

How well are Local Authorities and communities taking action on climate change working together?

Scottish Communities Climate Action Network (Scottish Communities CAN) is seeking a fixed price offer to provide a study of how well Local Authorities and communities taking action on climate change are working together. Details of the project are given below.

The project must be completed by the end of March 2013, including billing. Please indicate on your tender that this timetable is acceptable. The deadline for submitting a price is 12:00 on 5/12/12. The email address for tenders and questions is suzy@greenerkirkcaldy.org.uk.

The guide price for this work is: no more than £3,000, inclusive of expenses and VAT. Please provide a breakdown of costs and indicate if VAT will be applied.

Context - Scottish Communities CAN

Scottish Communities CAN is a network of community groups and associated organisations which aims to facilitate community action on climate change, create opportunities for partnership working and provide a shared vision and voice for communities taking action on climate change. Scottish Communities CAN's objectives are to

- Facilitate community groups into climate change action.
- Address barriers and challenges to the action on climate change.
- Providing a shared voice to communicate the shared vision to the wider world.
- Show good practice and innovation amongst community groups.

Scottish Communities CAN wishes to gain a better understanding of the relationships between Local Authorities and community climate change projects and to identify ways to improve relationships in the future.

For more information about Scottish Communities CAN see www.scottishcommunitiescan.org.uk.

Context - Local Authorities and communities taking action on climate change

Many communities groups, including those funded by the Climate Challenge Fund, have found that Local Authorities are a key partner in delivering local projects to influence the attitudes and behaviours which impact on climate change.

In 2010, the 'Framework for Community Action on Climate Change' initiated a piece of work with communities and those organisations working with communities, to look at what hampered them from taking action on climate change. The Framework identified 14 barriers to community action. One barrier highlighted the crucial nature of the relationship between community groups and Local Authorities. This barrier highlighted that a positive relationship can "open" the way to success, whilst a negative one can "block the way".

Details of the project

Scottish Communities CAN are now seeking to commission a study of how well Local Authorities and communities taking action on climate change are working together.

The aim of the project is to gain a better understanding of the relationships between Local Authorities and community climate change projects and to identify ways to improve relationships in the future. The key outputs required are:

- A set of 'case studies' show-casing successful community-Local Authority partnerships
- A review of the key factors which can lead to positive or negative relationships and partnerships
- Recommendations for making collaboration easier and more effective in the future, including a 'good practice' guide for community projects to help them engage constructively with Local Authority partners

The successful supplier will work closely with a small team from Scottish Communities CAN to carry out the study, and will also consult with other stakeholders.

Note: Scottish Communities CAN has already identified some possible case studies and has access to the results of an initial survey into how community groups work with Local Authorities, carried out by Sue Guy of Sustaining Dunbar.