



# Brighton & Hove One Planet City **2013-2014 Review**





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## Brighton & Hove City Council's Sustainability Action Plan – 18 month review

If everyone on earth lived like the average person in the UK, we would need three and a half planets to support the world's population. The food we eat, the clothes we wear, heating our homes and travelling to work; our lifestyles have an impact on the environment. The choices we make about how we live decide how great this impact is. In April 2013, Brighton & Hove City Council's Sustainability Action Plan was endorsed by Bioregional as being able to meet the ambitious target of One Planet Living in the city. The plan sets out short, medium and long term actions against each of the ten One Planet Principles – zero carbon, zero waste, sustainable transport, sustainable materials, local sustainable food, sustainable water, land use and wildlife, culture and community, equity and local economy, health and happiness. It covers the Council's own operations and the wider city with its 280,000 residents. The 71-page plan is available [here](#).

The One Planet approach aims to create a future where it's easy and attractive for all of us to lead happy and healthy lives, using a fair share of the earth's resources. Following the roadmap will mean that by 2025, Brighton & Hove City Council is working within its fair share of the planet's resources, and that every resident in the city is able to live a One Planet lifestyle easily and affordably, should they choose to. This review by Bioregional examines Brighton & Hove's progress against the actions and targets set out in the sustainability plan, 18 months into its adoption. It examines each principle in turn, celebrating achievements and suggesting areas where performance might be improved. It then proposes priorities for the coming years. Developed by BioRegional, a global sustainability charity that has been championing better, more sustainable ways to live for two decades, the One Planet Living framework is used the world over to help local authorities, companies and communities examine the sustainability challenges they face and develop appropriate solutions.

Many of the photographs in this document are taken from the 'One Planet City' photographic installations, a project conceived, commissioned and curated by arts charity Fotodocument in partnership with Photoworks and Bioregional and supported by Arts Council England. Following an open call, ten emerging and established photographers created ten photo essays in response to each of the ten principles of One Planet Living. The exhibitions opened in October 2014 as part of the 2014 Brighton Photo Biennial and are installed in key public spaces across the city, remaining in situ for ten months. Each venue is linked to the One Planet Living principle it is hosting and the ten inter-related exhibitions are best viewed as an arts trail around the city. For more information visit [FotoDocument](#).

December 2014

# Review summary

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Brighton & Hove City Council committed to enabling a One Planet City in April 2013. The sustainability action plan outlined short, medium and long term actions in order to meet One Planet Living targets.

Eighteen months after its adoption, both the Council and the city have made considerable progress in delivering the plan. The majority of the short term actions have been achieved, and many have already resulted in tangible, measurable outcomes that demonstrate progress against the targets.

Key successes include:

- Achievement of UNESCO Biosphere status for the Brighton & Hove City region
- Development of 30 community composting schemes, diverting 84tonnes of food waste from landfill each year
- Achievement of Food for Life's Bronze Award for school meal menus and adoption of a similar standard for all food procured by the Council
- Development of a programme of sustainable events at the Brighton Centre
- 132 businesses across the city joining the Living Wage campaign
- Increasing the proportion of Council staff reporting good, very good or excellent health from 62% to 86%

This review assesses progress against the short term and where appropriate medium term actions in the plan. Progress is shown using the following key:

✓✓	All actions completed and quantifiable outcomes measured
✓	All actions completed
✓	Actions incomplete but process in place for completion
✗	Actions incomplete

The table below gives a summary of progress made against the actions under each principle:

Principle	Sector	Actions	Progress
Zero Carbon	Council	Changing behaviours	✓
		Making buildings energy efficient and building sustainably	✓
		Smart buildings	✓
	City	Sharing knowledge	✓✓
		Making new buildings sustainable	✓
		Making existing buildings sustainable	✓
		Helping vulnerable people	✓
Zero Waste	Council	Understanding waste arisings	✓
		Enabling application of the waste hierarchy	✓
		Reducing construction waste	✓✓
	City	Reducing food waste	✓
		Increasing reuse	✓
		Increasing recycling	✓
		Increasing composting	✓
Sustainable Transport	Council	Governance & support	✓
		Improving buildings and fleet	✓
	City	Improving facilities and infrastructure	✓
		Greener public transport	✓
		Personalised travel planning	✓✓
Sustainable Materials	Council	Sustainable procurement of stationery	✓
		Procurement of sustainable food	✓
		Procurement of sustainable timber	✓
		Engaging with SMEs	✓
		Improving buying standards	✓
	City	Materials for community & business	✓
		Sustainable materials in construction & design	✓
Local & Sustainable Food	Council	Procuring sustainable food	✓✓
		Reducing food waste	✗
	City	Inspiring sustainable, healthy diets	✓
		Buying sustainable food in the city	✓
		Reducing & collecting food waste	✓
		Increasing food growing	✓
		Developing the local food economy	✓
Sustainable Water	Council	Changing behaviours	✓
		Smart buildings	✓
	City	Reducing consumption	✓
		Improving quality of ground-and marine waters	✓
		Reducing impacts of flooding	✓
Land Use & Wildlife	Council & City	Achieving UNESCO Biosphere Status	✓✓
		Implementing the Local Biodiversity Action Plan	✓
		Improving and creating grassland	✓

Culture & Community	Council	Developing a programme of sustainable events	✓✓
		Environmental management	✓
		Guidance for external events	✓✓
	City	Communicating One Planet Living	✓
		Showcasing projects	✓✓
Supporting the Local Economy	Council	Implementing the Equality & Inclusion Policy	✓
	City	Increasing employment & developing the green economy	✓✓
		Promoting the Living Wage	✓✓
		Increasing community participation	✓
		Supporting fair trade	✓
Health & Happiness	Council	Staff behaviour	✓✓
		Wellbeing of staff	✓✓
		Counselling and stress management	✓
	City	Emotional health & wellbeing	✓
		Alcohol & substance misuse	✓
		Health & wellbeing in the workplace	✓
		Active Living	✓✓

### Observations and suggestions

This first assessment of progress in implementing the sustainability plan has resulted in a number of principle-specific suggestions (see below). A number of more general observations and recommendations have been identified under the following headings:

#### 1. Governance

From the quantity of activity being undertaken across all principles, the clarity and regularity of reporting and the eloquence and enthusiasm with which it is discussed by representatives of both the Council and the City, it is clear that the Sustainability Action Plan has been adopted and embedded by the Council and their partners at all levels. The commitment shown by those responsible for delivery is excellent. A lot of thought has been put into how the Plan fits into departmental and sectoral plans, and vice versa. The structure of governance and management is exemplary and has played a key part in progress to date.

#### 2. Targets

It has been easy to assess the progress of the city and council against the actions in the Plan. It is clear that the focus has been very much on delivery. What has been harder to evaluate is how the activities combine to deliver progress against overarching targets. Eighteen months in and with so much activity undertaken, now would be a good time to examine the progress made against both quantitative and qualitative principle targets then revisit the targets for some principles. For example, periodic SMART targets have been set for saving energy, but not in other areas. Bioregional would recommend that, as far as possible, quantifiable targets are set in the short, medium and long term for all principles – with baseline data collected and a roadmap agreed, this should now be possible.

