

EcoBicester Sustainability Project Plan 2015/16

| No. | Project | What is the outcome of the project | Timeline | What resources are required? | Number of visitors/ users | Who is responsible for the project? | Progress July 2015 |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| Eco Bicester Demonstration Projects - aim to increase the number of demonstration projects across the town | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | JP2 centre - large super insulated civic building | Provide a community meeting venue. Increase visibility of Eco Bicester in the town & promote sustainable construction | May 2010 to Summer 2011 (building phase) | None | 6000 visitors p.a. | P3Eco & Church | Project delivered - Update: Oxford Brookes University carrying out post occupancy audit of JP11 |
| 1.2 | The Garth / Bicester Town Council | Increase visibility of Eco Bicester in the town & promote sustainable construction | Completed in Spring 2014 | Technology Strategy Board Funding | | BioRegional in partnership with Bicester Town Council | Project delivered - on time and under budget - Halfway through monitoring work - Oxford Brookes University to carry out performance audit. |
| 1.3 | Bicester Green - Centre for Sustainability, Skills and Second Hand Stuff | Increase reuse, volunteer opportunities and skills in Bicester | Opened in June 2013 | Officer time - ongoing external funding needed to cover annual expenses of 40K | Bicester Green has currently 25 regular volunteers, 30 visitors per week - dropping in or taking part in training courses like Green Tuesdays, Drill Baby Drill | Bicester Green Centre Manager & Bicester Green Board of Directors, Sustainability Officer is Chair of board of directors | Received WRAP funding for Bicester Moves - a project to reduce waste for movers by providing information and workshops. Received Cherwell Charity and Cherwell Business of the Year Awards. |
| 1.4 | Community Hall & Church Energy Assessment | Increase the energy efficiency of community halls and churches in Bicester | Initial meeting and presentation of funding opportunity June 2014 | Officer time | | Sustainability Officer in partnership with Oxford Brookes University, Environmental Information Exchange | Energy audit for Catholic Church and Methodist Church delivered and audit reports produced. |
| 1.5 | EcoBicester Playground | Provision of new natural playground in Garth Park as replacement of the existing dated playground | Autumn 2015 | External funding application successful | Used by children 5years and older | Bicester Town Council in partnership with Sustainability Officer and Bioregional | Received WREN funding for natural playground. Quotes for playground being received. |
| 1.6 | EcoBicester Café | Provision of EcoBicester Café in Garth Park | Spring 2015 | | Users of Garth Park and visitors to Bicester | Bicester Town Council in partnership with Sustainability Officer and Bioregional | Bicester Town Council decided on provider |
| Eco Bicester Sustainability Outreach Campaigns & Events | | | | | | | |
| 2.1 | Big Lunch | Engage with Bicester residents promoting EcoBicester projects | 07-Jun-15 | Officer time | 4000 visitors | Grassroots Bicester, National Energy Foundation, BioRegional, Eco Bicester team | Event successfully attended |
| 2.2 | Bicester Bike Day | Engage with Bicester residents promoting EcoBicester projects | 19-Jul-15 | Officer time | 500 visitors | A2 Dominion in partnership with BioRegional | Event successfully attended |
| Eco Bicester Energy Projects - aim to raise awareness for energy efficiency, renewable energy, reducing carbon emissions | | | | | | | |
| 3.1 | Energy Monitor & Thermal Imaging Loan Scheme | Loan scheme for residents and community groups | Autumn 2013 | Officer time for promotion | 10 bookings - mostly in autumn and winter | Bicester Green | Ongoing |
| 3.2 | Boiler Scheme | Improve the energy efficiency of Bicester homes through a boiler replacement programme - £300 off a replacement boiler | April 2014 | Funded by Eco Bicester team | 105 boiler replacements | National Energy Foundation, Sustainability Officer | Bicester Boiler replacement fund topped up to £50K, January 2015 application process closed (255 applicants), May 2015 105 completed replacements, proposal to use the remaining funds of £18K for a rerun of the boiler scheme in autumn 2015 |
| 3.3 | Heat Network | Technical & commercial feasibility study to connect Energy Recovery Plant Ardley to NW Bicester development and further into the town | January 2014 - Sept 2015 | Funded by Department of Energy and Climate Change, Cherwell District Council, Oxfordshire County Council | NW Bicester & wider town | Sustainability Officer in partnership with BioRegional | Technical and commercial feasibility completed, next stage of work is business modelling. |
