word for our partners, mySociety (https://www.mysociety.org/category/climate/), on the Action Scorecards: “We hope that the Council Climate Action Scorecards will help councils and other key actors such as central government to see where they could be doing more, and to knowledge-share with others. More than that, we hope that campaigners, researchers, journalists – and individuals who want to understand how their councils are doing on climate – will dig into the data and learn more about both the local and nationwide pictures. At mySociety, our Climate team’s focus is set by the fact that around a third of all emissions are estimated to be within the power of local authorities. That’s why we have gladly put time and resource into supporting CE UK’s fantastic work.”</p>
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What portion of the project did TFN fund?	10%
How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	700 - 291 staff members who responded from UK councils to the Right of Reply gaining a better understanding of the actions available to councils for climate action. 215 volunteers skilled up on how their council works and the actions they can take towards net zero through being Scorecard assessors with us. 45 attendees of the Local Climate Academy, skilled up in detail on how councils work, what the Scorecards show for their council and how they can start implementing climate action with their council. 125 attendees at How to Use The Scorecards sessions, in person and online with both tailored sessions for local groups and open training sessions.
How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	Over 4,000 people from UK councils, local climate action groups, local government and environmental national organisations and the general public who will have read and learnt about our Scorecards from our press work
Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?	Yes
If yes, how much were you able to raise?	at least £3,000 from one donor who we met at the TFN event
Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?	Yes
If yes, please can you provide details of the support you received?	offer of meeting room space in London and phonecalls for advice
How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?	We would have found it difficult to achieve our objectives without TFN funding
Has the training you received from TFN better prepared you in pitching your organisation to potential funders?	Yes
Has TFN increased your capacity to raise further funds?	Yes
Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?	<p>The testimonies from councils and campaigners above exemplify the value of the Scorecards from our key audiences.</p> <p>We held an in-person event on 18th October to coincide with the launch of the Scorecards. It was so lovely to meet some of our volunteers in person, volunteers that have marked 100s of councils on their climate action that previously we had only met on Zoom and communicated via SLACK. Furthermore, we know of at least 3 volunteers who have since secured jobs working for local authorities on delivering their climate action as a result of the training and experience they gained</p>

	<p>with us as Scorecard assessors.</p> <p>Since launching, we hear from residents about how much they have learnt from the Scorecards and how they are using the Scorecards in conversations with councils to hold them to account. Within councils, it has been exciting to meet councillors and council staff at events or at our training events who are saying back to us ‘These scorecards are a useful tool for us to understand where we can improve and which councils we can learn from’. This was one of the main goals of our work, and it is great to hear councils using the Scorecards as desired.</p> <p>Finally, we were really pleased to have been on page two of the Financial Times in September with a story about energy efficiency of council homes, and it was a joy also to hear our Scorecards as a news bulletin on Greatest Hits Radio London on launch day. Both of these media hits are essential in spreading the word about what councils are able to do for climate action and referring people to our Action Scorecards.</p>
<p>Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?</p>	<p>We have now written our first organisational 3 year strategy and have started to implement this. We are pleased to say we have secured a new multi-year grant.</p>
<p>Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?</p>	<p>Thank you for this opportunity. We have really enjoyed working with TFN and found the application and reporting processes really accessible and inclusive. We would love to come again to TFN or be introduced to other opportunities.</p> <p>Here are some links to videos which relate to the project: Podcast</p> <p>recording of a How to use the Scorecards session - the passcode for this is: 8#N\$?8KS</p> <p>Local Climate Academy Full Course Sessions - Please do use them for your own purposes and please don't share them more widely or publicly -</p>