#### 3. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

KPIs have been developed for some principles but not for all. They are governed by targets. A reconsideration of targets should prompt the same for KPIs – have they been adequate? Has the data been easy to collect? Do they comprehensively cover activity across the entire principle? Principle specific comments for strengthening and developing KPIs are included below.

4. Ambition

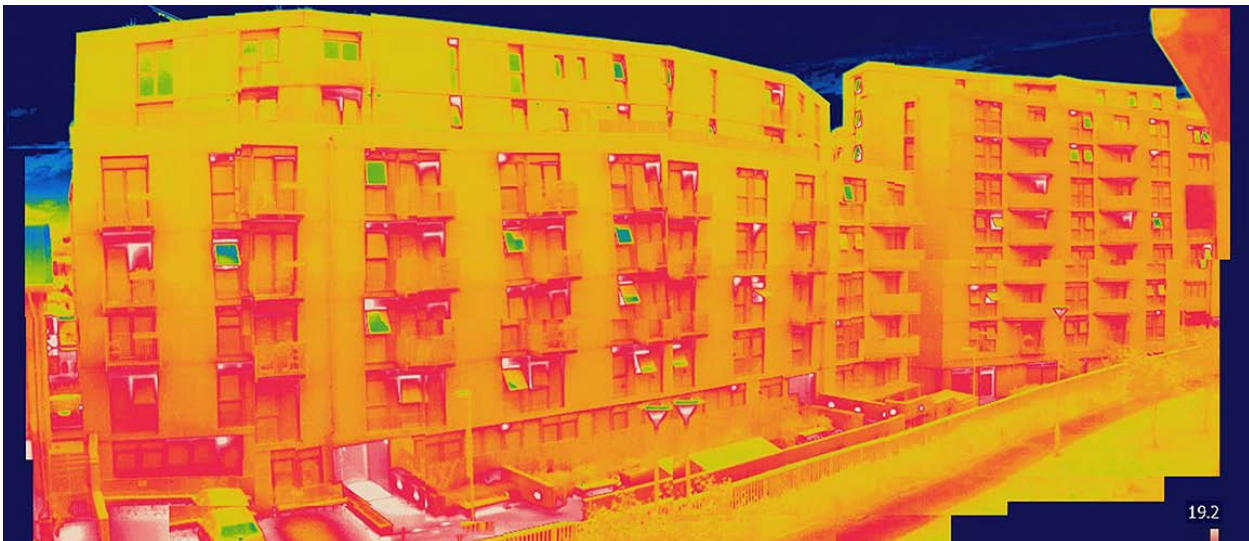
Many of the short term actions have been completed ahead of schedule. As well as examining progress against existing targets and KPIs, and depending on availability of resources, could the Council bring forward activity that was planned for the medium and longer term?

5. Communicating One Planet Living

The One Planet Living framework has been designed to be simple, easy to understand and easy to communicate. It can be tailored to the requirements of a user, be it a company, community or local authority. Bioregional's communications team work with partners to integrate One Planet Living into their corporate communications policies. With successful delivery in the first year and the increased publicity afforded to One Planet Living from initiatives led by partners like **Fotodocument**, the opportunity should be taken to develop a robust strategy for communicating One Planet Living amongst stakeholders in the city.



Making buildings more energy efficient and delivering energy with renewable technologies.



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### Zero carbon

The 2025 vision is of an energy-efficient City Council, powered and heated by renewable energy with zero-net carbon emissions, and a population that is given the support, resources and ability to do the same.

### One Planet Council

Brighton and Hove City Council aim to reduce carbon emissions from their buildings by at least 4% annually and to make them net zero carbon by 2025. The focus in the short term is on taking action to make the Council building portfolio more energy efficient, through a mixture of broad measures and more building-specific actions:

Theme	Progress	
Changing behaviours	✓	A detailed plan has been developed that sets out the campaign and tools, and progress is expected in late 2014/15. Third phase of eco-schools programme underway.
Making buildings energy efficient and building sustainably	✓	Programme to modernise Council stock includes energy efficient upgrades to Hove Town Hall and others. Maintenance plans for buildings includes energy efficient upgrades. Three solar PV schemes have been completed. Energy efficiency design standards developed and in use across two Council schemes – Hove Police Station and Aldrington Primary School. One Planet design checklist applied to all high-value buildings in city.
Smart buildings	✓	Automatic Meter Reading programme initiated cross prioritised Council buildings. Programme 64% complete and on-schedule.

Medium and longer term activity focuses on understanding opportunities for renewable energy generation and low-carbon heat networks across housing stock.

### One Planet City

The Sustainability Action Plan outlines how Brighton & Hove City Council aim to help residents and businesses in the city reduce their energy consumption. Carbon targets are in line with UK Climate Change Act aims of a 42% reduction by 2020 and 80% by 2050:



Theme	Progress	
Knowledge Sharing	✓✓	Green Growth Platform developed and provides forum for sustainable energy group and workshops for businesses across city. Eco-technology show delivered and programme for Eco-Open Homes expanded. Council funded city behaviour change campaign commissioned.
Making new buildings sustainable	✓	Sustainable Building Design Supplementary Planning Document to be revised after City Plan adoption.
Making existing buildings sustainable	✓	Green Deal delivery partner commissioned but take-up universally slow. Pipeline of Community Energy projects and hard-to-treat homes being developed.
Helping vulnerable People	✓	Warm Homes Healthy People Programme resulted in 194 home energy checks, 11 community workshops and £21,000 of emergency grants in low-income areas.

Medium term actions include working with businesses to reduce their energy demand and promotion of development-specific microgeneration and stand-alone renewables projects. Brighton Energy Coop are making progress on such targets by installing another 200kWp solar array at Shoreham Port.

### Case studies

In December 2012, partners Brighton & Hove City Council, Brighton and Hove 10:10, The Green Building Partnership and Low Carbon Trust secured government funding to run a Green Deal pilot scheme in the city called Green Deal Pioneer Places. The council used part of its Green Deal Pioneer Places funding to install up to £10,000-worth of home-energy improvements in 10 Brighton & Hove households throughout the city and carry out 100 Green Deal assessments, at no cost to residents. Work on the 10 homes included external wall insulation — which wraps the outside of the building in a layer of heat-saving insulation — new boilers, low energy lighting and loft insulation. The householders are now benefiting from warmer homes and lower energy bills. Sloane Court in Park Street, Brighton, was amongst the first of several Brighton and Hove City Council sheltered schemes for older people where Solar PV panels were fitted under a £300,000 investment programme that also covered 45 council houses and was completed by the end of April 2014. Panels were installed on a further 100 council homes at a cost of £500,000 by the end of June.

### Progress review

With a number of high-profile activities, projects and initiatives, considerable effort is being made to deliver the short term actions expected to contribute to the Council's annual 4% reduction target (and net zero carbon 2025) and the city's 42% reduction target by 2020. These aspirations are ambitious and require both careful planning and early mobilisation of resources; good progress has been made but activity must accelerate in future years. The Council have been especially strong in supporting local partners in delivering projects contributing to innovation, renewable energy generation and knowledge sharing. Due to reasons outside of the Council's control, progress on reducing carbon associated with new and existing private buildings has not been so forthcoming; efforts will pick up with more certainty over the Green Deal and the City Plan.

