

Bath needs a Climate Hub

Hi, my name is Natalie. I am a Trustee of the Bath & North East Somerset Climate Hub. We are a registered charity that wants to bring people together for the planet. Our aim is to regenerate the earth for future generations.

I am here today to explain why Bath needs a Climate Hub. What we are asking for is a physical space on Bath high street that would act as a community meeting place for people and organisations to discuss the environment and take action.

Here are the key reasons why a Climate Hub is essential.

1. We are in a climate crisis.

As you know B&NES declared a climate emergency. Fast forward four years and the need for change and action is even greater.

YOU are already a national leader in climate action So let's keep this momentum going! Your manifesto expressed your desire to:

“Support the creation of a vibrant Climate Emergency Centre”

We share this aim. We want to bring people together to create and increase awareness, educate and support positive actions.

Our Climate Hub will be an educational centre to provide people with information, guidance, signposting, support, and encouragement to help them change their behaviours. We will be a welcoming place that will answer questions from the community and provide inspiration as we look towards a low-carbon future.

We have nearly 3 years of experience running outreach hubs in Kingsmead Square, 15 New Bond Street and other locations and have evidence of our positive interactions over a range of climate topics with the public.

Not only will we be there for individuals, but we are also here to support organisations and businesses navigate the climate crisis. We already have working links with multiple organisations. We can give environmental groups a much-needed physical space.

2. Establish community places and connection

The second reason is that Bath needs to establish a community place where people can connect to adapt to the changes we face. We will make a welcoming and inclusive place centrally in the city.

The climate crisis brings up feelings of eco-anxiety in many people and a physical space would be a safe place to explore and work through those feelings. The Climate Hub would offer human connection, information and positive actions people could take.

An established long-term space creates more opportunities for more people and organisations to engage positively with the climate crisis.

3. High street regeneration.

And lastly “high street regeneration.”

Bath needs more community spaces. A thriving high street isn't all Corporations and Coffee shops. We need creativity and diversity to keep our high street vibrant. We need spaces that foster community, information sharing and behavioural change.

The Climate Hub will increase footfall and therefore revenue to the high street, creating interest in the centre of the city.

In summary, the Climate Hub will help regenerate the high street, establish a community place and directly tackle the climate crisis.

Please consider continuing your amazing efforts to tackle the climate crisis by supporting us with a physical space in Bath city centre. Thank you so much for your time.