

Hastings Borough Council - Action Plan for a Greener Hastings

- Insist that all new buildings generate on site 10% of their electricity needs from renewable sources – solar, wind, ground etc – and that they hit the sustainable building standard of at least Eco-homes/BREEAM ‘very good’.
{Croydon, Merton}
- Insist that the construction materials used for all new buildings include at least a 10% recycled content.
- Insist that all new housing developments include water conservation measures – dual-flush toilets, spray taps etc. *{Woking}*
- Ensure that all housing developments in which the local authority invests include combined heat and power systems.
- Install water and energy efficiency measures in all the council’s own buildings e.g. infra-red lighting controls switching off lights in unused areas.
- Install electricity micro-generation at council buildings e.g. photovoltaic cells on the Town Hall roof.
- Council planners to encourage the installation of solar panels and mini-wind turbines on existing buildings, including within conservation areas.
- Investigate with the refuse contractor the introduction of dustcarts that can run on vegetable oil fuel, including waste cooking oil. *{Poole}*
- Investigate increasing the price of residents’ parking permits for the most environmentally-damaging cars like 4x4s. *(Richmond)*
- Set challenging targets for the council to reduce its own carbon dioxide emissions. *{Bristol}*
- Produce a climate change strategy for Hastings committing the whole town to reduce carbon dioxide emissions at least in line with the Kyoto reduction targets, bringing together public bodies, business and the community to work together for a greener town. *{Bury}*
- Aim to reduce Hastings ecological footprint to a sustainable level as early as possible. *(Kingston upon Thames)*
- Launch a major publicity campaign to encourage residents to behave more sustainably – to recycle and hit the local recycling target of 20% by 2008, to switch off electrical appliances and not leave them on standby, use their cars less and to walk and cycle more. The council to commit itself to establishing more safe routes for cyclists and walkers.
- Build a combined heat and power plant as part of the new Summerfields leisure centre plans.
- Increase the budget for home energy efficiency measures – loft and cavity wall insulation – and target the most vulnerable residents and the most deprived communities.
- Aim for an open space within five minutes walk of every home. *(Natural England)*
- Accept statutory status for the borough’s allotments guaranteeing them their current use free from the threat of development.
- Approach all workplaces with over 200 staff to produce with them a green travel plan for their staff.