**Thames Valley Vision**

[**Low Carbon Day: The Results!**](http://www.thamesvalleyvision.co.uk/2014/04/low-carbon-day-the-results/)

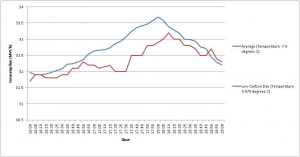
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**Bracknell Low Carbon Day: The Results**

Last Thursday 6th March marked Bracknell Low Carbon Day and an opportunity for the local community to send a message to the rest of the UK about our commitment to taking practical action against climate change. The crux of the event took place between 17:00-18:00 where we invited you to reduce your electricity usage for an hour to raise awareness of the costly, carbon intensive peaks that put strain on the electricity network.

News of the event was received with great enthusiasm across all spectrums of the community in the weeks preceding Low Carbon Day 2014, creating a buzz across the borough. On the day of 6th March Thames Valley Vision Customer and Stakeholder Manager: Mark Stannard, performed a live acoustic gig in Bracknell’s Princess Square and was shortly after broadcast live on BBC Berkshire encouraging people to join the community effort taking place later that day. From here we switched-off electrics in Your Energy Matters (our energy advisory centre located in Bracknell high-street), organised a Demand Response load-shed on local businesses and left the hour-reduction in the hands of you, the community to take action!

We have since been collating results from Bracknell Primary Substation and comparing the shape of consumption from 17:00-18:00 on Low Carbon Day to that of the ‘average weekday’. We calculated this by taking the last 10 work-days, and comparing them with the load-profile on Low Carbon Day. (Please note that we have not adjusted these results with regards to temperature, average temperatures are shown in the key). The results we found were impressive to say the least; as you can see from the graph below the impact that residents in and around Bracknell had in mitigating the 17:00-18:00 peak was enormous. The average reduction from 17:00-18:00 on Low Carbon Day was 0.74MW/h, which translates to almost 8000 less kettles boiled across the hour! This peaked at 17:30 where the reduction reached a massive 1.07MW/h, equal to a 3.24% reduction on the average peak!

[](http://www.thamesvalleyvision.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/reduction-graph1.jpg)

First of all massive congratulations should be issued to all those residents in and around Bracknell who participated in Low Carbon Day 2014, your contribution has made a real tangible impact in clipping the network peak. Your commitment should be seen as a forward thinking example to the rest of the UK that we are committed to sustainability; and that through everyday lifestyle changes we can all play a part in contributing to this future. The feedback received following our event from those involved has been unbelievably encouraging and brings a great lift to the whole team to continue such awareness events into the future that can spread from its foundations here in Bracknell. David Ferguson, a keen Thames Valley Vision Project Participant said: “I switched everything off other than my TV for the hour and completely forgot about time, carrying on till 8pm! It was easy.”

\*Figures based on 1L of water taking 2.7 minutes to boil in a 3KW kettle.

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