



Designing a Net Zero Reading Survey 1 Outputs August 2024

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About the survey and this report

Purpose of the survey

The Reading Climate Change Partnership (RCCP) are in the process of creating a draft Climate Emergency Strategy for 2025-30. They were keen to get input to the strategy at this early stage from everybody who lives, learns, works or plays in Reading. The aim is to do this in a way which involves people with different interests. It is therefore vital that local communities and stakeholders share ideas and suggestions.

This process started with an event for young people to share their perspectives and ideas about Net Zero Reading. This was followed by a workshop in June where 38 people came together from a wide range of interests. They shared information, views, suggested and discussed important areas to focus on.

This initial work has been analysed and collated into a draft vision for a Net Zero Reading and 6 focus areas which were tested in Survey 1. A further focus area around education and behaviour change was also put forward at workshop 1 and will be discussed at workshop 2.

Survey 1 went out to a wide range of people from different groups and interests. Respondents had the chance to indicate their support for each action and leave short further suggestions if they wished.

Please note: the focus areas in this survey come from all those who took part in the workshop and youth engagement in June, including RCCP partners and many others. At this stage they are not final plans, but suggestions of what could be included in the strategy. Final content for the strategy depends on: responses to this survey, the discussions at upcoming workshops in the Autumn, the second public survey, and being able to find resources to help deliver.

About this survey report

This is a record of what was said in the online survey. When the survey closed, we collated all the outputs and then sorted it. Some sections have been 'sorted by idea' so that similar ideas sit together and the main ideas can be seen more clearly. The ideas could have been grouped differently or different titles chosen, so no weight should be attached to them.

In other sections of this record, comments have simply been sorted by the respondent's matching 'level of support'. Comments are colour coded to match the level of support graphs.

This document serves as a record of what people said. The survey outputs will be synthesised and added to the workshop outputs by Dialogue Matters to create a Recommendations Report. This report will go to RCCP to help shape the Reading Climate Emergency Strategy for 2025-30.

1 Imagining the future

During the workshop, participants were asked to imagine what a net zero future for Reading might look like. Here is a summary of their responses:

A Net Zero Reading is a beacon for other towns and cities, inspiring them to be ambitious, look beyond net zero, and achieve real change without offsetting emissions. Communities, organisations, businesses, and people of all ages are involved in reaching the goals. The impacts go beyond our town's footprint, positively effecting neighbouring areas as well.

Life for all residents is better, especially for children and more vulnerable people. Cleaner air and more green shared spaces have a positive impact on people's health and well-being. Waterways are cleaner and people make more use of them for leisure.

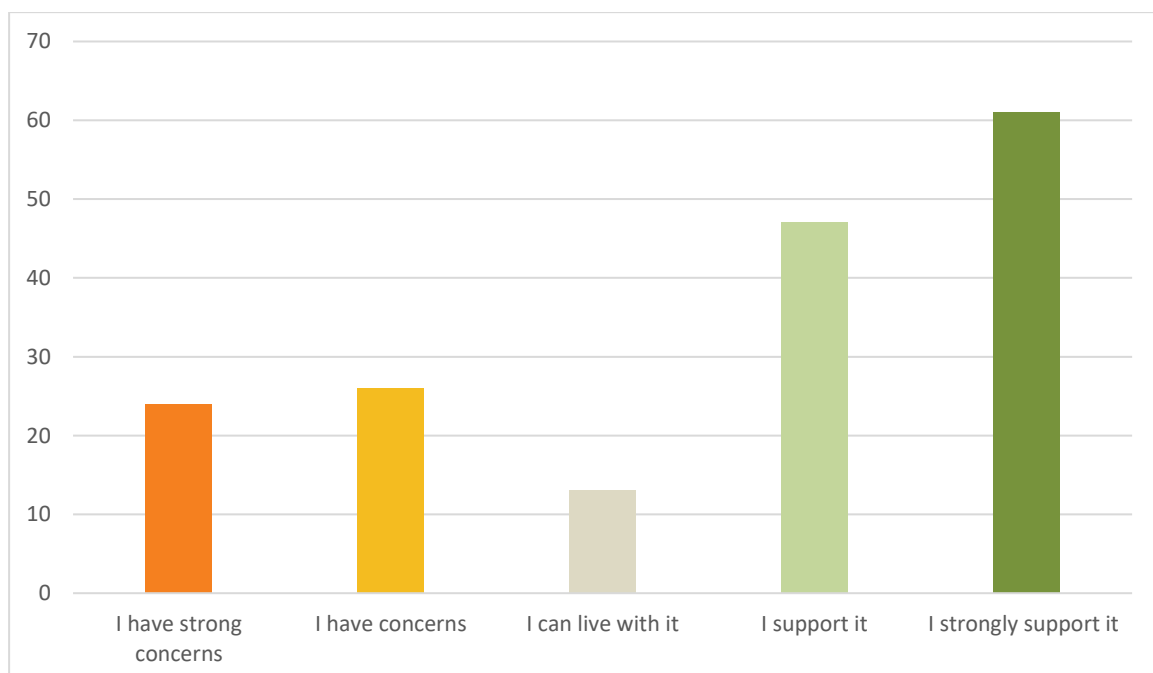
Walking, cycling, and electric bus routes around Reading are interconnected and easier and safer to use. Cars are cleaner and quieter, and there are fewer cars on the roads

A network of green space around Reading is diverse in life and nature, benefitting both wildlife and people. More space is available for local food growing in allotments and community gardens, and the food produce of these spaces can be found in cafes and restaurants around the town.

Targets for low carbon heating in existing houses have been met, and new housing development creates low carbon homes. Community energy supplies more of Reading's local energy needs, with more of the benefits shared locally.

Everyone shares in celebrating and benefiting from what has been achieved. Young people around the town continue to be asked their views and are actively part of creating a better environment and place to live. Climate literacy is part of education and training throughout Reading. This helps create widespread understanding and support for ongoing climate work.

1.1 To what extent do you agree with this?



1.2 What would need to happen to increase your support?

Sustainable, local farming

- Good local farming practices promoting biodiversity and availability of affordable local products

Covers all bases

- Current, relevant, covers all basis

Language too pious

- The language is too pious for my tastes

Actions should be groups by who is responsible for doing them

- Also, we suggest actions be grouped so that it is more obvious which ones apply to organisations such as the Council, University, businesses etc and which to local people.

Include conservation's role

- Reading Conservation Area Advisory Committee would like the vision to include the role that conservation, adaptation and retrofit of Reading's heritage buildings and areas could play.

Community energy

- Community energy is a minefield which could discredit the whole strategy- witness Nottingham
- Community energy is good so people who can't change things themselves (due to cost or not owning their homes) can be part of it. Though protections for them around energy price caps would make it better still.

Clean river to swim in

- The river isn't clean enough to swim in. It would be really great for there to be a designated beach and bathing spot in the summer months.

Training

- Identification of skills gap to deliver the objectives of the action plan
- Partnership with Reading college et al to identify options, funding and to deliver necessary skills training; connect with local skills improvement plan
- Good advice online and links to training options online
- Partner organisations to ensure that all staff are aware of climate change objectives and how their activities need to refocus to deliver these

Active transport

- Incentives for active transport,
- Active travel scenarios enabled within, across, and beyond the town fabric

Create more pedestrian zones

- creating more pedestrian zones
- Increase pedestrianised areas, stop giving in to the car lobby and everyone benefits
- more pedestrian zones
- Consider increasing pedestrianised areas in the centre to encourage train/cycling

Concerns for vulnerable people

- My concern is access for disabled people. Like most of the UK Reading is poor on this. The more healthy option solutions the more difficult for those who can't. Disabled parking in Reading is already peak hours restricted and the disabled parking places that turn into taxi ranks is disgraceful.
- Knowing exactly how more "vulnerable" people would benefit. Making sure that transport and other ways of getting around were accessible for everybody.
- Lower air pollution.

Pollution

- it needs to focus on reducing ALL pollution, not replacing one form of pollution (fossil) with another (electric).
- The solutions should not make us ill - many electric "solutions" create so-called Dirty Electricity. Like light and wireless pollution, Dirty Electricity remains a huge blind spot for Society at large - including the Green Movement, who in truth should be pioneers on these issues.

Need for holistic action plan

- We urgently need holistic Action based on joined-up thinking and the aim should be to reduce ALL pollution with the help of genuine - ecologically sound - solutions, not "smart" greenwash.

Circular economy

- Incorporation of the principles of circular economy within this vision. It is vital we reduce resource demand and reduce wastage as far as possible and net zero will only be possible if we achieve these goals as well.

- A Circular Economy should be named as a functional part of Reading's 2030 economical ecosystem, with green tech, recycling and education / employment opportunities for all ages mentioned.
- Circular economy perspective – focus on reducing consumption – not just reducing what we do but reducing embodied carbon – swap the language, don't use 'embodied carbon', talk about sustainability, and apply circular economy principles

Street lighting survey

- A survey of street lighting. E.g. in our small close lights are on all night.

Keep it Reading focused

- the first words declare something about 'other' places, keep it Reading focused or towards the end. Be ambitious, this feels like you're trying to placate a group
- Generic – not Reading specific. Could apply to any town. What are the cultural/demographic/social/heritage – e.g. the Thames runs through it, we already have green spaces, what are we starting from – really maximise the use of the Thames – make it more of a focal point- Reading is lucky to have access to this waterbody of historical significance
- Name the waterways (don't just call them water ways, make it Reading specific)

Alternative to emissions too costly

- most alternatives only export emissions and are too costly and make little difference to UK 1% global contributions

What defines 'life for all residents is better'?

- More on what defines 'life for all residents is better' - this looks different for various groups.

Population quantity considerations

- Reading is a heavily populated area and is becoming more so. Any plan needs to be pragmatic and work around the logistics of a dense population.

Resilience and adaptation

- climate resilience
- Options for increasing shade in gardens, parks and streets and support delivery by partner organisations
- Adaptation is key – not just about reducing the impact and getting to net zero; therefore, need drought (often forgotten) and floods (which are more visible)
- "Life is better" must include resilience to climate events, e.g. designated cool refuges for heatwaves; Go-Bag guidance, flood and wildfire response, etc

More school involvement

- More involvement with schools
- Use schools and colleges as exemplars and transmission of ideas
- Discussion on learning on these goals and how schools and community groups form part of the ongoing green vision for Reading
- Activities in schools
- Schools to take responsibility and look at their policies, especially in relation to food waste and cheaper transportation

Concerned about dictatorial tone

- I am concerned at the dictatorial tone coming into local councils

15-minute cities concerns

- '15minute cities.

Expensive cost benefit analysis

- Something about a robust cost benefit analysis. It all sounds very expensive.

Rename the Action Plan to "Reading Environment Action Plan"

- Many of the above ideas are good. However, I suggest calling the Action Plan "Reading Environment Action Plan"

'being a beacon'

- Slight concern about the need for exceptionalism (being a beacon)! Not a major issue. Just a sense that this shouldn't be a competition. (This is implicit later when talking about working with neighbours.) Great to see mention of Carbon Literacy. I think that there is a need to think about how education - lifelong - supports engagement. Again, probably implicit in the suggested additional theme. Question that may be addressed later (and is not appropriate for this vision statement) is how the vision relates to other Reading visions.
- "Beacons" shine both ways. We would also be maintaining an organised and constant search for translatable solutions at work elsewhere, guided by our strategy. This is urgent, given how behind we are in many respects. "Local food growing" distracts from climate priorities. Its

emissions impact is minuscule compared to other food-related changes and available space serves a select few people. Climate literacy is certainly needed, judging from this.

- ‘Beacons’ shine both ways. We should also constantly monitor for translatable working solutions elsewhere. This is urgent, given how behind we are in many respects, and so strategy should be able to evolve in response.

Communication and engagement

- Regular communication to public, institutions, residents' associations giving advice on options for change
- A presence at events: shows, residents' association AGMs
- Public talks: actions and policies
- Provide a forum and encourage companies to explain their climate change decisions and successes to others, and support mentoring
- ensuring that the messages and any funding or assistance on mitigation systems and emissions are relevant to all parts of Reading society and areas of the Borough

Better and effective insulation

- Insulation happening in homes but making sure it's appropriate to the housing type - old Victorian houses need different measures from new builds and the wrong kind of insulation can be worse than nothing.
- Schemes to help households have better insulation and draught proofing.
- All houses should all be better insulated

National and international changes

Regular communication with MPs

- Regular communication with MPs and advisory agencies

Identify opportunities for change

- Identify and document opportunities for legislative change, suggest structure for these and keep updated

Get other countries to comply with emissions reductions

- Until the Chinese, Indians and Americans reduce their emissions, any action taken by the UK is pointless, expensive and will cost jobs.
- If you can get China and the US to comply, we are only a very small percentage in the world

Change national policies

- Change national policies for best affect

Water

Install water meters

- Complete installation of water meters

Water management

- There is nothing in there about water management
- Reducing flooding from intense rainfall events by encouraging the replacement of impermeable driveways (including block paving) with supported grass or gravel
- Capturing, managing, using your own rainwater

Drain clearance

- Drain clearance programme to maximise storage in times of heavy rain
- SUDS and research into management of SUDS over time

Communities

Community events

- Include events such as the Reading festival in your concerns
- Mandating net zero and zero waste for reading festival now
- use of disused office space/ building should be used for community outreach/ community projects not just sold to make more unaffordable housing,
- trials for council owned community run projects,

Experiences in the community for all

- I'd add: Climate innovation and social entrepreneurship is a constant thread and supported by a fund. As a result, the town is dynamic, ever-evolving, exciting and people-centric - not a 'clone town' that promotes mindless consumerism and big brands. There is so much more for teenagers to do that is healthy and positive. There is more street life; street food on the way to and from work and cafes on the river.

- Emphasis on experiences for all
- support for adults with complex needs,
- The third sector could be mentioned, alongside the nod to education, as key to the community cohesion and integration of cross-societal benefits

Not volunteer dependent

- There is no longer a dependency on volunteers in Reading to achieve next zero.

Research and education

Climate change education needed

- “Climate literacy” is certainly needed and not only for schoolchildren and trainees.

Better climate change education

- Better education in schools, nurseries about climate change.

More water research/education

- Research and communication of water reduction methods in homes and businesses
- Research (including systems in other countries) to suggest road drain capacity, road gutter size, house gutter and downpipe size, soakaway capacity to meet greater precipitation rates
- Research, Increase and disseminate water minimisation, storage and reuse options for individual householders
- Education and exemplars for reducing run-off from front gardens /driveways

Public transport

Improved public transport safety

- Safety needs to be improved to promote public transport, walking and cycling. Reading has a high amount of beggars, drug addicts, people on electric bikes on pavements, overgrown brambles which creates narrow paths, uneven pavements for prams/wheelchair users. Beggars are particularly bad around the train station and nearby bus stops which can make you feel unsafe – whereas in a car you don't get approached.

Cheaper and more frequent buses and trains

- Make Public transport 24 hours, and highly discounted. Caversham has lack of 24-hour bus routes
- Cheaper and more frequent buses.
- A genuine delivery of integrated public transport. Where I live in Reading is only served by buses from Oxford which are highly unreliable.
- Much improved local public transport
- Trains and buses that run on time, never go on strike, and are accessible from Pangbourne.

Bikes

Cyclists/pedestrians given priority over cars

- Cyclists and pedestrians have been given priority over cars at road junctions.

Bike theft sorted

- Sort bike theft.
- Safe bike parking, both for people who don't have a safe place to store their bike domestically and at destinations, such as shopping and workplaces.

