

ACTION PLANS

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Energy and Low Carbon Development Action Plan

Our aim is that by 2025 Reading is taking urgent action to decarbonise its energy networks, increase energy efficiency and create renewable energy capacity. It has concrete plans to achieve sufficient demand reduction to enable its annual energy needs to be 100% covered by its renewable generation, taking account of the increased load from transport and heat becoming electrically powered.

NB Some of the actions included in the action plans below, and the scale and pace at which they can be progressed, will be subject to the prevailing national policy context and/or the provision of additional powers and resources by central government, as made clear in Reading's climate emergency declaration (see section 3.2 above).

Sub-category: Low Carbon Development

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
E1: Energy Efficiency in New development	Introduce high standards of energy efficiency for new development • Large commercial to BREEAM 'excellent' standard • Larger housing developments built to zero carbon standards • Ensure standards post construction	i) % achieving standard ii) Schemes supported though offset	Ongoing	Reading BC
E2: Energy Reduction through Retrofit Programme	Establish a housing retrofit programme in Reading which is compelling for property owners • Apply for funding • Complete housing stock survey • Identify partner • Zero carbon offset	Programme launched	2020/21	Reading BC and developers and/or retrofit companies
E3: Retrofit Design	Establish standards for climate-conscious retrofit (not exhaustive): • Heritage sympathetic schemes • Consider damp and ventilation • Design for climate risks • Heat recovery ventilation • Underfloor heating • Consider embodied energy in construction • Introduce water saving, especially hot water	Standard established	2020 to 2022	Reading BC, English Heritage SECBE, University or Reading

	Links: Water, Business			
E4: Behaviours that save energy in homes and businesses	- Develop approaches to reduce energy consumption in homes and businesses - Create information resources - Develop targeted behaviour-change campaign Links: Community, Business	Publish resources Targeted campaign	2020/21 2021/2022	National/local agencies and organisations materials and resources Reading BC, RCCP
E5: Best in class buildings	Develop high standard projects in different sectors, to reduce emissions Link: Business	Publish reports on buildings	April 2021	Housing providers
E6: Reducing fuel poverty	- Continue to provide Winter Watch service - Support new schemes targeting retrofitting for those most in need - Build referral mechanisms for those suffering from poor health and/or fuel poverty. Links: Community, Health	Reading Housing Strategy Design new approaches Establish cross-referral programme	2020/21 2020/22 Ongoing	Reading BC, other agencies (Health, Citizens Advice etc)
E7: Leadership and Influence	Consider legal options for establishing standards that go higher than regulations	Consider trials nationally	July 2020	Reading BC
E8: Reading Borough Council Carbon Plan 2020 to 2025	Reading Borough Council to set out plan to achieve emissions reductions and renewable energy generation targets.	Published plan Meet its milestones	July 2020	Reading BC
E9: Publish new housing strategy to incorporate energy retrofit	New strategy to include C-rating for all Council and rental accommodation in borough by 2030 Link: Business	i) New housing strategy ii) Implementation	2020/21 2021 onwards	Reading BC

Sub-category: Renewable Energy - Heat

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
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E10: Renewable Heat – Ground Source	• Work with developers to maximise district energy solutions in line with Local Plan policies on decentralised energy: • Establish District Heating • Investigate the potential of rivers, ground and aquifers in Reading for renewable heat • Implement heat pump schemes • Develop skills of local installers Link: Business	Complete studies Implement scheme	June 2020 April 2022 (dependent on developers)	Reading BC /BEIS University
E11: Renewable Heat – Air Source	Consider different types of heat pumps and develop skills of local installers Link: Business	Report on Air Source Heat Pumps Identify installers Conduct trials	Sept 2020 Sept 2020 April 2021	Reading BC
E12: Renewable Heat – Anaerobic Digestion	• Anaerobic digestion for food waste streams • Consider biogas generation for buses and inject to grid Links: Nature, Resources, Transport	Report informing waste strategy	April 2021	University of Reading
E13: Hydrogen	Investigate renewably sourced hydrogen fuel cell technology in particular for use in Heavy Commercial Vehicles (HCVs) Links: Business, Transport	Identify schemes/trials	DATE TBC	Reading BC Reading UK Reading Transport

Sub-category: Renewable Energy - Electricity

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
E14: Solar PV (commercial)	Establish large commercial roof-based schemes that service base loads in large commercial buildings Link: Business	Establish scheme Achieve high proportion of suitable roofs	2020/22 2025	UoR, Reading UK & Reading BC, TVBLEP/ Reading UK, SE Energy hub

E15: Solar PV (domestic)	Establish phase 1 of domestic scheme using bulk purchase to reduce price	Develop scheme Scheme up and running	2020 2022	RCCP, Tenants groups, local companies
E16: Renewable Energy – Hydro	To bring forward Hydro-electric power schemes powered by Reading's rivers Link: Water	Planning approval secured already, investment and commence scheme by	2020/21	Reading Hydro
E17: Investment in Renewable Energy at Regional level	Consider investment in land and sites in and outside of Reading that have potential to supply renewable electricity to Reading. Investigate suitable land with (potential) planning and connections for renewable energy generation	Initial report by	April 2021	Reading BC

Sub-category: Electric Powered Transport - see also Transport Theme Action Plan

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
E18: Energy strategy for Bus Depot and surrounding area	- Establish potential for solar – depot, car park canopies, Civitas School - Investigate Riding Sunbeams option for direct connection to railway network	Report	2020/21	RBC, Reading Community Energy Society

Sub-category: Electricity Storage, Management and Metering – Smart Cities Solutions

