

Keeping Our Heads Above Water - **How to Get Green & Affordable Energy**

8th September 2023

NICVA's Journey - First Steps

- Aug 19 - Head of Policy & PA sets out to develop NICVA's env. & sustainability practices/leadership
- Sep 19 – One Planet NICVA staff and tenants group established
- Oct 19 – BITC [Initial Environmental Review \(IER\)](#) of NICVA – considering Energy, Water, Waste, Transport & Landscaping/Biodiversity



OPNG Themes

Food

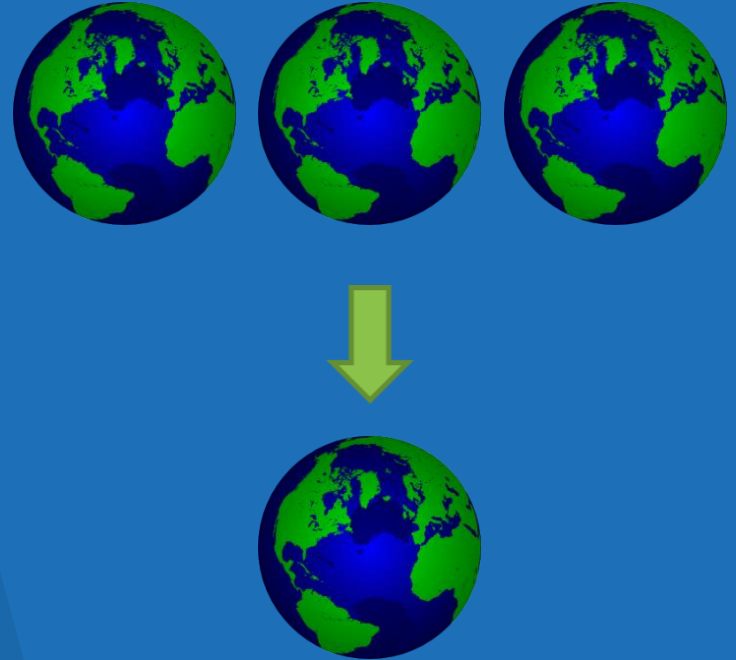
Energy

Transport

Waste

Water

Wildlife



Dec 19 - OPNG

7 Christmas Gifts to the Planet

1. Office prints
2. Sustainable water
3. Low energy offices
4. Keeping our cool
5. Welcoming our wildlife
6. Nothing wasted
7. No more burning the midnight oil



1. Office Prints

- Passcode printing
 - Greener
 - Safer
 - Faster

2. Sustainable Water



- 43 x 19l plastic refills
- 100s of single use plastic cups
- Energy wasted
- Plastic/Chemicals ingested
- >£380/yr wasted

- Simple, effective, planet & money saving



Be Print Smart.



Combining design technology innovation and ecology.



KYOCERA

3. Low Energy Offices

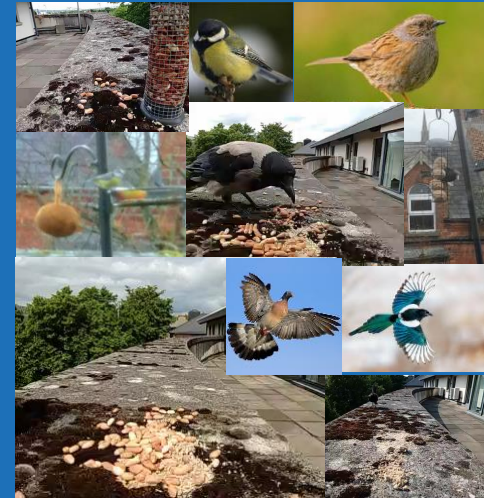
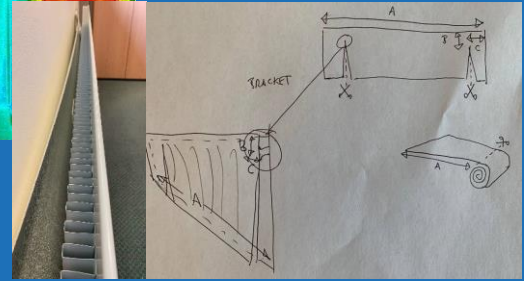
- Email reminders to switch off at end of day/week

4. Keeping Our Cool

- Radiator foils - Heat your office not Duncairn Gardens!

