



ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

17 October 2023

SECOND DESPATCH

Please find enclosed the following items:

Item 9	Introduction to Active Travel from Director of Climate Change and Transport	1 - 32
Item 13	Quarter 1 Performance Report (2023/24) - Libraries and Heritage	33 - 40

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Enabling Active Travel

Scrutiny Committee - 17 October 2023

Page 1

Martijn Cooijmans

Director of Climate Change and Transport

Agenda Item 9

Islington Transport Strategy objectives



Objective One: Healthy to encourage and enable residents to walk and cycle as a first choice for local travel.



Objective Two: Safe - To work with the Mayor of London to achieve "Vision Zero" by 2041, and eliminate all deaths and serious injuries on Islington's streets and to reduce the number of minor traffic collisions on our streets.



Objective Three: Carbon neutral and protecting and improving the environment to contribute to the council's commitment to Islington becoming net zero carbon by 2030, to improve air quality, and protect and improve the environment by reducing all forms of transport pollution.

Objective Four: Improved public transport services to work with the Mayor of London, Transport for London and the bus and rail operators to secure investment in the local public transport networks.



Objective Five: Fair, accessible and secure to work with the Mayor of London and the Police to ensure that Islington's transport environment is secure, accessible and affordable for all borough residents.



Objective Six: A fairer local economy to ensure that investment in Islington's transport system supports a fairer, stronger and more resilient local economy.



Objective Seven: Sustainable development to continue to support walking, cycling, public transport and car free development through our planning policies.

Objective Eight: Digital innovation to use new technology to ensure that Islington will be a leader in trialling emerging smart technologies.

Islington Transport Strategy 2020 – 2041

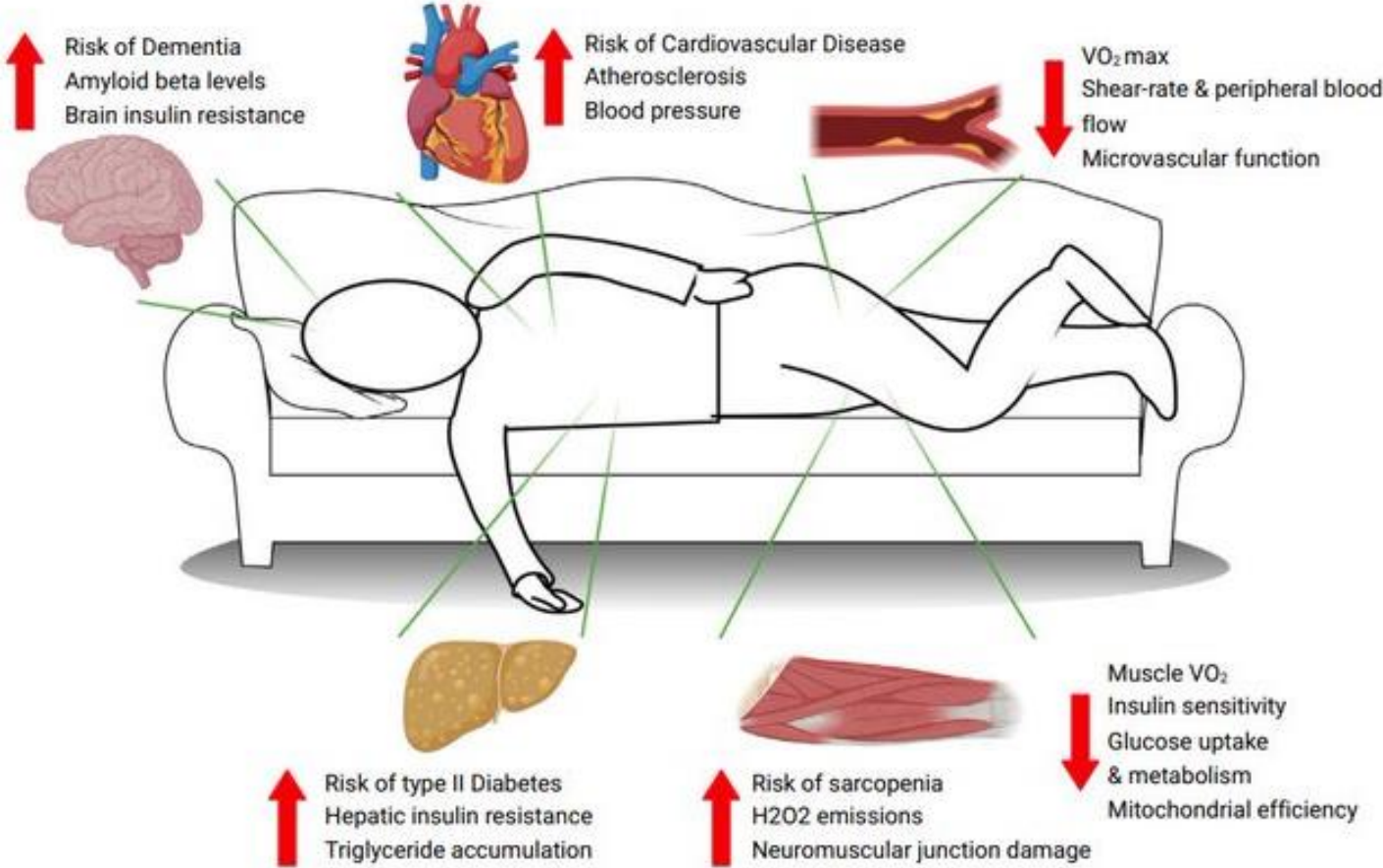


Vision 2030:
Building a Net Zero Carbon
Islington by 2030

Page 2

What are we seeking to solve with active travel?