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
E19: Battery Storage	- Grid side battery storage by Local Energy company (District Network Operator) - Behind meter storage on domestic and commercial sites - Specialist large scale storage facilities third party	Establish energy strategy group Develop energy strategy draft	2020 April 2021	SSE Public Sector Private sector

E20: Smart Meters	• Roll out of smart meters in households • Identify 'Internet of Things' solutions linked to smart meters • Explore linkages to 'time of use' tariffs (different rates for different times of day) linked to IoT devices and 'vehicle to grid' (vehicles powering buildings). • Establish trials with vehicles/buildings and local network Links: Business, Transport	Energy company schedules/targets	2020 to 2024	Energy Companies RCCP University of Reading
E21: Internet of Things projects	• Introduction of in-building solutions for projects that use the cloud and smart response approaches including machine learning to optimise energy flows	Smart Cities projects	2020 to 2022	Reading BC, University of Reading
E22: Heat storage	• Investigate the potential of natural and engineering based heat storage systems in urban context for stabilising heat supply and balancing summer storage and winter loads	Set up Energy Working group	TBC	TBC
E23: Carbon intensity research	• Work with University and or third parties to develop accurate real time assessment of carbon intensity of electricity and optimise energy flows to minimise carbon emissions	Set up Energy Working Group	TBC	Reading BC, University of Reading

Transport Theme Action Plan

Our aim is for a low carbon future for transport in which emissions are cut by reducing the need to travel, shifting more journeys to sustainable modes of transport and supporting the transition from petrol/diesel to electric vehicles. In the process, we will improve health and wellbeing, while making transport infrastructure more resilient to climate impacts.

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Sub-category: Reducing need and demand for travel, promoting walking and cycling

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
T1: Reduce the need to travel through well planned development	Ensure that services, leisure facilities and employment opportunities are located close to where people live and/or in locations easy to access by sustainable transport services via planning policy and decisions Links: Business, Community, Health, Energy and LCD	Reduction in transport-related emissions across Reading Implementation of Reading Local Plan policies	2025	Reading BC Developers
T2: Develop demand management measures to reduce traffic and encourage shift from high carbon transport	Consider introduction of individual or combined policies via the forthcoming Local Transport Plan such as: • Workplace Parking Levy • Clean Air Zone • Alternative demand management measures Links: Business, Community, Health	Initiate consultation Develop business case for preferred option(s) Implement preferred measure(s)	Spring 2020 2021 2022-23	Reading BC Local Businesses Neighbouring Authorities Department for Transport Reading BID

T3: Enhance provision for Pedestrians & cyclists to encourage low carbon travel choices	Free up space for walking and cycling improvements, including segregation (where feasible), surface improvements, crossing priority, safety improvements and increased cycle parking hubs/facilities as set out in Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan Links: Health	Increase proportion of adults who walk at least 3 times per week from 30.8% (2019) to 37.2% by 2025 (en route to a 50% target by 2036) Increase proportion of adults who cycle at least 3 times per week from 5.1% (2019) to 6.7% by 2025 (en route to a 10% target by 2036)	2025 as part of the Local Transport Plan targets through to 2036	Reading BC Local User Groups Thames Valley Police
T4: Enhance Town Centre and Local Centre Public Space to improve air quality and reduce carbon use	Improve the pedestrian experience in Central Reading and local centres by providing better access to key destinations for walking, cycling and bus passengers Green up the local environment to encourage use and enjoyment of local facilities Links: Business, Community, Health	Increase active travel trips to/from Reading town centre by 4% from 41,100 (2019) to 44,800 by 2025 (en route to an 11% target by 2036) Increase public transport trips to/from Reading town centre by 10% from 50,700 (2019) to 55,800 per day by 2025 (en route to a 31% target by 2036) Decrease car trips to/from Reading town centre by 9% from 22,100 (2019) to 20,000 per day (en route to a 26% target by 2036)	2025 as part of the Local Transport Plan targets through to 2036	Reading BC Transport Operators Reading BID Local User Groups Developers Businesses Residents
T5: Promote Sustainable Travel to School and other education sites to encourage low carbon travel choices	Establish dedicated and safe walking and cycling routes for each school. Reduce the danger and pollution from 'the school run' Roll-out Play Streets/School Streets programme - supporting local communities and schools who want to organise street closures	Increased shift from private car use to active travel Improved health and fitness of schoolchildren Improved air quality Trial school street closures at selected schools before a wider rollout across the borough	2025 as part of the Local Transport Plan targets through to 2036	Reading BC School Communities Bikeability Provider Thames Valley Police Local User Groups Residents University of Reading

Sub-category: Encouraging a switch to public transport

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
T6: Improve major and radial routes to promote switch to sustainable modes of travel	Improve the transport options on main corridors and radial routes including A4, A33, A327, A329, A4074, A4155 and the Inner Distribution Road. Make space to encourage changes in travel choice to low/zero carbon modes. Links: Business, Community, Education	As per T3 and T4	2025 as part of the Local Transport Plan targets through to 2036	Reading BC Neighbouring LAs TVB LEP Transport Operators Local User Groups Residents Businesses
T7: Improve Quality Bus Corridors	Improve branded local routes with faster, more reliable and more frequent services, changing people's travel habits away from dependency on cars especially for commuter and school journeys Links: Business, Community, Education	Increase bus journeys per year by 9% from 22.5M (2019) to 24.6M (en route to a target increase of 25% by 2036)	2025 as part of the Local Transport Plan targets through to 2036	Reading BC Transport Operators Businesses Residents Schools Health Services
T8: Establish Fast-Track Public Transport Corridors	Improve speed and reliability of key public transport routes through establishment of key Fast-Track Public Transport (FTPT) corridors on strategic routes (including south, west, east and north).	As per T7	2025	Reading BC Wokingham BC West Berkshire BC Oxfordshire CC Transport Operators

