

Designing a Net Zero Reading

Wednesday 29th January 2025



Welcome

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Sustainability Manager, Reading Borough Council

The Reading Climate Change Partnership

- Multi-stakeholder partnership formed in 2008
- Oversees Reading Climate Emergency Strategy
- Board includes public, private, voluntary and community sector representatives
- Reading Climate Action Network (RCAN) is a wider network



The role of Reading Borough Council

- A key 'anchor institution' in Reading: major employer with significant place-shaping and regulatory powers
- Key levers of influence: planning, transport, waste, housing
- RBC emissions = c.1.2% of Reading area emissions – but Councils can influence c.33% of their area's emissions
- Hosts, but does not control, Reading Climate Change Partnership

Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2025 - 2030



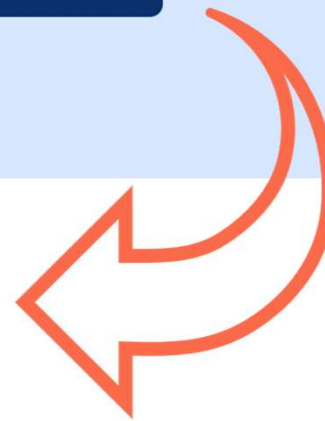
2024 is Reading's Year of Climate Engagement

Help shape Reading's Climate Emergency Strategy 2025 - 2030

Get involved! We're inviting everyone who lives, works or studies in Reading to help shape our town's climate action priorities for 2025 - 2030.

Find out more

readingcan.org.uk
readingcan.org.uk/priorities/



Deliberative Group

The **Designing a Net Zero Reading Deliberative Group** met three times this year: in June, September and November – to arrive at a set of **climate action priorities** for Reading.

After further consultation this will form the basis of the 2025 to 2030 Climate Emergency Strategy for Reading.



