



Case Study

Basingstoke and Deane

In 2019 ZebraCarbon was engaged by Local Partnerships to deliver a High-Level Energy Review to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to (B&DDC) to identify energy use and generation within the local authority based on data in the public domain and the Council's existing plans. The object of this work was to inform the Council of the current 'state of play' and build upon existing knowledge in a coordinated manner such that it moved the Council forward following the declaration of a climate emergency during September 2019.

This review was presented during development to officers and members of B&DDC to allow more constructive discussions about future investment and engaging with the private sector including tenants on industrial estates and the developer of a large-scale residential scheme.

The project involved reviewing energy use information in the public domain using data from gas and electricity sub-national energy consumption (medium super output areas – MSOA) at below Local Authority level produced by the Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

In addition, the potential for renewable energy generation was reviewed. This review indicated declining energy use within the borough resulting from increased energy efficiency and limited large industrial energy users.

Electricity grid decarbonisation was found to have helped reduce carbon emissions per capita. **Work included consideration of all aspects of potential further carbon emissions reduction including:**

- checking the capability of the local electricity distribution grid with Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks and assessing potential for rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) generation on existing large buildings
- revisiting existing work carried out on low carbon heat networks (supported by BEIS)
- proposed review of planning policy concerning new developments
- deep retrofit of existing council buildings and deployment of electric vehicle charging points

The deliverable was a report that represented a summary of discussions with officers of the Council, review of data and information made available by the Council and interrogation of data in the public domain provided by UK Government, etc.

The conclusion is that a number of actions/project areas have been identified of which one or more should be explored in more depth by the Council.

By pulling together the overall high-level view of carbon emissions and linking these with existing and potential initiatives it was possible to prepare a report for the officers and members of B&DDC that enabled a coherent and realistic response (including budget costing and potential financing options) to the declared climate emergency forming the basis of the council's 2021 to 2030 Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy.