



**Resources Department  
Town Hall, Upper Street, London, N1 2UD**

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## **AGENDA FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

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Members of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee are summoned to a meeting, which will be held in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on **7 March 2022 at 7.30 pm.**

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Despatched : 27 February 2022

### Membership

Councillor Tricia Clarke (Chair)  
Councillor Gary Heather (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Santiago Bell-Bradford  
Councillor Mick Gilgunn  
Councillor Clare Jeapes  
Councillor Roulin Khondoker  
Councillor Caroline Russell  
Councillor Kadeema Woodbyrne  
Councillor Angelo Weekes

### Substitute Members

Councillor Sara Hyde  
Councillor Anjna Khurana  
Councillor Dave Poyser  
Councillor Toby North  
Councillor John Woolf

**Quorum is 4 members of the Committee**



**A. Formal Matters** **Pages**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Substitute Members

Declarations of Interest

If you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest\*** in an item of business:

- if it is not yet on the council's register, you **must** declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent;
- you may **choose** to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is already in the register in the interests of openness and transparency.

In both the above cases, you **must** leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If you have a **personal** interest in an item of business **and** you intend to speak or vote on the item you **must** declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent but you **may** participate in the discussion and vote on the item.

- \*(a) **Employment, etc** - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- (b) **Sponsorship** - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of your expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of your election; including from a trade union.
- (c) **Contracts** - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between you or your partner (or a body in which one of you has a beneficial interest) and the council.
- (d) **Land** - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.
- (e) **Licences** - Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.
- (f) **Corporate tenancies** - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which you or your partner have a beneficial interest.
- (g) **Securities** - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

This applies to **all** members present at the meeting.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting 1 - 10
5. Chair's Report
6. Order of Business

## Public Questions

For members of the public to ask questions relating to any subject on the meeting agenda under Procedure Rule 70.5. Alternatively, the Chair may opt to accept questions from the public during the discussion on each agenda item.

<b>B.</b>	<b>Items for Decision/Discussion</b>	<b>Pages</b>
8.	Scrutiny Review: Net Zero Carbon Programme – Sustainable and Affordable Energy	11 - 22
9.	Q3 Performance Report ( 2021/2022) – Employment & Skills	23 - 36
10.	Q3 Performance Report ( 2021/2022) – Environment & Transport	37 - 44
11.	Net Zero Carbon Progress Report ( Quarter 3)	45 - 58
12.	Member review of the Net Zero Carbon Program and Informal Working Group	59 - 86
13.	Work Programme 2021/2022	87 - 88

## **C. Urgent non-exempt items (if any)**

Any non-exempt items which the Chair agrees should be considered urgent by reason of special circumstances. The reasons for urgency will be agreed by the Chair and recorded in the minutes.

## **D. Exclusion of press and public**

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the remaining items on the agenda, it is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt or confidential information within the terms of the Access to Information Procedure Rules in the Constitution and, if so, whether to exclude the press and public during discussion thereof.

## **E. Confidential/exempt items** **Pages**

## **F. Urgent exempt items (if any)**

Any exempt items which the Chair agrees should be considered urgently by reason of special circumstances. The reasons for urgency will be agreed by the Chair and recorded in the minutes.

The next meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee will be on  
**14 June 2021**



526 **ORDER OF BUSINESS (Item 6)**

The order of business would be B3, B1, B2, B4, B5.

527 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS (Item 7)**

To Be Taken With B1

528 **SCRUTINY REVIEW: NET ZERO CARBON PROGRAMME – FINANCE AND INVESTMENT (Item B1)**

Owen Darracott, Finance Manager was present, together with Keith Townsend, Corporate Director Environment and Regeneration for discussion of this item and made a presentation to the Committee, copy interleaved. The following points were highlighted:

**The Challenge**

- Islington declared a climate emergency in 2019 and adopted 'Vision 2030' Strategy in 2020.
- The strategy is split into six main priorities – Buildings; Transport; Sustainable + Affordable Energy; Green Economy; Natural Environment + Waste and Planning (Workstreams 1 to 6).
- Underpinning all of these priorities is Engagement & Comms. and Finance & Investment and the role of this workstream is to collaborate with the six main priorities to achieve NZC.
- The workstream also has its own 'deliverables' defined within the strategy.

