



ISLINGTON

ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 September 2021

SECOND DESPATCH

Please find enclosed the following items:

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| Item 5 | Net Zero Carbon Strategy Progress Report (Quarter 1) | 13 - 24 |

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Together we can make
Islington net zero carbon
by 2030



ISLINGTON

Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

Page 1

Net Zero Carbon Programme

Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Buildings

September 2021

Agenda Item B1



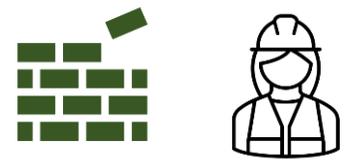
Sections

1. **Scope** – What we are focusing on today
2. **The challenge** – What we are trying to address
3. **Our objectives** – How we will address the challenge
4. **Deliverables** – What we have achieved so far, and what we want to achieve in the next 12 months for council buildings
5. **Deliverables** – What we have achieved so far, and what we want to achieve in the next 12 months for non-council buildings

1. Scope



Council offices, business premises and community buildings



Non council offices, business premises and community buildings



2. The challenge

Reducing carbon emissions from commercial, industrial and public sector buildings, which consist of (2019 BEIS data):

- **158,822** tonnes from electricity (54%)
- **124,080** tonnes from gas (42%)
- **9,892** tonnes from 'other' fuels (3%)
- **166** tonnes from large industrial installations and agriculture (0.06%)

33% of borough emissions are from commercial buildings, 7% from public sector buildings and 6% from industrial buildings.

Emissions from gas in commercial buildings is one of the few areas with no emission reduction since 2005 (it has increased by 4%).

3. Our objectives

To **reduce** carbon emissions from our buildings, we have the following priorities:

- Replace gas heating with **zero carbon alternatives**
- Maximise energy efficiency of buildings through **insulation and retrofit**
- Maximise **on-site renewables**
- Purchase any remaining electricity needs from **renewable sources** (already done)

3. Our objectives

To **reduce** carbon emissions from other commercial/industrial/public sector buildings, we will have to:

- **Raise awareness** of the need to act – why climate change is a big issue.
- **Encourage** local organisations to act.
- **Provide support** for local organisations to act.

4. Deliverables – council buildings

Key priority:

- Replacing gas boilers in council buildings and improving energy efficiency
- Assess the suitability of our corporate estate for installing solar panels

What we have achieved so far:

- Identified the **buildings in scope** for feasibility studies – all non-Housing and non-school sites
- Developed a **specification** for feasibility studies to assess buildings, including identifying:
 - The most cost-effective zero carbon heating system to replace gas boilers, including possible connection to or creation of new district heating networks.
 - Energy efficiency improvements that can be made, including insulation, glazing, heating controls, lighting upgrades, passive cooling measures.
 - Additional needs for sites, including electrical supply upgrades (taking into account future EV charging).
 - Barriers for each site, including local grid capacity and planning permission requirements.
- (Unsuccessfully) applied to the **Low Carbon Skills Fund** for a grant to carry out the feasibility studies to produce a Heat Decarbonisation Plan for 57 corporate buildings with gas heating.

4. Deliverables – council buildings

Key priority:

- Replacing gas boilers in council buildings and improving energy efficiency
- Assess the suitability of our corporate estate for installing solar panels

What we want to achieve in the next 12 months:

- Procure and complete the **feasibility studies**
- Prioritise buildings for work and create a **retrofit programme** timeline
- Identify and try and secure **funding** to start delivery

5. Deliverables – schools

Key priority:

- Deliver the net zero agenda in schools the council is responsible for and encourage it in others

Scope:

- Schools under the council's direct responsibility – 30 community primaries, 3 community nurseries, 6 secondary schools, SEN schools and PRUs
- Also want to work together with other schools – voluntary aided, academies and free schools

Work done and planned:

- Successfully applied to the Low Carbon Skills Fund (Nov 2020) for project development funding for pilot feasibility studies at three schools (Beacon High, Drayton Park Primary, New River College). The reports will allow applications for funding to decarbonise buildings as it becomes available.
- Recently applied to the Low Carbon Skills Fund to carry out feasibility studies on 20 additional schools. We were unsuccessful due to an oversubscription of the fund, but there is another opportunity to apply on 13 September.
- Schools page planned for net zero information website with ideas for teachers and students

