



Fit for  
the Future



A Network for  
Environmental  
Practitioners

# Impact Report 2017



# Welcome

The urgent need to curb our environmental impacts is, thankfully, more widely understood than ever. As the repercussions of climate change are experienced both here in the UK and globally, it is no longer an issue that we can afford to debate.

The influence of those charities, heritage organisations, businesses and many others that have been finding practical ways to operate without damaging the environment should not be underestimated. We want to thank the hundreds of people within Fit for the Future for demonstrating that it's possible and, moreover, that it makes business sense. By reducing emissions, avoiding fossil fuels, and finding clean and effective ways to produce energy, our members are becoming climate friendly and resilient.

Since 2012, Fit for the Future has gone from a bright idea to a thriving network of more than one hundred organisations.

Our members are sharing their knowledge and expertise, supporting each other to achieve success, inspiring others to follow. Five years on and our work on energy has expanded to address much wider sustainability issues. We're also thrilled to be collaborating with organisations such as the Heritage Lottery Fund. I look forward to more bright ideas this year, and welcoming new organisations to our diverse and active network.



Sir Ed Davey



## The Network

**Fit for the Future**  
is connecting

**607**  
environmental  
practitioners

from

**102**  
organisations



These organisations own

**30,497** buildings

**815,290** hectares  
of land



In 2017 they consumed

**642GWh** of energy.

In 2017

members avoided spending  
**£6.97m**  
on fossil-fuel produced energy

by generating  
**48,471,126kWh**  
of renewable energy for themselves..

enough renewable energy  
to power a mansion house  
looked after by the National  
Trust for **138 years!**

...that's  
**53%**  
more **clean energy**  
**generated** than  
last year

Members saved

**3,859 tonnes** of CO<sub>2</sub>  
in 2017 by reducing gas, oil and electricity consumption...

...the equivalent of taking

**757 cars**  
off the road for a year.

# Connections and Collaborations



**Hannah,**  
*Blenheim Palace*

**Hannah** from Blenheim Palace is learning about financial sustainability reporting from **Richard** at Adnams, to **demonstrate the business case for sustainability**



**Richard,**  
*Adnams*

**Richard** at Adnams borrowed a thermal imaging camera from **Keith** at National Trust, to **map where buildings were leaking heat and save money on energy bills**



**Keith,**  
*National Trust*



**Lucinda,**  
*University of Oxford*

**Lucinda** from the University of Oxford shared advice with **Richard** from Royal Botanic Gardens Kew so that he could **successfully complete a biomass boiler project**



**Richard,**  
*Royal Botanic Gardens Kew*

**Richard** from Royal Botanical Gardens Kew delivered a peer consultancy to share advice with **Bodnant Gardens** – **resulting in a costed action plan for water management**



**Bodnant**  
**Gardens**



**Lisa,**  
*Geffrye Museum*

**Lisa** from Geffrye Museum tested an energy data platform at **Cancer Research UK's** office to **find the best platform for their new capital project**



**Cancer**  
**Research UK**

**John** from Oxford House and **Lisa** from Geffrye Museum are linking up to **share experiences and resources as they both deliver heritage capital projects**



**John,**  
*Oxford House*



**Lucy,**  
*WWT*

**Lucy** from WWT sent her top tips on energy efficiency to **Louise** from Union Street which **confirmed their priorities and is informing investment plans**



**Louise,**  
*Union Street*



# 100%

of members  
recommend the  
Network

# Why energy savings make business sense

Manchester Museum's energy savings could pay for the conservation of

08

Egyptian mummies

Cancer Research's energy savings\* could pay for

03

microscopes to detect, monitor and track tumours  
\*Over the last three years

National Trust's gas savings could pay for



7,105



metres of coastal wildlife trails

The University of Chester's energy savings could pay for

1,167



books for the university library

The Canal & River Trust's energy savings could pay for

12



hand-crafted new lock gates

Colchester Borough Council's energy savings could pay for



63

workplace electric charge points



# Helping members find practical solutions

## Peer consultancies

Our peer consultancies are a tailored review of your site or project by Network members with relevant knowledge and experience.