Accessibility/safety, well managed cycle routes

- There needs to be a mention of accessibility and ease of using cycle routes, buses and walking e.g. safer routes
- Keep working to create safe cycle lanes. The planting of more trees and working with energy suppliers to help all residents move to more energy efficient homes.
- 3) Properly integrated cycle paths, not just bits here and there, would make me and family more confident cycling.
- Very clear cycle paths and obvious signs preferably on the ground where cycling is not permitted i.e. pavements. of cyclin
- far better conditions are needed for pedestrians and cyclists, more 20mph zones are needed and more and better road crossings, paths and cycle routes.
- Improved bike lanes and public transport
- . Investment in cycle paths and infrastructure.

Better cycle routes

- We need more and better cycle routes and more frequent bus routes to outlying villages to the town centre

Trees and green/blue spaces

Plant more trees

- more trees or other plants that encourage biodiversity
- Plant more trees and have more wildlife areas
- As many trees as possible. Verges and edges uncut, left to self-seed and provide food for birds and insects - just one cut a year in July after seeds dispersed? Same for odd patches of waste/unused ground, wildflowers everywhere!
- Please plant more trees on main roads where there are homes, can there be incentives for solar panels and more help for rain capture, recycling needs to be made easier by more separating
- the need for more trees (including street trees) and green space to reduce urban temperatures
- Developers and housing associations must be forced to plant more trees, to convert large areas of bare land within housing estates into wildlife areas

Improve tree planting efficacy

- We need to work out emergency procedures to improve effectiveness of tree plantings. Young trees left to the elements have less chances of surviving heatwaves which occur each year in Britain now. Relying on residents is not enough, there should be a map of recently planted the RBC VAN with 1-2 tonnes of water should be dispatched to secure these young trees. They will help shadowing and cooling down the town in a long run but need early support. The trees for planting are nursed and cost significant amount of money, so improving the success ratio is commercially justified (van, service, water).

Grow moss walls

- Moss walls, moss is a much better carbon dioxide to oxygen converter than trees and it saves space. These could easily be installed in the town centre or on buildings to reduce pollution.

More green/blue spaces

- "a network of green and blue space" (recognising the importance of water for others).
- More green and growing spaces in the town centre,
- Network of green space around London is diverse, unique, which will we enhance
- Emphasis on protecting existing wild green spaces
- more green spaces and update to all park/ playground facilities
- Green spaces within as well as around Reading.
- I believe more needs to be done to create green spaces. People should also be banned from converting their front yards into parking spaces bereft of any plants.
- I would like to see more green, natural, protected spaces such as Waterloo meadows, Fobney Island etc. Spaces that increase the biodiversity of the area and can be a safe place for the local wildlife and can be enjoyed by people too.
- I like the idea of more green spaces but can't see how this ties in with RBC allowing building all over the very green golf course, or central government's decision to add the equivalent of a small town to the east of Thatcham which brings it ever closer to Calcot.
- Protect and develop future green spaces - biodiversity is critical.

Cars

Introduction of ULEZ

- Should have some solid targets, central Reading being a ULES zone.
- introducing a low emissions zone

Car affordability issues with ULEZ

- I don't agree with Net Zero zones. it is unfair for those who can't afford to upgrade their cars/vans which is a lot of people
- I live near town; I can't afford to buy a new car with low income
- I have concerns that cars may be penalised for driving through Reading via the relief road. I live in Caversham and unfortunately to get to the south of Reading CBD I have to go over one of the two existing bridges.

Less cars concern

- Less cars. Not everyone wants to use a bus or bike. Electric cars and plug in hybrid cars could help increase air quality. Although RBC are trying to make the drivers life harder with additional bike and bus lanes that are hardly used!

Need less cars

- less reliance on cars

- Less cars more bikes and public transportation
- Need a more ambitious goal than 'less cars'**
- Fewer cars is too limp and does not suggest an ambitious goal

Low Carbon Heating/Cooling

Low C heating/cooling targets met

- Targets for low carbon heating AND COOLING in existing houses have been met

Should have low C heating

- all existing housing should have updated low carbon heating and

Concerns about low C heating

- I'm concerned about the idea of low carbon heating given that heat pumps are enormously expensive and don't work very well, according to the science
- ditch the low carbon heating in existing homes
- What are the targets for decarbonising household heating - it's not clear. Upgrading my house and installing heat pumps remains too expensive for me and nothing more than a pipe dream.
- worried about house energy targets being required - RBC will not be paying for this so it will be imposed on homeowners... it's a bit of an idyl, for climate bliss,

Development and Housing

Housing built with solar panels

- Reading could insist that all new developments of housing are built with solar panels as standard, and those panels are part of the housing, not rented, putting back into the grid and helping the entire country.
- I understand these are a broad overview, but we need details on how to achieve these and defined deadlines (e.g. all new housing to be built sustainably, using heat pumps and with solar panels
- 50% of homes and 75% of offices have solar panels.
- All new houses built with solar panels

Information pack for developers

- Information packs for developers

Sustainable, affordable, well-connected development

- Eco friendly construction of housing
- New development, such as the new Royal Berkshire Hospital, in locations that are convenient for those walking and cycling and are well served by buses
- Be more direct: we live in houses and work in buildings that use less energy
- More affordable housing
- All new developments support the targets, providing sustainable living, community space, growing areas and biodiversity gains
- It shouldn't just focus on housing, but that all new development is net zero
- Housing should be exclusively on brownland that is already concreted or worse. Gardens should not count as brownland.
- The idea is a good one however the council is insisting on building more and more flats in central Reading adding to the pressure on our roads. We need to recognise cars are needed for many people and reducing congestion will help improve wellbeing and reduce pollution, how can we build in lower populated areas instead. What investment is needed to bring people back to the central shops?

Stop development

- More housing. We only 'need' more because of the number of people
- Stop building houses!!

Electric Vehicles

More EV charging stations

- Enabling EV charging at the kerbside for residents without private driveways; allowing bike storage options in space in front of houses via easy planning process
- improved infrastructure for EV charging.
- More electric car points
- Reading needs a strong action plan to put EV charging points everywhere

EV charging point concerns

- look at the provision of electric car charging for people who do not have driveways. e.g. creating channels for charging cables in pavements or poles that can swing across the pavement.
- How are flat owners going to charge electric cars, how does reducing roads for cars and increasing bus lanes that are hardly used improve things. The electric car tends to be something people with drives can take up, the cost of charging and electric car for flat owners or people without drives is very expensive. Sort out infrastructure for charging cars in these situations is a high priority, not building bus lanes and disruption of traffic

Discounted vehicle lease

- Provide highly discounted green vehicle lease scheme for Reading residents especially in the van sector.

Cut down on electric cycles/scooters

- cut down on illegal electric cycles / scooters and motorcycles - have a local council scheme for "legal" versions - like many cities now incorporate

All delivery lorries are EVs

- Delivery lorries are all electric

Reduce polluting transport

- to reduce polluting modes of transport, to switch to zero carbon modes of transport
- - simply reduce the HGV / light duty / heavy duty vehicles and VERY polluting diesel- TRAINS that frequent the area, do not target residence in passenger cars -

EVs = free of restrictions

- Electric cars should be free of restrictions... these are net zero and it would be stupid to not allow them!

Renewable energy**More renewable energy**

- investing in renewable energy to run the electric buses and power the homes
- buy us all solar panels instead
- Anything to do with reducing energy use or increasing renewables
- More green energy provision - more solar and wind power and concessions to encourage more uptake of solar panels and green energy. Taxation on fossil fuels to help pay for it.
- There should be a statement about all Reading's energy coming from renewable sources
- Renewable energy generation is not explicitly mentioned currently. There should also be a clarification of decarbonisation of heat and transport. These three things together will form the axis of 'a net zero borough'. These need to be summarised here. An important component within this is a fit for future electricity system to support this electrification journey. (this could be later detail though)

Don't be over-reliant on electricity

- The over reliance on electric means we lose RESILIENCE - we need a variety of different solutions not put all our eggs in the electric basket. Food, repairs and other services need the resilience petrol and diesel bring.

Businesses**Financial incentives for verified net 0 targets**

- Financial Incentives for businesses with verified net zero targets to be located in Reading.

Support for independent shops

- there should be better support for independent shops

More business sustainability techniques

- There are modern, effective, evidence-based organisations to support residents and businesses to transition to net zero and to work together on systems transformation; these orgs offer clear advice & support; people who work here are PAID well.
- Encourage more business to sign up to too good to goo app.
- Small note - it's affecting, not effecting ;) Nothing is directly said about businesses reducing their contribution to landfill.
- More reference to the role of local businesses and their sustainable practices.

Recycling

Single use plastics ban

- banning single use plastics from all businesses in the town.
- Perhaps minimising single-use plastics can be named?

Sustainable consumption/resource use needed

- I miss anything about consumption, resource use and sharing, repairing, reusing etc
- There is nothing in there about recycling and reduced consumption/better use of resources.
- more recycling bins & better waste management in the city. Support refill shop to minimise single usage plastics

Improve recycling in Reading

- It would be great to provide household glass recycling in homes and
- Continue to improve simple and effective recycling for residents, routes for e.g. electrical items are trivial on paper but clumsy in practice. Metal recycling as scrap and in devices from householder waste can be improved
- There is too much litter and not enough recycling bins around the town.
- more recycling

Road changes

Improve road surfaces

- I welcome road surface improvements, but many junctions are in very poor condition

Build another Thames crossing

- Having an additional Thames crossing as part of a ring road for through traffic
- Building a third bridge across the River Thames. Without this, all other ideas are basically attacking families with cars.

More dedicated car lanes

- Having dedicated car lanes to separate pedestrians and cyclists from slowing traffic down
- Not reducing any traffic lanes

Reinstate bus laybys

- Reinstate bus laybys to stop buses causing congestion, blocking roundabouts and blocking traffic lights.

Address road network

- Reading is one giant road network. Any plans need to address that hellscape.

Look at traffic pollution levels

- Looking at pollution levels caused by traffic build up

Improve flow of traffic

- Make traffic flow, remove most of the traffic lights on roundabouts which greatly increase the time that cars are stopped, coordinate road works so that they do not obstruct the flow of traffic
- can't it be possible to phase traffic lights to aid in flow and pollution?
- Better planned roadworks to prevent build-up of traffic
- The current approach is causing more traffic jams than ever leading to very poor air quality.
- Better to spend time on removing bottle necks in the road network. For example, by preventing cars turning across traffic along Caversham Bridge Road and forcing them to use the roundabouts.
- Bolder vision around car ownership and traffic management away from the town.

Remove bus lanes

- The new inbound bus lane on London Road is totally flawed. It will cause more pollution than it seeks to reduce because of the jams it will create. It is well-intentioned but completely wrong. You should admit the mistake and remove it, but you will not.
- Remove underused bus and cycle lanes to allow all traffic to flow more freely. Synchronise traffic signals to reduce stop start traffic
- The current strategy of more bus lanes is doing nothing but cause more traffic and more pollution. I understand the need for bus lanes, but these should be on routes that can accommodate them without causing enormous amounts of vehicle traffic, in turn increasing pollution and reducing air quality.
- Reduce bus lanes to reduce congestion of vehicles.
- I am also concerned that narrowing roads to put in bus lanes is just creating worse traffic problems thus if a bus lane needed the road must be widened.

- The bus lanes are ridiculous and will cause more pollution, not less, due to idling cars stuck in tailbacks.
- please ditch the bus lanes

Allotments and food

Allotment concerns/objections

- Think the idea of using food from allotments is delusional in particular. This is never going to provide the volumes needed and will not be sustainable.
- What I will not support is allotments in recreational areas in the town centre. Parks and public gardens should be a place of beauty and relaxation, not a place to see tomatoes or other veggies growing. That is for farms and the allotments are best placed in specific areas of the town.
- “Local food growing” distracts us from climate priorities. Its emissions impact is minuscule compared to other food-related changes (diet and waste) while urban space would support a tiny minority of people unless gardens were widely repurposed.

Maximise and increase allotments

- maximising all allotments across the borough.
- Make more allotment areas (my friend has been on a waiting list for many years)
- Re additional space for food growing/allotments: may I respectfully suggest that having a service level agreement in place for those sites already in use will enable these to be more efficient in ensuring as many plots as possible are properly cultivated, and any necessary site repairs/maintenance which detracts from food growing can be efficiently addressed. This is, at present, woefully inadequate> Just providing the space for food growing is not as simplistic as that may sound. I am happy to liaise with the group on this matter if required, to help facilitate this now, which will then ensure newly provided space can immediately be readily cultivated
- Residents to be encouraged to grow food in their own gardens, houses. Seed sharing programme

Cheaper fruits and vegetables

- A scene where vegetables and fruit can be cheaper.

Not specific enough or realistic

'Without offsetting emissions' is a simplification

- ‘Without offsetting emissions’ – I think this is a simplification, we are very likely to end up having to find a way to offset residual emissions, the point is that we need to find robust and legitimate means of offsetting, as opposed to e.g. dodgy tree-planting schemes. Could replace with ‘achieve deep cuts in emissions before finding a robust means to offset any residual emissions which remain’. Energy point – we identified renewable energy as a ‘gap’ from workshop 1 (we can’t meet net zero without a massive increase in it!) and this is the obvious place to insert it. Suggest replacing with ‘Renewable and community energy are expanded to supply more of Reading’s local energy needs, with more of the benefits shared locally’

Not specific enough

- More specific and realistic/achievable goals in terms of green spaces, housing/energy, water quality and circulation.
- A clear definition of what net zero entails
- A more specific plan of how this vision will be achieved
- It is not clear how this would be achieved. Promising Less cars and more allotments are nice but is it realistic? If it is I am in support.
- It's ok but very airy fairy nothing concrete

Too idealistic

- Although I really like the vision, I worry whether it is achievable or too idealistic

Stop the climate change policies

- Just leave it alone. Stop wasting our money that has absolutely zero benefits for people living and working here.
- You're creating a problem where it doesn't exist. All these issues you're attempting to resolve is going to have the opposite affect and it's all being dreamt up by lunatics who say you listen to the public and consultations, but you don't!