6. Deliverables – non-council buildings

Commercial and
Industrial buildings

Residential Homes

Key priority:

- Raise awareness of the need to act among other organisations
- Provide support for organisations to act

What we have achieved so far:

- Launched the **Energising Small Business Fund**, offering grants to small businesses for energy efficiency improvements.
- Launched the **Islington Community Energy Fund**, which offers grants to organisation for innovative energy projects, which include energy efficiency measures for buildings.
- Promoted the **Solar Together** scheme to encourage small businesses to install solar PV.
- Continued to support the **Islington Sustainable Energy Partnership (ISEP)**, which brings together organisations in the borough that are interested in sustainability.

6. Deliverables – non-council buildings

Key priority:

- Raise awareness of the need to act among other organisations
- Provide support for organisations to act

What we want to achieve in the next 12 months:

- Start a **business audit scheme** for small businesses (planned for September).
- Launch a new **net zero information website** with a section dedicated to businesses (November). This will include information on what organisations can do and how they can do it.
- Get organisations to pledge action using a **pledge tool** being developed for the net zero website (November)
- Refocus **ISEP** to the net zero agenda and make it more targeted towards smaller businesses.
- Regularly communicate the need to act and positive examples of action as part of our **net zero comms**.

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Net Zero Carbon Strategy

Quarterly progress report (Quarter 4)

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Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
14 September 2021

Agenda Item B5



Synopsis

- The progress against the delivery of commitments in the Net Zero Carbon 2030 strategy will be reported on a quarterly basis through the Council’s Scrutiny function. The aim is to provide reporting of progress that is transparent, easily accessible to the community and ensures accountability to residents.
- This report is split into two sections:
 1. an up-to-date **overall summary of progress** and **performance** on the delivery of commitments based on the dates set out in the Net Zero Carbon strategy.
 2. a more detailed breakdown of individual **strategy commitments with delivery dates that are due before and during Quarter 1 (April to June 2021)**
- The progress update on commitments are organised according to the eight different programme workstreams that are responsible for the delivery of actions. These work streams are:
 - Buildings, Housing, Commercial and Infrastructure
 - Transport
 - Sustainable and affordable energy
 - Natural environment, waste reduction and recycling
 - Green Economy
 - Planning
 - Finance and Investment
 - Engagement and Communications

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Overall summary of progress

Summary position on the progress being made on the delivery of commitments set out in the Net Zero Carbon strategy.

