



ecojudaism
OUR FAITH IN THE PLANET

THE SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN – SAP

Questions with Scoring

These are the SAP questions for review prior to starting the SAP online



Section 1 – Management

Aspiration: That the community, including rabbinic, lay and professional leadership demonstrate a clear and formal commitment to environmental responsibility

Q: 1 – Our Synagogue Board/Council has a written and approved 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 our work towards an EcoJudaism 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 SAP

Yes (35)

No (0)

Q: 4 – Our Environmental Impact Team represents different demographics of our community or/and people with diverse backgrounds

Yes (10)

No (0)

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

Yes (35)

No (0)

Section 2 – Prayer and Teaching

Aspiration: That the rabbinic team are actively involved in a programme appealing to all age groups which highlights environmental issues throughout the Jewish calendar year

“Go out and learn” Haggadah Magid

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

Consistently (20)

Sometimes (10)

Not currently (0)

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

Consistently (20)

Sometimes (10)

Not currently (0)

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

More than 3 times a year (20)

Up to 3 times a year (10)

Not currently (0)

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

Consistently (20)

Sometimes (10)

Not currently (0)

Q: 5 – The environment features as a teaching theme in our children's education syllabus (pre-school and primary school age)

Consistently (20)

Sometimes (10)

Not currently (0)

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

Consistently (20)

Sometimes (10)

Not currently (0)

Q: 7 – The environment features as a theme in our synagogue's Jewish education (other than pulpit sermons) during Jewish and world environmental touch point events

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 8 – Our Synagogue is committed wherever possible to minimise the use of paper for learning materials, texts and prayers

Yes (20)

No (0)

Section 3 – Lifestyle

Aspiration: That the synagogue is a platform to educate and inspire members to make changes in their personal lifestyle to reduce their environmental footprint

'It is not your duty to finish the work, but neither are you free to desist from it' Pirkei Avot 2:16

Q: 1 – Over the past 12 months, our synagogue has explored Jewish/Torah perspectives on consumption and materialism with our members and we have encouraged members to calculate and reflect on their personal carbon footprint

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 2 – Over the past 12 months our synagogue has explored Jewish/Torah perspectives on responsible meat consumption with our members

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 3 – Over the past 12 months our synagogue has explored the mitzvah of 'Bal Tashchit' (do not waste, do not destroy) with our members and encouraged them to preserve natural resources and limit their waste through reducing, reusing, refilling and recycling

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 4 – Over the past 12 months our synagogue has hosted activities and/or events that facilitate the recycling and/or reuse of goods (e.g. clothes swap events or 'give and take' schemes)

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 5 – Over the past 12 months our synagogue has explored the prohibition against Tzar ba'aalei chaim (cruelty to animals) and Tzedek (Justice), and how this relates to sustainable, animal-friendly, ethical and Fairtrade food choices

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 6 – Over the past 12 months our synagogue has explored with members the Jewish concept of 'Tikkun Olam' ('Repairing the world') in terms of the biodiversity crisis and encourages members to restore and enhance plant life and wildlife in their personal outdoor spaces

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 7 – Over the past 12 months our synagogue has explored the mitzvah of 'Pikuach Nefesh' (saving life) and how this relates to the harm to human life caused by pollution and high emissions activities such as flying and petrol/diesel travel

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 8 – Our synagogue website and/or our social media includes practical lifestyle tips and advice on reducing emissions and caring for the environment. For example, how to reduce

member's personal gas and electricity consumption and promoting EcoJudaism's One Green Step initiative

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

Q: 9 – Walking and cycling to synagogue and the use of public transport to attend events and appropriate services is promoted in our synagogue

Yes (5)

No (0)

Q: 10 – 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)

Consistently (20)

Not currently (0)

Section 4 – Outdoor Space, Buildings & Consumables

Aspiration: That prayer spaces become energy-efficient, greener and sustainable in a variety of ways

'God settled the Human in the garden of Eden, to till it and tend it'

Communities with Outdoor Space & Buildings, please complete ALL sections.

Communities with Buildings only, please select N/A on all questions until BUILDINGS section.

Communities with no Outdoor Space or Buildings, please select N/A on all questions until CONSUMABLES section.