- I really don't believe in climate change and feel that all these measures are a waste of time and money
- The whole concept of 'Net Zero' should be scrapped - it is a scam. Climate models are flawed and cannot predict future weather or climate. CO2 is not a pollutant but an essential part of our eco-system.
- It reads like it was made up by the Teletubbies. Cloud cuckoo land. I would not want to live in this eco-mentalists dream. It is a nightmare.
- Quit with vanity projects which will make us both poorer and colder and instead put pressure on the real polluters i.e. China, India, Canada; and stop virtue signalling with 'net targets' which are a con and only offset carbon emissions by offloading abroad such as sending waste to landfill in China instead of burying waste here. Or using batteries using lithium mined and produced by China. It's a con
- Stop

Comments for the council

- Please do the basics and reduce council tax bills - this is an egregious waste of money on nothing more than virtue signalling
- I live on the edge of Reading Borough and suffer from my life straddling two councils. It means I would be paying for all this but get very little benefit unless Wokingham does it too. More tax, no benefit

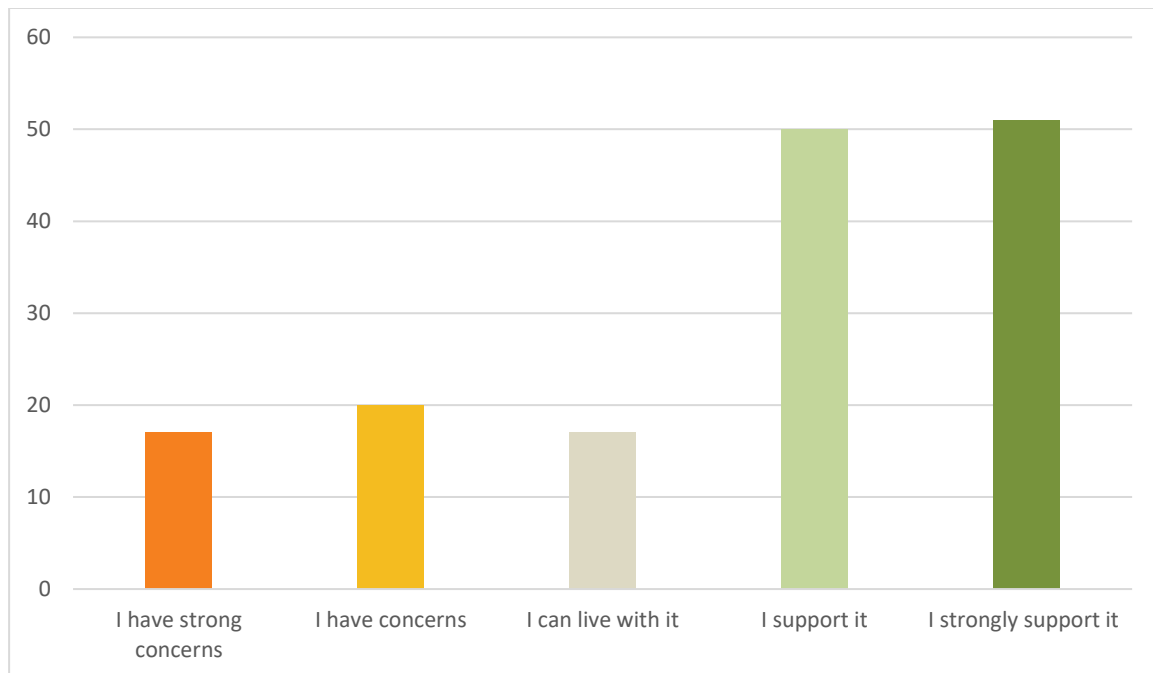
Other

- No ideas
- I don't have anything significant to add to the vision. It sounds like a fabulous place to live.

2 Heat and energy

1. Decarbonising local electricity, including through wind, solar, and hydro
2. Retrofitting existing housing and buildings:
 - Lowering the barriers to retrofit insulation, draught proofing, and ventilation
 - Making retrofit advice more widely available to help with solutions for different households and buildings
 - Promoting heat pumps to those most able to adopt them and making heat pumps the natural choice
3. Creating and delivering a Local Area Energy Plan (local plan to reduce carbon across the whole energy system)
4. Using ground or water source heating systems for larger developments where technically possible

2.1 To what extent to you agree with this?



2.2 What would need to happen to increase your support?

- Again, more detailed information of how this can be achieved.
- We recently were unable to get a heat pump fitted because of the delay in getting planning permission meaning we would have been without heat for 26 weeks. So pre-emptively giving planning permission to greener options or fastrack planning permission.
- Stop the huge new offices by the station having all lights on all day and night

- Plant more trees in carparks
- Concentrate on improving existing resources rather than relying on better replacements.
- The focus on area, rather than individual households, seems a more appropriate way forward
- References to energy and heat usage in local industry/business? Transitioning towards using electricity for heating (maybe making the heat pump objective slightly broader) and moving towards electricizing transport?
- Reducing costs of planning applications for retrofit to existing housing stock
- Perhaps targeted support for households on lower incomes and / or funding or infrastructure from statutory services to support nonprofits and education buildings to better access retrofitting and decarbonising solutions
- I despair that many of the large blocks of flats are not installing ground source heat pumps. This should be a requirement of them getting planning approval.
- Making sensible amounts of solar panels a condition of planning consent for buildings. This means more than the typical three panels per house often seen.
- Financial incentives
- Create self sufficient communities where households can exchange on site renewable energy i.e. solar.
- AFFORDABILITY needs to be key. I would love to have a heat pump and solar panels but even with grants they are unrealistically costly for me and many others. Need ideas everyone can engage in not just the wealthy middle class
- incentives to add solar panel, change to a heat pump etc would help homeowners swap to these things. Adding requirements for new builds would help too.
- New housing should be sustainable too!
- All the retrofitting/insulation is about enabling people to do things, not actually doing things. A plan for insulation in council-owned houses, or requirements in new builds, would help.
- Leading on clean energy solutions across building types, not just houses
- I need to see more about the removal of natural gas
- The retro-fitting of energy saving systems being financially accessible to all residents would be hugely welcome: cost is the biggest barrier here at present
- Heat pumps, both air and ground. Ground heat pump investments for new public buildings - how about new Council and library buildings. Certainly solar panels and tiles for new buildings
- Air source heat pumps are constrained by adequacy of mains supply: that needs attention
- There needs to be more financial support to enable homeowners to make changes stop assuming that we can afford them and only offering support to people on Benefits
- See previous comment re street lighting
- Passivhaus could be included here. Also include skills and development of the supply chain which is a big barrier for retrofit. Energy storage isn't mentioned but could fit under 3. Heat networks is not mentioned - needs to be included. We also have incoming regulations and enforcement of MEES etc to think about. Building standards and planning are going to be important too!
- I don't have enough knowledge here to comment further
- Very informative advice about icynene for loft insulation.
- NA
- Communicate with residents regarding these schemes
- Need to add something about promoting PV/solar energy as well as heat pumps
- As well as removing barriers to, reducing the carbon footprint of housing can actively be enforced through licensing models and minimum requirements, in areas of the councils influence such as rented accommodation, social housing and public buildings
- There needs to be more visible actions. Extra water turbines on the Thames, more wind turbines (than the one at Green Park). More incentives for solar power to increase the low numbers)
- Making retrofitting genuinely affordable and understandable and practical. At the moment I would need to live away from my home for over 6 months to undertake a quality retrofit.
- Idea 1: Leaflets on easy steps to decrease need for energy: some insulation in the attic, inspecting windows and doors etc. Piloting such improvements in council owned flats/houses.
- If there is money to help for people not on benefits
- 1) Creating partnerships with business to develop incentives 2) ensure safeguards in place to avoid impact on neighbouring houses
- I am not sure about point 3 and 4.
- I support above

- Be realistic with the listed buildings. Currently unable to put in double glazing- however should allow permission for double glazing in keeping with appearances.
- Big Problem with heat pump is the noise
- Link to funding for this
- More specifics on each point
- I am very keen to see more renewable energy being used. I am concerned that there is too much emphasis on heat pumps which can only be fitted in certain homes; I would like to see other alternatives being considered
- Funding to make changes
- 4. I think we mean ground source or water source heat pumps to heat buildings
- There may be other options to heat pumps - these should also be encouraged.
- Help with solar panels and working with Government to ensure continuation of Economy7 should also be included
- Making sure that embed opportunities to showcase activities in ways that engage and encourage learning. (Not just for schools.)
- how do we provide alternatives for homes and business not suitable for heat pumps?
- better resources to achieve the above, more green space/ look at living roofing/ topping roofs with things like moss which would help with insulation and decrease carbon
- A bug focus on affordability and reducing energy costs for local households. Not all homes can have heat source pumps so what are the alternatives?
- Ground water heating system may not be possible if the water is salt water
- More community energy systems such as neighbourhood batteries. Partner with universities to develop innovative energy system ideas.
- Promote green energy, do not agree with fracking. There have been sink holes in nearby areas and there is a historic mine in Emmer Green.
- Reading exploits all opportunities for Solar farms, e.g. sets one up on the green space between the Island Road recycling plant and the Rdg Basingstoke railway line, and has floating Solar on as much of the Gravel pits as possible
- My main concern on this topic is the deadline. 2030 is not realistic. The actual savings in CO2 emissions by installing heat pumps need to be supported with a credible study of real life cases.
- Retrofitting existing housing - Better advice and planning assistance
- Greener heating solutions should be widely accessible, not just to the poorest. Families with middle income are often in the lost position as they don't qualify for government/council help and these are the families that could often make the biggest difference.
- I'm not sure the pros and cons of heat pumps have been properly thought about. These should be reconsidered
- Lacking meaningful detail and how it connects to the wider energy system
- If it is cost effective
- Why provide specific solutions, this eliminates other potential solutions. Instead, i'd rather see broad and continuing support for all sorts of technology here. Electricity is a nationwide issue, it should be treated as such
- Air-source heat pumps are not a good value choice for retrofit to many properties, they should not be 'pushed' onto residents without full disclosure of efficiencies, costs and drawbacks
- Allowing gas. Gas is efficient, and reliable compared with intermittent solar and wind. Old houses cannot be cheaply retrofitted with insulation.
- Good ideas, but how are you going to fund this? Much of the housing in Reading is over 100 years old and retro fitting is not possible or effective.
- they would make little difference and be too costly
- I don't necessarily think that the much-vaunted heat pumps will be suitable for every household - from what I've heard they don't generate as much heat as boilers, and those who have poor circulation and can't move much might find it difficult to live like that.
- A lot of these ideas depend on will of the consumer - it needs to be supported with legislation.
- you won't pay to have insulation fitted so what's the point. I won't bother
- Massive development on the old Reading Golf Course and I see very little solar panels
- A not-for-profit enterprise could act as a local energy transition 'hub', acting as a joined-up voice, community benefit fund & advice hub. This work should not rely on volunteer hours. To mobilise innovation and local support we need a dashboard to show avoided emissions potential of [Reading homes], [local businesses], [public buildings] etc. and track reductions. An entrepreneurship fund & calls for proposals could be integrated into this hub.

- I am broadly on board except for point 2. I agree with better energy efficient houses and retrofitting is key, however strong impartial and insurer and industry backed solutions need to be put forward to avoid homeowners making poor choices which as to green issues (i.e. spray foam insulation causing damp problems and then the old foam having to be disposed of.
- Though covered at least in part by insulation, heat pumps and community energy decarbonising heat is missing as an objective. While hard it is necessary. It should be explicitly stated so we cant weasel out of it later.
- Define "local electricity". last time I looked, we are all connected to the "national" grid. You get what you are given. If you produce "green" electricity locally, it goes into the grid, not into your locality.
- People can choose to get a green electric tariff, don't see the point of 1 as it's a government ambition, it does not need local council finite money being spent on it. Gas boilers are being phased out so why include something that's already starting to happen. Concentrate on things councils can assist with like looking at solutions for those without a drive being able to charge cars from home via cable routes across pavements or poles installed to allow cables to be hung over pavements.
- Unrealistic, significant funding would be needed
- I've got a heat pump and we've never felt so cold and it's no cheaper
- HUGE problems with this and it's all going to cost us the tax payer £millions! You're again attempting to fix something that doesn't need fixing and will cost us money!
- Technology not ready. Pipe dream. Focus on something that will bring benefit not just look like you are doing something.
- 'Decarbonisation' of energy supply is a pointless and costly pursuit that will destroy the UK economy. Being reliant on variable sources of energy such as wind turbines and solar panels will lead to huge expense in providing grid-level storage while making zero difference to global CO2 emissions
-
- Heat pumps are too expensive ugly and noisy
- Heat pumps are rubbish . If you didn't build so many houses and flats we wouldn't need to clog up our roads . If you didn't build on green sites like Reading golf club you wouldn't have more cars and gas boilers polluting our air .
- Heat pumps are impractical and hugely expensive. We will not be buying one as we are unlikely to qualify for any financial help and we don't have thousands of pounds in spare cash to make negligible difference to global warming just because a group of politicians we didn't vote for want to make a name for themselves. Oh, by the way, forget to mention in the last section - it should say affecting rather than effecting.
- We need a diversity of non electric power e.g. petrol to keep vital services alive during emergencies. Solar panels present a fire risk to buildings if not regularly serviced and cleaned - the cost if on a roof can exceed the value of the power they generate.
- I just don't expect the council to play any role in this- get the basics right and leave people to get on with the rest without interference
- prescribing air sourced heat pumps isn't practical for most of readings community of terrace houses - they are VERY noisy - creating noise pollution on an unimaginable scale when you have tens / hundreds of thousands of them running - at the moment there's basically none - so you don't hear of the issue.. provide insulation subsidies don't simply force / mandate it - many of these houses are in excess i of 120 years old, its not fair to force modern co2 targets onto owners -
- Far too expensive with only low income households receiving help which makes it even more expensive for everyone else!
- The solutions should NOT create Electrosmog or Dirty Electricity, which are harmful to Health and Environment.
- Where do the costs sit?
- 1. We can't decarbonise without a long term transition plan. It cost huge amounts to transfer wind power from the coastal areas. When the wind doesn't blow and sun doesn't shine we don't have a national grid storage solution to keep the lights on. This is 'pie in the sky' thinking
- Lower the cost of electricity to make heating viable
- River hydro is very poor value for money. After the purchase of Reading Hydro in Caversham it became clear that solar would have been about 3 times a better investment measured by expected annual kWh (and hence carbon savings) per £. This gap widens each year, as new solar's performance & costs continue to improve exponentially. Hydro is static; exclude it
- Distributed energy storage is central to using 100% renewables with no fossil fuel

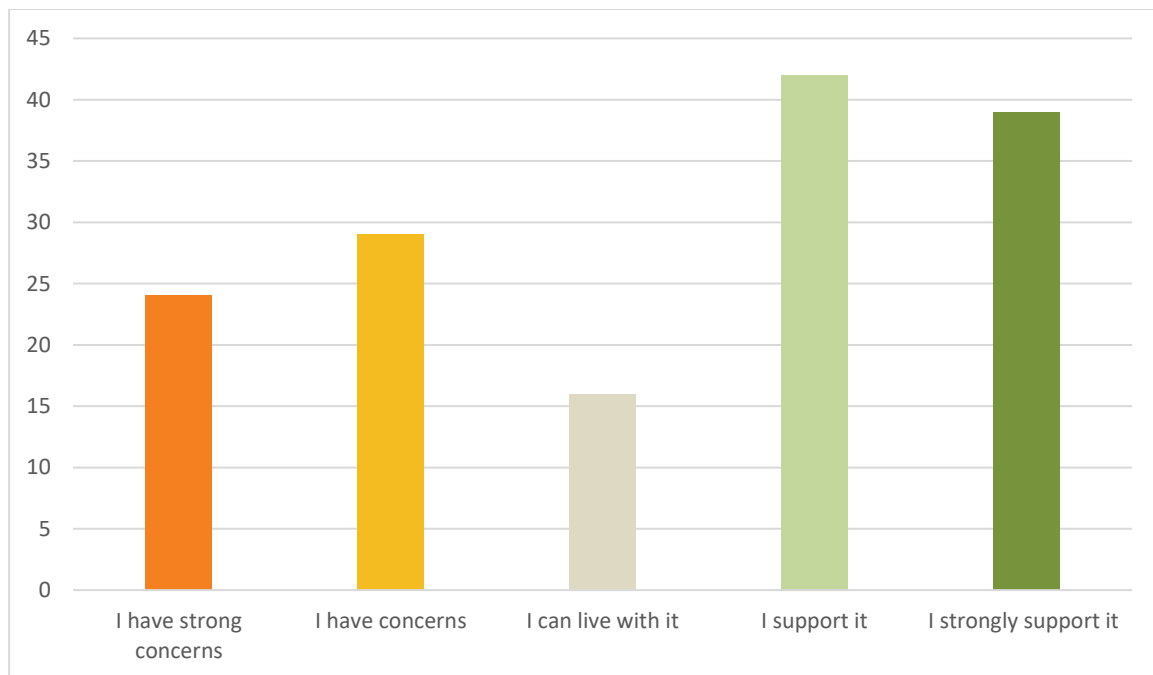
backup. At local level it includes electric batteries for buildings; community-level microgrid storage; fleet and individual vehicle-to-grid connections, wherever parked; and heat batteries. Their performance & costs are also improving exponentially; some are already no-brainers and by 2030 all will be

- Local individual and corporate investment in new non-local energy infrastructure has become established practice. Ownership is by co-op membership and returns are received as monthly bill reductions. We can expect many more energy farms now that the government has ended the onshore wind ban in England. Promote local ownership of national infrastructure.
- Point 1: Take out hydro: no real place for another hydro scheme in reading and not cost-effective cf others
- Add research and investment into batteries and other storage modes
- Point 2: Add make housing more resilient: cooling needed as well as reducing heat losses energy use and changes in energy delivery
- Point 3 Add reinforcing the grid
- Point 4: Add changes to national legislation to make this more enforceable
- Establish an energy hub to maximise community energy options and support energy efficiency homes plus education
- Heat networks
- Water Source Heat Network for Central Reading. Hydro schemes tend to be very expensive per Mwh. We recommend serious consideration be given to construction of Heat Networks for central Reading driven by water source heat pumps extracting energy from the Thames. Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) in 2014 identified the potential of 5GW of energy extractable from UK rivers, with the potential at Reading of 273MW. This would be sufficient to heat several thousand homes. The proximity of Reading to the Thames and the density of housing in central Reading (especially with several large new developments of flats) make this an ideal solution, if rapid action is taken.
- Domestic Heat Pumps scheme. Additionally, could the excellent Solar Together scheme be replicated for domestic air source heat pumps? The "reverse auction" idea in Solar Together has led to a healthy competitive market locally, this idea could readily translate into the heat pump market.

