

‘Impact of COP on our ambitions at Reading – does COP26 help or hinder?’

Peter Moore

Head of Climate Strategy



Reading
Borough Council

Working better with you

Reasons to be cheerful

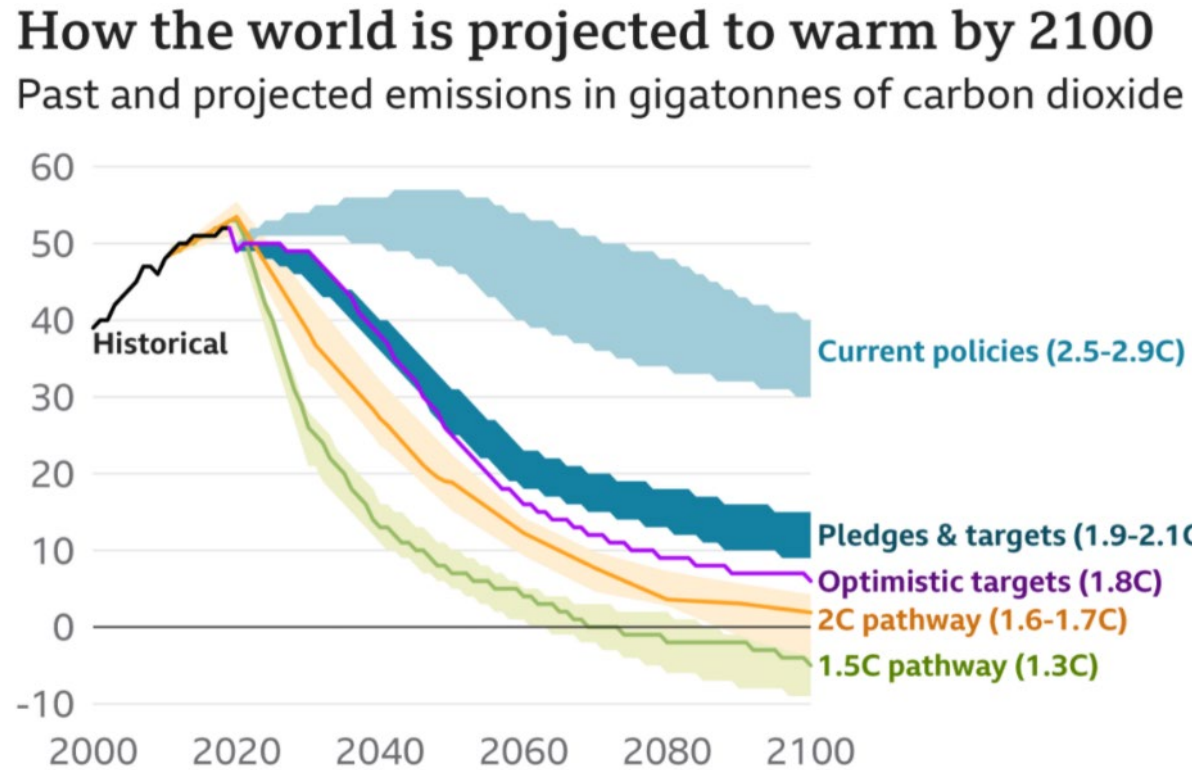
- COP 26 kept climate in the spotlight
- COP 26 (and the UK Net Zero Strategy) recognised the importance of place-based approaches and local leadership
- COP26 reminded us of the need to integrate adaptation into planning and decision-making



Reading
Borough Council

Working better with you

The bottom line (v. the top)