Consequences of Physical Inactivity and Sedentary Behavior



Progress towards our Transport Strategy goals*

2% increase in active travel and sustainable mode share
85%* of all trips are made by walking, cycling and public transport compared to the ITS target of 90% by 2041

* Based on three-year average period 2017/18 - 2019/20. See page 16 for more information on the trends



Additional 31% of the borough's population within 400m of the strategic cycle network
34%* of the borough's population located within 400m of the strategic cycle network compared to the ITS target of 93% by 2041

* 2021 data. See page 19 for more information on the trends



3% less of the borough's residents doing at least 20 minutes of active travel per day
42%* of borough residents doing at least 20 minutes of active travel per day compared to the ITS target of 70% by 2041

* Based on three-year average period 2017/18 - 2019/20. See page 18 for more information on the trends

33% reduction in the number of Killed and Seriously Injured (KSIs)

84 KSIs* compared to the ITS target of zero KSIs by 2041

* 2020 data. See page 31 for more information on the trends



Which teams are working on active travel?

Climate Change and Transport teams working on active travel:

- ▶ Climate Action
- ▶ Transport Strategy and Air Quality
- ▶ Transport Projects
- ▶ Lighting and Traffic Engineering
- ▶ Highways and Streetworks

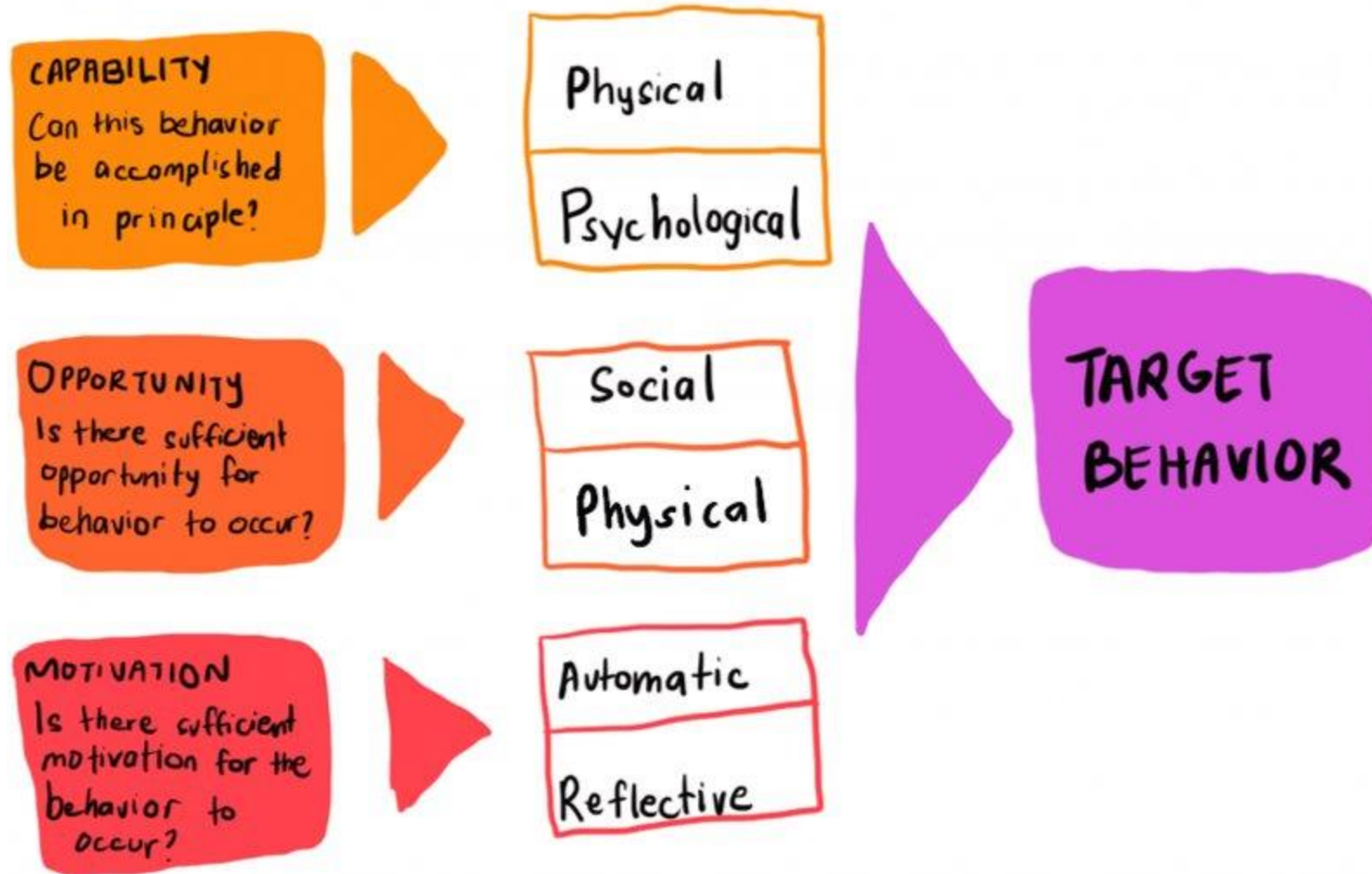
Other council teams:

- ▶ Housing Transport
- ▶ Corporate Fleet
- ▶ Sport and Leisure
- ▶ Public Health
- ▶ Local Economy
- ▶ Parking Enforcement
- ▶ HR

OurBike



Changing behaviour



Capability

Active Travel – Capability

- ▶ Cycle training
- ▶ School scooter training
- ▶ Electric Assisted Vehicle training with Pedal Me
- ▶ OurBike – cargo bike induction/training
- ▶ Community Centre cargo bikes
- ▶ Community Safety – bike theft reduction
- ▶ E-bike equipped teams (Parking enforcement, Energy)
- ▶ Walking maps for schools
- ▶ Beat the Street

Page 8



Active travel

By choosing to walk, cycle or even scoot to school, you will keep yourself fit and healthy – and it's much cheaper than joining a gym. Active travel is also kinder to the environment, helping us to reduce our carbon footprint and improve our air quality in London.

Morning exercise supports brain power and performance in class.

You're exposed to nine times less air pollution when walking and cycling than when driving a car!

School travel plans

STARS
A TL COMMUNITY PROJECT

www.stars.tl.gov.uk
www.islington.gov.uk/activetravel

STARS encourages you to think differently about travel and its impact on our health, wellbeing and the environment. Explore the activities on the website and check your school's progress in STARS. You could help your teachers to run the STARS programme and inspire your future career.

Islington is a very strong STARS borough and we hope you will join us in our future campaigns and competitions.

schooltravelplans@islington.gov.uk
www.islington.gov.uk
Designed by www.pandoraville.co.uk

Park and stride

Get to school on time

Being stuck in traffic can be late for school or late for work. So, aim to get off points and allow an extra 10- and 15-minute walk to school. It is often or cycle! Many students highlighted on this map within these zones, then you to walk or cycle. The advantages to doing this is healthier.

If you live outside of your walking zone, consider a safe distance, so to school. Or you can do friend's house who lives they can walk to school, get the bus, then try get earlier – it will increase your count.

Public transport

www.tfl.gov.uk/tfars/ discounted-travel/tfl-photocard

Your Zip Oyster = free travel by bus.

By choosing public transport instead of getting a lift in motor vehicle, you help to reduce the number of cars around the school gates, making it safer for everyone. Pay attention to Transport for London's travel information to help keep your journeys safe. Public transport is still quicker than driving and creates less harmful pollution. Your actions directly affect the environment and can help look after the planet.

3. Makes you more independent
4. Helps you arrive at school more alert for lessons
5. Helps you unwind after a busy day
6. Helps you become healthier and fitter
7. Creates a cleaner, less noisy environment
8. Makes the local area near school safer as there are less cars
9. Saves money on fuel
10. You learn more about your local area and surroundings

Cycle training: (1) Bikeability

Bikeability Balance



- ▶ Children aged 5-17 years
- ▶ Bikes provided
- ▶ 1,738 children trained 22-23 (23/24 target 2,500)
- ▶ School holiday programme



Level 1



Level 2



All About the Bike: Level 3 and Fix

Cycle training: (2) cycle skills and bike maintenance

1:1 cycle skills



- ▶ 16-90+ years
- ▶ Bikes provided
- ▶ 229 adults trained 2022/23

- ▶ 32 Dr Bikes is 2022/23
- ▶ 3 cycle maintenance classes 22/23

Page 10

Basic cycle skills



Bike maintenance classes



Dr Bike

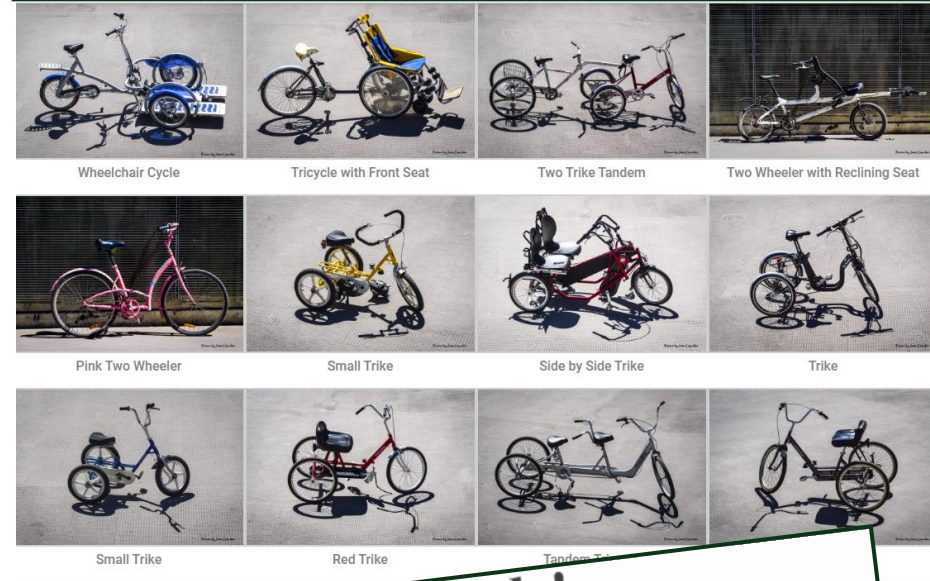


Cycle training: (3) All ability cycling

- ▶ Pedal Power is an inclusive cycling club for teenagers and adults with a disability
- ▶ Family members and support workers are also encouraged to cycle
- ▶ Many types of bikes are available
- ▶ Sessions are held at Finsbury Park and Emirates Podium