Some key progress highlights

- Making good progress in developing the requirements for the delivery of the Islington climate change festival which is due to take place in October 2021
 - Community Municipal Investment (CMI) proposals currently going through approval process, with a firm commitment to launch the CMI on/around COP26
 - Secured c.£3m of additional programme funding through the carbon offset fund
 - Secured other external funding to support priority activity, including Green Home Grants Two funding to upgrade homes across the borough (approx £750k)
 - Established the governance model and working groups in our role as lead authority on the Renewable Power for London work stream, one of the work streams on the London climate change programme
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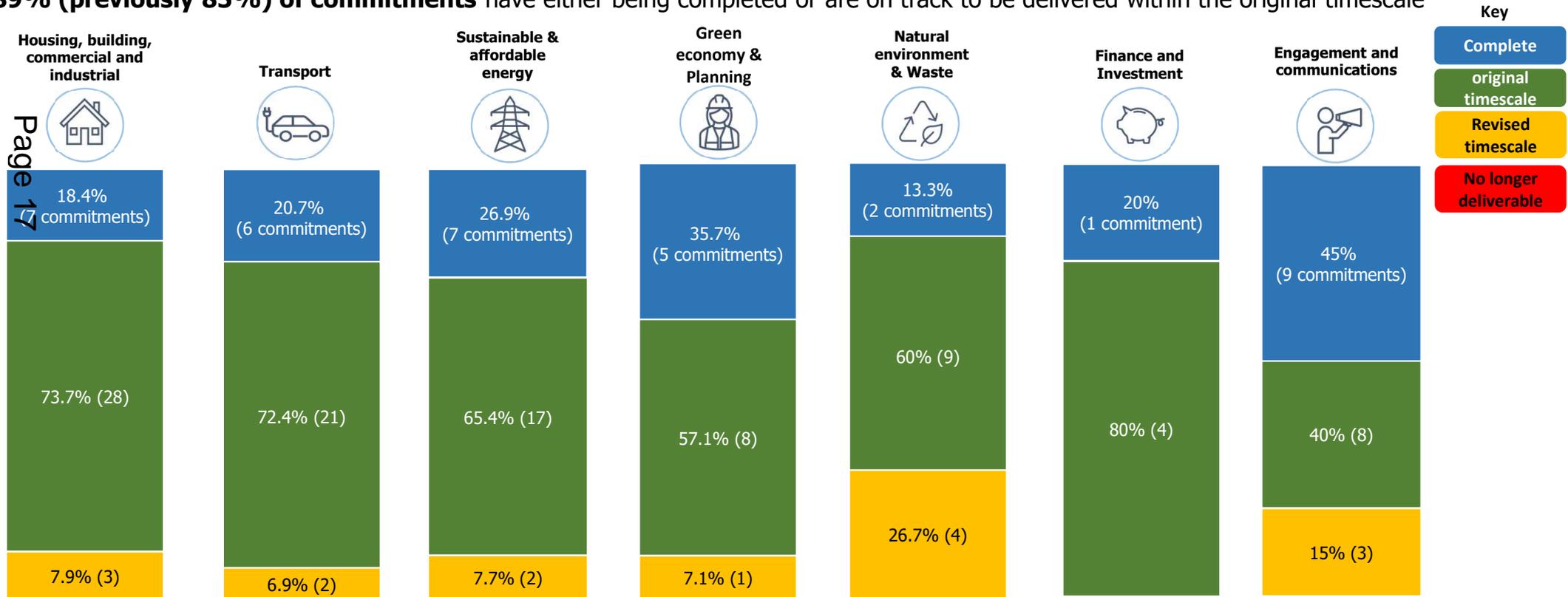
Overall summary of progress

- We have implemented the switch to renewable sources for 100% of electricity being used across our corporate buildings
 - We continue to deliver on major transport priority areas including launching the eco - mooring zone electric charging bollards and completing the works on the York Way cycle lane
 - ¹⁶Completion of the first phase report by University College London to develop a road map for how we achieve Net Zero Carbon with our existing housing stock. Stage 2 approach is now being developed
 - ¹⁶Good progress on the new local plan with several key milestones achieved as part of the work to draft and adopt the new plan
 - Developed social value guidance in draft form to include integrating net zero objectives into the awarding of all contracts
- 

Performance

Up to date (end of August) overview of progress being made on the delivery of all commitments based on the original dates and timescales set out in the Net Zero Carbon strategy.

89% (previously 85%) of commitments have either being completed or are on track to be delivered within the original timescale



The following pages provide a more detailed breakdown of, and commentary on individual **strategy commitments with delivery dates that are due before and during Quarter 1 (April to June 2021)**

Strategy commitments that are due before and up to June 2021 (year end 2020/21)

Buildings, Housing, Commercial and Infrastructure

Workstream	Owner	Commitments	Due dates	Revised date	
Buildings, Housing, Commercial and Infrastructure	Matt West	Council new build	Introduce new measures to ensure that development plans, wherever possible, make a positive contribution to the protection, enhancement, creation and management of biodiversity and improved carbon absorption	Apr 21	Oct 21
			Finalise decarbonising new homes strategy with agreed implementation plan	Feb-21	June 21 Complete
		Private rented housing	Work with landlords of privately rented domestic properties, through our HMO licensing function, to ensure that their properties are compliant with (MEES) - <i>Landlord awareness/ engagement programme</i>	Apr 21	Oct 21
			Proactively enforce the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards for all other privately rented housing through our Trading Standards team - <i>End project- review and evaluate</i>	Apr 21	Oct 21
		Existing council stock	Emerging low carbon heating technologies - Overview assessment (University College London work)	April 21	July 21 Complete