3 Transport

5. Reducing traffic, including:
 - Delivering and sustaining bus improvements and increased use
 - Car sharing and/or car clubs are available for people
 - Council creating a dedicated Active Travel (walking and cycling) budget
 - Better journey planning app for non-car travel
 - Improving and expanding the cycle network, including routes to low carbon leisure activities outside of the town centre
 - Council implementing demand management measures to reduce traffic congestion
6. The council and others electrifying their vehicle fleets
7. Improving road surfaces for all modes of transport

3.1 To what extent to you agree with this?



3.2 What would need to happen to increase your support?

-  – All new housing developments should incorporate sustainable travel plans - they should be built in areas where walking and cycling to local amenities is possible and infrastructure to support this and access to public transport should be prioritized ahead of parking spaces.

- These measures must be applied to all areas of Reading, not just the town centre (ie north of the river where bus services are currently very infrequent and do not encourage people to travel sustainably)
- deliver the cycling network!!!
 - Reducing through vehicular traffic on residential roads would encourage non-car travel modes for many journeys
 - Some form of ULEZ? Learning from global best practice in creating cycle lanes and pedestrianization.
 - The Active Travel app - has provision / thought been made for what languages these would be available in? Is there budget to support third sector and education in rolling out advertising, perhaps paid for through social value contributions of larger businesses?
 - Improving road surfaces for all forms of transport is a 'nice to have' if funds are available. More important if funds are limited is prioritising road maintenance where this supports active travel.
 - Transport is key. Buses, taxis and delivery vehicles should be electric (considering that the cost of the actual vehicle is not bear by the drivers but by companies that can afford the investment). This will be a realistic target as the number of electric vehicles is inevitably limited by the number of necessary charging points and electrical network.
 - More cycle lanes, move to electric vehicles.
 - make road surfaces the priority. App not necessary - waste of money. Cycle network will need a huge amount of research and planning to make it safe and useable. Currently most cycle paths are not safe eg Wokingham Road
 - The cycle routes- I am elderly and live in Caversham . I bought a bike to go to town and other places but the roundabouts at TGI. And Thames water are terrifying. And when I get to town there is no where safe to park my bike. So back to bus which means endless waits at the bus stop and less exercise
 - What about the need to reduce car use to avoid air pollution? I live on a street in central Reading that's in 91st percentile for how polluted it is across the country!
 - Making new bus lanes/cycle lanes on narrow Victorian thoroughfares just causes slower car journeys and thus an increase in pollution. There are many journeys for which bus travel is currently just impractical. There was a suggestion that somehow a route around the centre of Reading, would reduce traffic attempting to get across town. Is this a viable suggestion now ?
 - The cycle network in Reading is absolutely shameful and attitudes towards cyclists and pedestrians is disgraceful. Build better, integrated transport for walkers and wheelers and significant change will happen to peoples health, wellbeing and the communities will prosper, building social cohesion. But it needs big change!
 - Bike sharing should be implemented as well
 - Cycle lanes - need to make cyclist feel safe; a line painted a couple of feet from the kerb do not do that as cars often encroach. Make walking easier - improved pavements: levelling them, wide enough for more than one person at a time. Pedestrian crossings – in places that pedestrians want to cross. Give priority to pedestrians rather than vehicles.
 - Increased number of electric car charging points
 - This does not go far enough. We need a low emission zone and charging to come into Central Reading & Caversham.
 - Third Thames crossing to take through traffic, leaving Reading's bridges bus and local traffic only
 - Include rail travel improvements, especially bringing down the cost to make it a more affordable option
 - Better enforcement of green zones settings schools (school streets), encouraging playstreets. Encouraging people turn off engines. But there also needs to be awareness that not all road routes can be made suitable for bike lanes
 - Free bus travel
 - Cheaper buses
 - I would cycle more if major roads had cycle lanes or if pavement cycling was allowed. I'm in a village
 - Caution with electric vehicles as the production of these actually contributes to environmental destruction in the Global South. How do you ensure your electric vehicles are ethically sourced?
 - Ban goods vehicles between hrs of 7 am - 10 am

- Class is a huge issue in transport, with many working class people having no choice but to drive for their jobs. Ensuring that the rich /frivolous car use is limited, without penalising poorer workers is paramount. Until we destroy capitalism completely, then just go for all the above!
- Focus on active travel.
- Safety needs to be improved to promote public transport, walking and cycling. Reading has a high amount of beggars, drug addicts, people on electric bikes on pavements, overgrown brambles which creates narrow paths, uneven pavements for prams/wheelchair users. Make Public transport 24 hours, and highly discounted. Caversham has lack of 24 hour bus routes. Provide highly discounted green vehicle lease scheme for Reading residents especially in the van sector.
- Giving cyclists priority over cars at junctions to better ensure their safety at intersections, thus encouraging cycle adoption
- Na
- Make it safe to cycle around town, and cover over the IDR, and provide better Active Travel routes across the railway
- The goal on the first page of reducing car journeys is not translated into this part of the plan. We have to replace many car journeys. It should be easy for people to live without a car in Reading.
- I would like to see some of the Active Travel Budget used for a campaign to educate cyclists & run cycling proficiency safety courses to educated against both cycling on pavements putting pedestrians at risk & dangerous risk taking behaviour on the road e.g on more than one occasion I have seen cyclists undertaking a car turning left at a junction
- don't forget that many elderly people need to use cars
- Incentivise electric vehicles for local taxi companies.
- Public transport needs to be reliable, regular and cheaper . Buses and trains a service rather than a profitable business
- Many people just prefer to use their cars and don't want to use the bus (especially those in the suburbs) - how can they be persuaded to dump their vehicles?
- Far more needs to be done to support walking and cycling, the funding is insignificant when compared to buses.
- Creating cycling network and advertising it to the public- Some wide pavements with little investment (signage) can be adapted for cycling use.
- I need to see more about resident vehicle electrification. Subsidised rapid car charging where home infrastructure isn't feasible
- I believe there should be a tax on second or third vehicle registered at the same address, all people having company cars should be banned from owning their own vehicle, all roads around residential areas should be permit only or pay and display which would hopefully deter people from owning multiple vehicles. The whole town centre should be no go zone for any vehicles except of delivery vans and buses.
- I'm only convinced by the first and last bullet
- Schemes to support take up of more sustainable travel- more comfortable bus journeys; maintain the help for households fares; grants for cycles etc
- Low emissions zone for town centre to reduce through traffic
- Demand management measures for cars needs expanding as people will be put off due to limited accessibility as a motorist already
- Free bus travel for all paid for by all
- Need to recognise that cars will always be used so don't want to demonise car use too much - and need to keep traffic moving. to demonise ;t want o ethat
- Ensure disabled people are not adversely affected by road closures and parking restrictions. Car sharing in generally unrealistic. Public transport needs to be more frequent in the evening, which includes the rail network. Reading cannot make these schemes entirely within its own boundaries
- More wind and water electricity generation
- More frequent cheaper buses, good effort on electric and hybrid buses provision
- making it difficult for people to use their cars to come to reading. E.g. less parking spaces and more expensive. Use the previous parking to create green areas. Introduce a rent a bike scheme near train stations.
- Idea 5 - the Council already has a dedicated Active Travel budget so that's almost too easy to agree to – suspect the intention was to see more investment in Active Travel (regardless of the source)

- support cycling schemes and shops: right now, it's hard to get our bikes fixed. Active transport is not a choice for me but a constraint because I can't afford parking or a car. But there are too few bike repair shops
- It would be good to address how stakeholders will charge/power their personal vehicles - as there will likely be many that remain. Is that likely to be EV or hydrogen and can we lead the way, so a lot of time and resource isn't wasted on an interim solution.
- Something about supporting infrastructure for LCT, like secure cycle (including electric) parking and vehicle charging points
- Good luck
- bus routes better design eg circular route
- Headline should be to reduce car dependency through integrated planning and transport strategies. We need to create an environment where it is easy to get around and undertake day to day activities without the need to use a car. EV's have a very high carbon footprint so we need to ensure these are a residual part of the package, not a core component. We should talk about greenways and segregated cycleways
- In addition to lack of infrastructure, fast moving traffic is a hindrance to uptake of walking and cycling. Consideration of traffic calming and enforcement measures would help this. E.g. stricter endorsement of stopping on double reds, more traffic calming measures in and around school leisure centres and other community spaces
- Learning from Dutch and French examples! Aggressive promotion of segregated routes and parking spaces for bikes and e-bikes for all journeys within the town, and to/from all suburbs around
- Safety and bike theft must be tackled. Currently myself and many people I know choose not to cycle in Reading as bikes get stolen on a daily basis. There are still not enough safe spaces to leave the bike by the shops and other public places.
- Reading Buses are excellent
- low emissions zones and more pedestrian only areas
- Public transport has to be the cheaper to use than a car otherwise people will continue to drive
- more about actively promoting walking and improving access for pedestrians, not second class citizens to car users
- Agree to Improving road surfaces. Electrification is not a panacea to emission control, it simply shifts the emissions elsewhere. I do not support increased bus use, I find it ineffective and cycling around town is such a minority activity that it shouldn't receive disproportionate concerns. Cycling and use of electric scooters etc. on footpaths should not be encouraged - keep pedestrians safe.
- Impossible for anyone with impaired mobility to get public transport. Free taxis might help..
- More effort needed to encourage parents not to take children to school by car. Traffic in school holidays is reduced hugely and would also benefit the fitness of both parents and children.
- Car clubs/sharing would not necessarily be suitable for disabled drivers as many require adaptations to vehicles. We need to ensure that buses and taxis etc are available and as accessible to all as possible. Pavements need to be as smooth and easy to wheel or walk on as possible.
- I don't know anyone who has ever done car sharing. I don't think this is viable unless you made a hook to get them involved. E.g. make first 10 miles free of charge.
- if heading into town i walk but i do have to use the relief road for everything else including shopping id rather not drive through reading at all but with no 3rd bridge that is not possible
- Fundamentally Reading needs a third bridge. Without this all the above solutions will just make matters worse as there is no evidence that car use will be reduced
- Cycling is good for some BUT the car and encouraging EV transport as a primary objective has to take priority
- Where I live in Reading has no public transport provided by the borough. Realise on services starting in Oxfordshire. Car clubs have limited success in areas of lower population density. Difficult for those need to travel outside normal times. Active travel schemes risk discriminating against those with mobility issues who can only walk very limited distances. Active transport schemes should not inadvertently mean some people feel they cannot leave their home independently.
- If you want to everyone to zero net for cars. That needs to be a financial support towards payment of hybrid or electric cars..

- provide home charging for electric cars for those without driveways. Stop the rollout of bus lanes at the detriment of car users as these bus lanes which are hardly used (eg a33) are roads. If bus lanes are being built then these should be as an addition to the current road network, not reducing existing capacity
- In the many years I have lived in Reading I have seen very limited improvements for cycling. It is very hard to get from West Reading to town when cycling with children on the road.
- The overall intent of reducing car journeys is a good one and we should incentivise accordingly, that said we should not do this at a cost of making a car journey hell. I have frequently considered moving out of Reading due to the traffic in part created by poorly considered road schemes. Cycle paths are a good idea however not at the expense of pedestrians on a footpath - where shared paths need rules on excluding e-bikes from these
- The same old thing I always say. . Don't get rid of traffic lanes, decrease the fees for bus and trains. Cheaper parking and finally. . Actually listen to everyone .
- Concerned about new Shinfield Road cycle lane - disjointed, difficult to use, and cyclists hardly use, and on BOTH sides of road, making Road narrow and tricky to use. Was there enough consultation over this?
- By limiting cars in Reading you are limiting what Reading is, a commuter town. People who live in the centre of Reading still need to use cars. This has not been thought through with the residents in mind.
- Active travel budget waste of money. People would walk or bike now if they ever intended to, new paths won't make a difference. Need to build a ring road to allow cars to travel across the Thames- 'too many vehicles on A4 and Caversham trying to get north
- Buses are one of the major causes of congestion. When they stop at a bus stop park in a way to let traffic past
- Traffic reduction relies on better alternatives to using vehicles as well as different zoning. Why not have more independent corner shops to cut down on car travel and to create hubs for neighbours to meet? Safer sidewalks and street food along footpaths? Shuttles to parks and leisure centres?
- All good, apart from the electrification, which is creates Electrosmog, a pollutant labelled as a Class 2B Carcinogen by the WHO, and Dirty Electricity. Both are not good for Public Health or Ecology. They also have a huge ecological and ethical footprint abroad, with resources being provided by (child) slave labour in the Congo. Not good, not morally defensible and, above all, not green....
- A small majority will car share or take up cycling but the only thing that would really encourage people to use the buses more is cheaper and more frequent buses
- No mention of IDR cannot be an accident, but it is wrong to leave out the elephant in the room, that any Reading that allows the IDR to continue as normal is just tinkering and will be ineffective. ULEZ or equivalent is missing. By avoiding this we are discounting proven well-loved when implemented solutions for reasons I won't speculate. It is cowardly.
- The road changes the council have been making only seem to make congestion worse, not better
- It is trying to pick a winner with stating electric vehicles. It doesn't address the current gaps in transport beyond Readings boundaries for people who legitimately come into Reading to work. A little sack cloth and ashes!
- You could reduce congestion and pollution if you stopped blocking roads and taking away road surface area for buses that don't exist.
- people rely on cars for a myriad of reasons, do not impose ULEZ or congestion charges as this only effects people from areas of deprivation or low income households, reduce traffic and pollution but not scheduling roadworks throughout the entirety of reading to coincide within the same time. More electric vehicle points through town
- Rather than fix roads for cars, replace completely with walking/cycle routes ie pedestrianise
- the omission of autonomous electric vehicle technology. Driverless (though public service vehicles may retain a "captain" to look after customers) its key climate contribution is to be several times more economical, sustainable and convenient than individual ownership in urban areas. Available 24 hours, with a safety record already better than human drivers. Performance & costs are improving at an exponential rate, so autEVs will be viable in Reading well before 2030. Robotaxi fleets now operate in Chinese and US cities; Edinburgh has an autEV bus fleet for park-and-ride. Make Reading friendly to autonomous vehicle trials and fleet
- To boost active travel: At destinations, promote strong security for cycles and scooters; also free or cheap battery charging / swapping. Tackle illegal high-powered electric motorcycles on the cycle and pedestrian network.