OUTDOOR SPACE

Q: 1 – Our synagogue's outdoor space(s) includes an area(s) set aside for an eco garden

Yes (20)

No (0)

N/A

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

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

N/A

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

Yes (10)

No (0)

N/A

BUILDINGS

Q: 1 – 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: 2 – 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: 3 – 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: 4 – The electricity supplied to our synagogue building(s) is generated from renewable resources and/or metered according to our supplier's 'green tariff'

Yes (20)

Some (10)

None (0)

N/A

Q: 5 – 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

Q: 6 – 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

Q: 7 – 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: 8 – 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: 9 – 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

Q: 10 – 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: 11– 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 (0)

N/A (0)

Q: 12 – 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 (0)

N/A

Q: 13 – 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 (0)

N/A

Q: 14 – 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: 15 – 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: 16 – We have a policy designed to limit the amount of energy consumed by exterior lighting

Yes (10)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 17 – The water supply to our synagogue premises is metered

Yes (10)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 18 – 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: 19 – The toilet cisterns on our synagogue premises are fitted with water saving devices:

All (10)

Some (5)

None (0)

N/A

Q: 20 – 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: 21 – Cycle racks are available on our synagogue premises:

Yes (10)

No (0)

N/A

Q: 22– 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 the energy we consume (10)

None (0)

N/A

Q: 23– Our synagogue produces solar powered hot water:

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 24 We discuss with our landlord environmental measures they can undertake to reduce the emissions and increase the energy efficiency of the building and have agreed a plan to implement the changes

Yes (20)

No (0)

CONSUMABLES

Q: 1 – Our community administration uses recycled paper

Yes (20)

No (0)

Q: 2 – We are reducing our paper usage (e.g. through double-sided copying/printing/digital distribution etc.)

Consistently (20)

Sometimes (10)

Not currently (0)

Q: 3 – Any disposable catering products (e.g. paper cups and plates etc.) provided by our community administration:

*Don't use disposables (20)**Biodegradables/compostables which must be correctly disposed of (10)**Paper (5)**Plastic (0)*

Q: 4 – The cleaning products provided by our community administration are plant based and environmentally-friendly

All (10)

Some (5)

None (0)

Q: 5 – Recycled toilet paper is provided by our community administration

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 6 – 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

‘L'takayn Olam b'malchut Shaddai'

‘When the world shall be perfected under the reign of the Almighty’

PART 1: ECO-ENGAGEMENT WITHIN THE SYNAGOGUE

Aspiration: That awareness is raised within the community regarding EcoJudaism and its values as well as other recognised environmental organisations

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.)

Consistently (10)

Not currently (0)

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

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

Q: 3 – Do you support an environmental charity/organisation and have evidence to corroborate this?

Yes (10)

No (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)

Consistently (20)

Sometimes (10)

Not currently (0)

Q: 6 – Events at our synagogue are vegetarian or vegan

100% (20)

50% (10)

25% (5)

Less than 25% (0)

Q: 7 – Kiddushim at our synagogue are vegetarian or vegan

100% (20)

50% (10)

25% (5)

Less than 25% (0)

Q: 8 – Our synagogue participates in EcoJudaism's Eco Shabbat, with speaker/event/activities every year

Yes (10)

No (0)

PART 2: ECO-ENGAGEMENT WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Aspiration: That the synagogue proactively seeks opportunities to undertake or participate in local environmental projects or campaigns

Q: 1 – Our synagogue organises events around our festivals (e.g. Succot and Tu B'Shvat) and invites local leaders (e.g. local MPs, council or faith leaders) providing opportunities for local people to discuss local environmental issues with them

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

Q: 2 – 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

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

Q: 3– Our synagogue arranges for local environmentalists/organisations to speak at our synagogue

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

Q: 4 – Our synagogue works with local and/or Jewish environmental organisations and activists to raise awareness of environmental issues (e.g. documentary/film evenings, discussion, debates)

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

Q: 5 – Our synagogue is involved with local conservation work

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

Q: 6 – Over the past 12 months, some of our synagogue members (either alone or as part of a local network) have organised and/or participated in an environmental project

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 7 – Our synagogue (either alone or as part of a local network) hosts environmental showcase events

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

PART 3: ECO-ENGAGEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL AND GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Aspiration: That the synagogue is proactive in informing the community about national and global environmental events and issues

Q: 1 – Our synagogue organises environmental actions throughout the year involving local community and faith groups

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

Q: 2 – Our synagogue keeps the congregation informed about the impact of national and global environmental issues:

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

Q: 3 – Our synagogue participates in campaigns concerning national and global environmental issues:

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

Section 6 - Biodiversity

“Justice, justice shall you pursue, that you may live and inherit the land that Hashem, your God is giving you.” Deuteronomy 16:20

If a synagogue or community does not have influence over any land, there is a ‘no land’ route through the SAP which broadly reflects what is being asked of those communities with land - but with a different approach and application

Introductory question:

Our synagogue / community owns or manages land / outdoor space (including car park, patio and hard-standing areas)

Yes / No – no points allocated to this question

ROUTE 1- YES, OUR SYNAGOGUE/COMMUNITY OWNS OR MANAGES LAND

Q: 1 – Our synagogue recognises the significant contribution organisations can make to the UK target of 30% land for nature by 2030 and manages our land for the purpose of caring for or protecting and restoring nature / biodiversity.