T9: Extend Park and Ride provision to encourage car users to change onto low carbon alternatives to access Reading	Provision of new and expanded Park & Rides to intercept traffic on main corridors into Reading. Links: Business	Increased use of P&R trips to/from Reading by 25% compared to 2019 levels New P&R at Thames Valley Park opened Winnersh Triangle P&R expanded New P&R sites identified	2025 2020 2021 2025	Reading BC Transport Operators Royal Berks Hospital Businesses Wokingham BC Thames Valley Park W Berks BC Oxfordshire CC TVB LEP Businesses
T10: Deliver Railway Station upgrades to encourage car users to use low carbon alternatives to and from Reading	Improved access to railway stations at Reading, Reading West and Tilehurst by walking, cycling and public transport. Improved customer experience (including fully accessible platforms), interchange and public space enhancements, including new and improved cycle parking hubs and facilities	Increase public transport trips to/from Reading town centre by 10% from 50,700 (2019) to 55,800 per day by 2025 (en route to a 31% target by 2036)	2025 as part of the Local Transport Plan targets through to 2036	Reading BC Network Rail Great Western Railway TVB LEP
T11: Open Reading Green Park Railway Station	Provide new station for access to Green Park and South Reading and interchange with integrated bus services Links: Business	New station completed and served by GWR services. Interchange open with provision of integrated bus services.	2021	Reading BC Network Rail Great Western Railway Transport Operators TVB LEP DfT Businesses
T12: Implement traffic management schemes to support low carbon travel choices	Provide effective management of the existing network to meet changing mobility demands of Reading Provide safe roads and pavements including crossings and reduce crossing conflicts and interruptions to the flow of walking and cycling	As per T4	2025 as part of the Local Transport Plan targets through to 2036	Reading BC Transport Operators Emergency Services

Sub-category: Reducing emissions from the vehicle fleet and using new technology

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
T13: Develop an Electric Vehicle strategy for the Borough	- Study suitable locations - Identify potential network constraints - Assess potential demand	Strategy development to follow Local Transport Plan	2020/21	Reading BC
T14: Decarbonise the Council Vehicle Fleet	- Increase electric charging points at Council buildings - Consider phased replacement of Council vehicles with electric powered units wherever possible - Charging points to be installed at depot that can allow vehicles to power buildings - Carbon Plan will set targets for reduction in diesel/petrol	RBC Carbon Plan Feasibility report, Business case, Budget approval * (subject to above)	June 2020 2022-2024	Reading BC
T15: Increase Public Electric Vehicle Charging Points	Install electric charging points in - Council car parks - Leisure centres - Lamp columns (trials) - Business premises - Taxi ranks Links: Business, Transport	First car park project All suitable car parks First leisure centre All leisure centres	2020/21 2023 2020/21 2022	Reading BC, Reading UK, Taxi Assoc, Leisure provider
T16: Increase new electric vehicles uptake	Work with vehicle sales outlets in Reading to increase EV uptake Links: Business	EV uptake compared to national benchmarks	Ongoing	Reading UK RCAN
T17: Establish and promote eBikes	Identify charging locations for electrically assisted pedal cycles	Develop strategy for location	TBC	Reading BC Site owners
T18: Planning policy for EV charging in new properties	Monitor number of additional charging units installed in new properties Links: Business	Monitor additional units in line with planning policy	Ongoing	Reading BC Developers
T19: Reduce emissions from the Taxi Fleet	Require all taxis and private hire vehicles to be electric or hybrid by 2030	Improved Air quality, reduced carbon emissions	Beyond 2025	Reading BC Taxi and Private

				Hire Associations
T20: Improve Electric Vehicle Charging infrastructure	Develop and implement policy for appropriate provision of electric vehicle charging points across the borough	Provision of EV charging installed as per the policy to accommodate anticipated increases in demand	2022	Reading BC Transport Operators Third Party Landowners
T21: Deploy Intelligent Transport Systems to encourage change to low carbon transport	Use technology and real-time data to improve safety, efficiency environmental performance and journey experience of users of the transport system, particularly at signal-controlled junctions	As per T4	2025 as part of the Local Transport Plan targets through to 2036	Reading BC Transport Operators
T22: Embrace Smart Solutions to reduce use of carbon in transport	Smarter Working – maximise benefits of flexible working patterns including working from home (to cut transport demand) and more flexible working hours to encourage commuter travel outside of the peak periods. Smart City Initiatives - Use different types of electronic Internet of Things (IoT) sensors to collect data and then use insights gained to manage assets, resources and services efficiently Links: Business	Decrease car trips to/from Reading town centre by 9% from 22,100 (2019) to 20,000 per day (en route to a 26% target by 2036)	2025 as part of the Local Transport Plan targets through to 2036	Reading BC Employers Transport Operators Emergency Services Highways England Motoring Organisations

Sub-category: Adaptation, Communication & Engagement

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
T23: Develop education, initiatives, promotion and advice to encourage low carbon travel choices	Undertake marketing activities promoting sustainable transport, including national events such as Bike Week, Clean Air Day, In Town Without My Car Day, and organising local events and activities Provide up-to-date travel information to enable people to make informed travel choices including open data apps, real time passenger information and	As per T4	2025 as part of the Local Transport Plan targets through to 2036	Reading BC Stakeholders Reading BC School Communities Bikeability Provider Thames Valley

	roadside Messaging Signs Develop programme of training, education and initiatives to promote sustainable transport usage Roll-out Mode-shift STARS accreditation scheme to all schools in Reading to recognise efforts encouraging sustainable travel Links: Education, Health	Achieve 33% of all schools accredited (either Bronze, Silver or Gold) by 2025. Currently 2% in 2019.		Police Local User Groups Residents
T24: Research and plan for Carbon Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation	Participate in research programmes investigating the carbon footprint related to transport and the air quality impact of transport Design climate adaptation into the planning and operation of transport network to improve resilience to climate change impacts Links: Adaptation	Research completed and recommendations made Climate Change Adaptation key consideration in planning of all schemes	2022 2025 and beyond	Reading BC Transport operators University of Reading DfT Other Stakeholders

Resources Theme Action Plan

Our aim for 2025 is that Reading is working strenuously to become a zero waste town by 2030. We continuously innovate to find new ways of using resources more efficiently and thereby minimise our contribution to climate change. It is easy for everybody to access information and services to help them reduce waste and repurpose things they no longer need.