- Very good apps already exist, with multi-mode journey planning and real-time monitoring (e.g. Google Maps, BusChecker). Competition improves them rapidly so the strategy doesn't need to bother. However, promote a common "I need transport" interface to integrate both supply and demand management with them.
- I have major concerns on this one. Those feel less ambitious than we already have in train, let alone what we need. We need: 1) A cycle and walking network 2) Zero carbon bus network with dedicated routes 3) Sustainable transport connectivity hubs 4) Electric vehicle charging infrastructure (the mention of budget not needed at this level and would follow once policy objectives in place). This needs to align with LTP but draw out shortcomings there where they are needed.
- This is weak and feels tailored to something you know you can succeed. go further, be bold.
- Taxing the motorists AGAIN
- You didn't even listen to us when we told you the London Road bus lane was going to cause massive delays, why are you asking us again? You've killed roads that we used to use for the benefit of cyclists and you see the off cyclist using the road. You've created delays and even more congestion and pollution! If it was up to me I'd sack the whole lot of you for wasting tax payer's money and for the chaos we've been enduring.
- Some of the recent changes - for example the insane addition of a bus lane for. The A322 to cemetery junction. Are inherently anti car. It doesn't lead to a modal shift, it just causes more traffic jams, people finding alternative routes and will increase overall congestion and pollution
- Bus lanes causing increased traffic, causing pollution and reducing air quality. New bus lanes are in the most ridiculous locations.
- The buses in Reading are terrible, terrible service, terrible cost, don't turn up, at least in your car you know you will get somewhere. The cost of trains is unaffordable, and people can't afford to live and work in Reading we need to move away and travel in ... by car, now you want to look at making it harder
- The council should focus entirely on fixing potholes and delivering quality road resurfacing - not the poor quality work seen recently. Remove pointless bus lanes that reduce road capacity for other road users (I am a cyclist). Stop prioritising buses over other forms of road transport. Ensure that all traffic flows efficiently through good road design and synchronised traffic signalling.
- Remove the London Rd bus lane, it is well-intentioned but totally flawed.
- The bus lane on London Road will cause chaos on our school run but thanks for not listening to us tax payers.
- The bus service is hardly used as a percentage. It takes up valuable road space that car users pay to use and it is taken away from us, and we suffer. Just leave it alone!
- More dwellings means more cars and more pollution.
- All this council achieve is more traffic jams leading to high pollution
- Get a third bridge - this is the most sensible option. At the moment, we feel very excluded as people who live in Cav/ Emmer Green. Nothing is being done to help our community except the odd bit of road being resurfaced. You've made it very clear you have no problem putting housing estates on lovely green land over here with absolutely no thought about infrastructure - roads, GPs, schools etc You treat us like second class citizens and it stinks.
- Make traffic flow, remove most of the traffic lights on roundabouts which greatly increase the time that cars are stopped, coordinate road works so that they do not obstruct the flow of traffic
- I am especially concerned to hear any thought about demand management which inevitably involves interfering with people behaviour and freedom. I also don't want my money to be wasted in expensive electric vehicles.
- do not cripple people for having their own transport - if you want people to use cars less incentivise them onto public transport - don't force them to
- Electric cars should be free of restrictions... these are net zero and and it would be stupid to not allow them!
- What do you mean by demand management? Road pricing? No then.
- It's always about hitting motorists and those that drive for a living not focusing on how to help those. By reducing road space for cars you actually increase pollution as traffic jams increase. Look at assisting traffic flows, for instance along the a33 if you could get lights to sync up and if you are traveling within the speed limit having to allow traffic to flow from the town centre to the motorway without having to stop and numerous traffic lights
- The cycle network is a joke. cycling on pavements with pedestrians is dangerous. On the road the potholes make cycling dangerous, made worse due to the additional weight of electric



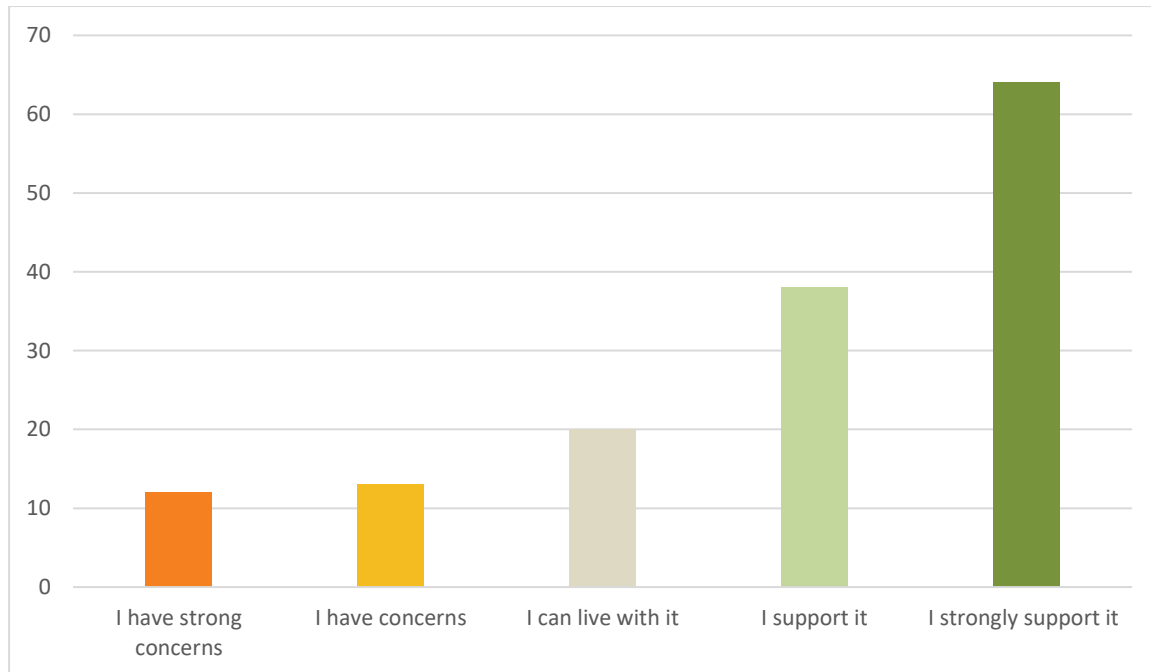
cars, a white line down the side of a street does not make cycling safe. Look at Holland or Denmark for true cycling friendly environments, if not you will never get people out of cars. Upping cycling numbers is better than car pooling

- Charge out of towners who use Reading as a cut through. Build the 3rd bridge.
- Point 5: Goal should be to reduce transport emissions
- Journey planning apps are already available. Remove this as an action
- Point 7: Why is this in climate plan? Emphasis should be on maintenance of cycleways and footpaths
- Increase security for bike storage/ battery charging in new buildings and in centres.
- Demand responsive transport: buses
- Planning for localism (shops.doctors etc) to reduce transport needs
- Park and Ride promotion and promotional charging and a park and ride scheme for West Reading.
- Investigate installations for bidirectional use of electricity with car batteries, potentially at work day car parks or Park and Ride. Don't pay if you are in the scheme (Utrecht does it)
- EV charging at work; related to solar panels on commercial buildings
- Research and implement methods to nudge use of smaller vehicles
- Driverless Car Hire for Reading. Car sharing schemes suffer from the constraint that users have to somehow get access to the vehicles, which may be some distance away. Driverless vehicles remove this constraint as they can simply be requested from an App, and turn up at your door. There is already a driverless car hire scheme in operation in Milton Keynes. We recommend that RBC investigate the potential for a driverless car hire scheme in Reading to reduce the need for individual car ownership. Potential partners would include Fetch (who run the Milton Keynes service) Wayve, Oxa.
- Park and Ride for North Reading and West Reading with bidirectional charging (V2G). These Park and Rides are needed to complement the schemes in South and East Reading. Consider bi-directional EV charging at the Park & Rides whereby EVs can both charge while parked and also contribute to local energy storage if users sign up, using a vehicle to grid (V2G) approach. Such a scheme already exists in Utrecht.
- Electric Charging points for taxis. These would encourage our taxi drivers to go electric, with carbon reduction and air quality benefits

4 Green and Blue spaces

8. Making spaces near roads greener, including the Inner Distribution Road, to encourage walking and cycling
9. Incentives and funding to help increase number of green space and biodiversity in Reading, especially in the centre to help regulate heat effects
10. Reclaiming spaces and making them greener and safer for local community use
11. Rainwater harvesting for flood prevention and watering local plants
12. Partners and stakeholders supporting, measuring their impact, and accountable to the Berkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

4.1 To what extent to you agree with this?



4.2 What would need to happen to increase your support?

- Existing green spaces should be protected and planning processes should prioritize this - they should not be used for housing developments where brownfield sites can be used instead. New housing developments and commercial buildings also need to incorporate more green spaces and this should be ensured through the planning process. Green roofs, eg on bus stop shelters could be utilized to increase green areas.
- start planting!
- Tree lined streets everywhere. No high rise buildings, free open lakes for swimming.
- Remove charges for nominating tree planting. Plant wild flowers on all centres of roads.
- More cycling lanes
- Have cycle paths flat like the road, not like Shinfield Road where the pavement is uneven to cycle on. Makes it harder to then move in to the road if you wish to go down a side road.

- Space for fruit trees etc should be included. Also, guerilla gardening should be encouraged. This would increase local ownership of these spaces.
- Focus on sustainable urban drainage as a means to increase climate resilience by attenuating rainfall, creating habits, capturing road pollution, creating habitats, and creating a social amenity by making streets more pleasant places to be (this could link nicely into encouraging walking and even cycling as SuDS can act as a nice barrier between cycle lanes and roads to make them safer and greener!)
- What financial support and infrastructure will be given to third sector, MSMEs and education entities (e.g. those with less administrative resource than large businesses) to measure and report their impact to the Berks Local Nature Recovery Strategy?
- Involvement of the community, the Lavender Place Community Garden is an excellent initiative.
- Focussing on making space for wildlife
- Create more volunteering opportunities for locals. It's a win-win for the environment and for locals socialise.
- Protect green spaces already there from destruction by development eg kentwood
- Fully support it
- Don't build on flood plains, ban people from using fake grass or concreting over their front gardens (only encourages people to make driveways and favours car use where parking is limited)
- Increase tree planting in green spaces to absorb carbon and aid cooling
- Restrictions or additional costs on people concreting over their gardens, to discourage this.
- This should be easy to do. Build on the enthusiasm and interest in green spaces that emerged during the pandemic.
- It would be super if the IDR could support cyclists.
- I support all these green and blue initiatives
- Forcing housing associations, developers to convert existing bare spaces into wildlife friendly areas like parks, nature reserves, wild flower meadows. The housing association and home owners should be forced to plant trees in their gardens and banned from putting artificial grass and other materials in the gardens. There must be a ban on converting front gardens into massive parking spaces.
- Moss walls
- London Road traffic should be deviated to alternative
- Too many people park on existing grass verges; parking restrictions on these need to be enforced or wooden bollards inserted along them to stop it happening
- Creating community gardening spaces in new housing developments a condition of developers getting awarded contracts
- Create a good cycle network to make people want to cycle
- Better use of the waterfront green spaces to encourage more use.
- Proper expertise and local knowledge needs to be used to implement this. Similar stand alone schemes RBC have carried out have resulted in unwanted outcomes whereby the lead council officers have known better than local people [sic]
- Protection of front gardens and other flood mitigation measures
- None
- Green roofs on bus stops and other public buildings. Both functional and as an example to others. Make wild gardens more acceptable and mainstream. Encourage home wildlife ponds
- make the river walk more attractive, even beyond reading central
- What does reclaiming space look like? Is there a strategy about increasing the repurposing of brownfield sites for development rather than using green spaces?
- Create a anti-flood storm reservoir under Rivermead to avoid need for putting the Thames behind barrier walls as it flows past Christchurch meadows.
- Na
- We should incorporate, in the vision, the creation and maintenance of pathways (of and between green spaces) to assist the movement of birds, pollinators and other wildlife. Linking to green spaces outside of the urban area.
- stop paving over gardens
- More trees and better care of our parks and public spaces
- Making sure opportunities for tree planting AND WATERING them to make sure they actually survive. Encourage more areas of wildflowers. Get schools involved in planting and local

- communities to help maintain to take pride in the area and take an interest in why it is important.
- More trees
 - Drains need investment - too much avoidable flooding around Wilderness Road area. Need to factor in the extra run off from all the new housing estates. if not, the flooding will become a big problem, this should be a priority. i like the idea of more greenery and footpaths
 - More small trees and hedges as in Japan
 - I need to see more about accountability of polluting these assets and a budget
 - The safety of the current green spaces must be increased. There are many rough sleepers around and often it is not safe to enjoy these places.
 - Again, green space won't encourage more walking- people are inherently lazy so need to dissuade use of cars, rather than encourage walking
 - i do not agree with a net zero zone however the other ideas look fine
 - I ask Reading Council to acquire Electsmog Meters and to ensure that people are not exposed to Electrosmog, especially in "green" areas.
 - Invest in the roles and skills to develop and maintain our green and blue spaces. Build in opportunities to inform and educate.
 - more on greening main roads and junctions
 - More green spaces - yippee ! Suggest involving e.g. BBOWT regarding promoting biodiversity
 - More specifically also relating to blue space, and holding business, organisations, and people into account for destroying, polluting, fly tipping (e.g. Thames Water)
 - We must make sure that people are not endangered by overhanging branches and signs that are obscured by trees.
 - Need to link up green and blue infrastructure areas to create continuously accessible spaces
 - More focus on nature and biodiversity
 - Rainwater harvesting needs to be made a priority.
 - Turn the IDR into a tunnel (like Maastricht, Antwerp, etc.) and create micro-parks within all neighbourhoods
 - The Thames river and Kennet river should be purified. Caversham lakes should be available for leisure. There should be a better system to solve flooding issues.
 - The town will loose jobs and vibrancy if it becomes too unfriendly to cars
 - Reclaiming sites for green spaces could further cause issues with lack of affordable housing in town
 - I would want to understand better what kind of spaces are intended to be "reclaimed" and how this meshes with planning policy, as it's clear there is also a shortage of housing locally
 - Not very strategic. Where cycle paths are available then the council should make it mandatory for cyclists to use them.
 - community programs within schools to teach gardening and growing fruits and vegetables. Will help to educate children on where food comes from, encourage healthy eating. Community projects around gardening - for mental health etc. Not just limited to giving people allotment spots, run community fruit and vegetable gardens across reading in green areas.
 - Point 8 is unclear what you are trying to achieve. The language doesn't make sense
 - 8. green space and surfacing are different uses. suggest Integrating green spaces around key sustainable transport infrastructure ? Increasing funding isn't really strategic, we need to understand how this would work? Are we talking about a specific intervention here? We should be talking about outcomes such as 'increased tree cover' increase in biodiversity (BAP), retaining water through SUDS and enhancement/protection of habitats.
 - Not sure how you can make the IDR greener and rainwater harvesting is a good idea but pumping systems and filter maintenance make this a costly exercise.
 - Council support (funding and leases) for community gardens and wildlife areas in the town centre
 - I might be wrong, but I do believe that we have enough green spaces. We should not sacrifice areas that can be used for housing to increase our green areas.
 - Generally making more green areas but unfortunately too often this is seen as a way of not cutting public green spaces making them unattractive
 - again schemes that are going to cost us money. Stop spending on stupid ideas and just leave it alone.
 - Some grass cutting across the town does not make sense, Strimmers cut/damage freshly planted trees (by volunteers or RBC itself!), there should be more schemes of wild flowering patches as in the rest of Europe -rather than lawns that in heatwave turn easier into yellow