Source: Climate Action Tracker



Reading
Borough Council
Working better with you

Ambitions for Reading

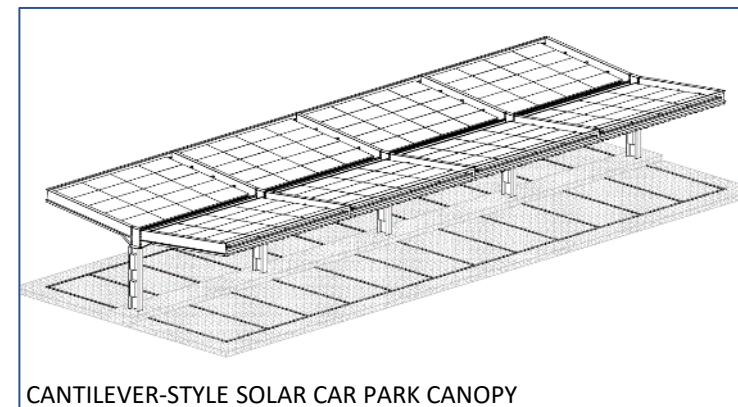
- 'A net zero, resilient Reading by 2030' (Reading Climate Emergency Strategy)
- Reading Buses: bucking national trends for declining bus use
- Local Plan: 'zero carbon homes' policy
- RBC Housing: new build using *passivhaus* principles and ongoing retrofit
- Waste: recycling rate up from 32% (April 2020) to 52% (April 2021)
- Trees Strategy: 3,000 trees planted and 25% canopy cover achieved by 2030



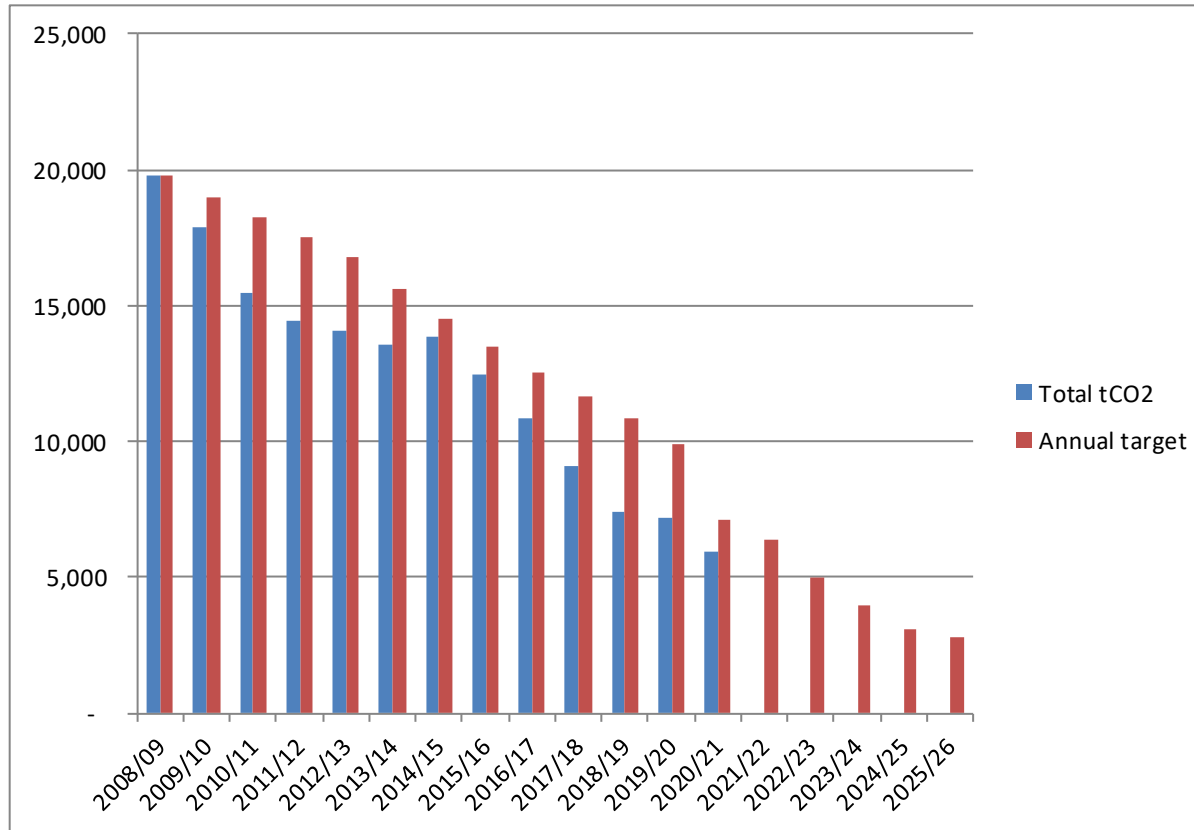
Case study: the 'zero carbon' depot

Reading Borough Council's Main depot at Bennet Road a major energy user. Strategy developed to:

- **Reduce** energy use through 'fabric first' refurbishment (**complete**)
- **Decarbonise** by replacing oil/gas with air source heat pumps (**complete**) and via fleet electrification (**underway** - 200 EVs by 2028)
- **Generate** on-site renewable energy via solar (roof panels **complete**, car park canopies **in development**)
- **Manage** demand/supply via smart technology and battery storage to **optimise cost/carbon efficiency** (trials underway)



The Council's carbon footprint



Council emissions:

2008/09: 19,761 tCO_{2eq}

2020/21: 5,972 tCO_{2eq}

= 69.8% reduction



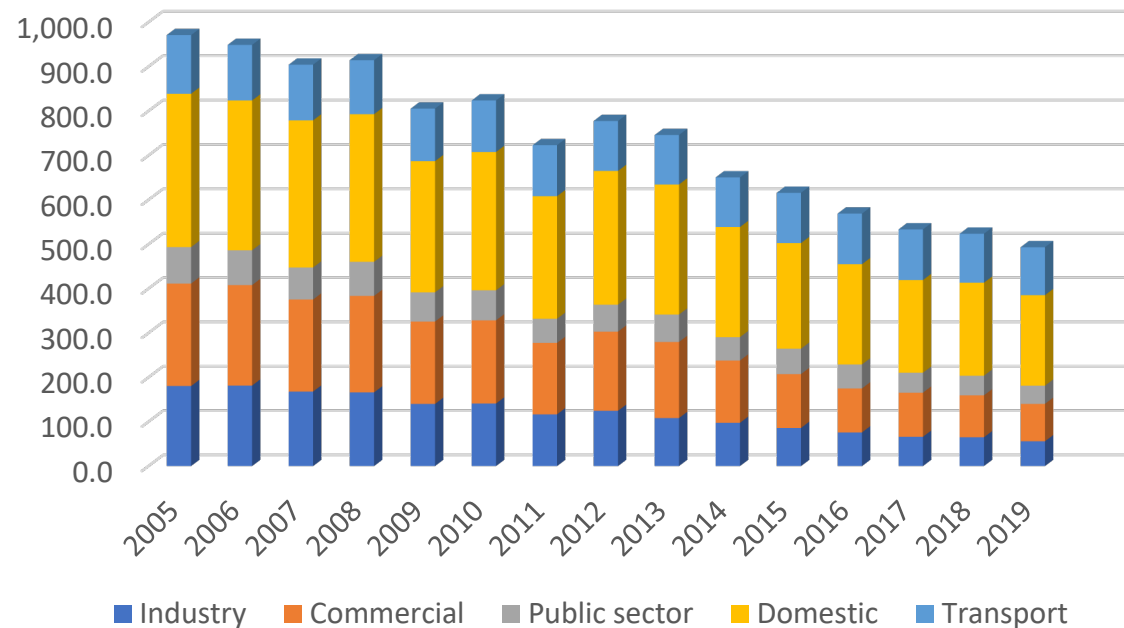
Reading
Borough Council
Working better with you

Reading's carbon footprint

Reading's CO₂ Emissions 2005-19

2005: 974 kT CO_{2eq}
2019: 493 kT CO_{2eq}

= 49% reduction



Reading
Borough Council
Working better with you

‘Impact of COP on our ambitions at Reading – does COP26 help or hinder?’

Peter Moore

Head of Climate Strategy



Reading
Borough Council

Working better with you