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Progress update

- **Existing housing stock** - University of College London Phase 1 report to design a roadmap towards how we achieve Net Zero Carbon with our existing council stock is now complete. Stage 2 approach to be agreed.
- Successfully secured Green Homes Grant 2 funding – management agent and project manager now appointed to work on the project
- **Decarbonisation of new homes** - Work and research to extend our strategy to include the public realm is underway, with key stakeholders and consultant support engaged. The due date has been revised to acknowledge the far-reaches and implications this strategy could have and decisions that will need to be made, particularly on sensitive issues such as tree loss, mitigation/offsetting
- **Private residential properties** - Landlord awareness engagement activity to be informed by newly drafted stakeholder engagement strategy and associated activities



Transport

Workstream	Owner	Commitments	Original due dates	Revised date
Page 19	Martijn Cooijmans	Reduce need for cars by delivering a network of high quality segregated cycle lanes: York Way, Balls Pond Road, Green Lanes, Highbury Fields to Finsbury Park and Liverpool Road to Penton Street	Apr'21	July 21 Complete
		Enable Vehicle 2 Grid1 (V2G) at locations with parked vehicles, expanding on the Town Hall V2G trial: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trial completed (July 2021) Rollout plan agreed, subject to successful trial (September 2021) 	July '21	July '22
		Deliver 8 low traffic Neighbourhoods (<i>including Mayton Street area scheme</i>)	June 21 Complete	
		Install electric charging bollards across all Regents Canal moorings in Islington	Nov 20	July 21 Complete

Progress update

- Eco – mooring zone electric charging bollards launched
- LBI works on York Way cycle lane now complete
- The seven Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTN) have been completed as trials, including Mayton St traffic filtering area (similar to LTN)
- Enable Vehicle 2 Grid1 (V2G)** - Honda supply chain severely disrupted by COVID and bi-directional chargers now not due to be installed until July 2021 before full 12 month trial can commence. The project is now expected to be completed by July 2022

Sustainable and affordable energy

Workstream	Owner	Commitments	Due dates	Revised date
Sustainable and affordable energy	Martijn Coojijmans	Look at opportunities to add new connections to the Bunhill Heat Network, both council and private <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify large heat demands in nearby area 	June '21 Complete	
		Ensure 100% of electricity procured by the council is from certifiable renewable sources and look into procuring 100% renewable electricity for Housing estates and external clients (leisure centres and schools) - <i>Secure funding</i>	Feb-21	July 21 Complete
		Explore the possibility of the council purchasing or building renewable electricity generation assets outside Islington to supply its energy needs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options appraisal (June 2021) 	Jun 21	Oct 21
		Develop two-year work plans for workstreams we are participating in or leading on (Renewable Power for London)	Jan-21	Dec 21

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Progress update

- **Develop two-year work plans for work streams we are participating in or leading on (Renewable Power for London)** – Established the governance model and working groups as lead authority on the Renewable Power for London programme. Groups now mobilised and working towards developing the two year action plans in line with the December 2021 programme deadline set by London Councils
- **Ensure 100% of electricity procured by the council is from certifiable renewable sources** - Carbon offset funding required to procure electricity now approved
- **Explore the possibility of the council purchasing or building renewable electricity generation assets outside Islington** - revised timescale to reflect prioritisation of resources towards Bunhill 2 project management

Green Economy

Workstream	Owner	Deliverables	Due dates	Revised date
Green Economy	Caroline Wilson	Produce a Progressive Procurement Strategy (2020–2027) that embeds the net zero carbon objective and the use of social value clauses covering environmental impacts in the council’s purchasing decisions, using contract-specific approaches and by actively engaging with suppliers to find solutions.	Mar-21 Complete	
		Complete the development of a skills strategy that will identify priority areas for ‘green jobs’ and emerging local skills requirements. These could include jobs related to installing insulation, renewable energy and other energy-saving measures, their ongoing maintenance and servicing, sustainable food production and cycle freight	Mar-21	Oct -21

