

MIDDLESBROUGH ENVIRONMENT CITY

Annual
Report
2018/19



Middlesbrough Environment City

The Highlights

Reducing the Use of Resources

A partnership with 0800 Repair helped Middlesbrough residents obtain ECO funding towards the cost of replacing heating systems. 447 boilers and insulation measures were installed. Energy bill savings over the next 12 years are estimated to be £6,035,000.



MEC Director, Mark Fishpool, received a Heat Hero Award from National Energy Action, recognising ten years as Chair of the Middlesbrough Affordable Warmth Partnership.

Both Middlesbrough Environment City and Middlesbrough Council were recognized in the North East Energy Efficiency Awards, with the Council winning Local Authority of the Year.



Promoting Healthier Lifestyles

Worked with Incredible Edible on a national project to build resilient communities through food. Projects in Middlesbrough are focused on surplus food distribution, a local food cooperative and increasing the use of locally produced food.

With a grant through Food Power (National Lottery Community Fund) MEC was able to bring together an alliance to develop an action plan to address food insecurity in Middlesbrough. Activities will include improving access to affordable healthy produce through distributing surplus food and action on holiday hunger.



The Middlesbrough Food Partnership worked towards the Sustainable Food Cities Silver Award. This was achieved in June 2019, recognising Middlesbrough as one of the four best places in the UK for sustainable food.

Middlesbrough Environment City

The Highlights

Sustainable Transport



MEC delivered a range of cycling and walking activities as part of the Let's Go Tees Valley programme with funding from the Department for Transport Access Fund.

The Cycle Centre continued to thrive at Middlesbrough Bus Station, providing both free cycle parking and Shopmobility, encouraging more people to use the town centre shops, cafes and restaurants.

The Welcome to Yorkshire Bike Library continued to operate from the Cycle Centre, providing short term free of charge cycle loans to local people for recreational use and to access training and employment opportunities. 109 recycled bikes were used on the scheme during the year.

Education and Awareness Raising

Supported Middlesbrough's Fairtrade Town programme, including a joint event with Stockton and Hartlepool to celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight and free Fairtrade refreshments in the Cycle Centre.

The total number of people taking part in the One Planet Pioneers young people's project passed 1500, with 200 obtaining a qualification. By March 2019, 15 apprentices had completed their training, with 11 entering employment.

Improving the Environment

MEC supported Middlesbrough Council Stronger Communities with improvements to Marton Library and Community Hub. The MEC apprentice team planted raised beds with shrubs and perennials to attract pollinating insects. Three orchards were also created with community groups supported by Trees for Cities.



2018/19 Achievements

Reducing the Use of Resources

Working with installers to access around

£650,000

of government ECO grants for home energy efficiency measures.

Providing energy efficiency and fuel tariff switching support to

943 people.

Increasing understanding of fuel poverty amongst **211** front-line staff through training.

Promoting Healthier Lifestyles

180 residents from BME communities took part in the **New Life New You** programme, to reduce their risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

Worked with Investing in People and Culture on the development and management of the **Albert Park Community Allotment**.

101 healthy cooking workshops working with **373** people.

Town Meal attracted **5,000** people

Joined **Veg Cities** campaign, working with community partners including Teesside University.

Supported the development of “**You've Got This**” with Redcar and Cleveland and Middlesbrough Councils – one of twelve **Sport England** flagship pilots across England to increase physical activity.

promoting healthy and sustainable lifestyles

Sustainable Transport

Middlesbrough Cycle Centre and Shopmobility, over **10,000** uses during the year.

54 Dr Bike cycle safety checks and minor repairs for **414** cyclists.

815 Bikeability road safety places delivered.

165 guided cycle rides with **507** participants.

37 cycle maintenance courses for **97** participants.

496 Walking for Health walks run by local volunteers, with **1,999** walkers.

Sugar Smart recruited **34** organisations, all committed to reducing sugar consumption in their settings.

11 Level 2 Food Safety courses held, training **73** people.

Continued to deliver Middlesbrough's urban farming programme. This included providing training for residents in food growing skills and supporting the town's allotment sites.

Education and Awareness Raising

Annual programme of events to support Middlesbrough's Fairtrade Town programme.

One Planet Pioneers, part of the **Our Bright Future** national programme, has over the last three years provided training in environmental skills to **15** apprentices and engaged over **1500** young people in environmental activities.



MIDDLESBROUGH
Environment City

*promoting healthy
and sustainable
lifestyles*



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