

The tables below list our actions to care for creation. The first table focuses on activities, programmes and/or interventions that are complete or underway, the second table on what we are planning to do. Each action is presented alongside one of our four commitments (1. To get our own house in order; 2. To provide guidance, tools, and share best practice; 3. To work with others; 4. To measure and report on our progress) and meets at least one of the themes that guide our work, as detailed in Figure 1.

Table 1: Activities completed and/or underway to care for creation

Activities completed/underway	Timescale
Getting our own house in order	
Embedded environmental sustainability and regenerative practices into our capital programmes, with a specific appointment as part of the design team to champion care for creation and project specific targets.	Ongoing
Embedded care for creation in all diocesan employees' goals "To create an environmentally sustainable diocese, growing our knowledge and understanding of what it means to be responsible guardians, exercising good stewardship of resources and taking action to play our part".	2021
Calculated our carbon baseline and set a science-based target, making a commitment to zero carbon by 2038.	2038
Completed audits of parish buildings and developed a decarbonisation pathway to support our 2038 target and to help reduce our energy consumption.	2022
Completed 14 decarbonisation surveys for diocesan schools.	Ongoing
Completed travel surveys, surveying diocesan staff, parish administrators, and parishioners, and completed an attitudinal survey across parishioners and school students.	2022
Developed a framework for responsible investment.	2022
Introduced a vegan menu in the Cathedral Café and stopped serving meat on Fridays.	2022
Planted over 300 trees and one new edible mixed hedge on diocesan land.	2022
Detailed the interconnectedness between the environment and modern slavery by incorporating supply chain environment requirements and responsibilities into the suppliers' code of conduct.	2022
16 parishes completed a care for creation audit.	Ongoing
Convened a writing group to support the production of this document, "Hearing the Cry, Responding with Hope"	2022

Activities completed/underway	Timescale
Providing guidance, tools, and sharing best practice	
Developed the flagship Laudato Si' Centre delivering learning, wellbeing and spirituality programmes to school, youth and community groups.	Ongoing
Shared school projects and ideas for lessons with schools across the Diocese, including Laudato Si' art, nature poetry and photography competitions.	Ongoing
Developed and shared guidance for wildlife gardens and prayer gardens across schools and parishes.	Ongoing
Held an annual care for creation walk.	Ongoing
Delivered campaigns and supporting materials across the Season of Creation, Advent, Lent (including EnviroLent) and Laudato Si' week.	Ongoing
Delivered a programme of learning activities including learning how to conduct wildlife surveys and delivered training and courses to support biodiversity.	Ongoing
Delivered wellbeing activities in nature including a local community green social prescribing programme, refuge and asylum seeker gardening group and school groups. Also partnered with a local community interest company who delivered a focused approach to how environmental issues effect our wellbeing.	Ongoing
Held focus groups and webinars and engaged with stakeholders on care for creation.	2021
Embedded environmental action into Hope in The Future Stage 5	2022
Piloted a schools sustainability guide and delivered a Laudato Si' Champions programme to several secondary schools as part of the Guardians of Creation project.	2022
Assumed the role of Project sponsor and pilot diocese for the Guardians of Creation research project, sharing learning, cascading guidance, and presenting findings to support dioceses on their transition to carbon neutrality.	2023
Delivered women saints and spirituality workshops, with a focus on a connection to creation.	2023

Activities completed/underway	Timescale
Working with others	
Working with Salford CVS hosted the launch of the VOCAL Environment Forum	Ongoing
Supported and shared learning with the Environmental Leads across England and Wales.	Ongoing
Convened the Greater Manchester Interfaith Climate Group.	Ongoing
Joined the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Environment Forum and Local Authorities committees and groups, such as Salford City Councils Climate Action Board, bringing our voice to local government forums and environment related committees and organisations.	Ongoing
Supported the Northern Diocese Environment Group and other local, regional and national groups.	Ongoing
Linked with existing initiatives and guidance such as Journey to 2030.	Ongoing
Measuring and Reporting	
Convened an environment committee and supporting groups that report into this committee.	Ongoing
Identified a responsible trustee for care for creation work.	2019
Calculated our carbon baseline, in 2019 we were responsible for emitting ~24,000 tonnes of carbon (tCO ₂).	2021
Assumed the role of Project sponsor and pilot diocese for the Guardians of Creation research project.	2023

The above work will continue or be developed further

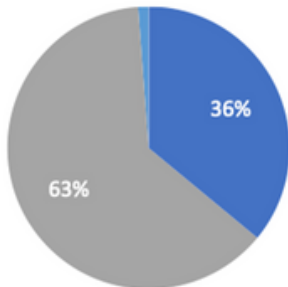
Case Studies

Calculating our carbon footprint

During 2021, we calculated our carbon baseline; 2019 was chosen as the baseline year, which is the most recent year prior to the COVID pandemic. Choosing data from 2020 or 2021 would not have represented normal operational hours and practices across our schools, parishes, and curial offices.

Energy consumption for parishes, schools and diocesan owned buildings was collected. Kilowatt hours were calculated for gas, electricity and oil before a carbon conversion factor was applied to calculate the carbon baseline.

- Electricity Emissions (kgCO₂)
- Gas Emissions (kgCO₂)
- Fuel Oil (kg CO₂)



#HearTheCry Campaign

Schools across the diocese joined in a powerful campaign - a creative, digital campaign that highlighted their hopes and fears for the future of our planet.