- savannah. Less [cutting] is more! and savings on fuel and manhours. Some strimmers should be sent for basic gardening courses so they can expand their knowledge how to maintain public green spaces.
- all good ideas but in isolation won't have any effect on the world
 - clean the streets before you create more green spaces - honestly reading is a disgrace to call home sometimes - improve what you have before you over stretch yourselves further - clean the streets
 - More evergreen foliage in CBD; innovative spaces that promote wellbeing and community. Decentralise eateries. e.g. healthy community cafes in green spaces & along river, so people can eat, relax & meet friends in a natural setting (NOT big brands behind Oracle, with fake grass). More picnic areas w fireplaces. Natural swimming ponds. Cluster cottage industries along cycling paths in nature (see Midlands Meander in South Africa). More DoE volunteer opportunities related to nature.
 - I don't see this as practical and there are downsides
 - Needs to be something on protecting the rivers that run through our town. Thames Water has to be held accountable. Also, many of our green spaces exist in squalor, rife with litter. We need a strategy for that. We should also aim for a new park in central Reading. If the hospital moves we need to lobby hard for the space to be used to create a new blue/green space.
 - It is not just about creating green spaces, they need sustained funding to actually establish and thrive
 - weak and non-specific.. please be bold and specific, maybe you'll fail, maybe you won't
 - Reading looks messy and encourages low standards when you don't cut grass verges it's different in parks etc to have wild spaces.
 - You have it backwards on this. You've endured some of the wettest and coldest summers and winters in years. I'd like you to prove me and pretty much everyone living around here otherwise (well accept for you as you have well and truly bought into this nonsense). Enough with all the cycling and walking. I want to see you walking or cycling when it's pouring down or taking the family out to go to church, etc. Ain't going to happen!
 - The council should stop its re-wilding of verges. The place looks a complete eyesore - weeds growing everywhere - we are beginning to look like a third-world country
 - Stop building dwellings on flood plains, in fact if you stopped building houses we would have more green spaces !
 - More green spaces, don't make me laugh they allow developments on Green spaces. Total joke
 - The biggest constraint on cycling network is ancient street layouts - just accept that and stop the expensive pain of dreaming it weren't the case.
 - Ignores car use completely therefore defective.
 - Tinkering at the margins. May as well not bother.
 - You need to increase the road network or reduce through traffic. You are trying to make a 15 minute city which won't work. Also stop building flats as these don't have gardens just some horror of an area frequented by youths who have nowhere else to go as there are no youth services
 - This focus area, as written, is mostly irrelevant to climate strategy. Its drafters primarily want an environmental / biodiversity strategy. That's putting the cart before the horse - if we don't prioritise the climate there'll be no livable environment and no life
 - Point 11 supported
 - The only climate relevance of Points 8 & 9 is adaptation, viz. the generic use of greenery to reduce the urban heat island. Some cities worldwide have great expertise in this and our strategy should be to translate from them, not invent.
 - Points 10 & 12 are irrelevant to climate strategy.
 - One strategic objective should be to foster biological carbon sequestration, whether in trees, soil or wetland; on public, corporate or private land
 - Point 8: Remove "including inner distribution road".
 - Carbon storage/ sequestration on council owned land and pr to persuade others,
 - improve water quality in the Kennet to allow it to work as a corridor.
 - Kennet Meadows: continue with reviews and reuse
 - Biodiversity offset: council to create a portfolio of opportunities to deliver corridors.
 - Education for land owners/ occupiers/users; community gardens/allotments/ community garden areas for new developments.

- This focus area needs to be split into two, as we need a specific focus on water quality (Thames / Kennet), flood mitigation etc which feels like a separate area to Nature / Green spaces
- We support the Berkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy
- We feel the Council should take a firm line with developers over Biodiversity Net Gain, as some developers appear to be attempting to game the system by claiming that there is already a net gain on their development, despite the development removing green space and replacing it with concrete – which is clearly absurd
- In association with partners, the Council should develop a portfolio of projects which are ready to go when BNG funding is available, to prevent delays in accessing and using the funding. These projects as well as increasing biodiversity, should aim to improve the network of nature corridors in the town. We see this as vital to ensure the success of the BNG scheme.

5 Planning and Development

13. Planning policies and approvals are ambitious, including:

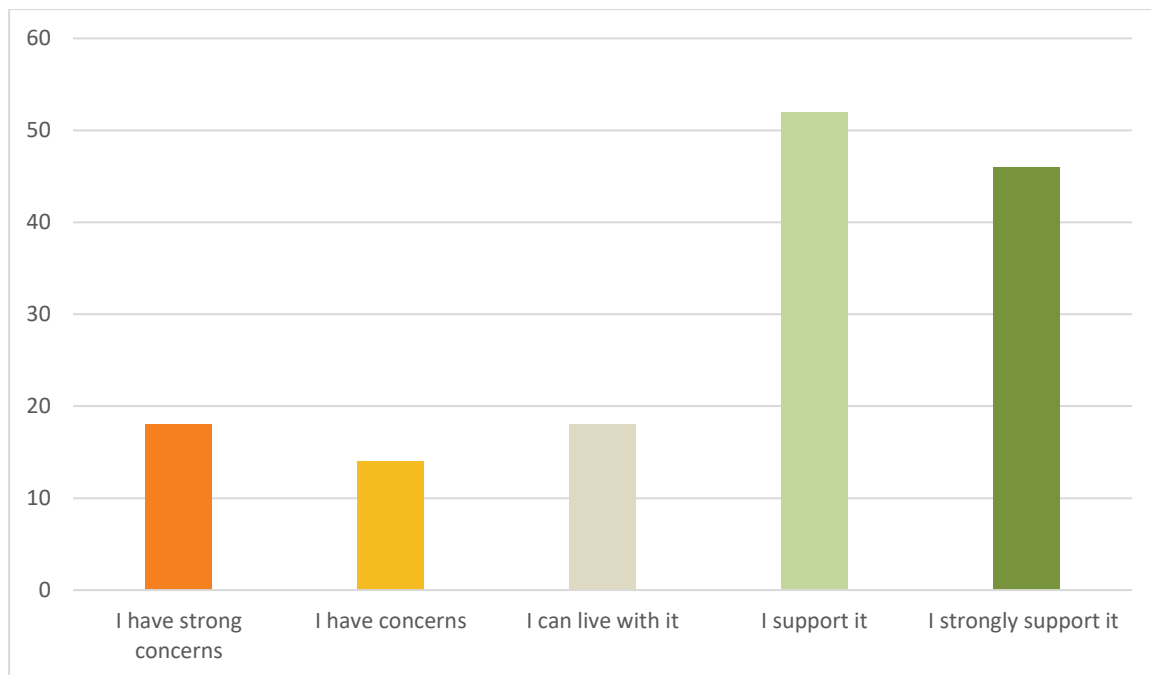
- Applying Local Plan policies around net zero development and biodiversity improvements
- Increasing innovative building technologies which support net zero

14. Large retrofit programme, including insulation and heat pumps, for existing housing and buildings

15. Aligning planning and development with the Local Area Energy Plan (local plan to reduce carbon across the whole energy system)

16. Incorporating renewable energy into buildings

5.1 To what extent to you agree with this?



5.2 What would need to happen to increase your support?

- Planning processes should ensure that all new housing should include solar panels and heat pumps.
- Helping residents access green building materials for small projects like conservatories/sheds/summerhouses.
- Move houses out side reading
- Strongly support retrofit into existing properties
- Add focus on reducing water demand e.g. rainwater harvesting/greywater reuse. Add a focus on less concrete and more green infrastructure so as not to exacerbate crises of flooding

- and sewer overflows. Vital factors in increasing resilience to the impact of climate change which will simultaneously increase the likelihood of drought and flooding.
- What will the council, and other stakeholder institutions (e.g. UoR, RBH, TVP) do to ensure these ambitious targets are drilled into their social value policies (especially when RBC have reduced the minimum value of social value in contracts to a measly 5%)? How will building standards and regulations ensure that, when it is done well, things like Section 106s utilise spaces for third sector, MSMEs and education?
 - All new large buildings should have ground source heat pumps and solar panels, as well as ambitious insulation requirements.
 - Taking wild green spaces out of the Local Plan for Development and not fobbing concerned folk off with a 'well we need affordable housing'. Yes we do, but not on the few wild spaces Reading has left..
 - These points don't feel very ambitious. I'm sure there is more that can be done.
 - Re-use existing sites , eg empty offices instead of building on fields to reach housing targets. Eco heating and water systems in ALL new buildings compulsory
 - Agree totally, help with switching to a heat pump etc would increase take up as they are costly
 - Can we hold building companies to this? And make sure there are plenty of affordable homes (it's going to be expensive to fit houses properly- how can we ensure these retrofits are affordable for all?)
 - A greater emphasis on making homes insulated
 - Subsidies to facilitate the transition
 - Renewable energy for all new buildings
 - Way too many new flats are proposed which will have a huge negative impact on climate change both whilst they are being built and the addition of thousand people to Reading.
 - Again, adequate mains network to support heat pumps and car chargers
 - Maybe a specific statement about helping schools, especially our Victorian primary schools become more energy efficient
 - A greater focus on family housing versus just apartment building. Developers to incorporate more green spaces in to planning.
 - Financial support
 - Not enough knowledge here to comment further
 - As listed before, all new developments of flats / housing / commercial should not be granted without some level of energy self sufficiency, and they should pay for that from their profit margins, not penalise the buyers / renters.
 - Again retro fitting old housing stock generally does not work
 - For the retrofit - given the state of RBCs finances - where does the money come from?
 - Reading to enable Solar Farms on waste land and over watermeadows large tracts of water
 - NA
 - Planning and development also has a role to play in transport, for example ensuring new developments provide or upgrade links into and within the cycle network. Ensuring new developments have adequate cycle parking, including charge points for e-bikes.
 - Again, I don't believe that replacing the heating systems with heat pumps is worth the effort (and I have the feeling that is not feasible for most households). To reduce carbon emissions the emphasis should be in the biggest sources and transport and construction are probably the biggest offenders.
 - The ideas appear to be good and should be achievable, so nothing else to add
 - Will they actually comply with these improvements?
 - There is a need for more financial incentives
 - Planning does not seem to adequately support walking, cycling and green spaces
 - Making people to install bird and bat boxes in their properties. Installing hedgehog and bee hotels. Only allowing planning application if it consists steps to improve existing or create new biodiversity rich spaces, which does not happen atm. All businesses forced to redevelop their sites to cater for nature
 - More idea on costs
 - Heat pumps are noisy
 - More specifics required
 - All new buildings should have solar panels as standard
 - Retrofitting houses to improve insulation is great but how will this be paid for; these measures are often expensive. Also how can home owners be encouraged to retrofit their homes?

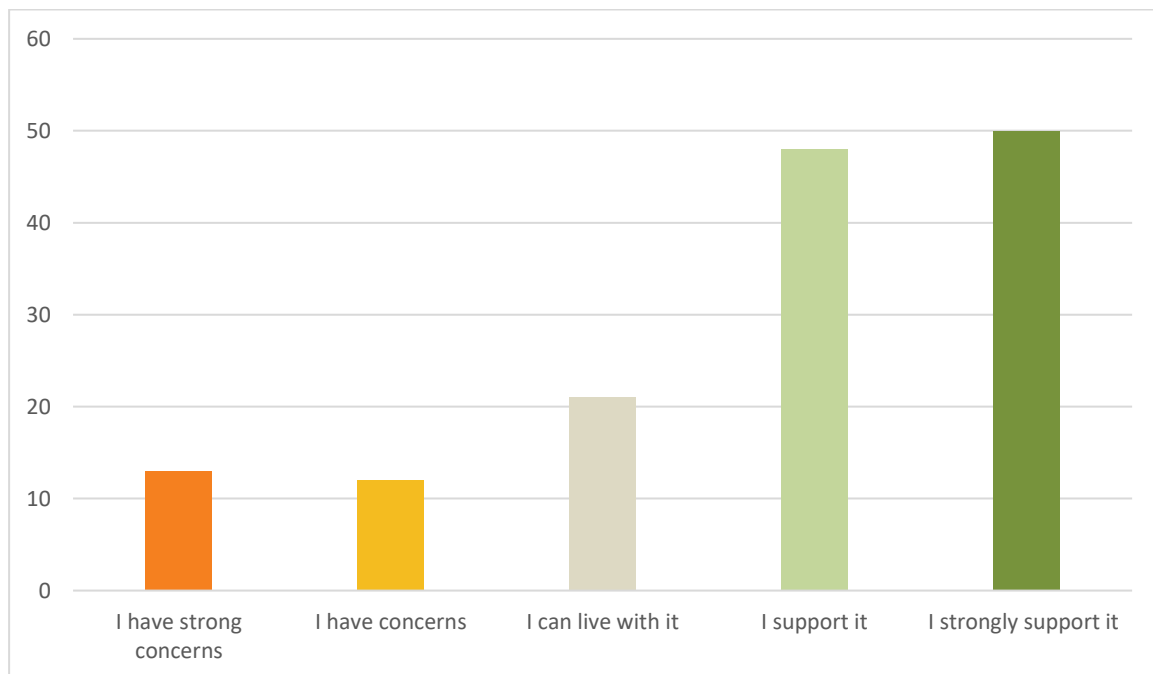
- New builds should be forced to produce at least 100% of their energy through renewable sources on site
- No mention of airtightness or draughtproofing is sad
- All new builds have compulsory forms of renewable heating systems and solar panels
- Forthcoming changes to building regs on energy ratings need to be addressed and businesses and charities helped on this. Otherwise it is unaffordable and the town will suffer economically. Solar panels need specific mention. If people can be better off as part of the plan they are more likely to support it
- Ensure plans engage with skills strategy and providers.
- again what are the options for buildings that cant have heat pumps? Ensure more green space and biodiversity in new developments
- None
- A lot of new building projects are coming up. Make it mandatory for these investors to build net zero buildings.
- Recognition of the particular challenges of heritage buildings and areas and guidance that is available for adaptation.
- Again, wonder whether we should be making reference to standards and systems. LETI, Passivhaus, PAS etc ? Also heat networks relevant with planning too.
- Really laughable given the government wants to build a million houses...
- To ensure highly trained teams provide this service. It has been on the news how people in Wales had insulation and home improvements however the contractors were not trained and these houses now suffer from severe damp and mould which they never had been these improvements.
- Here again the Local Nature Recovery Strategy can link in, with BNG credits too
- solar panels on supermarket roof/car park for LOCAL USE ie no extra grid capacity needed
- 13 Add embodied carbon assessments 14 should include PV's on roofs.
- Retrofitting existing housing needs to be done with care and strong professional industry and insurer backed advice. Builders needs to be required to introduce and maintain green spaces in the town centre
- do not allow all disused or derelict building to be bought up by developers to be made into housing estates, majority of that housing is unaffordable for the population of Reading and drives people out of the town. More space should be used for the community, for entertainment and for families - e.g. more parks and child friendly activities.
- Significant numbers of properties are quite old and in my view "insulation and heat pumps" are not a suitable solution - the ambition for "Incorporating renewable energy into buildings" must never trump practicality and overall cradle-grave analysis
- See my previous remarks about heat pumps.
- heat pump technology is not ready. Would welcome financial help with traditional looking windows for my old house. don't want modern looking ones in old houses.
- Heat pumps are ineffective in our climate.
- I have serious issues about the effectiveness of heat pumps which is still unproven and will be a massive waste of money.
- Insulation causes condensation - damp, and ultimately rot and building failure.
- See comment on listed buildings/ preservation area
- Why are you pushing heat pumps when they're so inefficient.
- does reading need even more development? more flats? - the place is crowded, improve the space that exists - do not simply cram it full of more developments
- Ban development on green space, and strongly disincentivise build on green brownfield (like back gardens)
- Very little to tackle the increasing need to cool houses and buildings. We are seeing more frequent hot periods with associated health challenges.
- Who is paying for all this?
- More specific info about funding needed, seems unrealistic as is as existing rules and guidance is not implemented even when it could significantly help
- how exactly? and who funds this? and when?
- Stop
- This is going to cost a fortune! Where are we supposed to get the money from?! The heat pumps don't work as good as they gas and people end up using more electricity jacking up their already extortionate electricity bills.
- why build these wonderful new energy efficient households that people from reading cant afford to live in