### Saving energy - looking forward

With so much good progress in the first year, the most important job is to quantify the carbon reduction these measures have achieved. The Action Plan is a working document, and activities that have been completed should be replaced by new ones that can be completed due to fresh availability of resources – either through starting medium term actions sooner, or developing new projects that can be completed quickly and help exceed short-term reduction targets. Net zero carbon is an ambitious goal – One Planet Regions are required to have developed a strategy for achieving it within three years of writing the Action Plan. Recent figures suggest that fuel poverty is on the rise in Brighton and Hove and the UK in general; therefore it would be good to see this issue addressed in future updates to the Action Plan.



Reducing waste, reusing and recycling, creating products and jobs where possible, and ultimately sending zero waste to landfill



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### Zero waste

The 2025 vision is of a Council and a city using resources efficiently, reducing waste levels close to zero and ultimately sending no waste to landfill; and of a city that follows the hierarchy of ‘reduce, reuse, recycle’.

### One Planet Council

Brighton and Hove City Council sends no waste to landfill; instead, all non-recoverable waste is transferred to the Energy Recovery Facility in Newhaven. The Council aims to increase its recycling rate to 85% by 2017, and to reclaim or recycle over 90% of waste by weight generated by council construction and demolition work. The focus in the short term is to understand the Council’s waste streams and to ensure the facilities are in place for the waste hierarchy to be followed.

Theme	Progress	
Understanding waste arisings	✓	Weighing equipment was installed into all waste collection vehicles serving Council premises (including schools) in March 2013. A baseline has been set against which future waste quantities will be measured.
Enabling application of the waste hierarchy – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle	✓	New software is being used that matches surplus goods and furniture in the Council and in other organisations with those that need it. A food waste collection is being piloted in 15 schools in the city, to be built on following evaluation in Autumn 2014. Improvements have been made to external waste storage and collection facilities for Kings House. A programme of education and behaviour change is being prepared.
Reducing construction waste	✓✓	Site waste management plans are produced for all Council projects and are currently achieving between 85-95% reuse/recycle rate.

### One Planet City

The Council’s target for 2020 is to be able to recycle or compost 50% of domestic waste, and 70% by 2025. Other targets include reducing waste arisings by 10%, and by 2020, sending no commercial waste and no more than 2% of all other waste to landfill.

Theme	Progress	
Reducing food waste	✓	The Council and the Brighton and Hove Food Partnership continue to deliver the 'Love Food, Hate Waste' campaign in the city, reaching over 3,000 residents.
Increasing Reuse	✓	The Council's waste providers are promoting reuse schemes and services via the internet. A proportion of income is set aside to enable bring banks and other schemes, but these are not up and running yet. Funding has been agreed to open a further re-use centre in the City.
Increasing Recycling	✓	Communal recycling is now offered to all residents who use communal, on-street bins. A financial incentive scheme has started to encourage recycling and a Neighbourhood Governance pilot study in Hollingdean has included promotion of the waste hierarchy. Despite these efforts, disruption from industrial action and a reorganisation of collection rounds have meant recycling rates have not increased.
Increasing composting	✓	30 community schemes are set up, with over 950 households participating to divert 84t of food waste from landfill each year. Subsidised sales of garden composters have seen 20,000 sold since 2006.

Longer term actions include exploring food waste collections, consumer behaviour campaigns, commercial recycling services and working with adjacent authorities to identify opportunities for infrastructure promoting the waste hierarchy.

### Case studies

Communal recycling has now been introduced to all city centre properties which use on-street communal refuse bins. This means residents can recycle at any time convenient to them and do not need to store materials for recycling in their homes, a particular issue for this densely populated part of the city. Despite these efforts, disruption to the collection service as a result of industrial action and round reorganisation has meant city recycling rates have not increased. Work is ongoing to address these underlying issues and put the service on a good footing to improve performance in this area. As part of the renovation of council offices at Bartholemew House during spring 2013, nearly 17 tonnes of surplus office furniture and equipment was redistributed for reuse in the local community. Freegle co-ordinated the donation of more than 2,000 items to local community and charitable organisations, local businesses, schools and public service organisations, along with local individuals in need. The redistribution diverted this bulky waste from landfill, enabling reuse of furniture and reducing the need to buy new items, resulting in a carbon saving of 7.6 tonnes.

### Progress review

Progress has been made on short term actions to reduce waste since the action plan was written and adopted. This is a principle in which the Council are strong – already no waste is sent to landfill – yet actions which they have committed to have been completed before time. Commitment to following the waste hierarchy means the Council's use of the energy recovery facility does not exclude work to reduce and reuse more waste. Historically the Council's recycling rates have been low. A number of well-considered actions have been implemented to improve recycling rates. Despite these improvements the city-wide recycling rate declined in 2013/14. This is largely down to the fact that the service suffered significant disruption as a result of industrial action and a significant reorganisation of collection rounds which affected the reliability of the service. These issues have delayed roll out of a wider incentive and engagement campaign. The immediate priority is to improve the reliability of the collection service followed by effective engagement with residents to improve trust in the service.

### Reducing waste - looking forward

No medium or long term targets have been set for reducing waste. Obtaining baseline data for waste arisings in the Council was an important exercise - activities can be planned in reaction to the information and opportunities identified for waste reduction. As with saving energy, to reduce waste it is important to engage with staff at all levels. Waste is inextricably linked to materials and consumption, so to reduce waste it is important to examine procurement policy. Organic waste accounts for 45% of all household waste – with effort focused on reducing this waste, opportunities to promote reduction of other waste might be lost.



Encouraging low carbon modes of transport- especially cycling and walking - and reducing the need to travel



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### Sustainable transport

The 2025 vision for Brighton and Hove is of a Council where all travel for work is zero-carbon, a population that is supported and enabled to travel more sustainably, and an environment where transport-related impacts have been minimised.

### One Planet Council

Nearly three quarters of staff travel to work by sustainable modes of transport, and 70% use sustainable modes for work-related journeys. Carbon emissions from work related travel is decreasing. Year on year targets are set within the Council’s carbon emissions reduction targets (currently 4%).

Theme	Progress	
Governance & Support	✓	The staff parking policy was revised in February 2013, although implementation has been paused. A programme of initiatives to support staff to travel more sustainably has been developed, with induction courses completed and launch prepared for summer 2014.
Improving buildings and fleet	✓	Availability of cycle parking at King’s House has increased from 26 to 56. No data on the use of extra spaces at present. Extra improvements depend on income from staff parking (implementation of which has been paused). No progress has been announced on eco-tracking, vehicle replacement or piloting of low carbon vehicles.

### One Planet City

Brighton and Hove is the UK’s second least car-dependent city. Private car ownership is the lowest in the South-East, cycling is growing and driving to work is decreasing. The Council and partners have already introduced a wide range of measures to promote sustainable travel behaviour, such as investment in electric charging points and cycle routes.

