

Developing a Local Group

Depending on the size, skills, capacity and focus of your group, some of these will be more relevant to you. You are free to organise in whatever ways suit you.

Information, support and connection

- Talk to your [National / Regional Gardener](#) and find out when meetings are held to connect you to other local group coordinators in your area.
- Join the [Rebellion Broadcast](#) Telegram channel. This is a UK-wide broadcast channel where you will hear the latest news, updates about UK-wide actions, and strategy updates from the UK circles
- Join the and [Movement Broadcast](#) Telegram channel. Like the Rebellion Broadcast, this is a UK-wide channel, but focussed on talks and training.
- Join a [nearby action or event](#)

Ideas for growing your group

- Plan some ['outreach' to find even more people](#) near you
- Read more about ['integrating' new rebels](#)
- Organise some [arts and making activities](#).
- Organising some in-person training for your group (ask your Gardener help find a trainer to visit your group, or [train to deliver these yourself](#)) Example trainings are:
 - [Heading for Extinction](#)
 - [Welcome to XR for Local Groups](#)
 - [Prepare for Action \(NVDA training\)](#)

With all your activities, think about how to advertise them. This could be [via social media](#), or [outreach](#) (posters, flyers, outreach stalls, survey boards), or your own [email list](#). It could be reaching in to your own current social networks (book club, choirs, walking group, sports teams, faith groups etc).

Choosing a campaign direction for your Local Group

Local Groups (unless they are huge!) tend to be more productive when they are focused on one of two areas of campaigning. Otherwise it can feel like a small number of people are trying to take on

every problem in a local area, instead of focusing on smaller topics which can feel more achievable, and present more areas for collaboration with other organisations.

Consider running a 'What Next?' meeting for your Local Group. Advertise it widely to the local community, other local environmental organisations, and people who have been involved with XR previously but aren't any more.

Use a loose **People's Assembly format** to hear from everyone in the room about what they think the key issues for the area are, and what they think the local group should be focusing on. Get each small group to feed back their opinions and have a whole group discussion to find a focus that works for the group.

It's really important to follow up this activity with another meeting to progress the plan, or to form working groups who will go away from the 'What Next?' session to develop areas of the group's campaign.

If you would like someone to help you facilitate a meeting like this, **contact your Regional or National Gardener**.
