

**The Methodist Church
Winchester, Eastleigh and Romsey Circuit
Action for Hope: Step 1**

Update from the 2022 Methodist Conference

The Methodist Conference has affirmed the Action for Hope programme to achieve a carbon net-zero profile by 2030. All of us as members of the “*the broader Methodist family will be encouraged to adopt the net-zero aspiration, albeit the Conference will not exercise oversight in this respect.*” Indeed as a Circuit we have committed to an Eco Circuit path since December 2018, gaining a Bronze Award in March 2020.

The overall scheme of **Action for Hope** is described in a new flyer which is attached. It can also be downloaded from:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/our-work-in-britain/environment-and-climate-change/action-for-hope/>

There are 4 steps envisaged:

1. Assess where you are
2. Green your energy
3. Travel smart
4. Go for gold
5. Live light
6. Celebrate together

To help with Step 1, making assessments of energy use, I’ve published a YouTube video:

<https://youtu.be/VCF7-SFZWpg>

The video made at Romsey relating to Step 4 ‘Going for Gold’ is on the YouTube channel of The Methodist Church:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6uRyuSatEI>

Although we will not be asked to include energy data in annual returns, as an Eco Circuit we do see this as part of our response. So to take Step 1 we ask that all churches record their energy readings so that the annual consumption and generation through the 2022-23 Church Financial Year (from September 1) can be measured. The more that we know about our energy profiles the better able we are to spot wasted energy, seek ways to improve efficiency and, tailor how we work towards a reduction in Carbon emissions and play our part in the aspiration of net zero by 2030. I would suggest you might also collect readings on a quarterly basis to show seasonal variations. However we only ask for a report to the Circuit on an annual basis.

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John Evans, July 25 2022