| 3.4 | Community Solar scheme | Installation of solar panels on residential and commercial roofs through a community share scheme | Ongoing work since Autumn 2013 | Officer time | Bicester residents | Low Carbon Hub, Sustainability Officer | Bicester Grid Constraint study delivered, Bicester Micro Grid study delivered. Engagement with SSE (District Network Operator). Submission of expression of interest to Oxleap / SEEIP for comprehensive micro grid study. Grid connection for Brita installation offered from SSE (installation date Nov 2016) |
| 3.5 | Leisure Centre Biomass Boiler | Installation of 500KW biomass boiler at Bicester Sports Centre | | Funded by Cherwell capital bid | Bicester Leisure Centre has 300,000 visitors p.a. | Cherwell Leisure Services, Parkwood, Bioregional and Sustainability Officer | Ongoing |
| 3.6 | Rural Communities Fund / Parish Council Liaison meeting | Increase the uptake of renewable energy projects in rural areas surrounding Bicester | Funding is available | Rural Communities Fund, WRAP | | Sustainability Officer, BioRegional, Environmental Services, WRAP | Ongoing |
| 3.7 | Eco Bicester Living Lab | The home of innovation and learning within Eco Bicester. The living lab provides academic rigour to projects within Eco Bicester and provides a focus for future research and funding | Ongoing work | Officer time - promotion | | Partnership between OBU and BioRegional - CDC and A2D are key stakeholders | Living lab has been created, and launched with a live website and press release - currently exploring future seed funding. PhD student to be appointed. |
| 3.8 | Green Deal Communities | Solid wall insulation funding for approximately 150 homes in Bicester | Autumn 2015 | Officer time | 150 households | Sustainability Officer, National Energy Foundation | Funding received as part of a multi Local Authority bid in 2014 |
| 3.9 | Bicester Live | Bicester Live is an integrated information platform to allow users model the behaviour of a town with a special focus on waste / recycling, local economy, community, transport and energy / water. | 01/03/2015 resubmitted July 2015 | Officer time | Bicester residents | Sustainability Officer, Bioregional, Ridgian, Microsoft in partnership with LSP | Funding application not successful - resubmitted under SEEIP funding proposals |
| 3.1 | Energy Performance Map of Bicester | The map of energy performance will identify low performing housing areas in the town and will help us develop a targeted approach | Mar-15 | Donated 5 days of consultancy support & purchase of data set (£2100) | | National Energy Foundation, Housing Department, Sustainability Officer | Report delivered |
| Eco Bicester Travel Projects | | | | | | | |
| 4.1 | Bicester Bike Scheme | Promote sustainable transport in the town | Start of bike loan scheme May 2014 | Officer time - promotion | Bicester residents | Bicester Green | Cherwell DC took on funding of the Bicester Bike scheme. Need to develop financially viable options for the next year. |
| 4.2 | Low Emission Transport | Increase the number of electric vehicle charging points along the Knowledge Spine Oxford / Bicester | Spring 2016 | Officer time | Bicester residents | EcoBicester team | Joint application to SEEIP submitted with Oxford City Council |

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| 4.3 | Bicester Sustainable Transport Project | Bicester Sustainable Transport Project will deliver improved walking and cycling provision on key routes to increase connectivity, reduces congestion and improves productivity, health and the environment. | Spring 2016 | Officer time | Bicester residents | EcoBicester team | Funding expression of interest application submitted to Oxleap & submitted as project proposal to SEEP |
| 4.4 | Bicester Wayfinding project | Deliver a wayfinding / signage project across the town to increase walking and cycling | Autumn 2015 | Officer time | Bicester residents | Sustainability project officer in partnership with Oxfordshire County Council and stakeholders | Ongoing - scoping brief drafted, audit of existing audit currently undertaken |
| Eco Bicester Communications & PR | | | | | | | |
| 5.1 | Communications Strategy | Comprehensive Communications strategy for Bicester Directorate including webpage | Ongoing work | Officers time | | Cherwell Communications team & Sustainability Officer | Ongoing |
