

Funder Commitment on Climate Change Year 5 Report

The Samworth Foundation became a signatory to the Funder Commitment on Climate Change (FCCC) in January 2020. The FCCC recognises that the impact of climate change is wide ranging, and a serious threat to funders achieving their charitable objectives. Funders therefore have a responsibility to ensure they are managing and distributing resources in a way that understands and responds to this emergency.

The Commitment provides funders with a framework for considering how their investments, operations and funding can both help tackle the causes and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Our progress towards these goals is outlined below.

Commitment	Progress, 2024
1. Educate and learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Employees and trustees visited and met with grant holders and other organisations working to enhance nature and address climate change. ▪ Employees and trustees attended webinars, conferences, and other learning events on climate change, land management and biodiversity, including the Oxford Real Farming Conference, Groundswell, and the Environmental Funders Network (EFN) Retreat. ▪ We continued our membership of the EFN, enabling us to access online webinars, reports, and in-person learning events.
2. Commit resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 50% of the Foundation’s annual core funding is given to organisations working towards ‘Better agricultural systems that enhance nature and address climate change’. Through this funding stream, the Foundation seeks to support initiatives that raise the ambition of governments and others to reform policy and legislation that balance climate, nature, and food production, and work that demonstrates the benefits of climate and nature positive farming. ▪ Examples of awards this year include grants to Green Alliance, Nature Friendly Farming Network, Soil Association, The Wildlife Trusts, and Trade Justice Movement.
3. Integrate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We continue to explore the links between climate change, environmental harm and modern slavery (50% of our portfolio is directed at work to end modern slavery and exploitation). Our multi-year grant to Ripple Effect for work that supports sustainable farming and community empowerment brings together both of our core grant programmes. By helping communities to be both financially and food secure, the work reduces the risk of climate migration, decreasing the risk of them being exploited. ▪ Employees attended learning events to better understand the impact of climate change on the clients of non-climate NGOs.
4. Steward our investments for a post carbon future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We continued to receive quarterly Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) information from our independent financial advisors regarding our investments. ▪ This year we also met with one of our main fund managers to discuss their actions around ESG factors.
5. Decarbonise our operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The staff team uses a hybrid working model, reducing the need to travel to and from the office. ▪ When in-person meetings are necessary, wherever possible, employees and trustees use public transport. ▪ A number of meetings organised by the Foundation take place virtually.