Page 11

A range of cycles available



Pedal Power session



Opportunity

Active Travel – Opportunity

Physical infrastructure

- ▶ Low-Traffic Neighbourhoods (7)
- ▶ School Streets (35)
- ▶ Cycleways (8)
- ▶ Main road School Streets (2)
- ▶ Liveable Neighbourhoods (engaging on 5)

Secure cycle parking

- ▶ On-street bike racks
- ▶ On-street bike hangars (3,000 spaces)

- ▶ Secure cycle parking on estates (2,700 spaces)
- ▶ Requirements as part of planning for new developments

Access

- ▶ Cycle hire (1.5m trips 22/23)
- ▶ OurBike – cargo bike hire
- ▶ Cycle2Work and staff pool bikes
- ▶ Cargo and e-bike equipped teams
- ▶ Accessible cycle purchase (Try Before You Bike – 82 purchases)

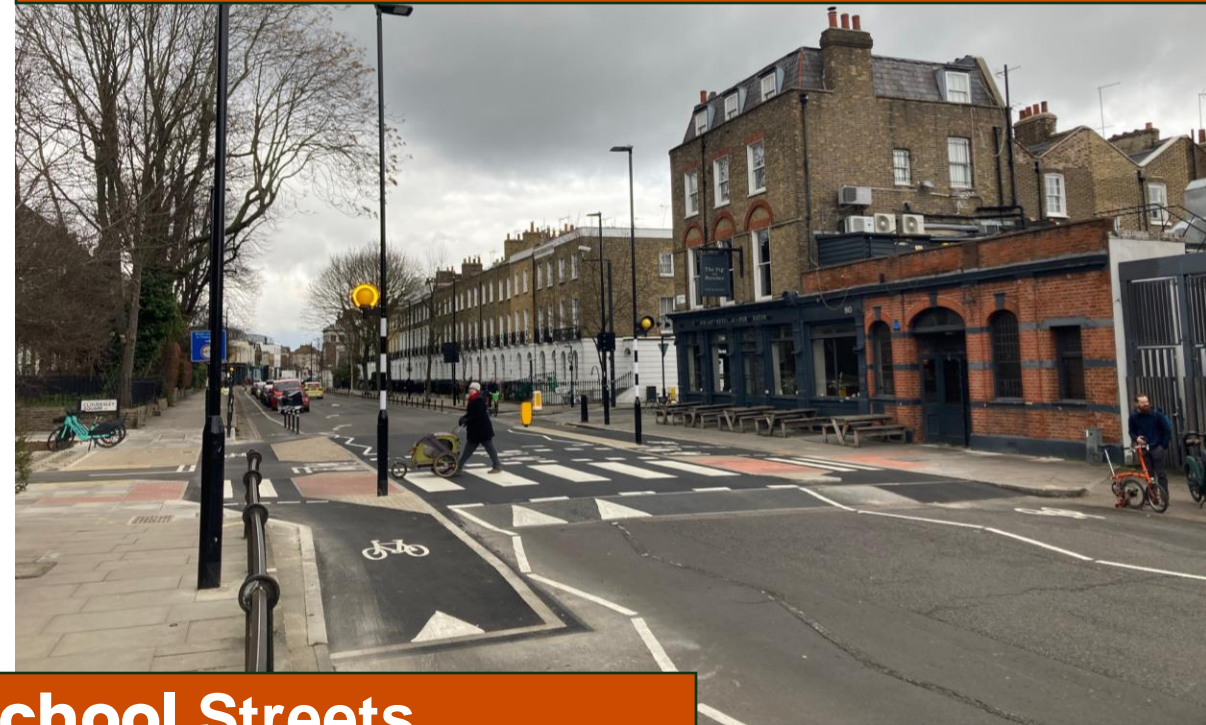
People-Friendly Streets

Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and Liveable Neighbourhoods



