

Secondly, support the development of renewable energy:

- Switch to a green electricity supplier. Contact: www.U-switch.co.uk for advice.
- Find out about Renewable Energy projects in your area and lobby to support good ones.
- Consider installing small scale Renewable Energy systems in your own home and place of work.

Some options worth considering are:

1. **Solar water heating.** Contact EST (see over) for advice about systems. A domestic system costs around £4,000 installed and government grants are available from: www.clear-skies.org.uk or Tel: 08702 430 93 for information.
2. **A grid linked solar PV or wind turbine system.** Contact EST (see over) for advice, www.solarpvgrants.co.uk for solar PV funding (50% of total cost) or www.clear-skies.org.uk for wind turbine funding.
3. **A wood burner** Contact www.clear-skies.org.uk Tel: 08702 430 93 for grants for large community size (e.g. for schools or village halls) wood burners. Costs for small domestic size stoves vary from £300 to over £1,000. N.B. wood burners are carbon neutral, if replacement trees are planted.

More contacts/suppliers:

1. Dorset Community Renewables. Contact: Keith Wheaton-Green: wheatongreens@tiscali.co.uk
2. Solar water heating systems: Contact: Solar Trade Association Tel: 01908 442290 or www.solartradeassociation.org.uk for local installers
3. Green electricity supplier: We recommend Ecotricity. Contact: www.ecotricity.org.uk

Find out more:

1. Bournemouth, Dorset & Poole Renewable Energy Strategy & Action Plan. Contact: Kate Hall. Tel: 01305 224774.
2. "Energy, a beginners guide" from: www.eeru.open.ac.uk/natta/energy (cost £3 for hard copy)
3. Renewable Energy: Power for a Sustainable Future. G. Boyle (Open University book: cost £28)
4. Climate change and sustainable energy: Sir John Houghton, lecture to Royal Society of the Arts, May 2005, www.theRSA.org
5. "How we can save the planet" by Mayer Hillman (Penguin 2004).

Dorset Agenda 21 is a local charity promoting sustainable living. We organise visits and meetings to learn more about **energy efficiency** and **renewable energy**. We have an online discussion group at: www.groups.yahoo.com/group/DA21

In our new project, 'Community Choices for Sustainable Living' (CCSL), we are looking for people who want to join Action Groups, who will explore a more sustainable lifestyle. If you would like to know more, Please contact:

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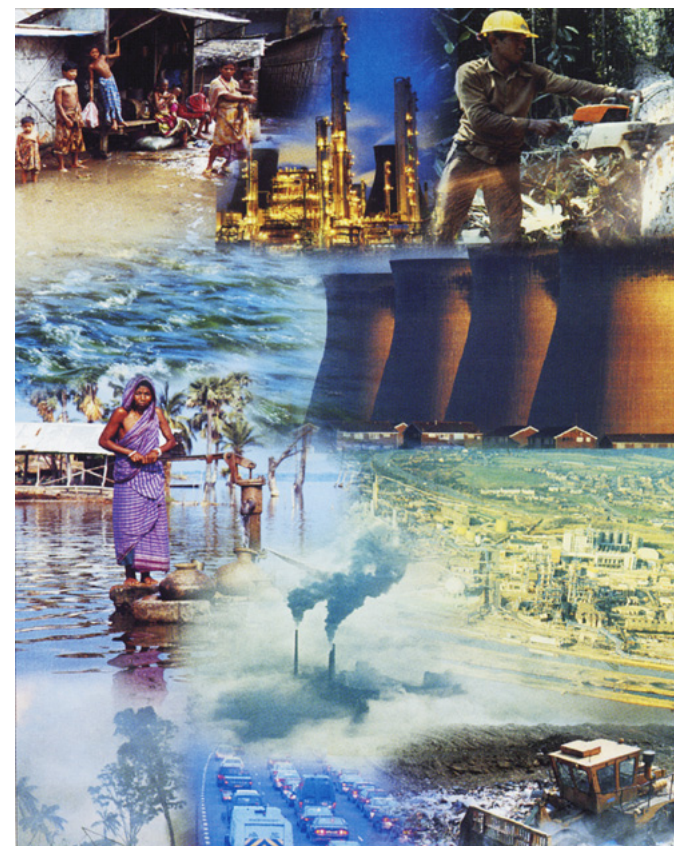
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Dorset Agenda 21