| 5.2 | Eco Bicester promotion/advertising | To raise awareness of all of the Eco Bicester projects once completed - this could be through Signage/Plaques etc. | | Officer time and money for signage/plaques | | Sustainability Officer | Ongoing |
| 5.3 | Eco Bicester Twitter | Regular twitter updates to advertise Eco Bicester projects | Ongoing work | Officer time - promotion | 890 followers | Eco Bicester team | Ongoing |
| 5.4. | EcoBicester Game | Game to engage the public at events with EcoBicester projects | Summer 2015 | Officer time | | Sustainability Officer in partnership with Bioregional and OYAP | Produced |
| 5.5 | Eco Bicester Newsletter | Promotion of all Eco Bicester activities | Bi-monthly | Officer time | 448 recipients | Eco Bicester team | Ongoing |
| 5.6 | MJ Awards | Promotion of Eco Bicester as Energy Smart town | June 2015 | Officer time | | Sustainability Officer | Application submitted |
| 5.7 | Green Apple Award | Promotion of EcoBicester as Energy Smart town | April 30, 2015 | Officer time | | Sustainability Officer in partnership with Bioregional and A2 Dominion | Successful - award received |
| 5.8 | Placemaking Awards | Promotion of NW Bicester | March 2015 | Officer time | | A2D, Eco Bicester Team | Shortlisted for Placemaking Team of the Year |
| Completed Projects | | | | | | | |
| 6.1 | Insulation Scheme | Raising awareness of energy efficiency and helping reduce energy costs | November 2010 to Autumn 2013 | Funded by Eco Bicester team | 1500 homes received cavity and / or loft insulation | Eco Bicester team | Delivered |
| 6.2 | Glee in Highfield | Carbon mapping of Highfield, energy saving workshops for residents | | Funded by Department of Energy and Climate Change | | Eco Bicester team in partnership with BioRegional | Delivered |
| 6.3 | Green deal communities | 100 fully funded Green Deal assessments, 14 retrofitted residential homes and 2 businesses, Open homes weekend | Spring and summer 2013 | Funded by Department of Energy and Climate Change | 78 visitors to Bicester Green Open Homes 2 June 2013 | Eco Bicester team in partnership with BioRegional | Delivered |
| 6.4 | Pioneer Square Anniversary | Promote Eco Bicester to engage with residents | 12/13 Jul 2014 | Officer time | 60 visitors | National Energy Foundation, BioRegional, Eco Bicester team | Delivered |
| 6.5 | NW Bicester SPD Consultation | Consultation of the public on NW Bicester Masterplan | 10/11 July 2014 | Officer time | very low attendance | Eco Bicester team | Delivered |
| 6.6 | Sixth Form Cooper School - 6th form extension Bream standard very good | Increase visibility of Eco Bicester in the town & promote sustainable construction | Completed July 2011 | N/A | | Oxfordshire County Council | Delivered |
| 6.7 | Bryan House / Chapel Street - houses and flats built to Code level 4 and 5 | Increase visibility of Eco Bicester in the town & promote sustainable construction | Completed by July 2012 | N/A | | Sanctuary Group | Delivered |
| 6.8 | Eco Bicester Demonstration House - built to PassivHaus standard | Increase visibility of Eco Bicester in the town & promote sustainable construction | Commenced Oct 2010, completed Apr 2011, opened May 2011 to May 2013 | Officer time | 1500 visitors p.a. | Eco Bicester team | Delivered |
| 6.9 | Community Garden | Increase green space and community space in Bicester | Completed 2011 - formal opening of the garden in July 2011 | N/A | | Bicester Town Council | Delivered |
| | Awards | | | | | | |
| 7.1 | Nef / ACE Awards international stage | Promotion of Eco Bicester as Energy Smart town on international level | | 50% of travel costs to event | | Sustainability Officer | Winner |
| 7.2 | Planning Award, shortlisted for planning for housing growth | Promotion of NW Bicester as an exemplar development | | | | Eco Bicester Team with A2Dominion | Runner up |
| 7.3 | Ashden Awards | Promotion of NW Bicester as an exemplar development | Winner announced in Summer 2014 | | | EcoBicester and Bioregional | Shortlisted |
| | Events | | | | | | |
| 8.1 | Bicester Bike Day | Promote sustainable travel within the town | End of August 2014 | Officer time | 300 attended | A2 Dominion in partnership with BioRegional | Delivered |
| 8.2 | Oxfordshire Goes Wild | Promote sustainability across Bicester | 13-Sep-14 | Officer time | 300 attended | Eco Bicester team | Delivered |
| 8.3 | Disruptive Innovation Festival | Promote circular economy | 20-Oct until 14-Nov-14 | Officer time | | Sustainability Officer, Bicester Green, Cooper School, Bicester Community College, Banbury & Bicester College | Delivered |
| 8.4 | Bicester Christmas Lights | Promote sustainability across Bicester | 04-Dec-14 | Officer time | | Eco Bicester team | Delivered |