Page 14

Cycleways

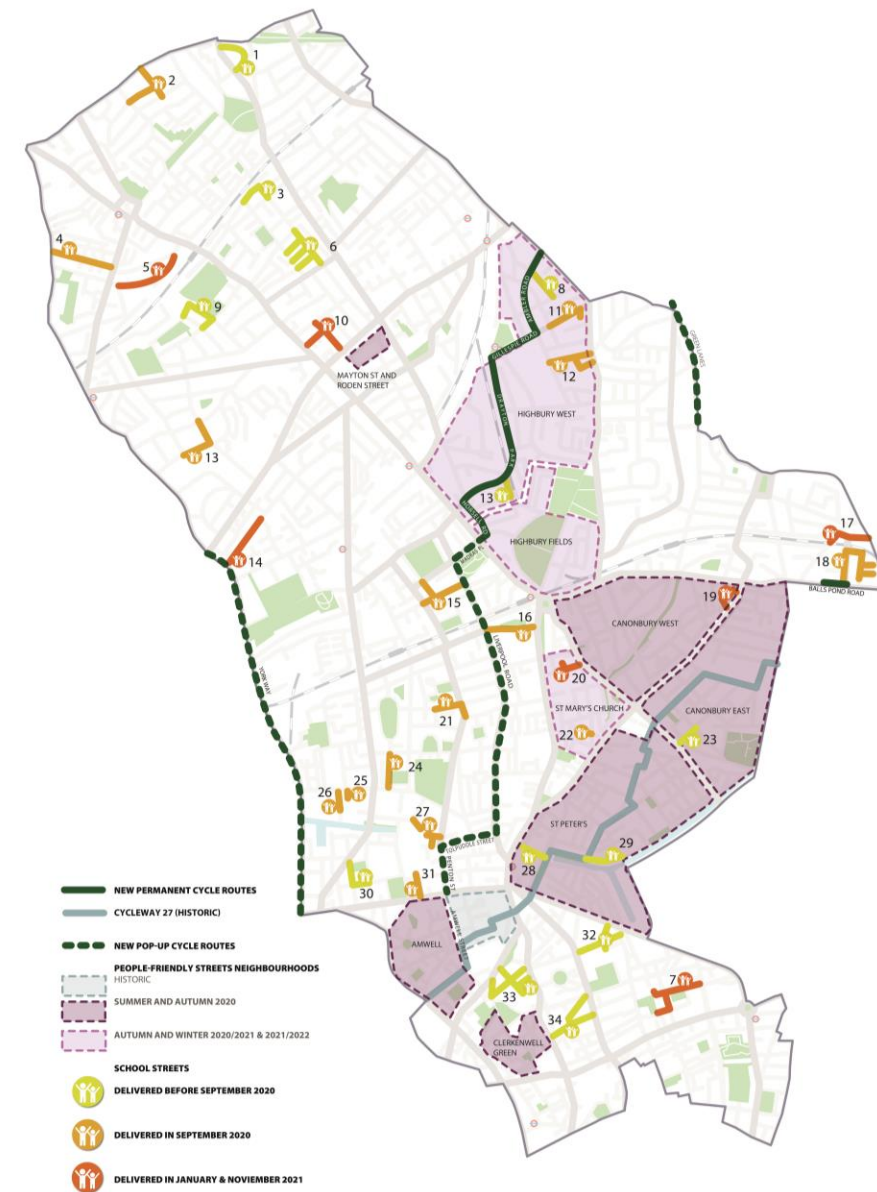


School Streets



LTNs, School Streets and Cycleways

- ▶ PFS schemes make more space for walking, wheeling and cycling – streets are quieter, cleaner and safer
- ▶ The London-wide *Healthy Streets Scorecard* has ranked Islington as the top inner London borough in 2021, 2022 and 2023





Public spaces



Walking, wheeling and cycling



Liveable Neighbourhoods

Trees and planting



Thriving local economy

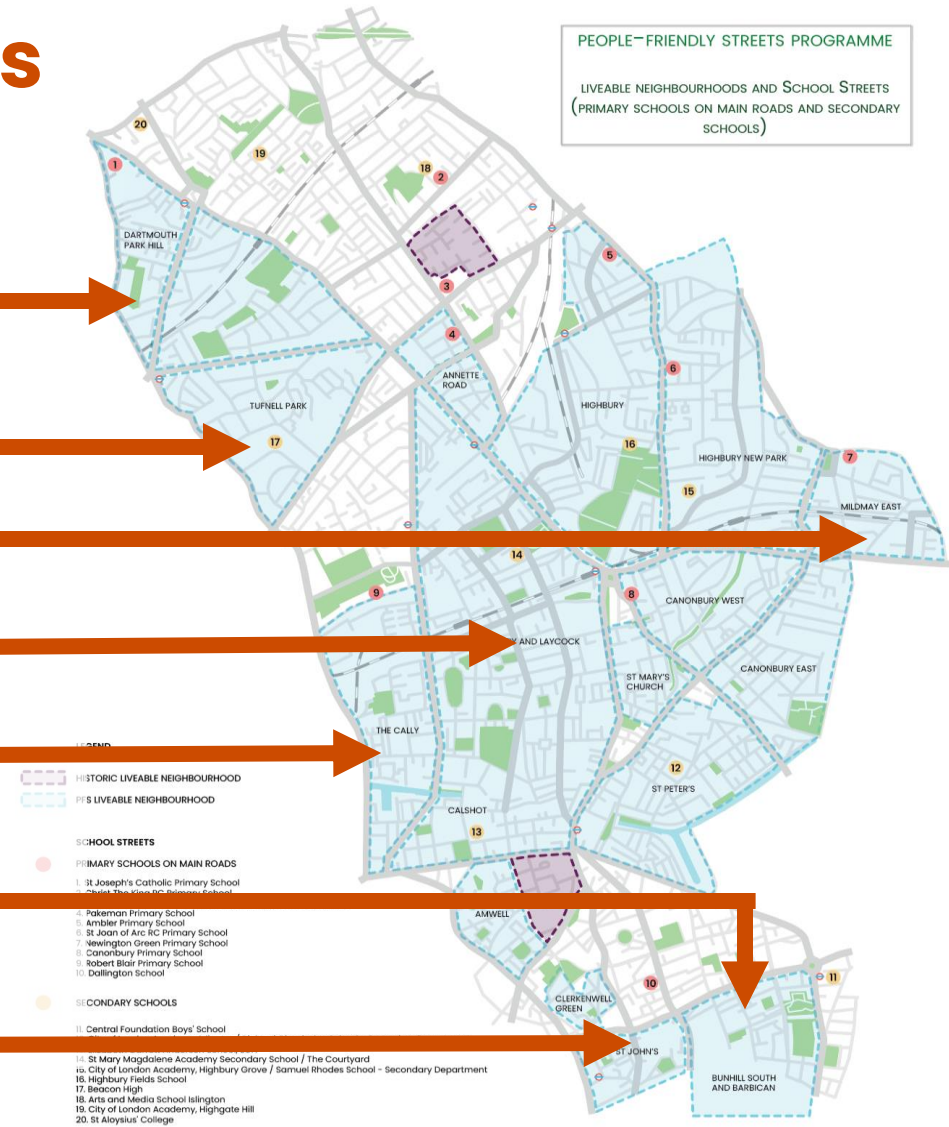


Future Liveable Neighbourhoods

Planning, engaging and consulting

- ▶ Dartmouth Park Healthy Neighbourhood
- ▶ Tufnell Park
- ▶ Mildmay
- ▶ Barnsbury and Laycock
- ▶ The Cally
- ▶ Bunhill, Barbican and Golden Lane Healthy Neighbourhood
- ▶ St John's