The campaign brought together schools across the diocese in creating posters to share on social media with the hashtag #heartheycry to send an important message to world leaders at COP27.



Bee Together Community Centre and Garden

The Parish of the Nativity, Failsworth, received recognition from the RHS North West in Bloom competition for its pioneering project to live out the teachings of Laudato Si'.



Everyone's talents and involvement are needed, Laudato Si' 14



Table 2: Activities committed to Care for Creation, 2023 - 2026

Table 2 lists our commitments 2023-2026. As this is a working document, other activities may be added

2023 - 2026 Activities committed to Care for Creation	Timescale
Getting our own house in order	
Present Care for Creation and environment related policies to Trustees for approval.	2023
Review energy consumption and set a target to reduce inefficiencies based on a 2019 baseline.	2023
Review the results of the 2022 travel survey and set targets to increase commuter, business and parishioner active travel and reduce single occupancy car travel, and reduce carbon emissions from business travel.	2023
Embed environmental sustainability and regenerative practices into routine maintenance and minor project works.	2023
Invite and encourage parishes and schools to become signatories to our Care for Creation Promise.	2023
Use Health and Safety visits and compliance checks across parishes to raise awareness and encourage renewable energy and energy efficient electrically powered equipment.	2023
Establish a Diocesan Youth Environmental Audit Network, where students from our primary and secondary schools will be trained to complete 'care for creation' audits of schools and parishes.	2023
Support a campaign and education programme to increase plant-based meals in our schools, parishes and parishioner homes, starting with asking all Catholics to observe a meat-free Friday.	2024
Map diocesan buildings and land to target areas for wildlife and provide guidance to parishes and schools to encourage pockets of ecological restoration across the diocese	2024
Calculate water consumption and an associated carbon baseline for water and develop interventions to reduce water use.	2024
Calculate the carbon intensity of our investment portfolio, recommending a reduction target.	2024
Develop a paper-lite approach and guidance for implementation across the diocese, parishes and schools.	2024

Table 2: Activities committed to Care for Creation, 2023 - 2026

2023 - 2026 Activities committed to Care for Creation	Timescale
Getting our own house in order	
Complete a waste audit and develop waste related targets for elimination, reusing and recycling, and develop interventions to reduce waste streams.	2024
Review items procured, focusing on the biggest spend categories and investigate ways to reduce carbon emissions and negative impacts to people and planet.	2024
Ensure our synodal journey embraces caring for our common home and caring for our brothers and sisters.	2025
Conduct research to find and implement practical measures to reduce carbon associated with our parish centre bars and facilities, specifically by modifying the processes to cool products at the same time as ensuring the thermal comfort of building users.	2025
Implement the recommendations of the 2022 energy audits.	2026
Reduce the ecological footprint of our pilgrimages.	2026
Develop a diocesan wide tree trail.	2026
Collect annual carbon data for energy use and business travel.	2026
Implement interventions to reduce waste streams and water consumption.	2026
Map the impacts of climate change across the diocese, developing recommendations for resilience.	2026
Install bird and bat boxes (BOB box) across the diocese, targeting at least one BOB box per school and parish and at least 5 swift boxes per deanery.	2026
Implement interventions to support active travel and reduce single occupancy car travel.	2026

2023 - 2026 Activities committed to Care for Creation

Timescale

Providing guidance, tools, and sharing best practice

Continue to support the Guardians of Creation Project, issuing guidance and sharing learning, including the 'Care for Creation Model', a whole-school approach to sustainability in Catholic education, and decarbonisation support for parishes.	2023
Provide a decarbonisation guide for parishes to support different technologies, building management and behaviour that will reduce carbon.	2023
Deliver Care for Creation training for School Governors.	2023
Deliver Carbon Literacy training to all Heads of Department.	2023
Working with our supply chain as we disseminate our Modern Slavery policy, which includes environmental commitments.	2023
Hold an annual Care for Creation service.	2023
Host an annual Care for Creation lecture.	2024
Organise an annual care for creation awards for schools and parishes	2024
Provide care for creation resources for use in adult formation and sacramental preparation programmes across the diocese.	2024
Establish youth and deanery care for creation forums to build on and bring together existing work where it exists and support new initiatives where it does not.	2024
Develop and deliver a wildlife programme for schools and parishes to establish in their own grounds.	2024
Provide resources to support ecological and climate education as part of school curricula.	2025
Investigate a diocesan carbon literacy training model for parishes and schools.	2026
Support our DiSAN community and school and parish groups with projects to care for creation.	2026
Support LiveSimply parishes and schools across the Diocese, aiming for at least 3 LiveSimply parishes and 5 LiveSimply schools per deanery.	2026
Support our DiSAN community and school and parish groups with projects to care for creation.	2026

2023 - 2026 Activities committed to Care for Creation

Timescale

Working with others

Investigate a framework to support community solar on buildings, alongside other faith groups.

2023

Establish a care for creation led/champion in each school and parish

2025

Support the Laudato Si' Movement by encouraging members of the diocese to complete the Laudato Si' Animator training and target 15 Laudato Si' Animators across the Diocese.

2025

Work with regional universities to ensure our work is science as well as faith based.

2026

Measuring and Reporting

Report our annual carbon emissions alongside our carbon pathway to 2038.

2026

Report annual progress on the activities detailed in this document.

2026

Further information and additional programmes and activities, including policies and targets will be provided on our website, which will be updated during 2023-2026.