# READING CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY 2013-2020 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES, JUNE 2013

### **ENERGY**

- Reduce electricity consumption within the commercial and public sectors
- Introduce smart meters and energy storage solutions in Reading
- Increase amount of energy generated locally using renewable technologies.
- Develop heat supply networks to deliver low carbon heat in Reading.

### LOW CARBON DEVELOPMENT

- Buildings in Reading to be built to high standards of energy efficiency (i.e. zero carbon standards), incorporating on-site renewable energy where possible<sup>1</sup>
- Retrofit energy efficiency measures into Reading buildings
- Improve properties to reduce fuel poverty in Reading
- Enable the uptake of Green Deal and associated grants in Reading.
- Minimise the 'embodied carbon' incorporated into construction projects
- Continue to develop planning policies that:
  - > support the reduction of green house gas emissions directly and indirectly from the borough.
  - reduce the risks of inevitable climate change to the communities of Reading.

### NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- Protect wildlife from impacts of climate change
- Encourage local community groups and businesses to become more involved in the management of local green spaces

## WATER SUPPLY AND FLOODING

• Manage supply of and demand for water to reduce the expected impact of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> SP wording to be agreed at Reading Climate Change Partnership Board on 10<sup>th</sup> July

water shortages on consumers and on wildlife

- Reduce the carbon footprint of water supply and water heating
- Reduce the risk of damage due to flooding

## **TRANSPORT**

- Develop a transport infrastructure which supports more low carbon travel options for people in Reading
- Reduce energy use and embodied energy in transport infrastructure
- Encourage a step change to non-car travel from all sectors of the population through targeted advice, incentives and enforcement
- Manage transport infrastructure and services to prepare for climate change
- Reduce the air pollution from vehicles

## PURCHASING, CONSUMPTION AND SUPPLY

- Enable people to make sustainable purchasing choices
- Support and encourage local purchasing and the development of local supply chains
- Promote and encourage new business models focused around services, rather than individual products
- Build a consensus on standards and commitment to sustainable procurement in both the public and private sectors
- Increase recycling rates
- Reduce waste by supporting the re-use and repair of products and materials

### EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION AND INFLUENCING BEHAVIOUR

- Further integrate sustainable behaviour promotion and practice throughout schools, colleges and universities, and workplaces
- Ensure that communication which is aimed at influencing climate change related behaviour is delivered in a consistent and targeted way.
- Engage organisations in the private sector, including residential and

commercial landlords, in effective action to reduce carbon emissions

• Develop the market for climate change related local business and the skills to ensure that local jobs are created in line with the growing low carbon economy

## COMMUNITY

- Building community activity relating to sustainable communities
- Build community resilience and self sufficiency (collective and individual) to climate change.
- Reduce consumption by building a sharing economy
- Build an alternative economy focused on quality of life and emphasising sustainable communities