Page 17



LTN monitoring: results



All pandemic-era LTNs have monitoring reports assessing their impacts 12 months after implementation



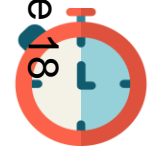
Traffic volumes



Traffic speeds



Cycle volumes



Journey times



Air quality (NO₂)



Crime and ASB /
Emergency services
response times

Programme wide results

- ▶ 64% decrease in traffic volumes on internal roads
- ▶ 79% decrease in speeding traffic on internal roads
- ▶ Boundary road traffic volumes fluctuate per site, but average decrease (-3%) overall
- ▶ 49% increase in cycling volumes on internal roads
- ▶ 10% increase in cycling volumes on boundary roads
- ▶ The average London Fire Brigade attendance times for first and second appliances remain within the targeted times
- ▶ No significant effect on ASB or street based criminal offences

Bus priority and 20mph speed limit

- ▶ 20mph limit on all borough roads and many TfL red routes
- ▶ Work with TfL to improve bus priority through new bus lanes and junction improvements
- ▶ Encouraging more bus journeys reduces car reliance, and all bus trips involve some active travel
- ▶ KSIs fell by 42% in 2013, the year after 20mph was introduced

Page 19



On-street bike hangars



- ▶ Each hangar houses six cycles
- ▶ 500 bike hangars (3,000 spaces)
- ▶ 1,500 unfulfilled applications
- ▶ 100 new hangars planned for installation in 2023/24
- ▶ Migrating to rental software platform
- ▶ Apply for a space at www.islington.gov.uk/cycling

User survey	Before	After
Never cycle	24%	3%
Never drive	36%	45%

Secure cycle parking on estates

Aim to offer covered, locked cycle storage facilities for over 250 estates

Free of charge to estate residents

- Page 21
- ▶ Variety of types, designs and sizes
 - ▶ Already 284 secure cycle facilities
 - ▶ Includes 136 bike hangars
 - ▶ Total capacity for up to 2,768 bikes
 - ▶ Continuous rollout to new locations



- ▶ Style, size and rack types to address needs and suit local environment
- ▶ Some facilities can accommodate cargo bikes and adapted cycles
- ▶ All new build blocks have secure cycle storage for each home



Cycle hire



- ▶ Bridges gap between demand and limits of the TfL cycle hire scheme
- ▶ Working by agreement with three operators: Tier, Lime and Forest
- ▶ Bikes rented via an app
- ▶ 1.5m trips in 2022/23
- ▶ Designated parking bay pilot (11 bays in November 2023)
- ▶ 50 further bays in summer 2024



Try Before You Bike - accessible cycle purchase scheme

- ▶ Child bikes, adult bikes, adaptive cycles (includes consultation to assess needs), cargo bikes and (coming soon) e-bikes
- ▶ Interest-free credit, monthly fee, return any time and owe nothing
- ▶ Delivered to your door, set up for you and cycle skills sessions offered
- ▶ Further details and apply at www.islington.gov.uk/cycling



Cargo bikes

Council use of cargo bikes

- ▶ Community centres
 - 7 (food/medical deliveries)
- ▶ Fleet – 7 Electric Assisted Vehicles (EAVs) – used by various council teams
- ▶ Active Travel Team – 3 – for Dr Bike, hangar repair, training bike delivery

Page 24

Wider access and promotion

- ▶ OurBike – hire scheme with 4 bikes hosted by businesses



Dr Bike



Bike delivery



Community



EAV

Motivation

Active Travel – Motivation

Rewards

- ▶ School Travel Plan accreditation scheme
- ▶ Bikeability awards →
- ▶ Beat the Street



Community

- ▶ Saddle and Sole Festival
- ▶ Islington Cycling Club
- ▶ Led rides and Footways maps
- ▶ Play Streets and Street Parties

Enjoying walking

- ▶ Walking routes with Living Streets
- ▶ Greening schemes

Wider engagement

- ▶ Targeted pilots for women and older people

Play Streets



Islington Cycling Club



Led rides



TfL's Travel for Life (School Travel Plans)

- ▶ 67% of our 78 schools are accredited or engaged
- ▶ 23 Gold, 6 Silver, 7 Bronze accredited schools

STP activities include:

walking, scooting, cycling, public transport, smarter driving independent travel, road safety, consultation, promotions, curriculum,

fund raising and partnerships

STP projects for 2023/24:

- ▶ Scooter training
- ▶ Walking maps
- ▶ Poster competition



Saddle and Sole Festival

Page 28



Pilot projects for 2023-24

Positive Spin



JoyRiders



Ride Side By Side



Silver Cyclists



Summary

1. **Healthy** – More physical activity through walking, wheeling and cycling
2. **Safe** – No one will be killed or seriously injured on our streets, removing road danger as a barrier to active travel
3. **Carbon neutral and cleaner air** – Active Travel will help deliver net zero carbon and creating cleaner air by reducing car mileage
4. **Fair** – Removing physical, cognitive and financial barriers to travel



Thank you



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Community Engagement and Wellbeing

222 Upper Street, London, N1 1XR

Report of: Assistant Director of Community Learning and Libraries

Meeting of: Employment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

Date: 12 October 2023

Ward(s): All

Subject: Libraries Quarter 1 2023-24 Performance Report

1. Synopsis

- 1.1. The council has in place a suite of corporate performance indicators to help monitor progress in delivering the outcomes set out in the council's Corporate Plan. These indicators are in the process of being refreshed, with a view to more accurately measuring libraries' contribution to strategic council priorities and will be drawn up following the Community Spaces Review, implementing the recommendations from it. Progress on key performance measures is reported through the council's Scrutiny Committees on a quarterly basis to ensure accountability to residents and to enable challenge where necessary.
- 1.2. This report sets out Quarter 1 2023-24 progress against targets for those performance indicators that fall within the Library Service outcome area, for which the Employment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee has responsibility.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To review the performance data for Q1 2023/24 for measures relating to Library Services.

3. Background

The performance measures covered by this report are largely based on the Corporate Performance Indicator set, which is refreshed annually. The performance indicators for the library service are:

Number of library visits

Number of library issues (physical and online)

Number of active members – i.e. someone who has used their library ticket in the past 12 months

In addition to these Corporate Performance indicators, this report shall include data/feedback for the following:

- PC usage
- Library activities – number of attendees at events
- User feedback

4 Quarter 1 2023-24 Performance Update

PI No.	Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Yearly trend-line	Better to be	2023/24 Q1	2023/24 Q2	2023/24 Q3	2023/24 Q4	In-year trend	Notes on measure (cumulative / quarterly / rolling), targets (annual / quarterly / longer-term & rationale) and benchmarking
Empowering strong and supportive communities														
CEW1	Number of library visits	NEW	NEW	NEW	342,384 (Q3 & Q4 only)	766,000		↑	202,394					Target 800,00 per annum
CEW2	Number of Library issues (online)	NEW	NEW	NEW	NEW	253,644		↑	62,469					Target 256,180 (1% increase on 2022/23) per annum
CEW3	Number of Library issues (physical)	NEW	NEW	NEW	NEW	515,227		↑	125,800					Target 520,379 (1% increase on 2022/23) per annum
CEW4	Active Library members	NEW	NEW	NEW	NEW	21,282		↑	N/A					Target 22,346 (5% increase on 2022/23) per annum

3.1. Corporate Indicator CEW1: Number of library visits: Q1 figure 202,394 (target 800,000)

Visits	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Totals
2023/24	202,394				202, 394
2022/23	185,321	182,660	190,756	207,263	766,000

3.2. Visitor figures for Q1 are slightly above the quarterly target of 200,000, an increase that continues the upward trend in visits seen over the majority of 2022/23. In response to the cost of living crisis, the service formally abolished fines and waived outstanding fines which was received with positive feedback from users and media recognition. This decision, and the marketing messages that went around may have resulted in increased visits.

3.3. Corporate Indicator CEW2: Number of online library issues online Q1: 62,384

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Totals
2023/24	62,384				62, 384

2022/23	62,110	61,176	64,470	65,898	253,654
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- 3.4. This is a new corporate indicator that aims to highlight the breadth of the library offer and the uptake of online and e-resources. The issues here show the take-up of a number of resources: e-books; e-audio books; e-newspapers and e-magazines that users can access via Libby, Borrowbox and other library apps.
- 3.5. The library service is promoting this digital aspect of its offer, which sees usage peak in quarters 3 and 4.

3.6. **Corporate Indicator CEW3: Number of library issues physical Q1 125,800**

Issues	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Totals
2023/24	125,800				125, 800
2022/23	123,620	128,881	126,756	135,970	515,227

3.7. **Corporate Indicator CEW4: Active library members Q1 21,282**

- 3.8. Target of 22,346 which is a 5% increase on the figure achieved in 2022/23.
- 3.9. The quarter has seen the continuing trend of increasing active members of the service. The trend for the active members for the last four years is as follows:

2022/23 - 21,282
 2021/22 - 18,130
 2021/21 - 6,954
 2019/20 - 26,821.

3.10. **PC Usage**

- 3.11. All of the libraries offer public computers which are free to use. In addition to using the software on the machines and accessing the internet, users can print and scan from them. There are a total of 123 computers across all of the 10 libraries.
- 3.12. Within the digital offer, all libraries offer free Wi-Fi. The last few years have seen user habits change, with a steady reduction in the demand for public computers and an increase in demand for usage of Wi-Fi, enabling users to use their own devices. Several reasons for this are likely to be the affordability of internet-enabled devices, such as tablets and smartphones. In addition, over the course of the pandemic, several partners, including Adult Community Learning launched laptop and tablet grant schemes that gave residents in need of devices something they could use to access the internet. The service has responded to these changes in habits by modernising the layout where possible, increasing the amount of study desking with power for usage

and retaining PCs where demands need to be met.