Energy, Global Warming and Climate Change



Take action now to counter Global Warming, the most serious environmental threat facing our planet. Help to create a safer, more stable world for us all

Our vision for the future

We limit climate change by using less fossil fuels, oil, coal and gas, and by using them more efficiently.

We progressively replace fossil fuels by renewable energy sources, e.g solar, wind and water power.

Why worry?

Extreme weather events, like storms, droughts and floods, now happen more frequently around the world.

Fossil fuels provide almost all of the UK's energy. Their burning produces **carbon dioxide**, the major contributor to the greenhouse effect and global warming, which is causing climate change.

The unprecedented rate of increase in the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, with the resulting global warming, is melting the frozen tundra of Siberia and warming marshy areas around the world. This releases much more **methane**, which is a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide. The resulting accelerated global warming, due to both carbon dioxide and methane, may tip the world's climate over the point of no return. The increasing rapidity at which the polar ice caps are melting is evidence that this may be happening.

"Climate change is the most severe problem we are facing today, more serious even than the threat of terrorism" (Sir David King, Government Chief Scientist).

The big idea

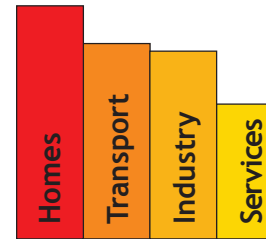
Fossil fuels will run out one day, making our current high energy use life-style unsustainable. The reserves of coal, oil and gas, that we are rapidly using up, can be thought of as a one-off injection of energy capital. We must use this resource wisely, to develop the infrastructure and know-how to harness sustainable

non-fossil sources of energy for the future. N.B. nuclear energy, seen by some as a temporary solution to global warming, is not a renewable energy source.

The facts

Where is energy used in the UK?

Homes use 31%,
Transport uses 26%,
Industry uses 25% and
Services 18%.



It's already happening here in Dorset



Dave and Anne Rickard installed solar panels not long after moving into their home in Martinstown 14 years ago. It's a Listed Building and the planners required them to install the panels on a West-facing roof, facing the back garden, rather than the more efficient South-facing front roof

However, the panels provide all their hot water in the summer – no mean feat with a teenager in the house! The system has never leaked, only needs servicing every 5 years and, says Anne, there is the satisfaction of 'bathing in yesterday's sunshine!'

In Dorset, **total energy use** is 28,000 kWh per person, per year, of which electricity is about one third. This total energy used produces 7 tonnes of carbon dioxide gas per person, enough to fill 7 hot air balloons.

In 2002, only **3% of UK electricity** was generated from Renewable Energy (RE) sources. The government target is for 10% to be generated from RE by 2010.

The 2003 government White Paper on Energy sets the goal of a 60% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2050.

What can you do?

Firstly, use less energy:

- Switch off unnecessary lights, use low energy light bulbs and don't leave appliances, e.g. TVs, on standby.

Contact:

Energy Saving Trust (EST) Tel: 0845 727 7200 or www.saveyour20percent.co.uk

Also contact your local HECA council officer:

Bournemouth: 01202 451 451

Christchurch: 01202 495 000

Poole: 01202 633 633

East Dorset: 01202 886 201

North Dorset: 01258 454 111

Purbeck: 01929 556 561

West Dorset: 01305 251 010

Weymouth & Portland: 01305 838 000

- When buying electrical appliances, look for those with the highest energy efficiency rating. Do all your washing at 40°C, or less.
- Lower the setting of heating thermostats by a few degrees.
- Improve house insulation and draught proofing. Contact: EST, as above, for information about grant schemes and suppliers in your area.