

Bracknell Forest Community Climate Emergency Strategy

Joint Climate Action Board 19 April 2024
ESDF Infrastructure and Climate
Change

Sub-Group representing local
businesses

Generic Themes and Goals

- Group Discussion: 13th February 2024
- How can businesses reduce **Energy Use and Carbon Emissions?**
- What **Measures** should be considered?

Themes

- **Carbon Off-Setting:** Businesses many have become uncomfortable with this approach
- **Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction:** The main ways for businesses to reduce the impact of climate change
- **Measuring Carbon Output:** A template was suggested, that needs to be adaptable to different sized businesses. A workshop might be needed for his, especially on how to adapt measurement methods to suit SME's.
- **Signing Pledges:** Some businesses won't sign pledges excluding them from data collection – perhaps we need to consider anonymous ways to gather data.
- **Communications:** Need to show the progress being made and to deliver messaging to build momentum.
- **Celebrating Achievements:** There could be benefits demonstrated in case studies from actions by larger businesses scaled down/adapted for smaller businesses.

Goals

- **A Collaborative Approach to Procurement:** include a requirement for climate change priorities when tendering.
- **EV Charging:** The BID area has been trying to generate more charging points – but this has proved to be difficult. A Borough-wide strategy is needed.
- **Active Travel Initiatives:** BID is developing a **Shuttle Bus** service to link railway station to the BID area. Recently the BID held a **Dr Bike** event. Increased provision and use of public transport and cycling/walking.
- **Changing Building Standards:** e.g. energy efficiency standards. Old buildings are often not lettable without improvements. Introduce a Borough-wide energy efficiency strategy for office and industrial property.
- **Berkshire Joint Prosperity Board:** This will be set up soon and could develop opportunities to support businesses in introducing climate change measures. Liaise with the Joint Prosperity Board a.s.a.p..
- **Information on Energy Saving Opportunities:** More information is needed. Increase the information available on the Borough Website and develop Case Studies and good news stories.