LEAF Newsletter

Communities Leading Climate Action

April 2026

Welcome to our first LEAF (Leicester Environmental Action & Future) newsletter! We look forward to bringing you all the latest updates regarding this exciting new climate action project funded by the National Lottery Community Fund.

Over the next three years, De Montfort University will be working in partnership with five local community organisations in Leicester - **ZamZam Unlimited, Saffron Acres, One Roof Leicester, Somali Development Services,** and **Leicester Nirvana**, to support the communities they serve in adopting more sustainable behaviours and reducing carbon emissions, helping to build a better future for all.

With all project roles now in post, the team is ready to deliver activities across Leicester. We've already had a few incredible events, check them out below.

Arts in Nature Event

During the Easter holidays, ZamZam Unlimited Possibilities CIC ran a brilliant free family art day at Beaumont Leys shopping centre, bringing together creativity and nature. The event showcased artwork created by young people, who's imagination and talent were celebrated throughout the day.

ZamZam Unlimited worked with ArtStamp, who turned the artwork into digital stamps which people were able to collect. There was something for everyone: Saffron Acres helped people plant seeds to take home and grow their own salad in a cup, while Leicester Central Library were telling nature stories in the reading corner.



Child drawing a butterfly on the community art wall at the Arts in Nature Event

PARTNERS



Community art wall of drawings and reflections about nature at the Arts in Nature Event

The community art wall was full of colourful drawings and reflections on what nature means to people, and everyone could take away their own creations through badge making with Art Social. With over 300 people attending, the day was a great success and a real source of inspiration for future LEAF events.

Action Learning Session

In March, we held our first Action Learning session, as part of LEAF. The quarterly Action Learning sessions are to ensure we can understand what is working as part of the project, and to support learning and action planning. The first session was a great space to step back and reflect on how the project is going so far, and work through challenges and actions together.

Common challenges identified were participant engagement, and finding long term reliable volunteers. Actions from the day included organising events to learn from other organisations in their own settings about how they engage participants in climate action, and setting up an online space to share ideas. We are excited to see what comes up in future Action Learning sessions!



Project partners sat watching a presentation at the SDG Hub during the action learning session

For any questions regarding the LEAF project or to unsubscribe from the mailing list please contact Jasmine Walker or Maab Abdelatif: jasmine.walker@dmu.ac.uk
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