Delivering our Strategy

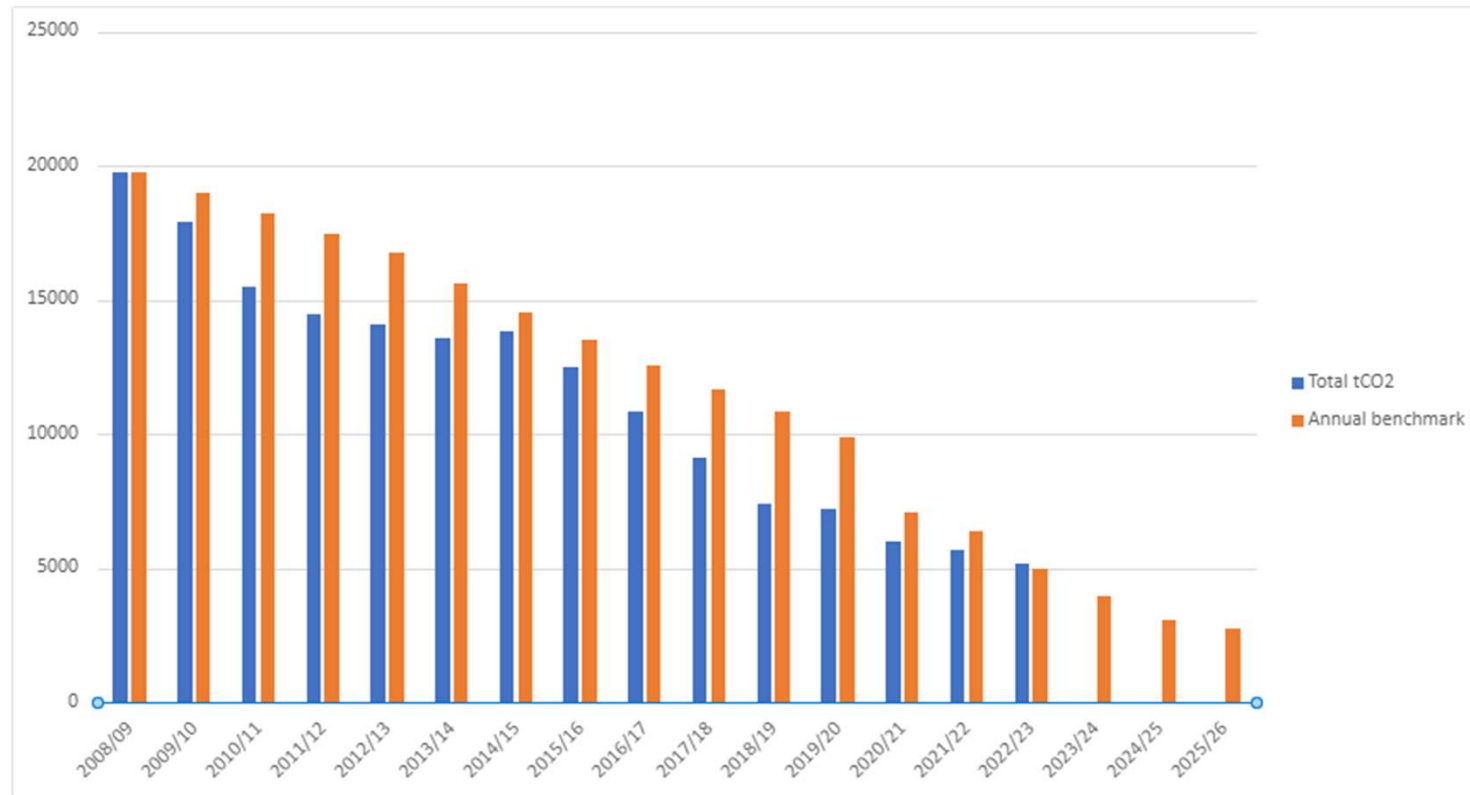


Reading FC captain Andy Yiadom sports the club's 'climate stripes' strip

Gaia Exhibition and Climate Festival
Reading Hydro project
Electric Bin Fleet
Food Waste Collection
Green Park Station
New Decarbonised Leisure Centres
University of Reading –
Ground Source Heat

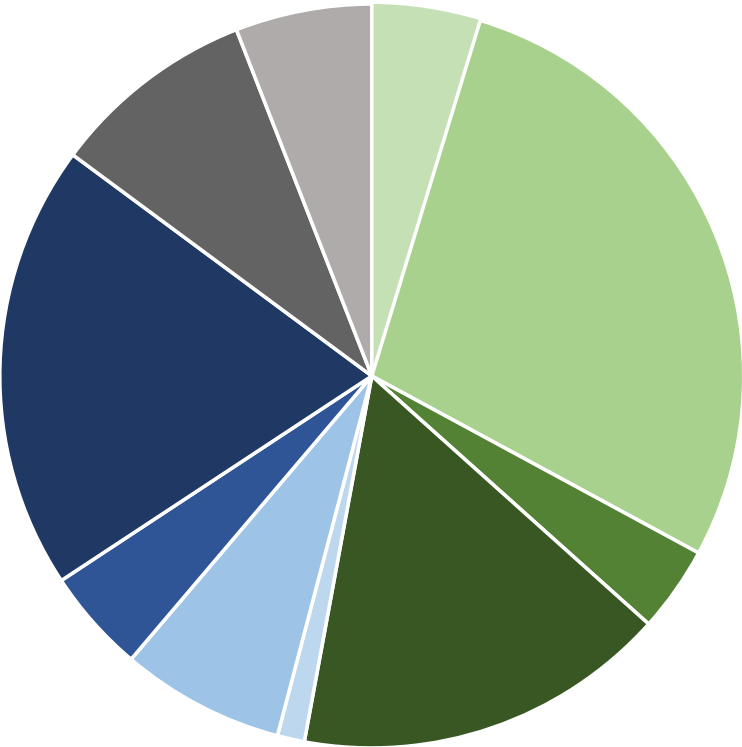


Reading Council Emissions - 5 kTe



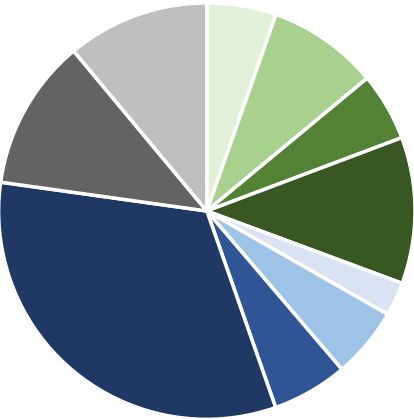
- 74% cut in RBC emissions since 2008/09
- Achieved our target of a 50% cut in fossil fuel use 2 years early

