



Reading 'Green Beacon' Final Report



Reading GREEN Business
Improvement Districts
Developing a Framework Workshop
23rd September 2021 @ 2pm

Co produced by: Nigel Horton-Baker RUK, Alexa Volker Reading BIDs, Verity Leal,
Hammerson the Oracle Centre

www.livingreading.co.uk

December 2021

Reading 'Green' BID Case Studies



Andrew Whiteaker

recycling, separation + reusable cups, non aerosol air freshener, no card board cups, intro paper light scheme - now paper free as working remotely hybrid working and looking at season ticket loans , cycle



Verity Leal

net +ve strategy very important - tenants energy Performance certificates water smart meters green walls and water ways



Ben Burfoot

Decarbonising - electric waste lorry, heat pumps - tech solutions , explore with business on use of transport and buildings. Green House protocol measure to manage and plan how to reduce



Green Apple shopping centre industry award waste recycling lighting to LED

Steve Connolly





Reading Business Improvement Districts - Sustainable actions

Alexa Volker

Reading BID Plan Projects

Cardboard Recycling



Glass Recycling



Greening the waterways



Wild flowering



Tree planting



Town Centre Services

Sustainable bus fleet to include electric buses:
Low carbon compressed natural gas



Readibikes donated to
Premier Suites,
Minster Street,
by Reading
Borough
Council





Energy measures

Company /Organisation and their buildings

- Supplied by green sourced energy
- Converted to non gas boilers
- Adopted energy saving measures
- Use of energy saving appliances
- No control over energy supply
- LED utilisation
- EV charging points on site
- Use of HVAC management systems

Advice /Support

- [Energy Tips For Organisations — Reading CAN](#)
- www.lowcarbonworkspaces.co.uk

Town Centre

- Introduction of urban shading
- Municipal heat network
- LED Xmas lighting (BID)

New Plans and Projects

- Introducing solar panels on to high buildings
- Promoting HVAC management systems
- Roof top Solar panels adoption
- Energy audit and plans service



Waste

Companies/Organisations and their buildings

- Recycling food and coffee waste
- Supermarket with waste initiatives
- Companies using BID card recycling vouchers
- Companies taking waste out of the system
- Reduction in vehicle movements needed to re-move waste
- Reuse mugs policy

Advice Support

[Resources – Tips For Organisations – Reading CAN](#)

Town Centre

- Card Recycling
- Reduction in vehicle movements needed to remove waste
- Waste management at events and food markets – visitors and tourist
- Adopting electric vehicles to collect waste

New Plans and Projects:

- Plastic reduction – e.g. Caversham)
- Clothing recycling and reuse -Organic alternatives - Wembley scheme -
- Hubs for sharing equipment e.g. DIY tools rather than buying new Norwich a sharing city
- IT and electrical recycling



Water

Companies/Organisations and their buildings

- Water metering extended
- New water saving devices

Advice Support

[Saving water in your business](#)

www.lowcarbonworkspaces.co.uk

Town Centre

- Water harvesting systems
- Less concrete more porous surfaces
- Water retained and used effectively not lost on sewers

New Plans and Projects

- Water quality of the Kennet (linked also to nature biodiversity)
- Refill fountains
- Proper investment in drainage and SuDS systems maintenance is needed
- Thames Water commercial property visits





Transport

Companies/Organisations and their buildings

- Company Travel Plans
- Cycling and provision of safe store . - work on active travel stimulates urban centres
- Active Travel initiatives Council Bike to Work Scheme
- EV charging points
- Use of low /no emission vehicles - buses

Advice Support

Dr Emma Street Henley Business Schools
– Active Travel

[Traveling Tips – Reading Climate Action Network \(readingcan.org.uk\)](#)

Town Centre

- Monitor transport effects on air pollution
- Last mile delivery - e.g. e-cargo bikes
- On demand bus services
- Visitors/ tourists – green travel/ active travel
- Festivals promoting information about travel options
- Promoting active travel to employees
- Promote off peak travel by car

New plans and projects

- Measure air mile use and changing practices
- Promote 15 Minute City living/working
- Bike Hub- safe storage
- EV charging points - map of sites
- Smaller on demand buses
- reuse carparks for better use