Theme	Progress	
Improving facilities and infrastructure	✓	Major highway works on Lewes Road and Seven Dials have been completed. A number of schemes to improve movement in the city are underway, including the Old Town, Dyke Road cycle route and Ditchling Road corridor. An ongoing programme of cycle parking is being funded from the Local Transport Plan and a cycle hub with shower and changing facilities, bike repair and hire outlets and secure parking for 500 cycles is being built at the station (amongst a number of other improvements). Phase two of the 20mph zone across residential areas in the city is being delivered.
Greener public Transport	✓	The Council is working with public transport operators on a number of initiatives, with a focus on reducing emissions, improving air quality and developing integrated ticketing initiatives. The city's transport carbon reduction plan will be developed at the end of 2014.
City-wide Personalised Travel Planning	✓✓	Personalised Travel Planning has been taking place in the City since 2006. Since 2011, the Council has been working with residents around Lewes Road. The initiative has resulted in improved bus services and reduced number of journeys by car by 10%.

Medium/long term plans focus on moving towards low-emissions vehicles for residents and transport operators.

### Case studies

Brighton & Hove has won Europe's top environmental award for policies to promote clean transport, named City of the Year in the CIVITAS Awards 2014, in September 2014. The prize is awarded each year to the city which best demonstrates implementation of ambitious sustainable transport policies. These must show active involvement of local people, overcome challenges and help meet CIVITAS goals on cleaner, better transport in European cities. The city council scored heavily with policies to promote cycling and bus travel, as well as offering schools, businesses and residents advice on smarter transport choices with "personal travel planning". The council says such policies have led to continued growth of bus travel, with 46.4 million passenger journeys being made per year. Numbers of people cycling to work have doubled in ten years. After the council installed new segregated cycle lanes and 'floating bus stops' (where the cycle lane passes behind the bus stop) on Lewes Road, in 2013, cycle journeys increased by 14 per cent. Road safety had improved with a yearly decline in the number and severity of accidents.

### Progress review

Progress on increasing low-carbon modes of travel amongst Council employees has not occurred as quickly as predicted, although the high baseline (>70% use sustainable modes of travel during working hours) and law of diminishing returns suggests that encouraging more people to do so may not be a priority. The city is a frontrunner in provision and utilisation of sustainable modes of transport; cycling and the bus network in particular continue to be popular. Good progress has been made in developing high-profile infrastructure schemes.

### Sustainable transport - looking forward

Monitoring impact of activity is now key. It would be especially interesting to know how much effect the major redevelopment schemes have had on use of sustainable modes of travel in the city and whether the number of cars on the road has reduced. Studies show that when other options are provided, traffic on main roads rarely decreases over time unless the infrastructure of the road has also been modified (as is the case on the Lewes Road). The community and redevelopment work exemplifies intervention at two political levels; how successful has this been and how replicable is it? Much of the city's traffic comes from outside the city boundary; reducing this traffic should also be a focus. We expect medium and long term work on decarbonising the personal vehicles of Brighton and Hove will have a big impact.



Choosing construction and consumer goods with low embodied energy – the amount of energy it takes to manufacture and distribute a product - sourced locally wherever possible and made from renewable or waste resources



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### Sustainable materials

The 2025 vision is of a Council that considers the social, ethical and environmental consequences of the products and services that it buys, prioritising low-carbon, local, reclaimed or recycled, durable goods. The 2025 vision is of a city given the ability and infrastructure to purchase sustainable goods within a circular economy.

### One Planet Council

The Council has developed a sustainable procurement policy and toolkit based on the One Planet Living principles in 2012. Other activity is based on procurement method and specification of the most high value contracts.

Theme	Progress	
Sustainable procurement of stationery	✓	Development of a specification and suite of targets is underway to ensure all recycled paper products have minimum 75% content of recycled pulp and 100% originate from sustainable sources.
Procurement of sustainable food	✓	Policy has been created that promotes compliance with Minimum Food standards in all contracts which contain a catering element, for approval later in the year.
Procurement of sustainable timber	✓	Procurement officers have attended training sessions with the WWF and discussions with suppliers are ongoing. Contract documentation and system of monitoring to be developed later in the year.
Engagement with SMEs	✓	Revised pre-qualification questionnaire launched in March 2014. Invitation to Tender documents reviewed and launched August 2014, with the aim of making the tendering process less onerous for smaller suppliers.
Improving buying Standards	✓	Government Buying Standards and Ethical Trade Initiative's base code has been examined for the Council and its suppliers. Food standards based on the Soil Association's Bronze award have been adopted for all Council-run offices, restaurants and venues.

## One Planet City

The city already has well established community and online services that facilitate reuse and sharing, as well as stringent requirements for sustainable materials in construction. These are both being built on:

Theme	Progress	
Materials for community & business	✓	A 'Reuse Manager' has been appointed by the Council to develop baseline of reuse activity and use of recycled materials and collect and redistribute unwanted furniture and objects, with currently 20-40 tonnes of goods kept in storage around the city. Businesses in the city are being encouraged to join WARPIT, an online materials reuse portal.
Sustainable materials in construction & design	✓	The 'Waste House' has been built, demonstrating that objects no longer needed can be thought of as goods with a use rather than waste. Work ongoing in University to create new materials from waste for construction sector.

Longer term actions include the establishment of local materials processing plants, a city-wide Buy Local campaign and a mainstream housing development predominantly made from local, recycled and reused materials.

### Case studies

The council received top marks when it signed up to the gold pledge for wood procurement as part of the WWF 'What Wood You Choose?' campaign. The Procurement Team achieved the gold standard after signing up to a WWF pledge that we will purchase our wood and timber products only from legally felled timber within well-managed forests. An officer from WWF carried out an interim assessment in the summer of 2012 and awarded the gold standard after a final assessment in January 2013. By completing the gold pledge, the council has put in place systems and processes to ensure officers are only purchasing legal and sustainable timber products across all their departments. The WWF has asked the council to set out case studies to enable other authorities to see what good practice can look like. The council joins Durham City Council as the only two local authorities in the UK to have been awarded the gold pledge certificate.

### Progress review

It is well known that for a host of reasons, procurement policies and supply chains are difficult to change once they are adopted and embedded. Brighton and Hove should be commended on the work done this year to encourage tender applications from smaller contractors, and the proposed adaptations made to procurement policies to help ensure purchase of good quality, sustainable materials. This work has been helped in part by the procurement toolkit adopted by Brighton and Hove based on an examination of goods purchased and supplier contracts. The establishment of a reuse manager demonstrates the Council's commitment to the waste hierarchy and, if it hasn't saved goods from going to landfill, has at least made the time-consuming process of reuse more efficient.

### Sustainable materials - looking forward

Adoption of new procurement policies for high-value contracts will formalise the Council's commitment to sustainable procurement. Through revised pre-qualification questionnaire and tender specifications, these commitments should become established for lower-value contracts too. Key Performance Indicators need developing to enable measurement of impact from activity under this principle. Much should be learnt from construction and performance of the Waste House which should be used to engage with builders and developers in the city. Material performance under BREEAM and the Green Guide to Specification could be used as a KPI for assessing sustainability of materials within construction activity in the city.



