**Eco-congregation Scotland Silver Award Application**

This award is open to any congregation registered as an eco-congregation with Eco-congregation Scotland.

Please complete each section of the form, **briefly** describing how your congregation meets the criteria given for each section. If you wish, you may also submit **relevant** supporting evidence (for example, photographs, newsletter articles, posters, press coverage). It is helpful to the assessor is you can reference any supporting evidence at appropriate places within your responses.

**Eco-Congregation details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of church |  |

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| --- | --- |
| Denomination |  |

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| --- | --- |
| Church address (including postcode) |  |

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| --- | --- |
| Church website | (for background info) |

**Your contact person for this application**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Phone number |  |

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| --- | --- |
| E-mail address |  |

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| Postal address (including postcode) |  |

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| --- | --- |
| Application date |  |

**Section 1: General Aspects**

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| 1.1 | The congregation has an “action plan” of eco activities, and **monitors its progress**. |
| *Describe briefly (or submit) your* ***action plan****, and how you* ***monitor progress****.* | |

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| 1.2 | The congregation has an established group (or groups) with responsibility for initiating and coordinating eco activities, supported by the leadership of the congregation. |
| *Describe briefly who is involved in initiating and co-ordinating eco activities, and how it is supported by the leadership of the congregation.* | |

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| 1.3 | The congregation communicates about **eco issues** both in and **beyond** the congregation eg public noticeboards, website, local media |
| *Describe briefly how you communicate on* ***eco issues*** *and activities both in and beyond your congregation.* | |

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| 1.4 | Members of the congregation actively support local network events (where they exist), and contribute ideas for sharing with other congregations. |
| *Describe briefly your involvement in local network events, and/or how you share ideas with other congregations.* | |

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| ***For assessor use only:*** *(check one statement, and add comment if required)*  *The congregation has* ***exceeded*** *the criteria for section 1*  *The congregation has* ***met fully*** *all the criteria for section 1*  *The congregation has* ***made significant progress towards*** *meeting all the criteria for section 1*  *The congregation* ***falls well below*** *the criteria for section 1*  *Comment:* |

**Section 2: Spiritual Living**

**Helping the whole congregation to make the link between their Christian faith and environmental concerns.**

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| 2.1 | There are opportunities for **leaders and members** of the congregation to meet to **discuss environmental issues.** |
| *Describe briefly examples of opportunities for environmental issues to be* ***discussed*** *within your congregation.* | |

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| 2.2 | Care for creation is **regularly reflected** in worship, prayers, bible studies and sermons. |
| *Describe briefly examples of how* ***care*** *for creation is reflected in worship, prayers, bible studies and sermons.* | |

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| ***For assessor use only:*** *(check one statement, and add comment if required)*  *The congregation has* ***exceeded*** *the criteria for section 2*  *The congregation has* ***met fully*** *all the criteria for section 2*  *The congregation has* ***made significant progress towards*** *meeting all the criteria for section 2*  *The congregation* ***falls well below*** *the criteria for section 2*  *Comment:* |

**Section 3: Practical Living**

**Taking practical action in individual lives, the church and/or church grounds.**

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| 3.1 | **Individual members taking action:** Members of the congregation are being **challenged and supported** to find ways of significantly reducing **their own impact** on the environment, by considering issues including **energy use, recycling, travel and personal finance**. |
| *Describe briefly how individual members are being* ***challenged and supported*** *to take practical action to reduce the impact of their* ***own lifestyles*** *on the environment, including energy use, recycling, travel and personal finance.* | |

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| 3.2 | **Action in church buildings:** The congregation is developing and beginning to implement a strategy for the church as an organisation to significantly reduce its impact on the environment by considering issues including **energy use, recycling, travel and finance**. |
| *Describe briefly your congregation’s strategy to significantly reduce its impact on the environment by considering issues including* ***energy use, recycling, travel and******finance****, and the steps you have already taken.* | |

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| 3.3 | **Biodiversity, wildlife, grounds and gardens:** Members are being encouraged to take practical steps in and around both **the church grounds and their own properties** to be more environmentally friendly. |
| *Describe briefly any practical steps your congregation is taking to adapt the* ***church grounds and members’ own properties*** *to be more environmentally friendly.* | |

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| ***For assessor use only:*** *(check one statement, and add comment if required)*  *The congregation has* ***exceeded*** *the criteria for section 3*  *The congregation has* ***met fully*** *all the criteria for section 3*  *The congregation has* ***made significant progress towards*** *meeting all the criteria for section 3*  *The congregation* ***falls well below*** *the criteria for section 3*  *Comment:* |

**Section 4: Global Living**

**Having a positive impact on and/or working with national and global environmental justice concerns**

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| 4.1 | **Local and national concerns:** Members of the congregation are actively involved in supporting positive **environmental initiatives** in the local area or the UK. |
| *Describe briefly examples of how members of your congregation are actively involved in supporting positive* ***environmental initiatives*** *locally or in the UK.* | |

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| 4.2 | **Global and international concerns:** The congregation is actively involved in supporting FairTrade, and charities working in **parts of the world impacted by climate change**. |
| *Describe briefly examples of how your congregation is actively involved in supporting FairTrade, and charities* ***working in parts of the world impacted by climate change****.* | |

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| ***For assessor use only:*** *(check one statement, and add comment if required)*  *The congregation has* ***exceeded*** *the criteria for section 4*  *The congregation has* ***met fully*** *all the criteria for section 4*  *The congregation has* ***made significant progress towards*** *meeting all the criteria for section 4*  *The congregation* ***falls well below*** *the criteria for section 4*  *Comment:* |

**End of application form.**

Please send the completed form (including the “assessor use only” pages), by e-mail if possible, along with any supporting material, to:

**Email** [administrator@ecocongregationscotland.org](mailto:administrator@ecocongregationscotland.org)

**For assessor use only:**

Taking into account:

* the capacity and context of the congregation,
* the activities/initiatives they have undertaken with a spiritual, practical and global/local dimension,
* the information you have learned both from the application form, supporting evidence and assessment visit,

**do you consider that the congregation has met the criteria for this Eco-Congregation Award?**

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes:

List any initiatives / activities that merit particular **commendation**:

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List any **recommendations** for future work:

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If no:

Make **recommendations for further action** that will enable the congregation to fulfil the award criteria:

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