

12 key steps to embarking on your transition journey

- 1 Set up a steering group and design its demise from the start
- 2 Awareness raising
- 3 Lay the foundations
- 4 Organise a Great Unleashing
- 5 Form sub groups
- 6 Use Open Space
- 7 Develop visible practical manifestations of the project
- 8 Facilitate the Great Reskilling
- 9 Build a bridge to Local Government
- 10 Honour the elders
- 11 Let it go where it wants to go...
- 12 Create an Energy Descent Plan

7 barriers that stand in the way of a transition initiative

- 1 But we've got no funding...
- 2 But they won't let us...
- 3 But there are already green groups in this town. I don't want to step on their toes...
- 4 But no one in this town cares about the environment anyway...
- 5 But surely it's too late to do anything...?
- 6 But I don't have the right qualifications...
- 7 But I don't have the energy for doing that!

A set of criteria that indicates how ready a community is to embark on this journey to a lower energy future

These draft criteria from the UK are developing all the time, and are not “written in stone”.

- 1 An **understanding of peak oil and climate change** as twin drivers (to be written into constitution or governing documents).
- 2 A group of **4-5 people willing to step into leadership** roles (not just the boundless enthusiasm of a single person).
- 3 At least two people from the **core team** willing to attend an initial two day **training** course. Initially these will be in Totnes and over time we'll roll them out to other areas as well, including internationally. Transition Training is just UK based right now, but that's going to have to change – we're working on it.
- 4 A potentially strong **connection to the local council**.
- 5 An initial **understanding of the 12 steps** to becoming a TT.
- 6 A commitment to **ask for help** when needed.
- 7 A commitment to **regularly update your Transition Initiative web presence** - either the wiki (collaborative workspace on the web that we'll make available to you), or your own website.
- 8 A commitment to make periodic **contributions to the Transition Towns blog** (the world will be watching).
- 9 A commitment, once you're into the Transition, for your group to **give at least two presentations** to other communities (in the vicinity) that are considering embarking on this journey – a sort of “here’s what we did” or #here's how it was for us" talk.
- 10 A commitment to **network with other TTs**.
- 11 A commitment to **work cooperatively with neighbouring TTs**.
- 12 **Minimal conflicts of interests** in the core team.
- 13 A commitment to **work with the Transition Network** re grant applications for funding from national grant giving bodies. Your own local trusts are yours to deal with as appropriate.
- 14 A commitment to **strive for inclusivity** across the entire initiative.
- 15 A recognition that although your entire county or district may need to go through transition, the first place for you to **start is in your local community**. It may be that eventually the number of transitioning communities in your area warrant some central group to help provide local support, but this will emerge over time, rather than be imposed. (This point was inserted in response to the several instances of people rushing off to transition their entire county/region rather than their local community.)
 - * In exceptional situations where a **coordinating hub** or initiating hub needs to be set up (currently Bristol, Forest of Dean, Brighton&Hove) that hub is responsible for making sure these criteria are applied to all the initiatives that start within their area.
 - * Further criteria apply to initiating/coordinating hubs – these can be discussed person to person.
- 16 And finally, we recommend that at least **one person on the core team** should have attended a **permaculture design course**... it really does seem to make a difference.