

Community Climate Grants



Small Grant Fund Case Study

My Cowdenbeath CIC

What activity did you run?

We organised two public drop-in community mapping events in Cowdenbeath. These events were held in the Maxwell Community Centre on Wed 28th February and Sat 2nd March. These events were organised to help gather ideas, comments and feedback on proposals for our Local Place Plan using large A0-sized maps which we had created. Events were promoted through the Central Fife Times, our e-newsletter and on social media.

Six people attended the Wednesday evening event and nine people attended the Saturday afternoon event. We gathered more than 50 comments on the maps about areas and land people want to protect or improve.

We also received 20 emails on the subject from people who could not attend or had an interest in the Local Place Plan.

All of this local input has been pulled together to help us to produce our final Local Place Plan.

Who were your main audience?

Over 6,500 people were engaged in the posts and information about the Get Mapping events. This was through a mix of e-newsletter subscribers, social media posts and estimated reach for the Central Fife Times articles.

What did you learn?

The community feedback has been extremely useful for our Local Plan Plan. It identified areas of importance in and around Cowdenbeath that we will want to protect and areas where future developments might be considered in the future.

Comments and feedback on the impact of our town from nearby environmental polluters was also high on the key 'learns'. This included comments about the continuing impact of Mossmorran on air quality and land use around the south of the town.

There was also concern raised at the impact of the quarry processing plant on our roads, woodland, waterways and air quality. These factors, although not within the boundary of Cowdenbeath, evidence the strength of feeling about conditions just outside the town and which impact on residents here.

This information provides greater intelligence for our group as we look at developing the Local Place Plan and other environmental projects for Cowdenbeath and its

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people in the future.

Has your project increased your community's capacity to tackle the climate emergency?

It has certainly increased knowledge and awareness of some of the changes in our environment and has helped us to understand the depth of feeling on certain key issues in our town.

It has also developed the wider understanding of how local people can have a say in how their town is developed in the future, with lots of questions about the new Local Place Plan process and format and what it might mean for the future.

The project has supported our development as a group too. It improved our understanding of the support available on environmental projects and how other towns and localities are reacting to the climate emergency, so we can all do our bit to save the environment.

Find out more

Quotes from participants:

"Really great that you are doing this and it's so amazing to see all the ideas from local people about their area!"

"We should do this more often so people know they can keep having their say on the environment and the development of the community they live in."

<https://mycowdenbeath.scot/2024/>

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