Progress update

- Grant funded **ethical green delivery bike** collective to serve N4 restaurants and takeaways has now launched , and is beginning to build its customer base
- Received a third round of funding from the government to spend on helping Islington businesses recover from the impact of Covid. Part of this funding has been earmarked specifically for **circular economy grants**, and another tranche has been earmarked for the **cargo bike scheme**. We are in the process of setting up the process for this.
- Issued the contract for **green skills training** to be delivered to SME cafes and restaurants in greening their businesses
- Continuing to work closely with our **local economies** to expand the use of cargo bikes, help businesses prevent food waste and gain extra income, and to help people to shop local.
- **Social Value guidance** in draft form to include guidance on integrating net zero objectives into awarding contracts.
- **Anchor institution baselining** assessment underway, including NZ commitments.
- **Complete the development of a skills strategy that will identify priority areas for ‘green jobs’ and emerging local skills requirements** - We are participating in work being done at the London Council level, including a piece of research being commissioned by Central London Forward (CLF) which will inform local skills planning. This will help us to better understand where the local employment opportunities are and what the skills gaps may be. We expect this to focus on green new deal installation work and the councils own new build and maintenance works in the first instance. The revised completion date is now October 2021

Natural environment, waste reduction and recycling

Workstream	Owner	Deliverables	Due dates	Revised date	
Natural environment, Waste reduction and recycling	Tony Ralph	Natural environment	Develop a Community Food Growing Strategy with the aim of identifying more opportunities for food growing in the borough - Completion	Mar-21	Oct 21
			Implement online resident tree planting donation process	Dec-20	Oct 21
		Waste reduction and recycling	Developing a circular economy action plan	Dec-20	Oct 21
			Investigate options and develop a business case for expanding commercial recycling services in the borough	Dec-20	Oct 21

Progress update

Natural environment

- 200 additional trees secured from Forest for Change and partnership with Islington Clean Air Parents
- **Implement online resident tree planting donation process** - A tree planting criteria has been drawn up and it's ready to go live once the web link has been created. This is now ready to launch with a revised date of October 2021 which would bring it in line with the Tree Warden Scheme
- **Community food growing strategy** - Draft strategy complete and now going through approval process. Revised completion date is now October 2021

Waste reduction and recycling

- **Developing a circular economy action plan** – The development of the Circular Economy Action Plan is well underway. The Council is working with ReLondon (London Waste and Recycling Board) to develop priority actions and steps for the Plan. The revised date of delivery is now October 2021

Planning

Workstream	Owner	Deliverables	Due dates	Revised date
Planning	Karen Sullivan	Strengthen existing policies through adoption of the new Local Plan.	Dec 21 original timescale	

Progress update

Number of key milestones have been achieved as part of work to adopt the new Local Plan. This includes:

- Consultation on changes to the Draft Plan - completed in May 2021.
- Consultation responses analysis completed and responses submitted to the Inspector.
- Plan proceeding to the Examination in Public in September 2021.
- Policies on Sustainability to be considered at Hearing on 27 September 2021.

Finance and Investment

Workstream	Owner	Deliverables	Due dates	Revised date
Finance and Investment	Paul Clarke	Development of a Programme Business Case	Feb '21 Complete	

Progress update

- Community Municipal Investment Report currently going through approval process (CMB, Joint Board and then Executive). Officers and councillors are now committed to launching a CMI on/around COP26
- Approval of £3m+ of Carbon Offset Funding to support the programme

Engagement and Communications

Workstream	Owner	Deliverables	Due dates	Revised dates
Engagement and Communications	Lynn Stratton	Set up an online resource for residents to make their own climate emergency declarations - <i>Design and development</i>	June 21	Oct 21
		Agree initial communications and engagement plan	Apr 21	Sep 21
		Raise awareness amongst our public sector partners, e.g. the NHS, the Metropolitan Police and higher and further education institutions, on the importance of this priority and support them to look at their own operations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide input into comms and engagement plan 	Mar 21	Sep 21
		Hold a Net Zero Carbon-themed Citizens' Assembly - <i>Agree approach and scope</i>	Mar-21	July 21 Complete
		Investigate setting up residential and business audit schemes to advise residents and local businesses - <i>Produce options and funding paper</i>	Mar-21	June 21 Complete

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Progress update

- **Energy Hub and Portal** – Good progress, with content now well developed. Aiming to launch prior to COP26 in November
- **Initial communications plan** – Revised timescale to reflect work carried out to develop a stakeholder engagement strategy that will inform the development of the communications plan
- **Islington Climate Change Festival** – The programme is now in the process of developing the requirements for the delivery of the festival which is due to take place in October 2021
- **Residential and Business audit schemes** - Scheme approved and will now focus only on small businesses with launch planned for September