

“Speaking Out for Climate Justice”

with

Hope for the Future

On 26th May 2021, The Centre for Applied Buddhism and SGI-UK hosted a training presentation, created and led by Carina Mundle-Garratt and Helena Ritter from Hope for the Future.

Hope for the Future is a climate charity which works to equip communities, groups and individuals across the country to communicate the urgency of climate change with their local politicians.

Unfortunately, we cannot share a recording of this webinar for copyright reasons, but please have a look at the Hope for the Future Website for more information on the work they do, and how you can get involved: <https://www.hftf.org.uk/>

Overview of the Webinar:

Olivia Fuchs is a Research Fellow at the Centre for Applied Buddhism, the project coordinator of the Eco Dharma Network, on the steering committee of Faith for the Climate and a member of the COP Faith Task group.

Introducing this session, Olivia spoke about faith-based advocacy for climate action, as well as sharing her own experience of lobbying for “The Time is Now” campaign in 2020 and arranging with her local MP to sign the pledge, having been inspired by a Hope for The Future workshop she had previously taken part in.

Carina Mundle-Garratt and Helena Ritter work as regional organisers at **Hope for the Future**, working with constituents and MPs in the South of England and Wales.

In their presentation, Carina and Helena outlined Hope for the Future’s approach to building and facilitating the development of constructive relationships with MPs, using Non-Violent Communication skills. Their relationship-based approach is based on:

- Research (Using Tailored Lobbying Strategies)
- Common Ground (enabling collaboration)
- Defining a SMART* Agenda (***S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**elevant, **T**imely)
- Preparing for a Conversation

Using a variety of examples of their work with constituents, Carina and Helena provided us with an in-depth look at how we can make our voice heard in government, when it comes to Climate Action.

We heard an experience from **Kim Farr**, who shared how she has been lobbying for Climate action, meeting with her Local MP, and the steps she and her group of advocates have been taking towards building a relationship with him, so that he can raise these important issues concerning climate change in parliament.