



ecojudaism

The Environmental Audit – Questions with Scoring

These are the Environmental Audit questions for review prior to starting the Audit online.

Section 1 – Management

Q: 1 – Our Synagogue Board/Council has an environmental policy in place.

Yes (35)

No (0)

Q: 2 – The Rabbinic, lay and professional leadership in our community have made a formal commitment to improving the environmental credentials of our synagogue by endorsing working towards an EcoSynagogue Award.

Yes (35)

No (0)

Q: 3 – Our Synagogue Board/Council's designated leaders have in turn created an "Environmental Impact Team" to investigate and improve on issues highlighted in this Audit.

Yes (35)

No (0)

Q: 4 – Our Environmental Impact Team represents different generations of our Community or/and people with different lifestyles.

Yes (35)

No (0)

Q: 5 – Our Synagogue implements policies and procedures to ensure issues highlighted in this Audit are addressed and taken forward.

Yes (35)

No (0)

Section 2 – Prayer and Teaching

Q: 1 – Our synagogue promotes Environmental activities as an expression of our concerns for Creation.

Regularly, with follow up actions (20)

Regularly, sometimes with follow up actions (15)

Occasionally, with follow up actions (10)

Occasionally, without follow up actions (5)

Not at all (0)

Q: 2 – During Sermons about environmental issues, our synagogue highlights our current environmental projects and actively encourages the congregation to become involved.

Frequently, with follow up actions (20)

Occasionally, with follow up actions (15)

Regularly, without follow up actions (10)

Occasionally, without follow up actions (5)

Not at all (0)

Q: 3 – Special Sermons about environmental issues are delivered in our synagogue:

Frequently, with follow up study sessions & actions (20)

Infrequently, with follow up study sessions & actions (15)

Frequently, without follow up study sessions & actions (10)

Occasionally, without follow up learning & actions (5)

Not at all (0)

Q: 4 – Our Synagogue's communications (e.g. newsletters, service sheets, magazines, social media etc.) include items relating to the environment, including updates on the progress of our environmental projects.

Regularly, as an integral part of Shul's life (20)

Occasionally, as an integral part of Shul's life (15)

Regularly, but marginal to Shul's life (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 5 – The environment features as a teaching theme in our children’s education syllabus (those under Bat and Bar Mitzvah age):

Regularly, with follow up projects (20)

Regularly, with follow up projects or ideas (15)

Occasionally, with follow up ideas (10)

Occasionally, without follow up ideas (5)

Not at all (0)

Q: 6 – The environment features as a theme in our synagogue’s youth work (Over Bat and Bar Mitzvah age until 18):

Regularly, with follow up projects (20)

Regularly, with follow up projects or ideas (15)

Occasionally, with follow up ideas (10)

Occasionally, without follow up ideas (5)

Not at all (0)

Q: 7 – The environment features as a theme in our synagogue’s shiurim (sermons & lessons) during Jewish and world environmental touch point events

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 8 – Our Synagogue is committed (wherever possible) to provide learning materials, texts and prayers online to reduce energy consumption.

Yes (20)

No (0)

Section 3 – Lifestyle

HOME

Q: 1 – Our synagogue encourages members to calculate their personal carbon footprint and to take measures to reduce it where necessary:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 2 – Our synagogue encourages members to consider how their dietary choices affect the environment and to modify them to reduce their impact.

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 3 – Our synagogue encourages members to limit their waste by adhering to the principles of reduce, re-use, refill, recycle:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 4 – Our synagogue hosts activities and/or events that facilitate the recycling and/or reuse of goods (e.g. clothes swap events or 'give and take' schemes):

Strategically (10)

Rarely (10)

Never (0)

Q: 5 – Our synagogue encourages members to plant at home, in allotments and where possible in communal gardens and grow some of their own food

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 6 – Our synagogue encourages the ethical investment of personal savings and pensions. (e.g. current account and/or investments)

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

TRANSPORT

Q: 7 – Walking and cycling to synagogue and the use of public transport to attend events and appropriate services is promoted in our synagogue

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 8 – When synagogue events are promoted, a public transport plan is included.

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 9 – Our synagogue encourages members to reduce their personal energy consumption in the way they use transport and travel.

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

CONSUMPTION

Q: 10 – Our synagogue encourages members to use and consume goods at home that are LOAF (Locally grown, Organic, Animal-friendly, Fairtrade):

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 11 – Our synagogue encourages members to reduce their personal energy consumption in the way they heat and light their homes and places of worship

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 12 – Our synagogue encourages members to reduce their personal energy consumption in the way they insulate their homes and places of work.

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 13 – Our synagogue takes part in food cooperatives and/or encourages members to join in bulk buying ethically sourced produce at wholesale prices.