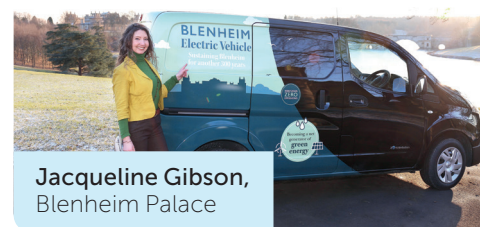
Lambeth Palace wanted to evaluate their overall energy performance. Experienced practitioners from National Trust and Historic England visited the Palace and helped staff to identify energy saving solutions. Historic England loaned Lambeth monitoring equipment, and this alongside the review has given staff a better understanding of the building's performance. They are now looking at how the building is used in the long-term.



## Tailored link ups

The Network team acts as an 'environmental dating agency', arranging meetings, facilitating partnerships, and linking up so you can connect and collaborate.

"Through the Network we were able to discuss and learn about the many options to go electric in the market place. Having tried and tested a few different models, we were pleased to introduced our first electric Nissan vehicles to the estate in February. We are actively engaging with One Planet Living to embed sustainable construction and design principles into our forthcoming planned housing projects. Finally, thanks to the Network we have been able to proactively address the issue of waste and as such, have appointed a Waste Contractor to act as our one point of contact. This means we can have consistent reporting and projected cost savings from day one."



Jacqueline Gibson,  
Blenheim Palace

## Events

The events we organise across the UK give you the tools, information and contacts you need to successfully deliver your projects.

Networking at our Buildings for the Future conference has led to an informal partnership between the RNLI and National Trust. The two facilities teams have regular meetings planned to discuss common challenges and share approaches. Furthermore Victoria from the RNLI heard a presentation from another Network member, which has prompted her to simplify their energy monitoring and try new techniques to reduce consumption.





# Network success stories



**Oliver Ingwall-King**  
Energy Advisor,  
West Suffolk Council

Forest Heath & St Edmundsbury councils

**West Suffolk**  
working together

Advice from the Network meant I easily saved between £3,500 and £5,000 on consultancy fees. I wanted to get a biomass boiler installed but the procurement and specification process was such a minefield! Through the Network I visited other biomass projects, I was also able to chat to a number of members about their different experiences, as well as get some advice from an installation company at an event. This meant that I could make decisions with a lot more confidence and knowledge. We now have a very successful biomass boiler that is saving us £1,300 a year – the equivalent of an additional 765 visitors to the council museum – as well as 66 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>. I have since been able to pass on my knowledge of biomass technology to other members.

Our biomass boiler that is saving us

**£1,300  
a year...**

...equivalent to an additional  
**765 visitors  
to the council  
museum.**



**Dean Holland**  
Acting Chief Executive,  
Farms for City Children

We have saved several thousand pounds in consultancy fees thanks to the Network. We needed some specialist advice on our reed beds and the Network linked us up with the Wildfowl and Wetland Trust. They gave us several hours of their time, along with a site visit and have hugely helped us with our plans. Conversations with other Network members, such as the Field Studies Council, have also given us the confidence to incorporate environmental issues in our new strategic plan.



**Caroline Cattini**  
Senior Engineer and Energy Manager,  
Historic England



Historic England

Input from Fit for the Future members has enabled Historic England to publish practical and relevant guidance on installing heat pumps. I was tasked with rewriting the guidance, but I felt I was lacking some key practical and technical knowledge. I approached the Network and both members who got in touch had a lot of experience with real life projects. They provided such helpful insights and I feel the final publication will be of real benefit to other practitioners.