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Sub Category: Material Streams

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
R1: Plastics: Plastic-Free Accreditation	- Gain Plastic-Free Community accreditation for Reading - Adopt the Surfers Against Sewage Plastic-Free Community methodology which includes dedicated tools for businesses and schools - RBC to lead the way by becoming avoidable single-use plastic-free across all its operations including public buildings and venues Links: Business, Community, Education	First schools and businesses accredited by: Plastic-free community accreditation gained by: Annual targets for #/% of schools and businesses to be set by:	July 2021 Dec 2022 July 2022	Reading BC (Council and schools lead) Reading UK CIC (businesses lead) Reading Business CAN
R2: Food: Kerbside Food Waste Recycling	- Maximise take-up of kerbside food waste recycling when introduced. - Appropriate annual targets to be set in conjunction with RBC/Re3 - Communications programme required to drive behaviour change Links: Community, Education	Increase Reading's recycling rate by 7% through food waste collection	October 2021	Reading BC / Re3
R3: Food: Reducing Domestic Food Waste	- Establish baseline and set meaningful targets for reducing domestic food waste - Adopt the Love Food, Hate Waste toolkit from WRAP and drive behaviour change through communications. Links: Community	Baseline research completed: Comms programme in place, targets set and tracked annually:	October 2020 January 2021 onwards	Reading BC (lead) University of Reading (research)

R4: Food: Reducing Commercial Food Waste	- Establish baseline and set meaningful targets for reducing commercial food waste - Create a programme combining reduction measures, well-managed charity donations and best outcome waste processing - Collaborative programme by and for businesses - Commercial food waste collection to be introduced by RBC for schools and commercial partners Links: Community, Business, Education	Baseline research completed: Comms programme in place, targets set and tracked annually Commercial food waste collection	September 2021 January 2022 From 2020	RCAN (lead) Reading UK CIC University (research) Connect Reading Waste/recycling contractors RBC/commercial parties
R5: Food: Climate-friendly Diet	- Publish reliable and authoritative information on how to eat more sustainably - Focus on dietary choices, sustainable sourcing, child nutrition - Guidance for caterers as well as individuals Links: Community, Business, Health, Nature, Education	Best practice identified and guidance prepared by: Comms programme developed and campaign launched by:	December 2020 September 2021	Reading University Subject-matter specialists (eg breastfeeding, food growing networks)
R6: Other: Clothing	- Establish baseline and set meaningful targets for reducing the amount of clothing wasted in Reading - Introduce programme to divert unwanted clothing from general waste through various means including donation, swapping, sharing, lease/rental, etc. - Investigate the potential for emulating the WearNext project pioneered in New York Links: Business, Community	Establish baseline and identify areas for improvement: Publish programme of targeted interventions:	March 2021 December 2021	Reading Circular Economy Club (lead) Reading UK CIC Connect Reading Re3 (baseline data)
R7: Other: Glass	- Establish baseline and set meaningful targets for increasing glass collection - Improve access to glass recycling facilities for residents - Focus on areas with high density housing/low car ownership - Work with hospitality industry to introduce colour-segregated glass collection Links: Community, Business	Establish baseline and identify areas for improvement: Publish plan to introduce improved provision for residents and businesses, including targets for collection:	September 2020 September 2021	Reading BC (domestic lead) Reading UK CIC (business lead) University (research) Waste/recycling contractors

R8: Other: Kerbside Recycling	• Maximise kerbside collection and minimise contamination • Increase awareness of what can go in kerbside recycling • Implement communications programme to encourage and improve confidence in recycling • Set annual targets to improve collection / contamination rates Links: Community	Increase in Reading's overall recycling rate by 4% arising from efforts to reduce contamination	October 2021	Re3/Reading BC
R9: Other: Zero Waste / Circular Festivals	• Work with festival organisers to implement resource-stewardship systems to reduce waste at festival venues and campsites • Develop an engagement programme that uses a combination of techniques to motivate festival goers to use the resources • Establish baseline and set meaningful targets for reducing waste and maximising recovery of resources • Draw on experiences of Green Deal Circular Festivals Links: Business	Convene festival organisers and secure buy-in: Baseline research: Programme launch: Zero tents left behind on site at Reading Festival:	Spring 2020 Dec 2020 April 2021 August 2025	Reading Circular Economy Club (lead) Reading UK CIC University of Reading (research) Waste/recycling contractors Festival organisers
R10: Other: Resource Efficiency	• Publish easy to access and understand best practice guidance covering all common household purchases (in and out of home) • Focus on extended life, zero waste, energy efficiency • Signpost established labels and standards, advisory bodies, etc. • Establish comms programme to reinforce behaviour change Link: Communication and Engagement	Guidance published and comms programme launched	April 2022	RCAN (lead) Re3 Reading UK CIC