Yes (20)

Partly (10)

No (0)

Q:2 – Our synagogue recognises the positive outcomes for nature / biodiversity are more likely if our land is managed strategically and has established a plan-for-nature for our land with a focus on impact of our actions.

Yes (20)

	No (0)
Q: 3 – Our synagogue provides a pond / wetland area	
	Yes (10)
	No (0)
Q: 4 – Our synagogue provides hedgerows	
	Yes (10)
	No (0)
Q: 5 – Our synagogue builds healthy soil through compost, mulching	
	Yes (10)
	No (0)
Q: 6 – Our synagogue provides bird boxes	
	Yes (5)
	No (0)
Q: 7 – Our synagogue provides bat boxes	
	Yes (5)
	No (0)
Q: 8 – Our synagogue provides bug hotels	
	Yes (5)
	No (0)
Q: 9– Our synagogue provides Hedgehog boxes	
	Yes (5)
	No (0)
Q: 10– Our synagogue provides Birdfeeders stocked year-round	
	Yes (5)
	No (0)
Q: 11– Our synagogue provides planting for birds/bees/butterflies etc.	
	Yes (5)
	No (0)
Q: 12– Our synagogue provides a wildflower area	

Yes (5)

No (0)

Q: 13– Our synagogue provides a roof or vertical garden

Yes (5)

No (0)

Q: 14– Our synagogue has planted native trees in the last 12 months past year

Yes (5)

No (0)

Q: 15 – Our synagogue measures the impact of these interventions for biodiversity by regularly monitoring how each is used and/or how biodiversity is changing

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 16 – Our synagogue has a mowing regime that ensures areas of long grass and/or wildflowers are not mown through the spring/summer months (e.g. April to August), and/or participates in No Mow May and Let it Bloom June

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 17 – Our synagogue is actively engaged in tree or hedgerow planting (either native or non-invasive species) on our land or in the local community

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 18 – Our synagogue undertakes citizen science or similar activities including wildlife surveys on our land to monitor changes

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 19 – Our synagogue grows food on our site (including in planters and boxes)

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 20 – Our synagogue recognises that healthy soils are critical for flourishing of biodiversity and composts garden waste on site or off-site or uses 'No Dig' and/or other soil friendly cultivation methods

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 21 – Our synagogue uses fertilisers, pesticides or herbicides:

Never (10)

Only in specific circumstances (5)

Regularly used (-10)

Q: 22 – Our synagogue encourages people to access our land to enjoy nature, for example by providing wildlife trails, biodiversity / nature display board(s) and benches/seats

Yes (15)

No (0)

Q: 23 – Our synagogue actively encourages members and volunteers to help look after our, or local, land

Yes (15)

No (0)

Q: 24 – Our synagogue regularly takes part in a litter pick/park clean-up etc.

Yes (10)

Not currently (0)

Q: 25 – Our synagogue encourages members to support nature conservation projects in Israel

Yes, regularly and actively (20)

Sometimes (10)

Not currently (0)

ROUTE 2 – NO, OUR COMMUNITY DOES NOT OWN OR MANAGE LAND

Q: 1 – Our synagogue / community actively recognizes the significant contribution it can make to the UK target of 30% land for nature by 2030 and partners with other organisations or community groups for the purpose of caring for or protecting and restoring nature / biodiversity.

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 2 – Our synagogue actively supports (including funding support) other organisations or community groups in managing land for nature

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 3 – Our synagogue has *raised beds, container plants, window boxes or other plant life on our premises*

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 4 – Our synagogue uses pesticides, fertilisers, herbicides on pathways and hard areas

No (10)

Yes (-10)

Q: 5 – Our synagogue is actively engaged in tree or hedgerow planting (either native or non-invasive species) in the local community

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 6 – Our synagogue is involved in citizen science activities including wildlife surveys in our area to monitor changes

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 7 – Our synagogue is involved in local food-growing

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 8 – Our synagogue encourages people to get outside for events and activities in nature e.g. outdoor worship, nature/farming festivals, local walks, volunteering, litter picks etc.

Consistently (10)

Sometimes (5)

Not currently (0)

Q: 9 – Our synagogue funds local nature conservation

Yes (10)

No (0)

Q: 10 – Our synagogue regularly takes part in a litter pick/park clean up etc.

Yes (10)

Not currently (0)

Q: 11 – Our synagogue encourages members to use their gardens for wildlife and biodiversity

Yes (10)

No (0)