

## **Community Climate & Nature Action Project Climate & Disability Programme: West of England commission - revised brief (Feb 2026)**

### **Commission overview**

Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership is seeking a Disabled People's Organisation (DPO) / Equalities organisation (who regularly works with Disabled people) operating in the wider West of England region, to deliver a Climate & Disability commission as part of the Community Climate & Nature Action Project (phase 3). The commission delivery will take place between May 2026 – June 2028 (2 year project) for a budget of £50,000.

### **Background to the Climate & Disability commission:**

For the last two years Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership has coordinated a [Climate and Disability programme](#) in collaboration with Climate & Disability Associate Emma Geen and a range of partners as part of the [Community Climate & Nature Action Project](#) (CCNA) funded by the National Lottery's Climate Action Fund.

The Climate & Disability programme built on earlier work by Bristol Disability Equality Forum (led by Emma Geen) in 2021/22 as part of phase 1 of the Community Climate Action Project to develop Bristol's first community climate action plans.

[Phase 3 of the Community Climate & Nature Action \(CCNA\)](#) project builds on the work delivered in Bristol from 2020-25 and will develop connections with communities from across the West of England (BANES, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire). Over the last 5 years the CCNA project has developed [a place-based model for inclusive community led climate and nature action](#) which also responds to inequality and aims to improve quality of life of local people.

### **Overview of Climate & Disability programme activity to date**

Over the last two years the Climate & Disability programme has delivered a diverse range of activity and resources including:

- Creation and hosting of a bimonthly Climate & Disability Forum

- A refresh of the community climate action plan for Bristol's community of Disabled people: [Refreshed CCA plan \(community summary version; plain english version; Easyread version; BSL version\)](#)
- A food and nature commission coordinated by Redcatch Community Garden [Redcatch Community Garden food and nature commission](#)
- Two creative commissions: [Ruth Nortey's Climate Justice podcasts](#) and Emma Geen's [forum theatre inspired film about bus travel](#)
- The development of an [Inclusive Transport Toolkit](#) and [Inclusive Transport Guide](#) by our Inclusive Transport Advocate at the Walk Wheel Cycle Trust (formerly Sustrans)
- Research and publication on [Improving Home Retrofit for Disabled people and caregivers](#) by the Centre for Sustainable Energy
- A series of [strategic roundtable events](#) in collaboration with the Sensing Climate project and contribution to the [Crip up Climate Conversations Guides](#).
- A series of useful [short guides for local authorities](#).

You can find more details on the range of project resources launched at our October 2025 showcase event here: [Creating a green and accessible future - Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership](#)

### **The current context**

It is a complex (but interesting) time to engage the community of Disabled people on climate issues. Examples of eco-ableism and new barriers being created for Disabled people can happen when climate projects aren't designed with the needs of the Disabled community in mind. This makes the Climate & Disability project vital, given the role it can play in connecting policy and strategy with real people's lives.

Positive connections and relationships have been established with Bristol City Council and climate sector stakeholders through the project to date, providing positive foundations for this commission to build on.

Work in this space requires a level of care and creative thinking, to support positive outcomes for both the Disabled community and climate change / nature recovery.

### **Role of commissioned DPO**

We are looking for a Disabled People's Organisation (DPO) or Equalities Organisation (who regularly work with Disabled people), based in and/or regularly delivering work in the West of England region (Bristol; BANES, South Gloucestershire; North Somerset) who can:

- Be a custodian of the existing community climate and nature action plan for Bristol's community of Disabled people (refreshed version launched October 2025)
- Be an activator and advocate for the priorities within the community climate and nature action plan for Bristol's community of Disabled people Bristol and the wider West of England
- Convene engagement events/conversations with members of the Disabled community in the wider West of England region
- Evolve the existing community climate and nature action plan for Bristol's community of Disabled people so it reflects and includes the priorities and needs of the community of Disabled people from across the wider West of England region (BANES, South Gloucestershire, North Somerset)
- Light touch contribution to the holistic CCNA project via comms, evaluation, quarterly reporting and attendance at quarterly (half day) Bristol CCNA Network meetings.

#### **Additional information**

- The commissioned DPO will benefit from the experience/insights of Emma Geen (Climate & Disability Expert) who will act as light touch Advocate/Advisor providing strategic support and peer mentorship as appropriate to help ensure continuity with the Climate & Disability programme to date
- Expressions of Interest from partnerships / collaborations of organisations are welcomed (a lead organisation will be required)
- Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership are flexible about how this commission is delivered – if you have any questions, queries or suggestions about how you might want to deliver the commission, then please get in touch to discuss.

#### **Requirements / eligibility to apply**

##### **General:**

- Be a Disabled People's Organisation (DPO) / Equalities organisation (who regularly works with Disabled people)
- Be based and operating in the West of England region (Bristol, BANES, South Gloucestershire, North Somerset)
- Have the ability to work with whole community of Disabled people through an intersectional lens (whole of West of England region, pan-impairment, no age restriction)
- Regularly convene and communicate with Disabled people
- Have a successful track record of engagement with, and advocacy on behalf of the Disabled community
- Willingness to work in line with the CCNA project's [ways of working](#)

- Have an interest in climate, nature and climate justice (experience of climate and nature project delivery is desirable but not a requirement)

### **Organisational:**

- Be a not-for-profit organisation who is non-political and non-religious
- Have a management board, constitution and a dedicated bank account
- Have a safeguarding policy, equality and diversity policies in place
- Have public liability insurance and staff with DBS (safeguarding) checks in place to deliver work.

### **Commission budget**

The commission budget is **£50,000 for a delivery period of two years from May 2026 – June 2028.**

This budget can contribute to: staff costs; organisational overheads; engagement/delivery costs; comms and access costs.

There is a holistic accessibility budget for the CCNA project which can also be accessed by project partners on request to support reasonable additional access costs if needed.

### **Application process**

**To apply please submit a short expression of interest (no more than 2 sides of A4) responding to these prompts:**

- Why you are interested in this commission and how it aligns with your organisational objectives
- How you would act as an effective custodian of the CCNA plan for the community of Disabled people, and an advocate of the priorities in it
- Your experience of inclusive engagement with local Disabled people in the West of England region
- How you regularly convene and communicate with Disabled people in the West of England region
- How you would ensure Disabled people from across the West of England region will help shape the delivery of this commission
- A top-level overview of how you would plan to use the budget to deliver the commission.

Please also provide:

- Organisational details and named contact person / email address
- Confirmation that you meet all the key organisational requirements (listed above)

- The name and email address of a reference that can be contacted for a testimonial if required.

**Submitting your expression of interest:**

- Email your written Expression of Interest (**no more than 2 sides of A4**) to [contact@bristolclimatenature.org](mailto:contact@bristolclimatenature.org) with 'Climate and Disability WoE commission EOI' as the subject heading by **6pm on Friday 27 March 2026**.
- You can also submit a video / audio expression of interest which directly responds to the prompts above (max 10 mins in length) to [contact@bristolclimatenature.org](mailto:contact@bristolclimatenature.org) via a filesharing service e.g. wetransfer (as large files shared by email may be larger than our inbox can accept) with 'Climate and Disability commission EOI' as the subject heading by 6pm on Friday 27 March 2026.
- If you have any queries regarding the commission, please email: [contact@bristolclimatenature.org](mailto:contact@bristolclimatenature.org)

**The deadline for Expressions of Interest is 6pm on Friday 27 March 2026.**