Sub Category: Resource Systems

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
R11: Re-use and repair: Establish a definitive information source on reuse and repair	• Compile and maintain a comprehensive directory of reuse and repair resources in Reading, and encourage new ones, especially through social enterprise • Include info resources like ifixit and services like repair café/bicycle kitchen • Establish comms programme to reinforce behaviour change Links: Community	Directory published, update process and comms programme in place	April 2021	RCAN lead Organisations offering reuse and repair services Reading UK CIC Transition Town Re3
R12: Sharing, renting and swapping: Establish a definitive information source on the sharing economy	• Compile and maintain a comprehensive directory of sharing, renting and swapping resources, and encourage new ones • Include peer to peer systems like Freegle, rental and “as a service” systems, charity outlets and platform services like Too Good to Go • Establish comms programme to reinforce behaviour change Links: Community	Directory published, update process and comms programme in place by:	April 2021	RCAN lead Organisations offering sharing, rental and swapping services Transition Town
R13: Circular economy: Reading Circular Economy Club	• Establish Reading Circular Economy Club - Part of the international network of Circular Economy Clubs • Peer to peer information exchange and networking for interested businesses and organisations • Develop resources exchange to create closed resources loops in the town, reducing use of virgin resources and finding new uses for waste products Links: Business	Club set up Regular schedule of meetings and events established and publicised Resources exchange set up and operational.	DONE June 2020 June 2021	Reading Circular Economy Club lead RCAN/RBCAN Re3

Water Theme Action Plan

Reading will aim to become the most water aware and water efficient town in the UK, going beyond national targets. We will achieve this by developing and implementing a dedicated communications and education strategy and delivering a range of water saving improvements in Reading's homes and businesses. Climate change will also increase the risk of flooding: significantly from the River Thames and from urban stormwater. We will help residents and businesses understand these risks and to get ready for them.

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Sub Category: Water supply and water conservation

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
W1: Educate the public about Reading's water situation	- Share and explain our 2050 target and how this compares to current consumption, eg: - Domestic water consumption by activity - Info on non-domestic water consumption - Where our water comes from - Develop Comms Strategy for engaging public, including schools Links: Education, Community, Business, Communication and Engagement.	Available material published on RCAN website New material prepared and published	2020 2021	Thames Water
W2: Educate households about their water consumption and the need to save water	- Share information on the risks of drought and importance of water conservation. - Provide tips and information on how to save water in the home and garden - Develop and implement Comms Strategy for engaging households Links: Energy & LCD, Nature, Communication and Engagement	Information resource compiled and published Comms programme underway	2021 2025	Thames Water
W3: Educate businesses about water use, efficiency benefits, and dry weather preparedness / response	- Share the Thames Water Drought Plan - Signpost relevant information and case studies from reputable sources - Create industry-specific advice and case	Information resource compiled and published Industry-specific guidance available	2020 2021	Thames Water (lead) Environment Agency

	studies • Run a drought exercise with Local Resilience Forum (LRF), partners and businesses • Communicate the Environment Agency 'incident management' approach to drought Links: Business, Energy and LCD, Communication and Engagement	Drought exercise and incident management response	2022	RCAN/RBCAN
W4: Educate the public about water quality and sewer abuse	• Publish sewer abuse and water quality stats, messages and content to RCAN website Links: Business, Community, Communication and Engagement	Content published	2021	Thames Water
W5: Water efficiency measures	• Promote installation of water saving and efficiency devices during refurbishment • Promote Thames Water's 'Smarter Business Visit' scheme to all schools in Reading • Increase awareness of leaky-loos and benefits of fixing plumbing losses • Engage with building management companies to promote retrofitting/leak fix • Expand the provision of water info packs from new homes to all households • Promote Thames Water's 'Smarter Home' visit scheme to homes with smart meters • Support the roll-out of smart meters • Conduct periodic research on understanding and engagement with water saving. Links: Community, Business, Communication and Engagement	Refurbishment programme Schools visits, building management company engagement and leaky loos programme Water info packs, smart meters and research project	2020 2021 2025	RCAN Reading Borough Council Thames Water University of Reading (research)

W6: "Water Neutrality" as a planning requirement	- Investigate whether the RBC Sustainable Planning Document can be modified to include: - the requirement for all new major developments to contribute to funding water saving measures equivalent to the development's water consumption. - adopting the 'fittings approach' within Building Regulations rather than a pcc calculation approach Links: Energy and LCD	Share the contents of the Sustainable Planning Document on RCAN website Feedback on required amendments Amendments implemented	2020 2022 2025	Reading BC Thames Water
W7: Leadership and Influence	- Lobby MPs and Defra to introduce a mandatory water label to help consumers make water-efficient choices - Lobby MPs and Defra to strengthen building regulations and planning processes, to drive water efficiency within all new developments and procurement schemes.	- Water labelling - Building regs and planning	2021 2025	RCAN
W8: Research to drive future improvements	- Research the costs, benefits and suitability, of rainfall harvesting and grey water recycling schemes. - Use UKCP18 climate modelling and local river flow models, to develop projections for future drought / water resource availability. - With RBC and LEP update our estimates of Reading population growth to 2050 - Develop a new evidence-based 2050 water target - Review the first Adaptation Plan and identify and deliver initial win-win opportunities - Identify thresholds, risks, solutions and case studies for the second Adaptation Plan Links: Adaptation		2020-25	RCAN University of Reading (research)