**Our Objectives**

Our Finance & Investment Plan has the following priorities:

- a) Produce programme business case and support project business cases as needed
- b) Ensure project business cases considered in Medium Term Financial Strategy
- c) Consider the most cost effective way for financing 'Vision 2030' Strategy
- d) Reduce the carbon emissions from the wider aspects of Islington's investments
- e) Ensure financial reporting and benefit realisation tracking is in place and effective

**(a) Produce programme business case (capital)**

The latest proposed NZC Capital Programme was considered by Executive on 13 January:

Highlights include:

- Continued investment in People Friendly Streets (£7.596m) and School Streets (£1.200m).
- Ongoing programmes of fleet electrification (£5.969m) and fleet infrastructure (£3.149m).
- Installing LED lighting + solar panels on public buildings (£2.000m).
- Additional investment in retrofitting and GreenSCIES (£24.058m).

**(b) Ensure project business cases considered in MTFS**

On 13 January Executive was presented with six new business cases. Subject to approval this represents £24.058m of additional investment.

**(c) Financing 'Vision 2030' – Islington Greener Futures 2027**

- The Islington CMI launched on the final day of the 'Islington Together' Festival, 29 October.
- Executive Members selected six key projects on the Council's approved Capital Programme.
- The interest rate is 1.55% and the 'all in' (including fees) cost of debt is 1.64% so the CMI was a cheaper form of borrowing when compared to the Public Works Loan Board.
- As the first ISA, media interest has been wide ranging (eg: Bloomberg, FT, The Times) and interest rates compare favourably to the new NS&I 'Green Bonds' (0.65%).

**In 2022 and beyond Islington can (and will):**

- Support new investment 22/23-24/25 and build on successes of existing projects (eg: PFS).
- Pursue funding opportunities (eg: Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund).
- Explore alternative forms of finance, including Joint Ventures and ESCOs (eg: GreenSCIES).
- Develop a financial strategy focused on financial and environmental benefits.
- Continue to collaborate with London Boroughs and its partners across the capital.
- Lobby government for more action on climate change.

**(d) Reduce carbon emissions from Islington investments**

- The workstream contributes directly to a reduction in carbon emissions through pension fund (reduce current/future exposure to carbon intensive assets/companies by 50%/75% v. 2016).
- The pension fund is committed to investing at least 15% in green opportunities including but not limited to climate change mitigation; low carbon tech and sustainable infrastructure.
- The pension fund also monitors 'ESG' risks (Environmental, Social, Governance) annually and sets targets to mitigate risks and the Council monitors the ESG ratings of fund managers.

**By 31 March 2021 the pension fund had decarbonised by 33%.**

The Chair thanked the presenters for the presentation and welcomed members to raise issues and ask questions.

On Investment and social justice, a package of programs was selected, including schools streets. All of the projects were previously approved by executive members, and there was a range of investors locally on each of the projects. The council will be doing regular updates with investors on these projects. The engagement locally

has been really good and has helped the council develop relationships up and down the country.

On Insolation and social housing, the council commissioned UCL to give an overview on the total investment to retrofit our estates. There will be a breakdown on types of properties, over the next 12 months to find the affordability of doing these works and marrying up the current area of work, into a more tangible program. The council has selected certain estates for a pilot program of retrofitting housing stock. Action- Officers to find what funding Peabody will be providing for these works.

The Chair invited members of the public to ask questions.

Dave Twine asked about the governance around the council's Net Zero Carbon Strategy on the issue of Carbon Emissions, and if the council has set the right budget for Net Zero Carbon 2030. Officers answered that the governance arrangements were in place, and the reporting comes through the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee. There was confidence in the budget that it is the most well-funded and ambitious carbon budget cross the capital. The council is leading the way in fleet electrification, but retrofitting housing is still a big challenge. While the budget is set at Full Council, there is always space for innovation from ideas generated from residents.

