

Climate Newsletter

From Spelthorne Borough Council



October 2025



Your carbon footprint: small steps, big impact

As the nights draw in, it's a great time to take stock of your carbon footprint — the total impact your daily choices have on the planet. From how you travel to the energy that powers your home, small actions add up.

Try:

- Walking or cycling for local journeys
- Turning your heating down by one degree
- Choosing locally grown, seasonal food
- Reducing food waste and single-use plastics
- Switching to energy-efficient lighting

Want to see how you're doing?

Calculate your footprint with the WWF Carbon Calculator: [WWF Footprint Calculator](#)

Together, these choices make a big difference in cutting emissions across Spelthorne



Certified Green: 100% renewable electricity

We're proud to share that Spelthorne Borough Council's electricity supply is now fully certified through Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO). This means every unit of electricity powering our buildings and operations is backed by UK-generated renewable sources such as wind, solar, and hydro. It's another step towards our goal of achieving net-zero emissions from council operations.



Cleaner fleet on the way: HVO procurement approved

The Council's Corporate Policy and Resource Committee (CPRC) has approved the procurement of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) fuel for our operational fleet. HVO is a low-carbon alternative to diesel that can reduce vehicle emissions by up to **98%** for our diesel fleet. Helping us move closer to carbon-neutral council operations. Work is now underway to introduce HVO across our operational fleet in the coming months.



Save the date: Green forum - Monday 24 November

Join us for our next **Green Forum** on **Monday 24th November**, from **7:00–9:30pm** at **Staines Community Centre, Thames Street, TW18 4EA**.

It will be an interesting evening, with presentations from:

- **Ealing Beaver Project**
- **Swan Lifeline Charity**
- **Centre for Ecology and Hydrology**
- **Save Our Swifts Project**
- **RHUL Sustainability Estates** (*TBC*)
- Plus updates from Spelthorne's Climate and Biodiversity Officers.

This is a free event, with refreshments available (donations welcome). We look forward to seeing you there!



Getting your home ready for colder days

Now's the perfect time to get your home winter-ready. A few small improvements can help you stay warm, save energy, and cut costs:

- **Check your heating:** Service your boiler and bleed radiators to make sure they're running efficiently.

- **Tackle draughts:** Fit draught excluders around doors and windows and use letterbox brushes or keyhole covers.
- **Insulate:** Check loft and wall insulation — topping up can make a big difference.
- **Curtains and blinds:** Close them as soon as it gets dark to keep heat in.
- **Smart controls:** Set timers and thermostats to warm your home only when you need it.
- **Radiator reflectors:** Install foil panels behind radiators to reflect heat back into the room.
- **Switch to LED bulbs:** They use 80% less energy than traditional ones and last much longer.

A little preparation now will make your home cosier, greener, and more efficient all winter long.



New Nature Recovery Grants available!

Surrey County Council's Greener Futures team has launched a new small grant scheme to support community groups and parish councils working on nature recovery in their local areas.

The scheme can fund direct nature recovery projects, as well as tools, equipment, training, and capacity-building activities — provided these form part of a wider project.

What's on Offer?

- Grants from £500 – £5,000
- In exceptional cases, up to £10,000 may be awarded
- Open to community groups and parishes across Surrey

Deadline to Apply: 7th November 2025

How to Apply: Visit the Together for Surrey Nature Grants webpage to download the Application Form and Guidance Pack: [Nature Recovery Grants for Surrey Community Groups](#)

Got Questions? Email: greenerfutures@surreycc.gov.uk

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