5. Welcoming Our Wildlife

- From zero species...
- ...to 9 and counting





6. Nothing Wasted

- Dry recycling
- Food Waste Recycling
- Soft Plastics Recycling

7. No More Burning the Midnight Oil

- Timer plugs on water boilers
- On from 07.30-05.30
- Hot water ready on Monday morning!
- **CO2 saved/yr = 1 car driving 1,400 miles**

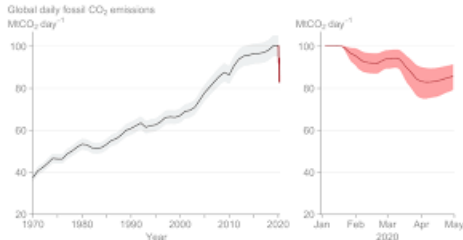


...and then Mar 2020 happened

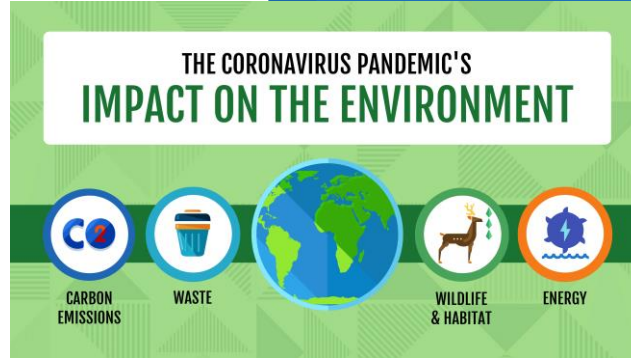
The World



[Garden Safari - Google Drive](https://youtu.be/ysGGlxrwuk)
<https://youtu.be/ysGGlxrwuk>



© Source: Le Gallo et al. Nature Climate Change (2021). Global Carbon Project



NICVA



- NICVA went online
- OPNG meetings stalled
- No business miles travelled for a while

Jan–Jul 2021

NICVA Sets 1st Ever Carbon Target

- Jan 21 – NICVA Executive approves first ever Environmental Policy. Seeks further info to inform first ever CO2 target/Net Zero Milestone
- Jun-Jul 21 – Action Renewables completes Energy Audit Report of NICVA building followed by CO2 Emissions Baseline report
- Jul 21 – NICVA Executive Committee agrees NICVA first Net Zero milestone target to reduce direct CO2 emissions (Scope 1&2) by 50% by 2025



Net Zero NICVA - Phase 1



- [Phase 1 project](#) completed Apr 22 delivering 54% of NICVA's 2025 CO2 emissions target and significant cost savings
- [Road map](#) identified to deliver 92% of 2025 target through future Phase 2 project

NICVA Net Zero Project - Phase 1	Capital Cost exc VAT	Running Cost Per Year	Potential Savings Per Year £	Potential savings tonnes CO2e / year
Biomass (Wood pellet) Boiler w gas back up			£5,657	48.5
New Natural Gas Boiler Installation	£58,927	£10,602	£3,786	13.6
New Heat Recovery Unit and ventilation for Conference Room	£29,029		£1,438	5.1
Electrics Associated with Boilerhouse & HRU	£6,050			
Building works	£2,665			
Cavity wall insulation improvement	£11,350		£1,165	4.2
O&M & As Installed Dwgs	£450			
Provisional Sum for Fire Alarm	£1,500			
Contingent Sum	£2,000			
Partial Replacement lighting	£35,310		£2,500	3
				25.90
Total Phase 1	£147,281		£10,218	54% of 2025 target



Foiled by time constraints



Results so far

- Compared FY19/20 (Pre-Covid) and FY22/23 (first full post-Covid year)
- Occupancy estimated 75% of pre-Covid levels
- Gas usage down 46% (£11.8K saving)
- Elec usage down 52% (£19.5K saving)
- Total savings £31.3K
- 98% of 2025 CO2 emissions reduction target
- Need to check again in FY24/25



The Journey continues....

Jul 2022 – OPNG members undertake internationally approved Carbon Literacy Training

Oct 2022 – OPNG Comms sub-group established to publicise NICVA's sustainability journey so far

Nov 2022 – NICVA introduces Cyclescheme (salary sacrifice bike purchase)

In the pipeline –

OPNG Bio Balcony/Patio sub-group considering proposals to improve NICVA environment for people and wildlife



Lessons from our journey to date

- Create space/time for internal discussion – by your staff and board
- Fully research options for external advice
- Expect some challenges/obstacles
- Measure the benefits (not just the costs)
- Be persistent and keep going!