- The introduction of heat pumps could be costly and ineffective unless properly designed and only incorporated into buildings that are highly insulation and include heat-recovery ventilation systems.
- Stop building houses . Heat pumps are Unaffordable and next to useless. Wind and solar are only good if the wind is blowing and solar only if the sun is out .
- Total joke as mentioned before Reading Golf Course, where are the solar panels?
- Again, heat pumps are not good enough and far too expensive. We can't afford one, we never qualify for any subsidies so we won't be getting one. If you provide solar panels FOC, and any extra energy generated would go straight to 'the community', that's an idea we could support
- This seems to be going way outside of basic planning considerations and I would not expect a penny of my council tax to be going on retrofitting anyone's building.
- i don't agree with the Net Zero zone and insulating/heat pumps etc for private households is too expensive and not practical for all properties.
- Too expensive and help for low-income people means taxpayers have to pay them too!
- Vision: Planning policies support alternatives to consumerism; because people engage in high-carbon behaviours when they are lacking community & nature-rich lifestyles. Homes are simple, spacious & sunlit w community spaces in walking distance. Residents are engaged regarding high streets. Centralised support to 'grow your own' and for neighbourhood-scale microgrids. School grounds maximised for community benefit. Citizens wage supports community volunteers.
- The solutions should NOT create Electrosmog or Dirty Electricity (this includes solar, which creates a lot of DE for neighbours as well) and insulation needs to be breathable or you will get damp, mold and more allergies.
- Heat pumps sound like a good idea but I live in a narrow frontage mid terrace house and doubt if a heat pump is feasible along with maybe a significantly large proportion of the housing stock in reading. Plus who's gonna pay for the capital outlay and installation.
- Too expensive even for those you choose to say can afford it
- . This is not a strategic focus area, more a key element in all areas
- The points duplicate (primarily) Heat and Energy. This makes the plan look amateurish. Remove this area and ensure planning and development strengthens all relevant climate-focused areas
- There is something missing about 'designing sustainable, mixed communities where the need to travel is minimised and essential services are accessible without needing to drive' – a key function of spatial planning. Could a point be added to that effect? I'm pretty sure I would have said that at the workshop!
- Split point 13. Don't think that the planning authority can specify innovative building techniques. It could look favourably on new designs that incorporate them.
- Will the council provide more development control personnel to monitor this?
- ?? point 4; already in energy section??
- Should this be in energy section?
- This section seems to be a wish list, but without methods of delivery unless there are substantive changes to local authority funding or building regulations, which are at a national level for change. The existing local plan has many impressive policies for net zero development, increasing use of ground source heat pumps and has gone through a recent consultation to bring it more in line with climate change policies. However, there are limited number of planners at the council and no available money to challenge developers. Without a change in national policies to give the planning authority more teeth, it is hard to see how they can implement and monitor development aims.
- There is also the issue that the timetable for Local Plan and the Climate Action Plan are not linked so there may not be an opportunity to influence the next local plan content during the 2025-2030 period and see actions during this period.
- Climate First Policy. RBC to introduce a general policy across the Council of Climate First – all decisions across the Council to be tested to ensure they are aligned with the revised Climate Action Plan. This change would ensure that all RBC employees are fully aware of the climate policy and aware that their decisions need to be aligned with the goals of the action plan. This policy is actually recommended by the Local Government Association so should not be controversial

6 Food

- 17. Supporting and rewarding actions for sustainable food – actions by producers, consumers, advertisers, and retailers
- 18. Creating and supporting spaces for food to be grown locally and then sold locally
- 19. Sustainable food becoming a central part of the curriculum, both growing and preparing, and becoming a reference point in other subjects

6.1 To what extent to you agree with this?



6.2 What would need to happen to increase your support?

- Give producers an incentive
- The importance of food preparation as part of the school curriculum would wean us off low quality, unsustainable fast food
- Nutrient neutrality. Addressing the impact of run off on watercourse pollution alongside sewer overflows and highway run off. Shifts toward regenerative and potentially vertical/indoor agriculture. Reducing meat consumption. Making healthy and local food lower accessible to all
- Will there be any greater commitments from larger businesses who often use outside suppliers to commit to local produce, local business and locally sourced food?
- Support regenerative farming in the vicinity by providing education and grants to local farmers.
- Focus on affordability to move away from the very expensive farmers market style offering to a more accessible for all culture of local non plastic wrapped products that are affordable for families on a budget, ie most of us!

- More allotments would help. Agree totally with 17) only buy organic where its possibly but understand that hard for everyone to do.
- The cost needs to be reinvested into further growth
- Forcing restaurants to follow standards and preventing them from insisting on serving food that cannot be produced in the UK or even encouraging products from within Europe greatly reduces the carbon footprint, we currently do not have this offer
- Providing more allotments, reviewing the usage of already allocated allotments to make sure they are used, use schemes like allotment share or allowing residents to convert the bare land in their community into orchards or food producing patches
- Encourage people to stop eating ultra processed foods, invest in local produce and the impact on the health service would be immeasurable
- Local shops (butchers etc) are important as well
- Education is always key and it's important to get children interested as early as possible
- Food waste at the Reading school were I work is a big problem & the school should use more bio foods. There are too many fast food outlets in the town and not enough Vegetarian and organic cafés and restaurants.
- Large global food businesses like mclds, costa etc.. also need to be made to take responsibility too
- More allotments available and help to get started
- None
- More allotments please the waiting lists are far too long
- Only if by sustainable food that includes meat,dairy, hay meadows. No insects, and no compulsory veganism. Restoration of or hards and fruit growing. No solar panels on agricultural land
- More allotment areas and places for companies to donate excess produce. This can then be shared with food banks.
- Only organic methods. No use of glyphosate weed killer nor pesticides not approved by the soil association.
- NA
- Great aims but how are they to be achieved?
- Here in reality there is a great inequality in access, food poverty in Reading, so how can this be interlinked to ensure it is not just in and for more affluent
- more education on meat alternatives
- As said before. I do support local producers but in areas outside of the town.
- Encourage the use of allotments. Perhaps increase the numbers available
- I do support it but some people will not be able to easily prepare their own food, so some will always need convenience foods, with all that that entails.
- More educational work shops
- schools should teach pupils how to prepare and cook food from scratch
- Nothing in here about reducing food waste.
- Sponsor/subsidise markets and spaces for local/regional growers, and support independent businesses who commit to work with local networks
- The allotments are not enough. The waiting list for that is ridiculous. Local food should cost less not more than supermarkets that imports it.
- For education, there needs to be funding of resources and CPD for school staff
- More specifics on what Sustainable Food looks like for all levels
- The food production needs to be predominantly organic.
- Continuing to provide rent free green spaces to community food growing groups/projects
- Encourage and showcase public sector and businesses using procurement to support the development of a sustainable food system.
- locally grown and reared food should be shared with food banks/ communities in areas of deprivation.
- Ways of making healthy, local food more affordable.
- More allotments and community gardens is a simple, realistic and effective idea
- Partner with council so that less licenses are given for junk food. Healthy food shop or restaurant providers should be incentivised.
- Poverty and food banks are morally repugnant. The environment and food creation should not only be added to "sell" but added to be given away or freely collected at growing areas.
- Changing the curriculum is a bold step
- Healthy not UPF food to be part of the curriculum

- Create spaces for local food markets. Introduce food waste recycling for energy generation
- no time to have an allotment. school curriculum is full. you can't expect schools to pick up all the slack, you need to provide the information for the community
- Maybe some community orchards/trees
- Nice to encourage. By I question how achievable it would be to get a majority of the borough's population to make the necessary changes.
- Curiously no mention of meat or animal products, though I guess it is implied. I think this should be explicit lest it just becomes greenwashing.
- Local food production needs to become economically viable if it is to become a mainstay of the local food chain. Current ideas do not address the scale of food required [aspirational but not realistic as it stands].
- We seem to be missing diet here? Land use and food growing incredibly important. Need to positively encourage healthy low carbon diets. Less meat and dairy and supply chains that lead to deforestation etc
- the food system is more complex and simply "do local stuff" - the wider context should be taught, not just local which does have its place. would encourage you to think about cost of food as well, if local food is more expensive, people will not choose it and we go in circles
- Needs more detail and focus, it feels weak and not enough priority.
- Local food by it's very nature is often independent. Access to such retail has been more and more been marginalized to the outskirts of town. Local food and goods produce should be readily available in the heart of Reading and supported in competing with rising rents and large chains on the high street
- In general it is a good idea but given the demand for housing where are these green spaces going to be found. If this means turning parks into mini farms then I would not support this
- we need to support supermarkets in supplying locally grown food, the plans look seem to be looking backwards not how to move forwards
- There is no sustainability where eating meat is considered. Reading must start to promote vegetarian and vegan diets as aore healthy and more sustainable alternative. Campaigns should be planned to increase awareness about the severe impact factory farming has on the climate. More vegetarian and vegan restaurants and options should be available in restaurants.
- Politicising food fuels the mental health crisis in the young - far more life threatening than obesity in young people. Good if we do more to support small local famers more, but I fail to see that and they make very little money in the UK.
- EIT Food and Climate-KIC support decarbonisation of Reading's food systems using holistic whole-county approach. School meals are envy of the world. Support for food-related social enterprises and climate innovation. Neighbourhood kitchens and food hubs.
- No mention of reducing food waste - this needs to be addressed
- It is 50 years since fast food outlets started appearing in the UK kicking off an obesity crisis. Without plans to restrict, locally tax or even ban these places, other strategies are pointless. I actually like the ideas but too many people eat otherwise. Education in schools may help but if it's not on the curriculum or part of an exam it's deemed irrelevant
- Explain how Reading can produce food? Surely we are a consumer of other producer's food. Do you plan to tax food that you consider not to be "green"? What will the poor people eat?
- Stop interfering in every one's life
- What do you classify as "sustainable food"..? Bugs? Forget it!
- If you didn't build houses we would have the land to farm for food , it's not rocket science.
- RBC washing their hands of allotments, the usual talk but no action
- Reduce number of takeaway and vape shops which encourage single use plastic
- None of this should be a concern of the council - no wonder we get such poor value for money of people are being paid to do this kind of stuff!
- allotments are not being catered for or offered up - in fact many are being built on (city centre for example) - so how exactly do you plan to increase locally grown food?
- Supporting and rewarding equals penalising everyone.
- Hilarious, we could call it 'Dig for Victory' and turn over all the public green biodiverse spaces mentioned before into intensive inner city farms and make everyone turn their garden into an allotment lol. Who's gonna do the farming?
- Where would you grow things edible in reading centre.
- Ill-defined "sustainability" and distance travelled are not food's major impacts on climate. Ten times more significant are our choices of what to eat. As a population, what we choose is predominantly animal-rich - the Western diet. Animal agriculture's greenhouse gas emissions

are huge, exceeding those from the transport, industry or building sectors.

- The climate damage of the Western diet has proved to be too abstract and remote to motivate many people to change what they eat. However, the diet also damages our health, a direct and bad experience which blights and shortens many lives. In Western countries about two thirds of adults are affected. Hence, for motivation's sake, the focus of climate action on food must be to help many people to make changes that reverse their dietary health damage, for it is reversible, and avoid future damage. That's "help", not "tell"! Greenhouse gas emission reductions will follow as a cart follows a horse
- In this focus area Reading can indeed be a beacon for others. Volunteers have a big role
- Helping people to shift diets is a busy industry, but much of it stands accused of being ineffective beyond the short term, if ever. The primary actions would be to research up-to-date knowledge of what works in reversing health damage by shifting diets, followed by seeking ways in which this is being implemented successfully, followed by propagation.
- Some rapid cost & performance improvements are underway in food production technologies. They are precision fermentation and cellular agriculture. As they get cheaper, they will put some forms of animal agriculture out of business (dairy before meat) though their impact on health is not yet clear. Keep a watch. We must decide whether to make Reading a friendly place for them.
- 19 perhaps implies a focus on full-time education. It would be good to obviously widen this outcome to include more general learning about food prep. This might helpfully overlap with redistribution (e.g. like Olio)
- Reading Council "Focus area: Food", also Reading Council "let's close the allotments near the Hexagon.
- Promotion required, including promotion of reuse schemes
- Doesn't need to be sold
- Reduce animal protein in diet;
- Food waste reduction: advice needed
- Advice on seasonal low cost recipes
- Promote allotment use, bring unused ones into production. Train new allotment users
- Reading University discussions and practical trials with bacterial produced protein
- Helping people to change diets
- Provide information on cheaper access to bulk foods
- push anchor institutions to make public commitments (or make public the commitments that they've already made
- support for events to develop and implement sustainable food strategies, including improving the infrastructure to enable them to implement food waste reduction and recycling commitments
- Community fridges. Investigate potential to develop food banks further to become community resources where people could be encouraged to donate their own excess (in date or fresh) food.
- Help with diets/food prep. Even now there are many people who find food preparation difficult / time consuming and regularly turn to take-aways. Investigate what we can do as a community to help people with food prep and moving towards more sustainable diets
- Review of allotments. There is great demand for allotments especially north of the river, yet some are not used or under-used. There should be a review
- training offered to existing and potential allotment holders on how to make best use of the space. Allotments should not be used simply as "outside space" for those without gardens, as they are supposed to be productive areas.