Sub Category: Flooding resilience

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
W9: Raise awareness of fluvial (river) flood risk	- Raise awareness of flood risk from the River Thames and the proposed Reading and Caversham Scheme by carrying out various engagement activities - Update the flood maps on the Gov.UK website to show the areas at risk of flooding based on the latest flood modelling Links: Education, Business, Transport, Community, Adaptation	Engagement activities Flood maps updated	Summer 2020 2022	Environment Agency Partners: Reading BC, local councillors, local businesses and community groups
W10: Raise awareness of the Flood Warning and flood alert service	- Increase the number of at-risk homes and businesses signed-up to receive Flood Alerts - Signpost advice on the Flood Warning Service and what to do before, during and after a flood - Develop “what if” scenarios to help people and businesses understand the importance of self preparation, and education about flood risk Links: Education, Business, Community, Adaptation	90% sign-up to FW service 100% sign-up to FW service “What if” scenarios developed and posted on ReadingCAN	Dec 2021 Dec 2025 Dec 2025	Environment Agency Partners: Reading BC and community groups
W11: Reducing fluvial flood risk from River Thames	- Work in partnership with Risk Management Authorities and local stakeholders to identify ways to reduce fluvial flood risk - Gain support from all Reading communities on action to reduce flood risk from the River Thames - Seek funding through partnership funding and local grants. Links: Education, Business, Community, Adaptation	Reading community makes decision about favoured River Thames flood reduction option Funds raised to deliver favoured option	Summer 2021 2025	Environment Agency Partners: Reading BC, local councillors, Thames Water, Local Resilience Forum, community

				groups and local businesses
W12: Implement sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS)	• Explain the importance of SuDS and their practical application • Find out what post scheme monitoring is happening and recommend how this can be improved Links: Nature, Adaptation, Transport	Share planning information Monitoring, reporting and research	2020 2025	Reading BC
W13: Investigate the use of green infrastructure to reduce / slow down storm water	• Investigate measures to slow the flow of storm water, eg by planting and creating scrapes and swales. • Follow up on research by Reading University and the Landwise project • Transfer learning to RBC Sustainable Design and Construction (supplementary planning document). Links: Nature, Transport, Adaptation, Business Water theme group	Scope project brief and costs Deliver results	2020 2023	Partners: Environment Agency and University of Reading
W14: Improve the resilience of the Kennet Meadows	• Develop a plan for the Kennet Meadows to make it a resilient wetland • Make sure the plans preserve the need for the meadows to act as flood plain • Consider the drought risk and make sure the needs of the meadows are considered in EA / TW drought plans. There will be a limit to their protection...is it possible to develop a recovery plan early to try and mitigate? Links: Nature, Adaptation, Energy	Workshop to bring partners together and agree scope Develop and share plan	2021 2023	EA Partners: CEH (Wallingford), UoR Water theme group member
W15: Improve our flood risk adaptation plans	• Improve our understanding of climate change • adaptation thresholds • Investigate the latest UK climate projections to find out what extreme rainfall events we need to prepare for.	Post information on revised future flood modelling, as it is released Deliver report on change in storm rainfall, and Thames + Kennet flood peaks	Ongoing Dec 2024 Partners: EA, Reading BC	

	• Check the developing EA guidance for fluvial flooding and develop our own understanding of the changing flood risk for the River Thames and River Kennet. • Develop our flood adaptation plans through to 2050 and beyond Links: Education, Adaptation		and local interest groups	
W16: Investigate opportunities for Green roofs	• Develop recommendations for green roofs, green walls and landscaping for new build • Explore opportunities for retrofitting homes and offices • Develop advice for home owners on the benefits of breaking up hard surfaces in driveways and gardens Links: Transport, Nature, Community, Business	Create research proposals Deliver results 2021 2025 UoR Partners: Reading BC and EA		
W17: Develop links to the Thames Valley Local Resilience Forum	• Investigate the limits of our emergency plans and explore what the community of Reading can do to become more resilient. • Share the developing adaptation planning and vision for Reading with the LRF to inform long term strategic decisions. • Share advice on being prepared for an incident including "Thames Valley: Are you ready?" booklet and advice from the Environment Agency • Use resources from Business in the Community Business Resilience Group to help businesses improve resilience Links: Community, Business, Adaptation	Organise meeting with LRF Public workshop/ event on resilience and adaptation	2021 2022	EA Partners: Reading BC, TW, UoR, LRF

Nature Theme Action Plan

By 2025 the people of Reading will live in a greener town with changes to the management of open spaces and the green links between them that store more carbon as well as giving shade for hot summers, corridors for wildlife and some flood control. New developments will include biodiversity net gain and water management, and there will be exemplar sites showing how to change planting and soil management around buildings to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

NB Some of the actions included in the action plans below, and the scale and pace at which they can be progressed, will be subject to the prevailing national policy context and/or the provision of additional powers and resources by central government, as made clear in Reading's climate emergency declaration (see section 3.2 above).

Sub Category: Carbon Sequestration

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
N1: Increasing tree cover across the town	- Plant more street trees - Test new planting options in town centre and on the road network - Promote trees in private gardens/ business/ schools - Encourage tree and hedge planting in air pollution hotspots esp. Schools - Enable more street tree planters <u>Link:</u> Education	Targets per updated Biodiversity Action Plan & RBC Tree Strategy Publish guidance on RCAN website 2 school hedges/year Review policy for traffic restriction	RBC to adopt Tree Strategy 2020 Planting programme to 2025 2020 2021 2021	Reading BC, Ethical Reading; Tree Wardens (RTWN); Nature Task Force (NTF) Econet
N2: Managing land to store more carbon and increase biodiversity	- Review methods to protect existing stored carbon and relative benefits of different land uses - Identify optimum management systems for retaining carbon - Feedback into review of management of Council land	Conduct literature review Feedback into review of Council land management and planting programme	2021 2021	Reading BC University NTF BBOWT
N3: Review Council parks and woodlands	Survey land, including allotments, and make recommendations that increase carbon storage, flood control, and Biological Action Plan delivery compatible with public use <u>Link:</u> Water	Survey minimum 4 sites per year Recommend management changes	From 2020	Reading BC NTF Econet, Reading and District Natural History Society (RDNHS),