Local and sustainable food

Choosing local, seasonal, humanely produced and fairly traded food for a healthy, low impact diet higher in vegetable than animal protein, and minimizing food waste



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### Local & sustainable food

The 2025 vision is of a city with an ecologically sustainable food footprint, a city which considers food waste a resource, a city which consumes low-impact, healthy food, a city which has a thriving local food economy, and a council with a healthy, ethical and environmentally responsible food procurement practice. Work under this principle is led by Brighton and Hove Food Partnership (BHFP), who wrote the food strategy for the city, ‘Spade to Spoon: Digging Deeper’, adopted by the City Council in 2012.

### One Planet Council

The majority of the Council’s internal work on sustainable food focuses on procurement standards and reduction of waste:

Theme	Progress	
Procuring sustainable food	✓✓	All 64 primary schools in the city have achieved the Soil Association’s Bronze Food for Life Award Catering Mark. In February 2014, BHFP ran a workshop to develop minimum standards for catering contracts based on the Bronze award and in September, standards were adopted for all Council-run offices, restaurants and venues.
Reducing food waste	✗	A decision was made to focus the OPL communications campaign on energy saving rather than food waste reduction within the council, but much has been achieved under action in the city in relation to food waste reduction.

### One Planet City

The headline 2025 target for the city is to reduce the per capita ecological footprint related to food from 1.43gha to 0.67gha. No quantifiable Key Performance Indicators or interim targets have been agreed as yet.

Theme	Progress	
Inspiring sustainable, healthy diets	✓	<p>BHFP have delivered a programme of communications to educate and inspire people around healthy and sustainable food choices including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased membership of BHFP to 4,012 members</li> <li>• BHFP website 7,000+ unique visitors/quarter</li> <li>• City Food News x 4 editions to 3,000 residents/policy makers</li> <li>• Spoke to 5,500 people at community events</li> <li>• 218 people in East Brighton took part in adult learning activities on cooking and growing as part of Community Learning Fund Project.</li> <li>• 600 people received advice from community nutritionist</li> </ul>



Buying sustainable food in the city	✓	Engagement with large caterers in the city through Good Food Procurement Group. Uni. Brighton achieved MSC certification and Bronze Food for Life Catering Mark. 85% of the fresh produce in meals served to patients by Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust is local to Sussex.
Reducing & collecting food waste	✓	Food waste recycling has been pioneered at city-wide events throughout 2014. Tender specification for waste contract in schools will require specific food waste arm from May 2015. Love Food Hate Waste scheme has delivered events and training sessions across the city and a feasibility study is being undertaken to examine domestic collection of food waste.
Increasing food growing	✓	Map of food growing sites and allotment strategy agreed by Environment Committee in March 2014. Two thirds of schools have food growing provision and planning applicants are encouraged to incorporate food growing in development plans – a major example being Maycroft Care home where raised beds are provided for elderly residents.
Developing the local food economy	✓	229 food & drink businesses have been supported in developing skills to help them grow and develop. A local produce stall in the Open Market is being applied for. Aims for more local food processing, more jobs and better quality food included with 2014-18 Economic Strategy.

### Case studies

Brighton's first street food market launched in April 2014 serves up hot lunches every Friday in Brighthelm gardens. Stalls include Sultan's Delight serving vegan baklava, courgette fritters, flatbreads and other Middle Eastern treats; gourmet burgers and patties from the Troll's Pantry; Gluten Free Goodness; Dead Good Mexican; Jina Jam Pad Thai and Crocus Paella. Guest stallholders have included vegetarian Ethiopian Cuisine, Tina Cantina and Bluebird Teas. Most are local traders using seasonal local ingredients. They are committed to keeping their packaging to a minimum, for example using compostable boxes where possible and keeping to the market's ban on polystyrene.

In July 2014 the Council adopted Minimum Buying Standards for catering contracts. All future catering contracts valued over £75,000 will be required to achieve the Soil Association's Bronze Food for Life catering mark within the first contract year. The mark's standards cover areas such as animal welfare, seasonality and the use of fresh ingredients and will apply to venues such as the Brighton Centre, The Dome and the Royal Pavilion. Smaller venues will be encouraged to work within the standards in an effort to provide a high standard of food across the city. In June 2013, the council achieved the bronze catering mark for its school meals menus. Local school meals feature local, free range eggs; all meat is British and all fish carries MSC certification. All vegetables are fresh with the exception of locally-sourced frozen peas and sweetcorn and a Seasonal Vegetables slot on the menu gives the flexibility to use the best produce available. Global produce such as bananas and fruit juice are Fair Trade. Menus are provided for modified diets - ethnic, cultural, medical and religious – and Halal products are currently being trialled

### Progress review

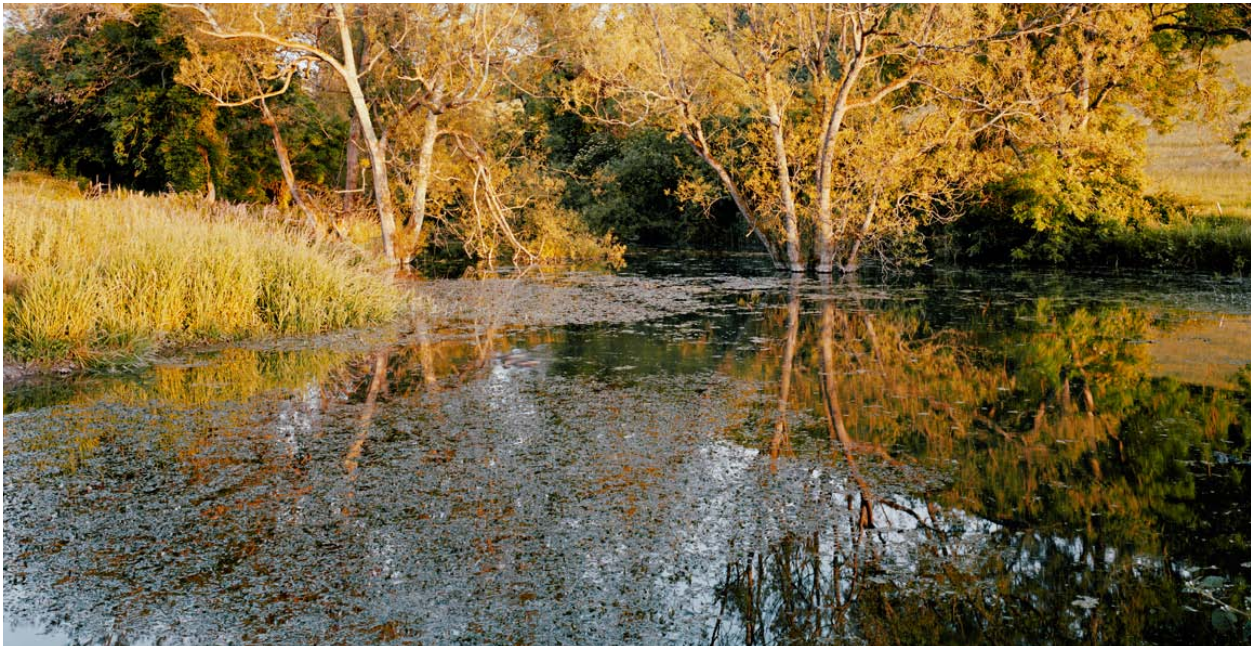
Food is an extremely multifaceted, and at times controversial, issue. Unlike other principles, impacts of the industry, infrastructure and the effect of people's choices on society and the environment are difficult to observe, especially in the short-term. The city is fortunate to have Brighton and Hove Food Partnership, who have continued their great work promoting healthy, local sustainable food, both at the level of the individual, and with decision-makers in the city. The Council's enthusiastic support for their work should also be acknowledged.

