

CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS FACILITATOR PROGRAM



GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

Frequently Asked Questions



What is the Climate Conversations Facilitator program?

We're recruiting 25 passionate people in Glen Eira to become Climate Conversations Facilitators. You'll be trained on how to have effective conversations with your friends, family and wider community on climate change, and how to give them tools and strategies to cut their carbon footprint and advocate for strong climate action. You'll be supported by us every step of the way.

Who is Climate for Change?

Climate for Change is a volunteer-powered and not-for-profit organisation. They are supporting us to pilot this program in Glen Eira. Climate for Change have developed and iterated upon the Climate Conversations Program model for the last five years.

Climate for Change seeks to create the social and political environment to address climate change effectively. Their vision is an Australia in which climate action is a top priority and where community, business and government unite to make the courageous and urgent changes needed to return to a safe climate.

When will training be held?

Two half-day training sessions will be held in late-January 2022.

What is the time commitment?

The time commitment includes:

- Participating in one two-hour Climate Conversation (January 2022)
- Attending two half-day training sessions (late-January 2022)
- Hold regular two-hour Climate Conversations from January to April 2022
- Once the Conversations have kicked off, meet with other facilitators on a monthly basis.

Many of our facilitators work full time and find that the time commitment is not a problem, as most people prefer to hold Conversations outside of standard business hours.

Do I have to be a climate change expert to become a facilitator?

No! We teach you everything you need to know. The most important characteristics for the role are good people skills, good listening skills and a passion for climate action. If you're still concerned you don't know enough about climate change, please give us a call – we'd love to hear from you.



How successful is the Climate Conversations model?

This approach is based on social research that explains that people process information - make sense of it, make decisions about it and take actions around it - through conversations with people they trust. This is how social change happens.

Climate Conversations uses the party plan model to facilitate discussions about climate change in people's homes and among friends. This model of engagement is unique within the climate movement and has proven extraordinarily effective in reaching new audiences at both depth and scale.

Surveys show that nine out of ten participants leave feeling more empowered to take action, and four out of five were influenced to change at least one behaviour.

How many facilitators are needed?

We're recruiting 25 passionate people in Glen Eira with a diversity of ages, genders, suburbs and cultural backgrounds. It is possible that more than 25 will be recruited and we can cater for some more. We want to keep the group smaller for now so we can properly support you over the next six months and create a good sense of community.

How will I run Conversations?

Either you or someone you know will offer to host a Conversation. This person will invite approximately ten people (either online or to their home) and you will go along and present information you've been trained in, facilitate discussion, and motivate action.

You'll be supported by us every step of the way with digital learning materials, live webinars, mentoring and workshops. You can even choose to partner up with another facilitator to run Conversations together.

Do I need to hold the Conversations online?

Facilitators can run the Conversations in-person or online. The Conversations must be held in line with current COVID-19 restrictions. It also depends on your personal preference, but we do suspect that your friends and family will be looking forward to getting together in-person for a meat-free meal or cake to go with the Conversation!

Can I just host Conversations?

Yes! You can choose to host a Conversation at your home with a facilitator leading the Conversation.

How many Conversations will I need to run?

We would like the facilitators to kick off their Conversations from January 2022 onwards, or earlier if you would like. You should run at least one per month, and doing two or more per month will keep you in good practice. The program will end in April 2022 and be evaluated for its effectiveness.



Can I sit in on a real Conversation?

Yes! We strongly encourage you to attend a 'real life' Conversation in the weeks leading up to the training so you can get a feel for it, and be certain that it's the right thing for you.

What resources will be supplied to me?

We will supply you with everything you need to plan and deliver Climate Conversations. This includes:

- Host Guide, including invitation email
- Pre-workshop attendee survey
- Powerpoint presentation
- Workshop resources and script
- Post-workshop attendee survey.

When will the Conversations begin?

We would like the Conversations to begin in January 2022. However, you can start them earlier if you like.

How will I recruit friends and family?

We will provide you with content for invitational emails that you can use to invite your friends and family to a Conversation.