				RTWN
N4: Test different management of parks, verges and roundabouts	- Review mowing regimes in parks - Consider measures like extending tree cover, scrub regeneration and conservation grassland - Consider options for managing roadside verges/roundabouts - Test, review and implement preferred options - Accompany changes with public education campaign	Annual meeting to review options for evidence-based changes Consider options for changing mowing/planting on 2 area/yr of verge/roundabouts and 2 areas in parks Review impact and extend across town	From 2021 From 2021 From 2022	Reading BC NTF Community groups
N5: Planning for replacement for ash dieback	- Decide which areas to be left for regeneration with resistant ash - Decide on replacement species on Council land where necessary - Grow on local material to plant out (potential schools project) <u>Link:</u> Education	Review Council woodlands and revise management plans 2 year collection of seeds with schools	2022 2 per year	Reading BC Parks; "friends of" groups; NTF, Community groups
N6: Kennet Meadows	Review options to increase carbon storage and biodiversity through: Maintaining water levels through the year Increasing granularity of livestock management to form a mosaic of swards Before and after surveys required for carbon capture and biodiversity <u>Link:</u> Water	Discussions underway Completion targets and dates to be agreed	TBA	Land Owners EA, Reading BC NTF Thames Water
N7: Increase hedgerows	- Survey existing hedgerows and suggest new hedgelines/infill - Schools encouraged to have hedge boundaries to mitigate air pollution - Hedgerows promoted along cycle routes/ walking routes for air pollution mitigation and shade <u>Link:</u> Health	Review hedgerows as part of wildlife corridor survey at 10km/year Target schools and park boundaries for priority planting	Annual report 2 per year from 2021	NTF to survey Landowners to plant and maintain
N8: Food waste/green waste	Support no dig cultivation, home composting/ worm bins	Information on RCAN website	2020	NTF Food4Families

	- Disseminate information on food fermentation and support larger scale waste trials - University research to quantify effects	Support 2 trials: data required before end of RE3 contract	2020 2024	Community groups UoR
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Sub Category: Supporting wildlife habitats and biodiversity

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
N9: Compensatory habitat restoration/offsets for urban development	- Baseline review of the likely requirements for habitat compensation and biodiversity net gain due to development of sites in the Local Plan - Financial mechanism developed	System to be set up Implementation	2020 continuous	Reading BC planning
N10: Identifying wildlife corridors	- Working from the green links shown in the Local Plan, and revision of the Biodiversity Action Plan, identify primary and secondary routes - Agree any changes/additions changes with RBC planning department and Council	Identify routes and mark on plan for transfer to RBC Geographical Information System	2020	Reading BC planning BAP review/NTF Reading BC Parks and Highways
N11: Assessing the quality of wildlife corridors	- Review existing data - Walk through and rapid assessment of accessible land - List priorities for enhancement on public land and community land <u>Link:</u> Community	Start within year 1, 10km a year reports on the corridor survey	Annual from 2020- 2025	NTF/Reading BC community groups Network rail BBOWT
N12: Managing the impact of development areas on wildlife corridors	- Ensure design and planting on development sites contributes to wildlife corridors - Ensure connectivity through developments with appropriate supplemental planning guidance - Align with objectives of revised Biodiversity Action Plan and/or green infrastructure strategy/plan	Supplementary Planning Document published	2020 Implementation ongoing	Reading BC Berkshire Local Nature Partnership BBOWT
N13: Species protection/recovery	- Biodiversity Action Plan develops objectives for increasing/recovery of identified key species - Ensure these are fed into management	Develop land management objectives Implement from:	2020 2021	Reading BC/NTF University of

	methods and changes in wildlife corridors			Reading
N14: Biodiversity enhancement pilots	- Meet/work with residents associations/ community groups - Offer regular workshops/newsletter input/other methods to support changes in these areas <u>Link:</u> Community	Identify 2 areas to participate Review impact relative to other areas	2020 2023	NTF Adopt-a street Community groups
N15: Data recording/ monitoring	- Request that all new data go onto TVERC, record or data systems that link with TVERC (Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre) - Recruit volunteers for recording - Encourage householders to take part in garden surveys / TV projects <u>Link:</u> Community	Contact all local groups Recruit volunteers Publicise surveys undertaken by others	2021 2020 Each year	NTF Community groups UoR

Sub Category: Planting for biodiversity and resilience

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
N16: Provide Information on adaptation	- Provide information on climate resilience and wildlife friendly gardening - Improving soil structure and promote water reuse - Promote exemplar sites – eg council, church, school <u>Links:</u> Water, Health, Education	Information published on RCAN website 2 exemplar projects by:	End of 2020 2025	NTF RISC community groups Reading BC
N17: Greening front gardens and reducing hardstanding	- Provide information and links to potential designs for increasing green cover and reducing hardstanding - Hold seminar for developers - Seek TV support for project, eg Gardener's World <u>Links:</u> Water, Energy and LCD	Information by end 2021 Seminar Contact TV options	2021 2022 2023	RCAN/ NTF

N18: Interaction with garden centres	- Encourage garden centres to introduce a wildlife friendly and climate change adaptation section - Peat-free labelling of composts <u>Link:</u> Business	Programme introduced	2020	NTF BBOWT
N19: Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems	- Provide advice on planting and design on SUDS for existing or new developments - Native plants for marginal and aquatic species; tall plants for aquatic invertebrates; different depths of water and sides for exit. <u>Link:</u> Water	Suggested wording to include planning permissions	2020	NTF Reading BC BBOWT