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

INVESTMENT

Q: 14 – Our synagogue invests its funds ethically, and rates the ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) sustainability of its portfolio (eg with MSCI or another rating organisation)

Strategically (20)

Rarely (10)

Never (0)

COMMUNICATION

Q: 15 – Our synagogue website and/or our social media includes practical lifestyle tips and advice on caring for the environment.

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 16 – Our synagogue provides an opportunity for members to share their concerns on issues and listens to feedback.

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 17 – Our synagogue has procedures to receive feedback from members about changes they have made to their lifestyle in the above areas.

Yes (10)

No (0)

Section 4 – Land, Buildings & Consumables

Congregations with Land & Buildings, complete ALL sections.

Congregations with Buildings only please select N/A on all questions up to Q5

LAND

Q: 1 – The land/premises at our synagogue includes areas set aside for growing fruits and vegetables and encouraging native wildlife and plants (e.g. indoor plants, vertical garden, grass-cutting schedules, bird boxes, bird feeders etc.)

Yes (15)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 2 – Our synagogue's members engage in wildlife friendly gardening and horticulture on its grounds

Regularly (10)

Sometimes (5)

Never (0)

N/A

Q: 3 – Composting facilities are available on our synagogue premises:

Yes (10)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 4 – Members and visitors are encouraged to use the natural aspects of the synagogue grounds for prayer/recreation/contemplation

Regularly (10)

Sometimes (5)

Never (0)

N/A

BUILDINGS

Q: 5 – We have measured our energy use and calculated the carbon footprint of our synagogue building(s) within the past three to five years.

Yes (20)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 6 – We have set targets for reducing the carbon footprint of our synagogue building(s) in order to achieve year on year improvements in energy efficiency:

Yes (20)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 7 – We offset the carbon footprint of our synagogue building(s) through ecologically sound channels in those areas in which we cannot reduce it:

Yes (10)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 8 – The energy (e.g. electricity) supplied to our synagogue building(s) is generated from renewable resources and/or charged according to our supplier's 'green tariff':

Yes (20)

Some (10)

None (0)

N/A

Q: 9 – In terms of energy efficiency, the boiler on our synagogue premises is rated (an engineer should be able to determine this as part of the annual service):

A+++ (20)

A++ (15)

A+ (10)

A (5)

B (0)

C (0)

D (0)

N/A (0)

Q: 10 – Our synagogue premises are insulated wherever possible in our main Sanctuary:

Walls AND Loft/Ceiling AND Floor (15)

Walls OR Loft/Ceiling OR Floor (10)

Only Some Walls OR Loft/Ceiling OR Floor only (5)

Not at all (0)

N/A (0)

Q: 11 – Our synagogue premises are insulated wherever possible in our halls

Walls AND Loft/Ceiling AND Floor (15)

Walls OR Loft/Ceiling OR Floor (10)

Only Some Walls OR Loft/Ceiling OR Floor only (5)

Not at all (0)

N/A

Q: 12 – Our synagogue premises are insulated wherever possible in our offices and classrooms.

Walls AND Loft/Ceiling AND Floor (15)

Walls OR Loft/Ceiling OR Floor (10)

Only Some Walls OR Loft/Ceiling OR Floor only (5)

Not at all (0)

N/A

Q: 13 – The thickness of the insulation that is used in the places where insulation is installed is as follows:

All 300mm+ (20)

All 100-300mm+ (10)

All 1-100mm+ (5)

N/A (0)

Q: 14 – Our synagogue premises are double-glazed in our main sanctuary

Full double glazing (15)

Some double-glazing (10)

Full secondary glazing (7)

Some secondary glazing (5)

None (0)

N/A

Q: 15 – Our synagogue premises are double-glazed in our halls

Full double glazing (15)

Some double-glazing (10)

Full secondary glazing (7)

Some secondary glazing (5)

None

N/A

Q: 16 – Our synagogue premises are double-glazed in our offices & classrooms

Full double glazing (15)

Some double-glazing (10)

Full secondary glazing (7)

Some secondary glazing (5)

None

N/A

Q: 17 – The lighting in our synagogue building(s) uses energy-efficient light bulbs in our main sanctuary

All LED Bulbs (10)

Mix LED bulbs & low energy bulbs (7)

All low energy bulbs (5)

Some low energy bulbs (3)

None

N/A

Q: 18 – The lighting in our synagogue building(s) uses energy-efficient light bulbs in our halls

All LED Bulbs (10)

Mix LED bulbs & low energy bulbs (7)

All low energy bulbs (5)

Some low energy bulbs (3)

None (0)

N/A

Q: 19 – The lighting in our synagogue building(s) uses energy-efficient light bulbs in our offices and classrooms

All LED Bulbs (10)

Mix LED bulbs & low energy bulbs (7)

All low energy bulbs (5)

Some low energy bulbs (3)

None (0)

N/A

Q: 20 – We have a policy designed to limit the amount of energy consumed by exterior lighting:

Yes (10)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 21 – The water supply to our synagogue premises is metered:

Yes (10)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 22 – Rainwater collection facilities are installed and used on our synagogue premises (e.g. 'grey water' systems, water butts etc.):

Yes (10)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 23 – The toilet cisterns on our synagogue premises are fitted with water saving devices:

All (10)

Some (5)

None (0)

N/A

Q: 24 – In the event of the need to undertake a building/refurbishment project, our synagogue would insist that it be subject to a BREEAM or similar assessment to ensure best practice in sustainable building design, construction and operation:

Yes (20)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 25 – Cycle racks are available on our synagogue premises:

Yes (10)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 26 – Our synagogue generates energy from a wind turbine, an air or ground source heat pump or solar PV panels:

All the energy we consume (20)

Some of energy we consume (10)

None (0)

N/A

Q: 27 – Our synagogue produces solar powered hot water:

Yes (20)

No (0)

N/A

CONSUMABLES

Q: 28 – Our community administration uses recycled paper

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 29 – We are reducing our paper usage (e.g. through double-sided copying/printing/digital distribution etc.):

Regularly (20)

Sometimes (10)

Never (0)

Q: 30 – Any disposable catering products (e.g. paper cups and plates etc.) provided by our community administration are:

Never use disposables (20)

Biodegradables (10)

Recyclables (5)

Non-biodegradables (0)

Q: 31 – The cleaning products provided by our community administration are environmentally-friendly:

All (10)

Some (5)

None (0)

Q: 32 – Recycled toilet paper is provided by our community administration.

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 33 – Recycling facilities are available through our community administration, for paper, glass, cans, plastics, fabrics, TerraCycle or similar.

All (20)

3 or more of (10)

1 or more of (5)

None (0)

Section 5 – Community and Global Engagement

Part 1: Eco-engagement within the Synagogue

Q: 1 – Users of our synagogue premises are encouraged to minimise resource use (e.g. people are trained in reducing energy use, notices about turning off lights are displayed, new employees informed of environmental policy during inductions etc.):

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 2 – Our synagogue actively promotes engagement with EcoSynagogue events and its values.

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 3 – Our synagogue is committed to raising awareness for a specific environmental issue and financially supports an environmental charity/organisation working on this issue:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 4 – Our synagogue has financially supported at least one environmental charity or campaign:

In Last Year (10)

In Last 2 Years (7)

In Last 3 Years (5)

Never (0)

Q: 5 – Meals provided by the synagogue, including during events, use LOAF ingredients (Locally grown, Organic, Animal-friendly, Fairtrade):

Regularly (20)

Sometimes (10)

Never (0)

Q: 6 – Vegetarian and/or vegan options are provided by the synagogue at meals / catered events:

Yes (20)

No (0)

Part 2: Eco-engagement with the local community

Q: 7 – Our synagogue organises events around our festivals (e.g. Succot & Tu B'Shvat) and invites local leaders (e.g. local MPs, or council leaders) providing opportunities for local people to discuss local environmental issues with them.

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 8 – Our synagogue (either alone or as part of a local network) engages with our local MP, local council or Public Service Board on environmental matters at services, educational sessions or stand-alone events:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 9 – Our synagogue arranges for local environmentalists/organisations to speak at our services:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 10 – Our synagogue (either alone or as part of a local network) works with local and/or Jewish sustainability movements and campaigns:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 11 – Our synagogue (either alone or as part of a local network) organises environmental awareness-raising events (e.g. documentary/film evenings, discussion, debates):

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 12 – Our synagogue is involved with local conservation work:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 13 – At least some of our synagogue members (either alone or as part of a local network) have organised and/or participated in a community clean-up project (e.g. local litter-pick):

Regularly (10)

Sometimes (5)

Never (0)

Q: 14 – Our synagogue (either alone or as part of a local network) hosts an event (showcasing local produce and highlighting local environmental issues and organisations):

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 15 – Our synagogue organises outdoor events, providing an opportunity for local people to enjoy the local area (e.g. walks, cycle rides etc.):

Regularly (10)

Sometimes (5)

Never (0)

Q: 16 – Our synagogue either provides or supports a local car-share scheme (this includes members sharing lifts to synagogue when possible):

Regularly (20)

Sometimes (10)

Never (0)

Part 3: Eco-Engagement with the national and global community

Q: 17 – Our synagogue organises environmental actions through the year involving local community and faith groups:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 18 – Our synagogue keeps the congregation informed about the impact of national environmental issues:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 19 – Our synagogue keeps the congregation informed about the impact of global environmental issues:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 20 – Our synagogue participates in campaigns concerning national environmental issues:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)

Q: 21 – Our synagogue participates in campaigns concerning global environmental issues:

Strategically (10)

Rarely (5)

Never (0)