

T172 Audio Notes

Green Gauge – Band 1 – Tape 1

Various people telling how green or environmentally friendly they are.

EcoCal was launched in 1996, by Going for the Green charity. It showed was your ecological impact on the environment. Comes as a paper or in a computer version. It shows various wastes put out by a household. These include Transport, Energy use, Water consumption, Shopping, House & Garden, Waste. This produces your ecological footprint.

Everyone produces waste.

Gives you a simple one figure to look at your total environmental impact. You can compare your footprint your actual impact with what is sustainable. Measuring against some finite resources is a good way to measure this.

100 EcoCals equals 1 hectare of land or roughly how much land you consume.

EcoCal designed their form - time is short for people, had to be simple to use.

EcoCal can depend on time of year you do the survey. But for the most part it balances out.

200-500 EcoCal calories. Ours is 88!! Low-end household had a score of 100 EcoCal. High end would be 41 hectares or 1400!!

Worst scores are usually in Transport. This is a hard thing to alter because of public transport not being very good in most areas.

Direct energy use is also a big user. It is in ours.

EcoCal is a catalyst for helping you improve your calorie score. Hints and tips are included in the paper and computerised version.

Limitations of the package – the better the data going in the better the data coming out.

EcoCal focuses more on energy and resource use to model the environmental impact of household activities.

EcoCal footprint of cities is now possible and also entire countries.

We all must be aware of our impact and our usage and be flexible in altering those patterns to better save those resources that are finite.

Everyone has to try and contribute to saving our resources. One person can make a difference.

Sustainable Communities – Band 1 – Tape 2

Future has to have an approach of higher density and more autonomy or autonomous approach on a larger basis.

More people are now thinking about sustainability

What is the sustainable community? Its Environmental the social side of things, ultimately it has to be financially sustainable. Sustainability has to have a realistic approach. How things work, how people go about things.

Beddington Zero Energy Development Project (Bedzed ?). Located in London and was a local dumping ground for sewage and industrial waste.

Urban development village is how Bedzed came about. A sustainable community located in London. Bedzed projects aim is to be energy efficient for the homes and office buildings. Passive solar heating, well insulated, can reduce energy requirements.

Will maximise natural resources – sun, wind, rainwater.

Problems – design is radical and the buildings look unusual. Education has had to be used to let people know what is happening in the community.

Tree surgery waste will provide energy for heating. Excess will be sold back to the National Grid.

Bedzed project was picked because of its very good transport links.

Water supply – waste treatment. Rainwater will be collected and used for gardens, toilets. So water demand is minimised. Waste is collected and settlements are collected and stored. Water is drained off and put back into the system.

Wetland plants are used to help clean the water. Closely mimic nature. Final product is untreated water used for crops and such.

Interest in the environment cuts across all socio-economic populations/classes.

Sustainable communities are about taking things out of building and not about adding things to those buildings.

Bedzed thinks it will be the largest zero carbon impact community.

Nottinghamshire – Community wanted to know how to move forward to support the community from mine closing.

Pit closure has severe impacts on the community.

Local people set up the Ollerton economic forum - aim to bring the people, government and business communities together. Renewable energy - Sherwood Energy project.

Its own bio-mass fuelled power plant.

Housing will be self-built and houses built with energy savings in mind.

Public transport isn't that great so they are trying to bring jobs to the village.

Want people to come on the site to share the vision of the community – sustainability is the underlying theme.

Can have many shares but they will each have only one vote!