Sub Category: Green Spaces for Cooling/well-being

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
N20: Green Infrastructure	- Using green infrastructure to reduce carbon emissions from buildings and promote urban cooling, eg: - Promote Green walls and roofs on new build - Promote green roofs on existing single storey structures - Plant for shading of cycle/pedestrian routes - Research on impacts of green infrastructure required <u>Links:</u> Energy & LCD, Water, Transport, Health	In local plan. May need Supplementary planning document Advice published on RCAN website Research projects to evaluate effects	SPD 2022 2022 2021	Reading BC NTF NTF/UoR

Sub Category: Communication and engagement

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
N21: Raising awareness in the community	- Identify two areas in the town to concentrate existing resources to test ideas and communication methods for dissemination - Extend proven ideas to other areas <u>Links:</u> All themes, Business, Community	2 target areas identified and developed Identify test areas Extend to four areas	2021 2025	NTF

N22: Advice service for adaptation	Provide advice to schools/ community groups/ for wildlife friendly gardening/ water efficient gardening/recycling in the garden <u>Links:</u> Water, Education, Community, Adaptation	Offer half day advice service to up to 20 organisations a year, plus online leaflets	from 2021	NTF BBOWT
N23: Support schools in their climate change initiatives	Provide list of support actions available through ReadingCAN or external sources, and distribute <u>Link:</u> Education, Communication and Engagement	Create option list for schools Offer 8 support activities a year	2020 2020	RCAN NTF
N24: Support businesses in their climate change initiatives	Make opportunities for staff to do practical work via Team Challenge <u>Links:</u> Business, Communication and Engagement	6 business actions a year	Set up by 2021	Reading BC/NTF Econet/TCV,

Health Theme Action Plan

By 2025, people in Reading will be well informed about how to self-manage the health impacts of climate change and benefit from policies and programmes that enable them to thrive despite its effects. All climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies will consider the impact on health; with particular emphasis on heat-related health risks, air quality and mental wellbeing.

NB Some of the actions included in the action plans below, and the scale and pace at which they can be progressed, will be subject to the prevailing national policy context and/or the provision of additional powers and resources by central government, as made clear in Reading's climate emergency declaration (see section 3.2 above).

Sub Category: Heat

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
H1: Adaptation and anticipation in health facilities	Facilities in hospitals and care homes adapted to extreme heat, eg • Provision of cool space for residents • Storage for medicines requiring cool temperatures • Risk register of those at risk from heat	CQC reports on facilities in Reading all positive on these aspects.	2023	Public Health Berkshire - lead
H2: Publicise cool public spaces	• Get agreement from air-conditioned places to welcome the public during heatwaves • Maps and lists in libraries, public spaces, buses. • Publicity in local media when heatwaves are forecast Links: Energy & LCD, Business, Communication and Engagement	Completion and publication of list	Initial list 2022 List updated yearly	RBC/RCAN

Sub Category: Flooding

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
H4: Anticipation in health and social care facilities	• Flexible accommodation for peak loads in emergencies	Establish baseline Set targets	2020 2021	Public Health Berkshire - lead RBC

	Flood risk planning and preparation for inpatient facilities Link: Water	Plan published	2022	
H5: Minimising health impacts from flooding	Convene a group to determine what support is needed to minimise the health impacts from anticipated flooding and to make recommendations about appropriate interventions. Link: Water	Group to report by end of	2022	RCAN

Sub Category: Air pollution – see also Transport Theme Action Plan

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
H6: Supporting citizens to self-manage air quality risks	- Explore the application of dynamic air quality data to help citizens protect themselves - Possible collaboration with Adept Live Lab project			Reading BC (lead) Adept Live Lab Stakeholders

Sub Category: reducing emissions from the health sector in Reading

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
H7: 'For a Greener NHS' campaign	- Adopting the national 'For A Greener NHS' campaign in Reading to determine the quickest feasible path to get the NHS to 'net zero carbon' - Royal Berks NHS Foundation Trust to produce action plan subsequently	NHS staff and establishments to feed into Expert Panel to report by Summer 2020 (local action plans to be produced subsequently)	Summer 2020	Royal Berks NHS Foundation Trust Other NHS facilities
H8: Implementation of NHS Standard Contract	New national contract requiring hospitals to reduce carbon from buildings and estates, whilst switching to less polluting products, and encouraging more active travel for staff	Contract implemented	April 2021	Royal Berks NHS Foundation Trust

H9: Development of Green Plan for Royal Berks Hospital	New plan covering asset management, travel and transport, use of resources and greenhouse gas emissions	Plan completed	Spring 2021	Royal Berks NHS Foundation Trust
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Sub Category: Communication and engagement

Action name	Description	Targets & measures / milestones	Target date of completion	Delivery partners
H10: Cooperation with local health authorities	- Create strong links to ensure climate change is at the centre of strategy. - Begin by initiating discussions with Health and Wellbeing Board https://democracy.reading.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=176	Meet to determine next steps	Q3 2020	RCAN lead
H11: Publicise health risks of climate change	Public awareness and engagement campaign about the physical and mental health risks of climate change as a way of encouraging action Links: Education, Community, Business	Implement Carbon Literacy Training	2021	RCAN
H12: Support for mental health and well being	Extension of existing mental health programmes to include the mental health issues associated with heat, flooding or air pollution; also climate anxiety	Extended programme in place	2022	Reading BC Public Health
H13: Research, measuring and monitoring	- Explore what data is already available on public health impacts of climate change in Reading - Identify data gaps and establish research projects to fill them - Measure, monitor and report on correlation of illnesses with climate change impacts to improve adaptation planning - Possible link with Lancet Countdown project	Scoping meeting	December 2019 DONE	RCAN / University of Reading