Helena Farstad asked about decarbonising all council work streams, and offsetting the carbon residue at the end. Officers answered the work done with CICC has sourced that it will cost over £1b, with the majority of the cost being from retrofitting. Officers will provide further in writing.

**RESOLVED:**

That the presentation be noted

**529**

**APPRENTICESHIPS (Item B2)**

Julie Foy, Director, Human Resources was present, together with Caroline Wilson Director of Inclusive Economy and Jobs for discussion of this item and made a presentation to the Committee, copy interleaved. The following points were highlighted:

The Council has been working with local partners and employers over many years to create and increase take up of apprenticeships for Islington residents as a means to build skills to enter and progress in work. Similarly, as an employer, we have prioritised apprenticeships within the Council, to provide opportunities for local unemployed residents to gain skills for work, develop existing staff in their careers, and address skills gaps.

Over the past five years, we've undertaken a range of work to continuously improve our offer, maximise the value of apprenticeships and increase take up. This includes:

- Targeting residents who are under-represented in employment and priority sectors: including implementing a guaranteed interview process for Islington



care leavers, and targeted activities to raise the profile of apprenticeships with residents, parents/carers, school aged children, NEET young people and those at risk of becoming NEET, as well as providing external pastoral support to local apprentices e.g. those placed on building sites.

- Increasing the range and breadth of apprenticeships: promoting apprenticeships within the council and partners ranging from Level 2 (GCSE) to Level 7 (Masters), and engaging with partners and supply chains to promote apprenticeships, particularly in key growth sectors, broaden progression routes and address skills gaps.
- Improving the council recruitment process: For apprenticeship opportunities only, the council has created a bespoke question-based application form to direct candidates to the information required from them. We have also introduced the use of multiactivity assessment days, helping applicants to better demonstrate their talents and potential in a variety of ways and increasing manager confidence in recruitment decisions.
- Promoting take up within the Council and schools: launching an in-house programme for council staff to upskill through apprenticeships, supporting schools within scope of the levy to recruit apprentices and upskill their existing employees, and creating cohorts of apprentice teachers.
- Ensuring a focus on quality and sustainability: ongoing coaching and support for apprentices placed externally, bespoke support for council apprentices through personal development opportunities and mentoring, and training for council managers to support them to successfully manage an apprentice.
- Using our Apprenticeship Levy to support other organisations: To date we have committed £382,007 to 10 different Islington based organisations supporting the training of 31 people.

Work is underway to develop a new Apprenticeship Strategy 2022-26 which will set out a vision to create a borough-wide apprenticeship programme, which increases the number, quality and accessibility of apprenticeships, and ensures that we reach those residents who most need support, and targets those sectors where opportunities are growing.

As an emerging approach, there are five draft objectives which will contribute towards delivering the vision:

Objective 1: work with local partners, businesses, schools and within the council to ensure that apprenticeship opportunities created in the borough offer a high quality experience.

Objective 2: engage more employers and internal departments in creating more opportunities and designing them to address their business needs and local skills gaps.

Objective 3: Develop a strong communications strategy to promote the value of undertaking an apprenticeship, both as a pathway into work, but also as a way to progress on to higher skills

Objective 4: Ensure equitable access to apprenticeships for all Islington residents

Objective 5: Act as a leader and influencer through innovation in apprenticeships, testing new approaches and sharing best practice.

To deliver the step-change required, the Strategy will need to be driven by a detailed action plan, with a range of targets. The primary targets are anticipated to be:

- Create 1,000 new apprenticeship opportunities over 4 years
- With 65% of apprentices progressing into further employment on completion of their apprenticeship, and
- Increase spend on our Apprenticeship Levy from 60% to 70%.

A detailed 4-year action plan will be developed, in order to build momentum and the capacity required to deliver against these ambitious targets. In addition, this will obviously require adequate resources to meet this ambition and officers continue to work on identifying internal and external funding for the programme, as well as opportunities to work with partners including anchor institutions. The Draft Apprenticeships Strategy 2022-26 will be developed in the coming months.

The Chair thanked Julie Foy and Caroline Wilson for the presentation and welcomed members to raise issues and ask questions.