Borough CO₂ 2005



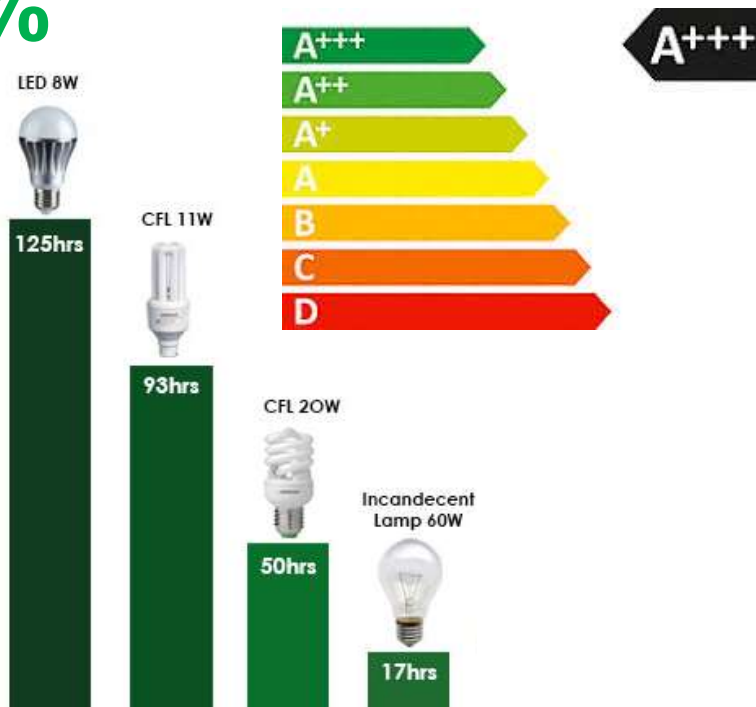
- Industry Electricity
- Commercial Electricity
- Public Sector Electricity
- Domestic Electricity
- Industry Gas
- Commercial Gas
- Public Sector Gas
- Domestic Gas
- Road Transport (A roads)
- Road Transport (Minor roads)

Borough CO₂ 2021

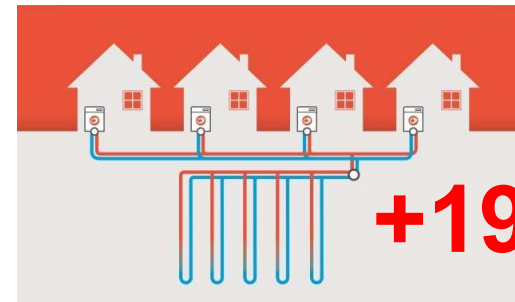


Electrical Demand

-52%



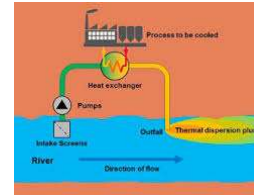
+28%



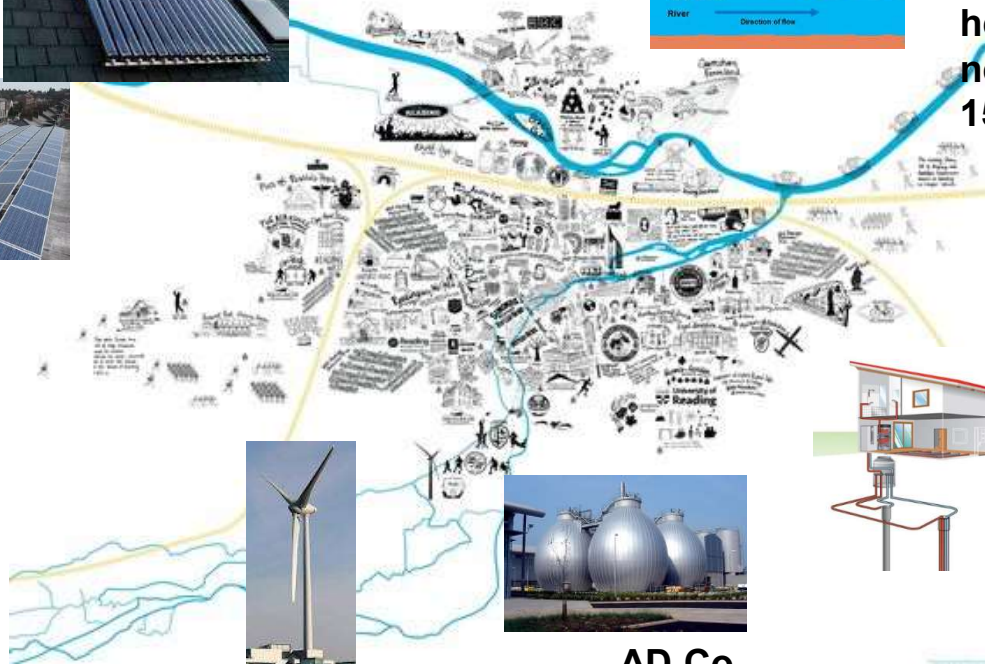
+19%

Renewable Technologies

Solar panels
All houses and 62 hectares
commercial
213GWh^e
35GWhth



Water
Source heat
pumps and
heat
network
151GWh



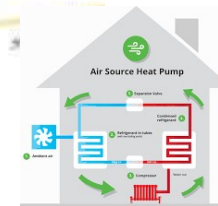
Wind – 32GWh
(10 turbines)



