

# Update —Sustainability Roadmap - delivering a *Greener* Solihull for Success



Greening the economy—A Prosperous Borough with a thriving, sustainable, low carbon economy which enables green growth, capitalising on the growing market for low carbon goods and services .



Energy and Resources— Smart Low Carbon Borough with increased decentralised energy and low carbon generation with smart grids and smart meters to help control the supply and demand of energy .



Buildings and Efficiency - A Resource Efficient Borough where natural resources are used efficiently. Where the emphasis is on moving waste treatment up the hierarchy.



Two Solihull businesses have won an International Green Apple Award 2018 for Environmental Best Practice.



**Birmingham Business Park**

[Birmingham Business Park](#) won Gold for their Community Cycling Club. They were also finalists in the Sustainability Category in the Birmingham Post's Business Awards.

**TOUCHWOOD**

[Touchwood](#) won Gold for the Retail and Wholesale Energy Reduction category for the third year running.

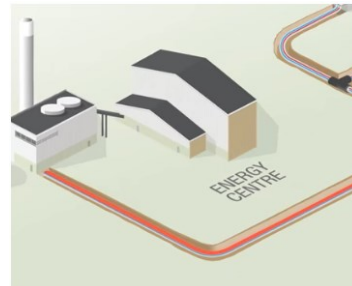


[Wattrus](#), a local business specialising in commercial furnishings, has invested in new machinery, which will enable them to increase productivity and performance while reducing their carbon footprint. This work was supported by the [Green Bridge Supply Chain](#)



## [Solihull Town Centre heat network](#)

The Council is undertaking a study into the feasibility of bringing affordable heating to town centre buildings through a district energy network. To further this study, a test borehole was drilled in Tudor Grange Park in January 2019 to investigate the groundwater conditions of the water-bearing rock (aquifer) beneath Tudor Grange Park as this will be the source of the networks heat.



## [Solihull School](#)

installed two 50kW arrays of solar panels. It is predicted that the first year of savings will be £7,000, and will reduce the sites carbon emissions.



[Real Junk Food Project](#) in partnership with Waitrose has supported a project at Hobs Moat Community Café and Food Boutique. The project was launched in May 2018. The project takes potential food waste and serves it in the café.

Customers are asked for donations or to volunteer time for their meal.



Solihull Council, working with Dodd Group and [Act on Energy](#), is starting a new project offering free gas central heating to residents who live in homes heated by inefficient electric systems.

The aim is to replace outdated electric heating with gas. This will improve energy efficiency and therefore reduce carbon emissions and the running costs for residents who are on low incomes.



[Solihull Council](#) has signed up to the Government's Emissions Reduction Pledge 2020. The Government has set a target to reduce the public sector's emission by 30% by 2021, from 2008 levels. The Council has pledged to reduce emissions by 45% demonstrating its commitment to mitigating climate change.

Proud partners of the **Emissions Reduction Pledge 2020**



# Update — Sustainability Roadmap - delivering a *Greener Solihull* for Success



**Transport and Mobility**—An Accessible Borough with a rebalanced mode share that is less dependent on the car, where road space is used more effectively and streets are created for people and public transport.



**Natural Habitat and Adaptation**—A Naturally Healthy Borough where nature is maintained and enhanced and the benefit of nature provided to society, our economic prosperity and our well-being is recognised, valued and taken into account in decision making .



**Community Engagement and Education** - An Engaged Borough where all members of the community, from residents, to schools and business, are encouraged and enabled to play their part in creating sustainable futures



A new car club has arrived in North Solihull offering a convenient alternative to the high cost of car ownership. Launched in December, [E-Car Club](#) (a Europcar Mobility Group company) has brought 18, all- electric Renault ZOE hatchbacks to the area, which can be booked for an hour or several days at a time.



School streets is an innovative pilot scheme introduced outside three Solihull schools to help tackle traffic and promote healthy travel . In September 2018 it was announced it is to be rolled out permanently.

In response to concerns about road safety and congestion during the school run, the Solihull ‘School Streets’ scheme was introduced in September 2017, and has been well received by residents and schools.



In November the Conservation & Historic Environment, Landscape Architecture, Urban Design & Ecology team (CLAUDE) hosted its annual [Oaks and Shires](#) event to promote our woodlands and encourage local appreciation of these valuable green spaces. This year the event was held in Alcott Wood Local Nature Reserve in Chelmsley Wood and during the weekdays attracted nearly 350 children from five local schools. On the Saturday, a free family event promoting the wonder of woodlands was held.



More than 100 fruit trees will be planted around Solihull, with hopes of producing an annual crop that local residents will be able to harvest.

The ['Free Fruit For All'](#) project has seen [Love Solihull](#), an environmental initiative coordinated by the council, join forces with the forestry team and Glendale - the local authority's arboriculture contractor.



The Mayor of Solihull Cllr Flo Nash officially opened a new natural play garden for the children at Our Lady of the Wayside pre-school on Tuesday 23 October. The garden is designed give the children an organic outdoor space to explore the natural environment with a sensory wall with lots of different textures, a large wooden tepee structure, and a wildlife hide.



Love Solihull have been awarded an International Green Apple Award 2018 for Environmental Best Practice. The award is an annual campaign to recognise, reward and promote environmental best practice around the world. Love Solihull received the top accolade for the Local Authority Green Champion category .



Solihull Borough schools gathered in October to celebrate their success in the Ashden Less CO2 programme and the [Solihull Greener Schools Awards](#) . Six schools were awarded the highest Green Award!