### Local and sustainable food - looking forward

Medium and long-term activities promoting local and sustainable food are well defined, ambitious and achievable. More work could be done on the overall sustainability impact of all activity undertaken so far from a baseline, and development of a road-map showing how all future activity will further reduce the per capita land impact.



Using water more efficiently in buildings and in the products we buy, tackling groundwater pollution, and adapting and preparing well for severe weather events such as flooding and drought



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**Sustainable water**

The 2025 vision is of a Council minimising its consumption of water and managing its use efficiently and of a city adequately protected from flooding and demonstrating minimal demand of a good quality water supply.

**One Planet Council**

Short term actions look to quantify and reduce the Council’s water consumption:

Theme	Progress	
Changing behaviours	✓	A detailed plan has been developed that sets out the campaign and tools, and progress is expected in late 2014/15. Third phase of eco-schools programme underway.
Smart buildings	✓	Automatic Meter Reading programme initiated cross prioritised Council buildings. Programme 64% complete and on-schedule.

The focus of longer term actions is to address water quality on the Council’s estate through effective site management.

**One Planet City**

This section of the Action Plan is led by the Environment Agency and focuses on reducing demand for water, improving or retaining water quality and reducing risk of flooding in the city.

Theme	Progress	
Water Consumption	✓	Southern water expect to have 92% of customers on a water meter by 2015. A metering programme is being implemented across the city. Demand for water dropped 3% between 2012/13 and 2013/14. By 2015, demand is expected to reduce by 10% from baseline.

Quality of groundwater and marine waters	✓	<p>The improving bathing water quality at Brighton &amp; Hove has continually met mandatory and the higher guideline standards over the past ten years. A revised European Directive sets even tougher standards from 2015. It is likely that the bathing waters of Saltdean, Brighton Kempdown, Brighton Central and Hove First Avenue will be classed as Good or Excellent.</p> <p>Southern Water has commissioned the new site at Peacehaven which discharges treated effluent via a new long sea outfall at Friars Bay. Marine water quality will improve as a result of this investment.</p> <p>The Brighton Chalk Block which covers Brighton and Hove is at poor status according to the European water Framework Directive. The groundwater quality is affected by high nitrates and pesticides. The Environment Agency, Southern water, The National Park and the City Council are developing a partnership project to engage with land managers and improve groundwater quality.</p>
Reducing impacts of flooding	✓	Flooding affected commercial properties, beach huts, basements, roads and railways in Winter 2013/14. The Surface Water Management Plan has been completed and funding to implement it will be sought.

### Case studies

In 2013, the chalk reef that lies beneath the waves from Brighton Marina eastwards to Beachy Head became one of the first new Marine Conservation Zones in England. The wave cut platform extends half a kilometre out to the sea. The ‘Beachy Head West’ Marine Conservation Zone provides a legal framework for nature conservation and sustainable management of the marine environment off the East Sussex coast for the first time. This will allow different interest groups - from fishermen and sailors to divers and naturalists - to work together to further the conservation objectives. The western half of this new site, as far as Newhaven Harbour, will form the marine “buffer zone” of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. To help customers save water and reduce their water footprint, Southern Water is installing 74,000 water meters in Brighton and Hove free of charge. Metered households use between 10 to 18 per cent less water in comparison to un-metered properties. About 65 per cent of households have experienced a reduction in their bill after having a meter installed, with an average annual saving per household of £193. By 2015 the majority of Southern Water customers who don’t already have a meter will be provided with one free of charge. Having a meter means you only pay for what you use and puts the customer in control of their bill. Heating water for day-to-day tasks such as taking a shower, washing clothes and boiling the kettle makes up about 20 per cent of the average home’s carbon footprint.

### Progress review

Those who manage the city’s water resources understand the stress that they are under. Good progress has been made in helping consumers reduce their demand for water. Automatic Meter Reading will help the Council address its consumption. The quality of the city’s potable water and marine environments remains high, but flooding and drought are ever increasing risks. The floods of 2013/14 underline the importance of adoption of the Surface Water Management Plan – partners should be commended for producing this document more quickly than expected.

### Sustainable water - looking forward

Brighton & Hove has been identified by the government as an ‘area of serious water stress’. The city’s water comes only from underground sources and so is vulnerable to short, severe droughts. Climate change will mean longer periods without rain and so possible water shortage in the future. All plans and policies must future-proof the city against these threats. None of the more long-term targets address reduced consumption. Development of actions to meet longer term targets should begin.



Land use  
and wildlife

Protecting and restoring existing biodiversity and natural habitats through appropriate land use and integration into the built environment.

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### **Land use & wildlife**

The 2025 vision is of a city region with distinct and substantial areas of high quality nature and biodiversity, where the traditional ecological disparity between the urban and rural has been broken down and where locally significant species are encouraged and protected.

### **One Planet Council**

There are no actions or targets specific to the Council's internal operations connected to this principle.

### **One Planet City**

The city-region of Brighton and Hove is blessed with an abundance of nature. Over 40% of the city is contained within the South Downs National Park, and boasts two Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Five Local Nature Reserves span over 1% of the city's land. A suite of short, medium and long term activity is planned under this principle, yet much of the focus surrounds the achievement of UNESCO Biosphere status for the Brighton and Lewes Downs. The long term target is to contribute to the global need for 0.3gha of wildlife habitat per person.

Theme	Progress	
Achieving UNESCO Biosphere Status	✓✓	Achieved. After two years of consultation and proposal development, Brighton and Lewes Downs became the first new Biosphere site in the UK for forty years. The Biosphere brings together the countryside, the coast and city and towns of the city region of over 150 square miles. Its status will help attract inward investment in the area, improve quality of life and the environment, encourage research and reinforce identity and pride.
Implementing the Local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)	✓	The BAP has been approved by Committee. Selection and adoption of Local Wildlife Sites is almost complete. 23,792 volunteer hours were completed between Q1 and end of Q3.
Improving and creating of grassland.	✓	Work progressing on restoration of Whitehawk Hill, with orchard planting and agreement to introduction of sheep. Changes to management need agreeing following consultation with Natural England. Agreement needed from English Heritage around installation of cattle grids on Manor Hill. Introduction of open grazing along Ditchling Road successful. Six of 15 identified sites for bees and butterflies have been created. Eight sites for new grassland have been created with more sites being examined.

### Case studies

The first completely new Biosphere site in the UK for almost forty years and the first ever in south-east England was established in June 2014. The Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere was awarded this designation by UNESCO's International Coordinating Council of the 'Man and the Biosphere' programme, which met in Sweden. It joins a global network of more than 600 "world-class environments" in over 100 countries, and is one of only a handful worldwide to include a city. Achieving the status of a new World Biosphere site follows six years' work by the Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere partnership to develop its bid. The partnership of some 40 organisations, with Brighton & Hove City Council as a lead partner, includes other local authorities, public bodies, voluntary, educational and community organisations and private sector business. The Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere area covers all of the land and near-shore coastal waters between the two rivers of the Adur in the west and the Ouse in the east. The northern boundary of the South Downs National Park marks its northern limits while it also includes the city of Brighton & Hove and neighbouring towns of Lewes, Newhaven, Peacehaven, Shoreham, Telscombe, Southwick and Shoreham Beach. Extending two nautical miles out to sea it also includes part of one of the first Marine Conservation Zones designated by the Government in 2013.