AD Co-
digest food
waste
24GWh^e
96GWhth



Air and Ground
Source Heat
pumps
235GWh



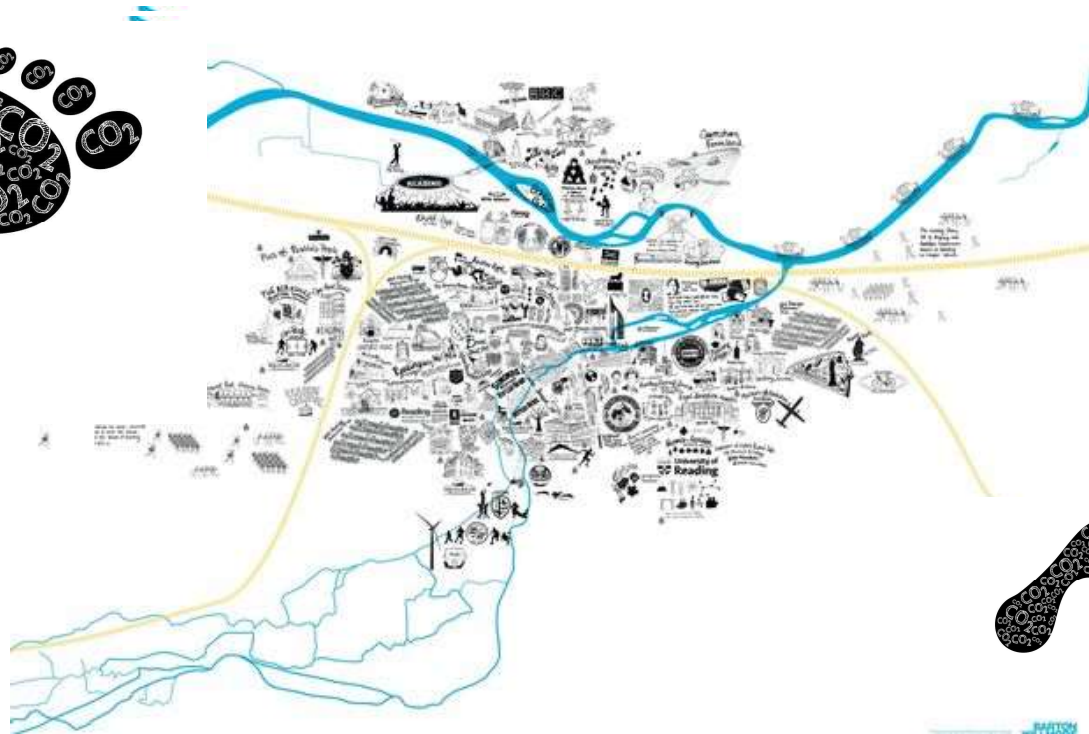
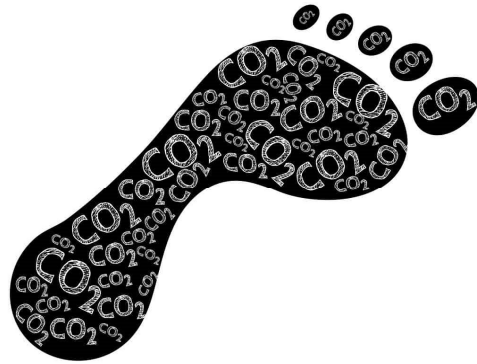
Heat Networks in Reading

- RBC declares a climate emergency 2019
- Commitment to net zero carbon Reading by 2030
- Reading Climate Emergency Strategy 2020-25
 - Sets out actions required
- Heat Mapping and Masterplanning Study 2021
 - Four potential heat network areas identified
- 'Decentralised energy' in Reading Local Plan
 - Policy CC4
- Secures DESNZ funding for techno-economic study of Station North area (2023)
- Positive IRR on river-source heat pump option
- Secures DESNZ funding for techno-economic study of Old Civic Quarter (2024). Currently in progress.
- To be combined into Detailed Project Development (DPD)
- DESNZ funding secured for DPD stage
- Leads to GHNF grant application + commercialisation phase



CO₂ Emissions 2030

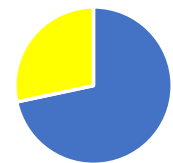
462kTe



176kTe



Gas Vs elec 2030



■ gas ■ elec



Anthropocene

<https://showyourstripes.info/l/europe/unitedkingdom/all>