



Become a Parish Environment Champion

This is an exciting opportunity to contribute towards change within South Somerset. Significant environmental impacts are becoming more regular, so creating a region that can demonstrate environmental resilience is essential to our continued prosperity.

South Somerset District Council (SSDC) launched the Parish Environmental Champion network in 2020 and we currently have representatives from over 60 parishes across the district – for more information on the network visit our website here:

www.southsomersetenvironment.co.uk/parish-environment-champions

Our Environment Champion network is a growing group of local residents, keen to support the environment, willing to volunteer their time to share best practice and support each other to deliver local eco projects in their community.

Environment Champions are volunteers whose role could include:

- Being the recipient of any environment information SSDC wishes to share with parishes, through emails and attendance at online forums;
- Compiling and returning information on their parish which would be useful for SSDC to know (e.g., environment groups, EV charging points, opportunities for re-wilding areas, etc.);
- Encouraging specific green measures in the parish, helping embed environmental sustainability at the core of the parishes' decision making; and
- Collaborating with surrounding parishes where possible to maximise impact and share expertise.



The network is vital to the success of our District and County environment strategies when talking about community engagement and creating resilient ecosystems. Champions act as the 'eyes and ears' in their local area as well as acting as a conduit for sharing materials and initiatives, such as our recent Great Parish Wildflower Giveaway.

There are no limits to the number of Environmental Champions that can sign up within a parish, and there are no specific time commitments – this is a voluntary role!

So if you see a need for a champion where you live and would like to nominate yourself or someone in your parish we'd love to hear from you. Please get in touch with us here: ssdcenvironment@southsomerset.gov.uk