### Progress review

Achievement of Biosphere status is a fantastic accolade for the city and surrounding region and the spotlight that it brings should enable the ambitions of the One Planet City and Biodiversity Action Plan to be achieved more quickly and easily. The team responsible for securing this status have done extremely well – the statuses of Biosphere and One Planet City are highly complementary.

### Land use & wildlife - looking forward

Biosphere status is an opportunity to attract extra funding into the area. A Biosphere Management Strategy has been produced which spans many of the One Planet principles, thus integrating Land Use & Wildlife with regional aspirations in water and green infrastructure.



Culture and community

Protecting and restoring existing biodiversity and natural habitats through appropriate land use and integration into the built environment



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**Culture & community**

The 2025 vision is of a city with a culture of sustainability and community and a sense of place built on local cultural heritage that fosters a sense of identity and connectedness, and of an exemplar Council that promotes sustainability and inclusivity and celebrates unique and shared culture through a diverse programme of events.

**One Planet Council**

Short term objectives centred around development of sustainability standards and plans for events and venues and achievement of accreditation in Environmental Management.

Theme	Progress	
Developing a Sustainable Events Programme	✓✓	The Sustainable Events Programme provides support to event organisers to deliver positive sustainability benefits at indoor and outdoor events. A showcase event was held in June 2013 at the Brighton Centre to show event organisers what is possible and how it can enhance their events. No waste was produced, local food served and local companies used. The Sustainable Events Programme meets the requirements of ISO 20121 (the new sustainable events standard) and ISO 14001 and it is externally audited once a year.
Environmental Management	✓	Council owned venues are developing Sustainability Action Plans or have Environmental Management Systems to help them improve environmental performance and reduce costs. High profile achievements have been made; for example, with the Brighton Centre's catering contract and reducing its energy bills. The Council have worked with its larger venues including the Brighton Centre, Hove Centre, Sports Centres, Pavilion and Museums.

Guidance for external events	✓✓	A range of guides have been developed for organisers of events in the city to help them increase the sustainability of their event and link with local suppliers. 98% of delegates at the launch of the Sustainable Events Programme said they would choose a venue with Sustainable Events Accreditation over one without.
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Medium / long term actions will be identified as part of the eighteen month Action Plan Review.

### One Planet City

Theme	Progress	
Communicating One Planet Living	✓	A communications strategy for One Planet City has been developed and an external consultant appointed to deliver a behaviour change campaign based on One Planet values.
Showcasing Projects	✓✓	An exhibition showcasing Brighton's Ice Age has been completed and is open to the public. Funding has been sought from the Arts Council for a collaborative project showcasing the archaeological importance of Whitehawk.

Plans are being developed and funding sought for a new visitor centre for the South Downs National Park as part of a wider project for Stanmer Park.

### Case studies

Using the Royal Pavilion & Museums' natural history and archaeology collections; the Chilled to the Bone, Ice Age Sussex exhibition came to an end in August 2014. It opened in March 2013, focussing on Sussex during the Ice Age and archaeological remains that illuminate the origins of modern humans. Designed to be accessible and engaging, especially for younger visitors, the exhibition helped show what effect climate change could have on our modern world and how those changes could impact on our future. 77% of visitors rated Chilled to the Bone as excellent or good and 66% said they had a deeper understanding of climate change after visiting the exhibition..

As a major event destination, Brighton hosts hundreds of outdoor events, conferences and exhibitions every year in a wide range of venues. The city's Sustainable Events Programme provides help to event organisers to find ways to make their event more sustainable. Significant investment has gone into updating the Brighton Centre with state of the art LED lighting and water saving devices that have helped reduce the ecological footprint of the building and reduced its running costs. costs.

### Progress review

All internal targets aspired to under Culture and Community have been achieved quickly and efficiently. Actions around sustainable events and environmental management directly correspond to long-term expectations set out in the Common International Targets for One Planet Regions. Communicating One Planet Living to external audiences is not always easy and requires dialogue with a number of stakeholders. Developing an approach should be undertaken carefully.

### Culture & community - looking forward

Visitors come from all over the globe to enjoy Brighton and Hove's rich cultural offer. Long term effort includes positioning the city as a prominent eco-destination for sustainably minded tourists; this will be enhanced using the Biosphere and One Planet City status.



Creating strong, diverse local economies that meet people’s needs and support fair employment and international fair trade



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### Supporting the local economy

The 2025 vision is of a Council that pays the Living Wage whilst promoting physical and social equity and inclusiveness, and of a city with low levels of unemployment, growing employment in the green economy, high rates of participation and an exemplar for fair trade.

### One Planet Council

Over and above their duties under the Equality Act 2010, Brighton and Hove City Council has a corporate policy of ‘Tackling Inequality’ which is central to its aims and work. The Council’s Equality and Inclusion Policy covers the period 2012 to 2015 and describes vision, objectives, key actions and measures to promote, facilitate and deliver equality in the city and Council. The short term objectives for the Sustainability Action Plan are taken from this Policy:

Theme	Progress	
Implementing Equality & Inclusion Policy	✓	Council departments are required to report on their progress against the Policy every six months with an annual public feedback session. Major strides in equality have been achieved in 2014 and the action plan has been refreshed to reflect new streams of work and to record the outcomes of completed work. A big success is creation of Equality groups in each directorate, which are able to pick up city-wide issues and act on them in service-specific sectors. The Equality and Inclusion Policy will be reviewed and revised in 2015 in consultation with the Community and Voluntary Sector Forum.

### One Planet City

Key short term actions include implementing the skills and business support priorities in the City Employment and Skills plan, which runs to 2014, and development of community and regional governance models for the city.

Theme	Progress	
Increasing employment & developing the green economy	✓✓	The city’s Economic Strategy has been updated using the One Planet Living principles. 90% of the City Employment & Skills Plan (CESP) has been delivered or progressed. Key achievements include reduction of 16-18year old NEETs, creation of Brighton Employability and Careers Hub (BEACH) and creation of 700 work experience opportunities. A new CESP is being developed for the period 2015-17. Funding has been secured to develop an agency to develop the city’s environmental industries in the form of the Green Growth Business Forum.



Promoting the Living Wage	✓✓	The Living Wage Campaign was launched in 2012. The two year target to sign up 100 businesses was surpassed and now 132 have joined, raising 822 salaries across a wide range of businesses including the Care Coop, NHS Trust, City College Brighton & Hove, Brighton & Hove Housing Trust, Infinity Foods and Brighton & Hove City Council. By signing they agree to pay the living wage as a minimum (£7.65/hr).
Increasing community participation	✓	The Council financially supports the work of 69 community and voluntary sector organisations and more than 120 small community groups and events each year. A new Communities and Third Sector Development Policy was approved in December 2013 backed up by a third sector commission focusing on infrastructure, community development and engagement.
Supporting Fair Trade	✓	Brighton and Hove is an accredited Fair Trade City. The city has a constituted steering group with an action plan to position Brighton & Hove as a city renowned for fair trade developed for 2013-14.