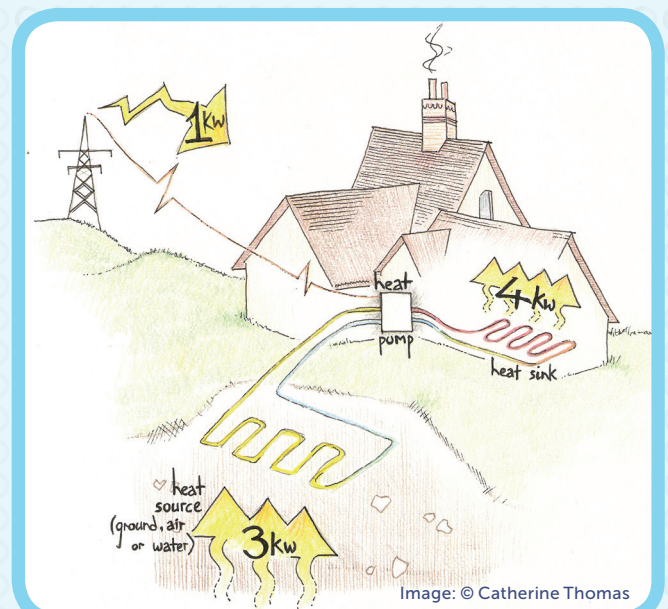


Image: © Catherine Thomas



# Inspirational member projects

44 tonnes



**The Crown Estate** working with Regent Street Management has implemented a scheme to consolidate deliveries on Regent Street, reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 44 tonnes and particulate matter by 8kg...the equivalent of a car driving over 6,200 times round the M25.

58 tonnes

As part of its Renewable Energy Investment programme, **National Trust** completed 21 renewables projects in 2017. These included hydro schemes at Hause Gill and Gelli Iago, and a 200kwh biomass boiler at Knightshayes. The biomass boiler alone will save an estimated 58 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> each year.

£45,000

**Oxford University** replaced 1,696 halogen lights in the Ashmolean Gallery with LEDs, with a projected cost saving of £45,000 p.a. and a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 236 tonnes.

72%

**The RNLI** carried out a retrofitting project on one of their coastal lifeboat stations, improving the building fabric, upgrading the lights, and installing a ground source heat pump. The result is a more user-friendly, comfortable building and a reduction in heating loads of 72%.

40%

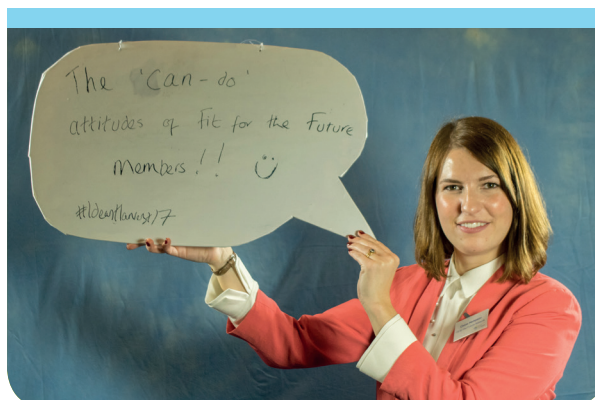
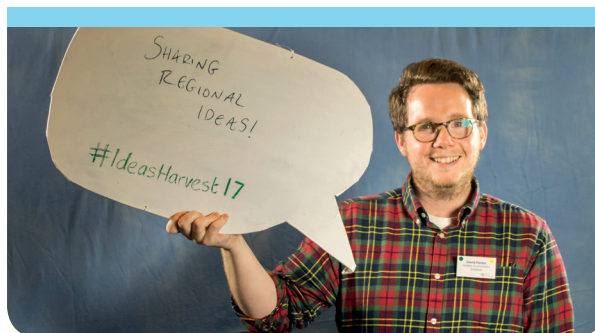


Working collaboratively with the Royal Household, **Historic Environment Scotland** successfully reduced carbon emissions by 40% at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, using thermal imaging to identify heat loss and putting in place measures such as insulation and boiler improvements.



## What has inspired our members this year?

#IdeasHarvest17





# What we've learnt this year and looking forward

## **75% of you are interested in taking action on climate change adaptation,**

but half of you currently don't have adaptation as part your role. This year we launched a working group, which is developing an action plan to ensure all our members can begin to engage with climate change adaptation.

## **You are keen to find out who else is in the Network,**

so our new website will have an improved Members Area. This will include member profiles, resources and an online forum.

## **Fit for the Future is most effective when dealing with practical solutions**

and we will continue to work with practitioners who are delivering solutions at the coal face.

## **Making the business case for sustainability remains a challenge,**

so we will run events and share case studies to help you make the case internally.

## **Taking a holistic approach to sustainability is important to you,**

so we will be covering a broader range of topics in 2018 as part of our new strategy – including plenty of site visits.



## **Get Involved**

For more information about joining or supporting the Fit for the Future Network, contact Fergus Rolfe: [info@fftf.org.uk](mailto:info@fftf.org.uk)

Or visit [www.fftf.org.uk](http://www.fftf.org.uk)  
or [@F4F\\_Network](https://twitter.com/F4F_Network)