

# The MK Sustainability Conference 2020

In early March 2020 the Milton Keynes Sustainability Conference took place at the Sky Room, Milton Keynes Gallery, 900 Midsummer Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes MK9 3QA.



The Conference delivered an overview of actions taking place in Milton Keynes Council to meet carbon reduction targets and deliver key messages:

- Use less fossil fuels.
- Find alternative ways to travel so we use the car less
- Increase biodiversity
- Build renewable energy capacity
- Work together to achieve carbon reduction targets

The keynote speaker for the Conference was the MK Council leader Peter Marland. Peter spoke in depth about our need to work together and ask ourselves '*what can I do to reduce carbon emissions?*'.



Milton Keynes Council leader Peter Marland opened the Conference.



On the right hand side of the photo above you can see Matt from Drawnalism working to produce visual summaries of the key messages. Matt attended all the INTENSIFY thematic events and created some excellent overviews of the speakers presentations. You can see Matt's work in the INTENSIFY newsletters at <https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/library/> and <https://milton-keynes.power-h2020.eu/?location=challenge&loadP=5500> . The links to the newsletters are also on the MKC INTENSIFY webpage <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/environmental-health-and-trading-standards/mk-low-carbon-living/intensify-project>

The Conference was well attended with 94 people booking a place for the event. Social gatherings were not banned by Government guidelines until the 23<sup>rd</sup> March so the Conference went ahead as planned.





The conference was financially supported by the Interreg [POTenT Project](#) but the continuing work in the [INTENSIFY project](#) was presented and built upon at the Conference. POTenT and INTENSIFY are sister projects dedicated to reducing carbon emissions.



The agenda featured a mix of local experts, project delivery partners and MKC Heads of Service.

**MK Gallery – The Sky Room****Agenda**

09.30	Coffee	
10.00	Councillor P Marland Milton Keynes Council	Welcome & Opening
10.30	Geoff Snelson Milton Keynes Council	Strategy for 2050
11.00	Jo de Montgros Destination0	What can I do?
11.30	Phil Bowsher Parks Trust	Land Management & Biodiversity
12.00	Q and A	
12.30	Lunch and networking	
13.30	Mark Dolling/Andrew Spencer Engie	Approach to Sustainability
14.00	Steve Hayes Milton Keynes Council	Transport
14.30	Rachel Toresen-Owuor Local Partnerships	Our work supporting MKC to net zero
15.00	Councillor J Marklew Milton Keynes Council	Introduction of MKC Action plan
15.30	Q and A	
16.00	Close	



All the people who took part in Sustainability projects and workshops were invited as well as all MKC Councillors, environmental groups and charities. Invitations to the event were also offered to all MKC twitter readers.



The electric cargo bike created a lot of interest. MKC is considering use of e-cargo bikes to help deliver goods.

The Conference went well with lively question and answer sessions after every speaker.

If you would like more information and to see all of Matt's posters please visit the Conference page <https://milton-keynes.power-h2020.eu/?location=challenge&loadP=5560> or email [carbon@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:carbon@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

END