- 3.13. The PC booking system provides detailed reports on the uptake of the public PCs, with usage currently standing at circa 50% take up of available sessions. The data below indicate higher usage of PCs in libraries that have more of them and have longer opening hours.
- 3.14. In Quarter 1, 16,924 hours of computer usage across all 10 libraries was recorded, broken down as below:

Library	Number of Hours
Central	6,125
N4	2,580
Finsbury	2,216
Archway	1,509
North	1,240
South	1,057
West	984
Mildmay	851
Total	16, 924

4.0 **Number of residents attending events and activities in Libraries**

- 4.1 In 2022/23, the service recorded 43,970 attendees to a wide range of events across the library service. This was above the target of 32,000 and represented approx. 15% of the Islington population.
- 4.2 The free activities on offer cut across a range of themes under the Library Service strapline of Read, Learn, and Connect. They are responsive to community need and support the Universal Library Outcomes identified by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport in their strategic ambition for public libraries, 'Libraries Deliver: Ambition for Public Libraries in England'. Uptake of these engaging and creative sessions was positive, with 12,326 attendees attending a wide range of events in Quarter 1. In addition to bespoke and themed activities, some of the regularly timetabled activities include:
- Weekly under-fives and baby bounce sessions
 - Chess and games clubs for adults and children
 - Reading groups for adults and children
 - Gentle exercise class for older adults
 - Gadget support sessions
 - Knit and natter groups
 - Lego clubs for children
 - Toy libraries.
- 4.3 Some of the diverse one-off events in Q1, many of which celebrate the cultural calendar, include:

- Caribbean Rub-a-dub – a social event for older people to commemorate the King’s coronation
- Royal School of Rhyme – poetry workshops for children with poet Paul Lyalls to celebrate the King’s coronation
- Easter craft sessions
- Eid craft sessions.

4.4 The service organised a reading activism event to celebrate Earth Day on 26 April. The session focussed on climate anxiety and how reading can help and was attended by two secondary schools. The young people made pledges around their contribution to reducing climate change. They also made recommendations as to what the Council can do, and these have been shared with Cllrs. A booklist was also produced for children and young people.

4.5 The library service plays a key role in supporting local priorities and services that deliver on them. Some of the activities that were run in local libraries included:

- Sobell Leisure Centre consultations, where all libraries were used
- Pop-up sessions to consult with residents as part of the Culture Strategy survey
- Age UK delivering events and activities, including poetry and advocacy workshops at Central, West and Archway libraries
- Rethink Mental Health using the gallery at Central Library to deliver training and activities.

5.0 Feedback from users

5.1 The library service receives a large amount of feedback from users. Some of this is received in libraries via customer talk back forms, some comes in via the website, on Twitter or from contact Islington.

5.2 In Q1 a total of 24 compliments/suggestions, comments and complaints were received.

5.3 Examples include:

- Libraries talkback form received at Archway Library “ it was really lovely to have an Eid related event for local children. They really enjoyed making their lanterns and getting involved in the craft activities. The staff were very helpful and friendly”
- Libraries talk back form received at Finsbury Library “I’m Kurdish and I celebrate Newroz. When I saw the display on the library wall, I was really happy. Being recognised and included is a lovely feeling. I see libraries as our community. Where we feel comfortable and access books”
- Complaint about noise from other library users
- Complaint about speed of public pcs and Wi-Fi at Central Library
- 1000 words in a precious hour at the glorious reading rooms at Central Library (whist my mum and the children enjoy story and rhyme time)
- Thank you Islington Libraries for this amazing physical and emotional space (on Twitter)
- Complaint about response from member of staff regarding library opening times.

6. Implications

6.1 Financial Implications

- 6.2 The cost of providing resources to monitor performance is met within each service's core budget.

6.2 Legal Implications

- 6.2.1 There are no legal duties upon local authorities to set targets or monitor performance. However, these enable us to strive for continuous improvement.

6.3 Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030

- 6.3.1 The libraries service is committed to contributing towards achieving a net-zero carbon Islington by 2030. All libraries are collection points for recycling bags and food waste bags.

6.4 Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.4.1 The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.
- 6.4.2 An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required in relation to this report, because this report is looking at historical performance information and does not relate to a new policy, procedure, function, service activity or financial decision. Where a new policy, procedure, function, service activity or financial decision is mentioned in the commentary within this report, there should be a separate Equalities Impact Assessment for that specific development, rather than attached to the reporting on performance for any measures that this would affect.
- 6.4.3 The libraries service continues to offer a service that is inclusive, accessible, welcoming and relevant to all. Addressing inequalities is central to the 'Read, Learn, Connect' mission of libraries, and is reflected in opening hours; the online

offer (where e-audiobooks support those who have visual conditions access library materials); the activities offered (such as Eid craft events); thematic displays (such as for Pride and Black History months).

- 6.4.4 Operating within the Directorate of Community Engagement and Wellbeing, working alongside the Equalities team and reporting to the Executive member for Equalities, Culture and Inclusion, the Library Service is committed to developing an even stronger offer that addresses inequalities by mapping the offer to need and addressing gaps where they may be identified.

7 Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 7.1 This report has presented a detailed narrative describing the performance of Libraries Services in Quarter 1 2023-24. Where performance is off target, a summary of the actions being undertaken to improve performance has been included.

Appendices:

- None

Background papers:

- None

Final report clearance:

Signed by:

**Assistant Director Community Learning & Libraries
Akeel Ahmed**

Date: 12.10.23

Report Author:

Michelle Gannon – Head of Libraries