Biodiversity

Companies Organisations and their buildings

- Green walls , green roofs ,
- Businesses with diversity action plans Lavender Place community space old civic
- STANTEC urban orchard species rich garden
- Biodiversity nett gain in refurb of building garden

Advice Support

<https://www.thrivingplacesindex.org/candidates/E06000038>

- [Nature Nurture](#)

Town Centre

- Biodiversity net gain aiming for 25%
- Pesticides free
- Range of 'outdoor' places to work?
- Biophilic design - that improves wellbeing,
- Improved air quality
- Reduced noise levels
- Permanent tree planting ensuring longevity to maximise time to sequester their full carbon potential.

New plans and projects

- Planting avenues for natural shading – pocket parks
- Bee hives on office roofs : Abbey Honey, Reading Mead
- Campaign to get restaurants to source local and in season produce
- Green over IDR





Buildings and Equipment

Companies and Organisations and their Buildings

- Landlord energy supplier policies
- Developer BREEAM building Exc
- Build in cycle facilities and EV points
- Adaptation measures
- Purchase of new low carbon equipment

Advice Support

www.lowcarbonworkspaces.co.uk

Town Centre

- Use of electric cleaning and waste vehicles
- Landlords working with tenants on green issues
- Sustainable festivals and outdoor events – visitor tourism management
- Map building users, business sectors and response to green issues
- Work with Railway station

New Developments Projects

- Monitor green standards for new development sites
- Training for facilities staff



Health and Well being and Engagement/ promotion

Companies and Organisations and their Buildings

- Company and BID Health and Well being programme and services
- Businesses engaging with schools and the next generation
- Procurement Policies to add value
- A KTP with Stantec
- Staff volunteering in green action in the community (PWC)
- Sign up to RCAN Pledge
- Join Ethical Reading sustainable business network

Advice Support

<https://readingcan.org.uk/what-i-can-do/organisations/how-to-join/#ways-pledge>

<https://www.ethicalreading.org.uk/programmes/sustainability/connecting-sustainability-champions/>

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RCCP/Theme leads to advice on developing services and new projects links to research at the University.

Town Centre

- Communicate to residents and schools (consumers and staff) what the BIDs are doing for the climate?
- Health and Wellbeing events for employees in town centre
- Networking opportunities to share tips and good practice

New Plans and Projects

- Draw on some of the sustainability leads in national retail
- Promote the green agenda during COP 26 in Town Centre





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Hosted by

- Nigel Horton-Baker RUK,
- Alexa Volker Reading BIDs
- Verity Leal Oracle Centre
- Lauren Shute Reading
Climate Change Partnership

Supported by

- Andy Briggs Reading Central
BID Chairman @ The Oracle
- Andrew Whiteaker Abbey Qtr
BID Chairman @ Boyes
Turner

Invitees

- Tracey Rawling Church, @ Reading Climate Change
Partnership @ Acclaro
- Prof Tim Dixon @ Reading Climate Change
Partnership @ UoR
- Chris Beales, @ Environnent Agency
- James Gross <James@urbanplacelab.com>
- Ben Burfoot @ Reading B.C.
- Ojay McDonald @ ATCM
- Kathryn McCann @ Ethical Reading
- Zsuzsi.Lindsay @ Reading Fringe
- Jacob Boyer @ PWC
- Jenni Montgomery @ Barton Willmore.
- Kim Cohen (Kim.Cohen @ Barton Willmore
- Scott Witchalls Stantec
- Jenny. Hughes @ Stantec
- D biddell @ education development trust
- Steve Connolly @ Broad Street Mall
- Thomas. Macdonald @ Ngage Solutions
- Tom Hindmarch @ Inst Place Management- MMU
- Joseph Barratt @ Inst Place Management-MMU
- Dawn Thompson @ ECITB
- Amanda Burke @ Bauer Media

Invitees

- Jayne Morris @ Huntswood
- Susan grey @ sharpie household
- Apps @ Antonio rossi
- Erica @ technicalnature
- Glen Dinning @ Blue Collar
- Vicky Punchaye @ roseate hotels
- Robert Hill @ Ethical Reading
- Gwyneth Matthews @ PGR UoR
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