7 Waste

20. Consumption and waste are cut by all - individuals, businesses, organisations, etc. – and include:

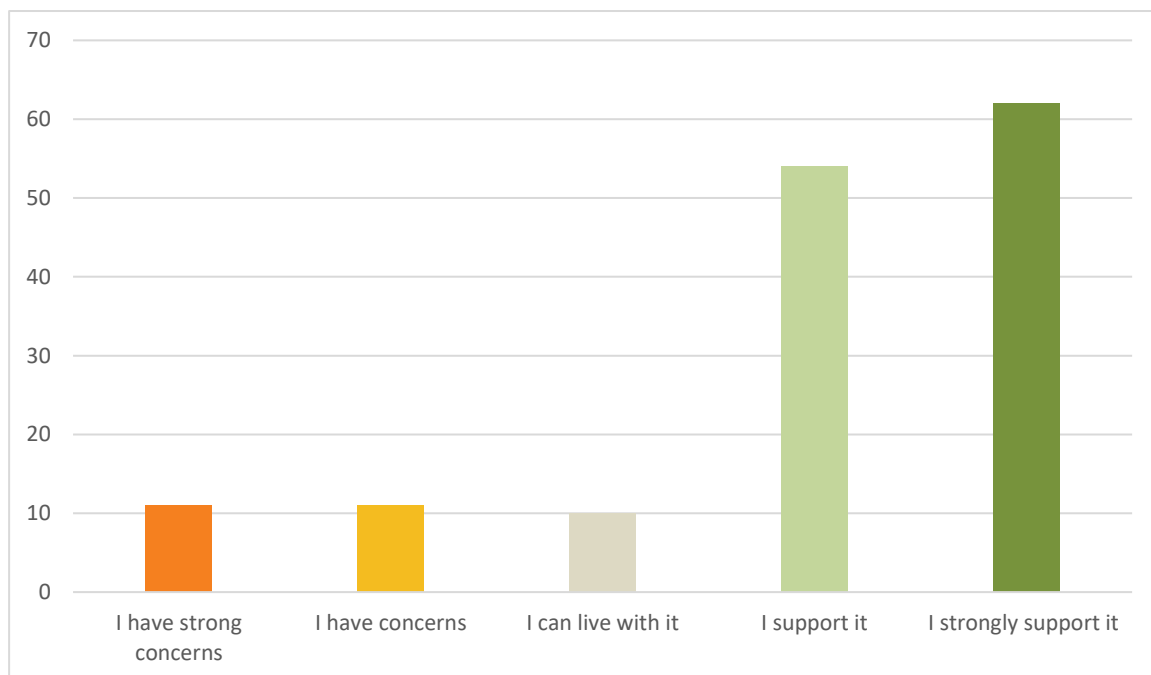
- Focusing on consuming less, redistributing more, and recycling what is left
- Sharing resources more, such as land, tools, skills – limiting the need for consumption
- More opportunities to refill rather than send to landfill
- Providing education and skills for a fulfilling low carbon life

21. Reducing food waste

22. Reducing clothing waste

23. Reducing wastage at festivals and big events

7.1 To what extent to you agree with this?



7.2 What would need to happen to increase your support?

- More support and encouragement for home composting (including bokashi, hot bins etc so all food waste can be composted at home). Community composting sites should be set up for those without gardens to use.
- The Reading Festival is **OUTRAGEOUSLY** wasteful. Asking charity to salvage unwanted tents & other items left behind is shameful. Roll out food waste more widely so that multi occupancy blocks of flats also have food waste caddies/bins. Support refill shops, increase number of recycling bins in town

- Insisting all Festival goers take away their tents, and litter; fast food outlets made to retrieve and reward customers for returning packaging instore
- Making re-use hubs available for people to drop off functioning but not needed items for others to take locally.
- Start glass collection. Focus on businesses not individuals. Make Reading festival pay for recycling and clear their own waste
- More different bins for waste
- Reducing packing waste
- Emphasis circular economy. Implementing the waste hierarchy. Could expand to resource recovery in the water sector - residuals from drinking water and wastewater treatment are packed with resources which we could recover and use as alternatives to conventional feedstocks reducing the embodied carbon in our products.
- Great aims, but how are they to be achieved? These feel more like a wish list than a plan!
- How will the reduction of waste for festivals and large corporate buildings be tracked? How will infrastructure improve to help charities, schools and MSMEs improve their own recycling and reduction of waste (given the fluctuating services / charges available through roadside or business refuse collections). Will this include supporting initiatives like RISC's reuse and refill hub?
- My focus is on Repair and sharing we have run the Reading Repair Cafe for 10 years now, and have just started the Reading Library of Things. We should have Fixing factories linked to the recycling centres.
- Making it easier to do these things locally - and not always solely using 'phone apps or social media - not everyone uses these, especially older people.
- carbon footprint labels on products
- Also the packaging that is used at fast food restaurants is non-recyclable and throw away. Very wasteful. Also support for electronics to be fixed by charity shops to be resold. Or more investment in pop up fix electricals so that products last longer.
- More local recycling points, anything recyclable should be able to go in the red bin including soft plastic crisp packets etc
- More needed to fight fly tipping / dumping.
- RBC needs to introduce kerbside glass recycling. We are decades behind other towns in this regard.
- I would love more refill sites! So much plastic waste from shampoo and cleaning products. But we need the brands to work harder on making this possible.
- It would be great to access advice on how to grow food
- It is necessary to educate people in this sense, we see waste all over the city, just walk the streets, food waste is undoubtedly very important but not everyone is willing to do this separation, just look at the amount of bins that were offered and they are still new, too. Due to the council, collection must be more effective and irreproachable, not create barriers to collecting one's own waste
- More free bulky waste removals.
- The new food waste bins are excellent. Why charge for green bins, actively discouraging green waste?
- implement tool libraries and have kerbside glass recycling
- I believe the waste produced should be paid individually and taxed, and discount should be give to whom recycle more
- Improved kerbside recycling - e.g. glass and soft plastic in order to reduce the potential recyclables that end up in black bins due to time / knowledge restraints on residents.
- Reducing usage of everything is important but options for recycling is key too. RBC have made great progress in this but I would like to see more kerb side collections of products that can be recycled as not everyone can get to the recycling centre easily
- Included in the term "waste" needs to be Electrosmog. We can't see or smell it, but it is the new tobacco and eneds to be urgently reduced.
- I support expanding the soft plastics recycling. Encourage retailers to reduce use of single use plastic
- Recycle glass.
- Repair as well as recycling
- The waste after Reading festival is a disgrace. The festival desperately needs to become less wasteful.
- More business signing up to giving away food so it's not binned. We need a recycling fabric/clothing warehouse

- Good luck! Too many people just dump what they don't want wherever they are. Bigger fines for fly tipping, failing to clear rubbish and dropping litter, including when children do it, are needed. Too many people near me think my front hedge is a rubbish bin.
- I am curious to see how this will play out in a capitalist society led by a growth agenda.
- None
- Working with local and national businesses single use packaging wherever possible. More funding for orgs like Library of things and repair cafes. Eg help with premises costs
- One third of all food grown is never eaten, for a host of reasons, so much of its climate damage is needless. Separating food waste from food in another focus area is OK so long as their connections (e.g. meal planning) are recognised and exploited.
- Incentives for organisations to reduce waste
- Advertising options like Reading library of things where you can hire items for a cheap annual fee.
- This would ideally be supported by supermarkets.
- You need to punish Reading Festival as all the say is "greenwashing".
- NA
- Establishing local recycling (and reuse) centres in west, east and north Reading.
- This theme could appear more in the overall vision. Potentially, Reading, with its links to tech could also focus more on ewaste (fastest growing domestic waste stream)
- Improve kerbside recycling to include soft plastic
- n/a
- More banks that are properly maintained
- glass should be included in collections from home
- Easier access to recycling centres. Maybe a place where non-recyclable combustible waste can be left for heat production
- Also difficult to achieve many people will not be willing to change their ways
- Glass recycling could be improved, there are not many glass recycling points, not even all big shops have space for it (Lidl, Aldi). Recycling glass and encouraging public to do it would further reduce general waste volumes.
- For the reading festival there should be more incentive to keep it clean or reduce waste.
- Fining people for not recycling.
- Council must make recycling and waste collection easier as there is still a huge amount of fly tipping seen across reading and mostly in green spaces.
- Provide textile recycling for clothes that are too damaged for charity shops
- Incentivise domestic waste reduction by encouraging local food production and independent shops selling unpacked healthy food!
- There needs to be penalty for those who attend Reading Festival and leave waste. It should not be left to volunteers to recycle. Could there be a bank of rentable tents, reused year on year?
- I support in the whole however putting huge restrictions on festivals and events is unfair so i wouldn't support making things too difficult and not financially viable
- More specifics
- Waste is too negative. Time to focus on circularity. Talking only about waste at festivals and events is a missed opportunity. (The Green Events Code of Practice pilot is a good example of an initiative that recognises festivals and events are systems, and is exciting engagement amongst festival organisers large and small. It is also worth noting that some actions rely on infrastructure as well as attitudes.)
- refill stores- restock on products using own containers rather than prepackaged versions, community centres- old clothes can be donated and if people need them they can take any donated clothes for free (like is available in childrens centres) the recycling centre should have a store where unwanted homeware/ electronics/ DIY tools can be donated then sold to others for discounted prices.
- The town is blighted by overflowing bins and fly tipping. This focus area should include practical waste management steps that improve the streets.
- I like the first bullet on 20 but we seem to dive into specifics after that. Our strategy with municipal waste should be incorporated. Circular economy not mentioned and repair culture
- I would like to see what practical measures are required to make this work before I can support more.
- Points 20, 23 are too woolly. Enforce no-single-use containers, or at least biodegradable materials? Provide water fountains throughout the town and at events for free hydration

- It is not waste it a resource and so we need to drop the term waste. We also need to go back along the supply chain to get manufacturers/wholesalers and retailer to design out 'waste' such as packaging. How do you intend to scale and keeps things affordable?
- how do we work with big retailers to reduce unnecessary consumption, promote reuse - second hand products - a role in revitalizing the high street
- how, who pays for this, when by? its all so non-specific
- I would make this a LOT stronger, but aimed at business waste. The amount of packaging we (individuals) worry about is NOTHING compared to the packaging we don't see. Data supports that capitalism is the reason for the overwhelming amount of single use waste - focus heavily on this if you really mean to help.
- collect more rubbish from the curb side. I had a few things recently and had to book a slot and take them to Re3. it is a hassle. ridiculous that the binmen won't take more stuff. or you could leave skips at the parks for people to put their junk in
- A clean and tidy town breeds better behavioural trends. Cleanliness is key to reducing waste
- yet again great principles but some are not practical. For instance festivals, charge the festival organisers a fee at the festival for clean up based on the tonnage of waste left. Whilst tents etc cost 10% of the tickets you wont get festival goes to take them home. in reality the only way to reduce waste at festivals is to not hold them. Go virtual festivals, that way you also reduce the carbon footprint of traveling to the sites
- Educating for a low carbon life? That is a low priority relative to educating for a successful life e.g. practical skills and work opportunities. The baby boom generation have economically robbed the young, now make young people feel guilty over carbon. This is not just nor fair..
- Make it easier to use Reading tip.
- Reading Festival becomes greenest festival on earth. Support for waste-related entrepreneurship and campaigns. Support for lending and sharing economy. End all unnecessary plastic packaging asap.
- Kerbside glass recycling. How hard can it be? Maybe asking WBC as thru have done this for years! Roll out borough wide soft plastic recycling. I am part of the trial and it makes a big difference to what goes in the black bin.
- Unrealistic and vague. Waste collection is already an issue. households could be asked to sort recycling more and glass could be picked up as part of kerbside collection
- "Providing education and skills for a fulfilling low carbon life"...what this about? We are carbon. Do you suggest that there should be less of us? Should we procreate less as that's one way of reducing carbon. You disgust me!
- stop imposing rules on business and people!
- If you didn't build more houses we wouldn't have as many people producing waste.
- Need roadside collection for all recyclable items and that includes glass
- Reading is already quite good at this. Bring back the large black bins so we don't have to drive through the town to the tip all the time
- ENCOURAGE better recycling - I mean you don't even take glass?? seriously - start there, it's a joke, fix what doesn't work FIRST, good luck with getting reading festival not to be world's biggest tent - dump
- We already do this, council doesn't know when to stop/pause
- All projects that won't make a jot of difference to the world climate emergency but might make some people feel better about themselves.
- Where the money for this coming from? We are not a cash cow
- Should include promotion of existing services: refills, reading library of things, repair cafe, bicycle kitchen, community gardens, community allotments
- Increasing reuse as well as reducing food waste
- Increasing reuse as well as reducing clothing waste
- Yes, but also using these events to promote advice services, to provide foods that meet climate change objectives, food offered with minimal packaging...
- Improved recycling systems for WEEE including promotion of companies selling properly refurbished second hand equipment
- Systems set up for avoiding breaking equipment during recovery. Provision made for disassembly near collection sites.
- Plan for efficient recovery of solar panels, batteries for EV and solar; potentially an industrial hub area for effective dismantling
- policies and implementation for reducing demolition waste
- Advise householders/businesses about their duty of care to reduce illegal disposal

- We have some excellent initiatives, but they are all rather small scale and under funded. A small amount of funding would really help them to expand.
- This focus area should be changed to something like "Resources and waste Reduction" or "Making better use of stuff"

8 Are there any other focus areas you'd like to see that we've missed?

Travel

- Travelling – to work, school, holidays
- All the points have been promised for years; I have lived in Reading for 19 years and cycling has been debated all that time and there is still NO sensible network
- Freedom of movement for people who need to use cars that are not monstrous planet destroying heavy electric cars. All the roads and multi-storey carparks will need rebuilding to accommodate monstrously heavy batteries. Battery cars are uninsurable, burst into flames... you haven't thought this through.
- I support the use of electric vehicles etc. but we also need the infrastructure to be as accessible to all as possible, which a lot of it does not seem to be at present. There needs to be an Equality Impact Assessment.
- Do not punish car commuters with green ambitions. Motorcycles and other powered two-wheelers can be a positive force for reduced travel emissions and their use should be encouraged through e.g. the use of motorcycles in bus lanes and free parking etc.

Training to deliver action plan/green economy

- Training, focusing on the skills needed to deliver the greener economy in general and this action plan

National and international issues

- National and International Issues, that need resolving in order to deliver certain parts of the action plan.

A.I. and robotics

- A.I.
- Robotics

Engagement and education

- We suggest the Climate Pledge be updated with renewed promotion to engage more people. Also provide guidance on the relative environmental impact of different actions.
- Educate the public constantly to get their willing cooperation
- Communication and Engagement
- Education. There are so many people who don't care about these items, who don't believe that such small actions will make a difference. Increased media campaigns locally and education in community spaces, churches and schools will be vital to support these changes. If people care more, then they are more likely to support you with these changes. If there are financial incentives this is likely to increase support as well as compliance.
- Climate education embedded across all subject areas from KSG 1-2.
- Education and training to influence behaviour / societal readiness

Outcome focused

- I've covered quite a few gaps. Overall, at this level we should stay outcome focussed. If people give us ideas, we should try to ensure we include the outcome they are contributing to and slot the detail in later.

Renewable energy

- I value wind, hydro and solar as future energy sources but oppose any new nuclear installations.

Adaptation

- The big thing missing seems to be adaptation but that is maybe because we are dealing with net zero here?!

Clean rivers

- Cleaner river water should be a major focus

Promote being outside

- You need areas to be safer to promote being outside. This will then help lead to more green practices.

Development and housing

- Retrofitting existing properties to better cope with changing weather patterns: increased temperatures, increased rainfall etc
- Encourage use of low carbon materials in construction and recycled building materials.
- Planning developments in green areas should be minimised.

Net 10% Reading

- Should we be going for Net -10% Reading? Planting Tree cover etc

Circular economy

- Think you could specifically mention circular economy.

Funding

- I think the funding / support to access funding or matching funding for less resourced entities (charities, schools, MSMEs, low-income households) needs to be more prominently mentioned and thought through

Community

- Community spaces, we need premises for communities to develop and prosper. There is Art with Jelly, we have the RISC centre. We need an Eco Centre to be the hub and coordination of the activities.
- There is a lack of community.

Equity, health and wellbeing

- Crosscutting - equity approach and interconnected health & wellbeing

You're trying to fix a problem that doesn't exist

I've said what's needed to be said. This whole exercise is pointless and is trying to fix a problem that doesn't exist.

Recycling/sustainable businesses

- persuade manufacturers to produce economic repair of their goods and continuous obsolescence e.g. Microsoft, Ford, gm, vw
- I do support the effort that the council is placing in recycling. This needs to be taught at school so that children can become experts in telling their parents what to recycle and what not to recycle.
- Make businesses that create waste and public litter e.g. McDonald's etc fund litter picking and recycling

Home/garden

- At Home – includes domestic heating, lighting, using water, pets
- In the Garden – growing vegetables, using water butts, attracting pollinators

Using 'stuff'

- Using Stuff – how we use and re-use clothing, tools, books – e.g. this would include libraries (including Library of Things) repair cafes, community fridges etc

Food

- Food – eating and drinking habits, diets, food waste, community fridges etc

Comments for the Council

- the fake homeless in town, pretending to be homeless to make money, making our town look scruffy get rid of them
- You never listen anyway, so I know this survey to be pointless.

Other

- None
- NA
- It looks pretty comprehensive