Longer term actions include development of the eco-tourism strategy, assessment of neighbourhood governance pilots and proposals for future activity, and work on the Regional Growth Plan with the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership.

### Case studies

#### *Fair Trade November*

Pupils from Cottesmore School in Hove involved in making a Fair Trade City film met the Secretary of State for International Development in November 2013. They showed her a clip of the film and talked to her about their work as a Fair Trade School. The children found out about how consumers can affect the lives of people who grow or make the stuff we buy and discovered a local FairTrade business selling ethical gifts. Brighton shoppers were invited to discover ethical Christmas gifts at six retail venues on a Fair Trade Trail across the city on the last Saturday of the month. Brighton and Hove is a Fair Trade City and boasts a range of local shops and businesses which actively support Fair Trade partnerships with producers around the world. Fair Trade Brighton & Hove was instrumental in the city joining local and national leaders from 32 countries to back the Fair Trade Beyond 2015 Campaign.

#### *Green Growth Platform*

The University of Brighton has secured significant funding from the Higher Education Funding Council for England in 2013 for a Green Growth Platform project to foster sustainable economic growth. It will work with private, public and third sector partners to support the growth of SMEs in the Low Carbon Environmental Goods and Services sector focusing on sustainable buildings and retrofit, renewable energy, recycling, waste and water. The five year programme will work with 1,000 SMEs, creating 250 new jobs and generating £3.6m for the local economy.

### Progress review

Brighton & Hove is an exemplar UK city in the promotion of equity and local economy. Most short-term tasks in the Action Plan have been achieved and in some cases surpassed. The Council's focuses on continuous progress through frequent measurement and reflection and the city has a strong, coordinated network of organisations large and small that prioritise equity thanks to an inclusive culture of localism. More than in any other principle, the benefits of actions taken have been measured and success can be quantified.

### Supporting the local economy - looking forward

With an active and popular Chamber of Commerce, strong service, creative and digital sectors and as a hotbed for start-ups, the city is a thriving hub of local and equitable commerce. As with any city, specific problems persist, such as unemployment, localised pockets of disadvantage, a skills gap and an ageing rental sector. With commitments to achieving significant strides in areas like community participation and the Living Wage, Brighton & Hove is in a good position to tackle these issues head on and further identify itself as a flagship example of a fair and strong local economy. With such short-term success, could medium and long term objectives be brought forward?



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### Health & happiness

The 2025 vision is of a Council with a happy workforce, a culture of respect, and an environment where employees are able to take personal responsibility for improving their own health and wellbeing. The Council, partner organisations, communities and residents are working together to support people to achieve and maintain a healthy life and to reduce health inequalities across the city.

### One Planet Council

Short term actions focus on helping staff reduce their time absent, in particular addressing causes of stress. Much of the success of initiatives designed to promote happiness within the Council’s workforce are evaluated through the annual survey of staff.

Theme	Progress	
Staff Behaviour	✓✓	A framework for behaviour and associated guidance was communicated in June 2013. The performance management system has been updated and re-launched to include four new performance domains – Accountability, Development, Working Together and Personal Impact.
Wellbeing of staff	✓✓	Wellbeing initiatives offered by the Council to employees include Stop Smoking sessions, Active Living, Emotional Wellbeing, flu vaccinations, International Women’s Day and mental health awareness training. 518 members of staff participated in the Global Corporate Challenge – 86% now rate their overall health as good, very good or excellent (62% pre-GCC). Double the numbers of staff as last year received flu vaccinations. A management working group tasked with reducing sick leave has been established. Reduction of time for Occupational Health referral from 54 days to 35.
Counselling & stress management	✓	Better communications has led to 871 contacts for the Staff Information and Advice Service. Staff feedback has been positive. A stress review has been completed and a management action plan developed to implement recommendations from the review.

### One Planet City

Aspirations for a healthy, happy city includes areas of work overseen by the Health and Wellbeing Board and focus on priority areas for the city as determined in Joint Strategic Needs

Assessment 2012. Data presented below relates to achievements during year 2013/14.

Theme	Progress	
Emotional health & wellbeing	✓	Programme of activities around World Mental Health Day 2013. Mental health promotion innovation fund used to support 19 local mental health projects. The Health and Wellbeing Board published Happiness: A Brighton and Hove Mental Health Wellbeing Strategy in July 2014.
Alcohol & substance misuse	✓	The alcohol programme board is now well established, meets quarterly, and is chaired by the Director of Public Health. The aim is to deliver the post-Big Alcohol Debate action plan.
Health & wellbeing in the workplace	✓	The Workplace Wellbeing Charter has been promoted to over 74 businesses. 775 NHS Healthchecks have been delivered in 42 workplaces.
Active Living	✓✓	Greatly improved health and fitness facilities opened at Withdean in December 2013 and well received by users. New Climbing Centre opened in March 2014, new athletics track completed in October 2013. The Sport and Physical Activity Strategy and the Sports Development Action Plan were approved in November 2013.

### Case studies

#### *10 years of Brighton & Hove Healthwalks*

2013 is a special year for Brighton & Hove Healthwalks. The scheme has been providing free walks in the city for ten years, and in that time has helped thousands of local people improve their physical and mental health and make new friends into the bargain. There are 15 regular walks across the city, ranging in length from under a mile up to three or four miles. Many of the walks are also wheelchair and buggy-friendly, and they are all accessible by public transport. 1,000 walkers take part in Healthwalks every year, ranging in age from 4 to 92 years old. Regular walkers have reported physical and emotional health benefits: "Since I joined Healthwalks my blood pressure has come down and my diabetes has really improved." (Beryl, Portslade and Seafrost Healthwalker); "It's fun to explore places with like-minded people and to get out and feel a million dollars for it!" (Jenny, Whitehawk Healthwalker).

#### *World Mental Health Day*

Making a big splash about mental health challenges stigma and helps us all to build up our resilience. In 2013, World Mental Health Day was celebrated with an innovative programme created by local arts organisation, The Basement, and funded by Brighton & Hove City Council. Throughout October, banners on 20 city centre lamp-posts and a light box display in Jubilee Square showcased the drawings of residents in an exhibition titled All Very Well. All of the artwork was developed in day-long workshops led by artist and drawing tutor Jake Spicer, in response to Bobby Baker's Diary Drawings reflecting on ideas such as emotional wellbeing and mental health. The programme also included theatre, cinema, meet the author and physical activity events.

### Progress review

All activity aspired to has been undertaken. Admirable, measureable progress has been seen especially in the area of staff wellbeing, with an increase in the number of staff who think they have a good level of health. Good progress has also been made in supporting the city's population to live more healthily and happily, addressing the specific issues that were highlighted as problematic for the city in the JSNA report.

### Health & happiness - looking forward

In April 2013, Local Authorities took the lead for improving the health of their local communities. The year subsequent has been a transitional period, meaning this action plan will have to be updated once positions, priorities and available funding have been established.



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