On School workforce and apprenticeships, the council will be using Section 106 funding to support apprenticeships in schools. Schools outside of the local authority control will be included in the new strategy. Working closely with schools will help them incorporate apprenticeships into their own workforce strategy. There will be an improved communication strategy to help with this.

On onsite contractors, the council has found pastoral support so important to developing relationships onsite with contractors, to ensure quality apprenticeships are being delivered. Apprenticeship arrangements are being put into Section 106 agreements to ensure they are delivered at the centre of council schemes.

On targeting underrepresented residents, recruitment support comes from the council iWork team, which has done a lot of work into helping residents build their confidence in terms of applying for opportunities that they may not have previously considered. Targets will be put in place in the new strategy to ensure that diversity is a big factor going forward, including those with disabilities, mental health and those with caring responsibilities

On setting targets around those not in education, employment or training, working closely with the youth unemployment team to ensure young people are getting the support they need and they are aware of the opportunities open to them. But members should input into the strategy on how to engage more with the community on these areas.

On Sector Skill Academies, a network of training providers is being set up to teach green skills across the borough. Including City and Islington College and Euston Academy have both recently secured funding for green skills in construction. The Lift Program with both Camden and Tower Hamlets Council, will be delivering tech based skills training.

The Chair reminded Officers to ensure the Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030 section is to be filled out appropriately.

**RESOLVED:**

That the previous progress on apprenticeships was noted, as was the future strategic framework.

**530**

**AIR QUALITY (Item B3)**

Lucy Facer, Helena Farstad and Rachael Swynnerton, Islington Clean Air Parents gave a presentation on Air Quality, highlighting the action that needs to be taken within Islington as 72 people died from air pollution in Islington within the last year.

The Chair thanked Lucy Facer, Helena Farstad and Rachael Swynnerton for the presentation and welcomed members to raise issues and ask questions.

On the work of Islington Clean Air Parents in Schools, while the school catchments areas in Islington are small, parents are still driving children to school. But school traffic is smaller than overall larger commuter traffic. But if Parents want to make a simple change, they could start walking the last 10 minutes of the trip to school. The council can work with Islington Clean Air Parents on getting the message into schools and with parents.

On WHO Targets, the council should start to integrate into existing council policies. However, a willingness to really engage with the targets, with residents and stakeholders to see meaningful change with the WHO Targets.

On commercial cooking, it would be helpful if stricter licensing was in place to ensure that we do not have so many businesses cooking in the same area. A serious reduction in coal cooking commercially would go a long way to help air quality.

On the top 3 priorities the council could adopt:

1. Resident awareness on Air Quality.
2. Reduction on car parking
3. Engaging children in schools and in the community to see what kind of city they want to grow up in.

Andrew Ford, Environment Pollution Policy & Project Manager was present, together with Keith Townsend, Corporate Director Environment and Regeneration for

discussion of this item and made a presentation to the Committee, copy interleaved. The following points were highlighted:

Over the past few years pollution in the borough has been going down. Whilst the borough more or less meets the legal requirements for air pollution it does not meet the new WHO recommended Air Quality Guideline levels published in September 2021. In particular NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> will be hard to meet as they are close to or in some cases below the background levels of these pollutants. PM<sub>2.5</sub> in particular has a large contingent of trans-boundary pollution from northern Europe.

Highlighted current projects and actions

- **School air filtration study:** working with Imperial College London we trialed two air quality filtration systems, as well as different monitoring sensors, at Elizabeth Garrett Anderson School. Results are currently being written up.
- **GP project:** this Defra funded scheme running to the end of 2022 is training Islington GPs to give advice on air quality as well as creating wider communication material linked to the GP interactions. This is the first scheme of its kind in the UK and will be used to feed into national learning. Training has been delayed by Covid and is due to start in February.
- **Monitoring:** we retain our two main continuous monitors and have increased our diffusion tube monitoring and now have over 300 monitors outside every school nursery and care home in the borough, as well as for a range of other projects and statutory monitoring duties. We also have a number of sensors that we are trialing and are looking into possibilities of more widespread sensor use.
- **New air quality strategy:** we have a statutory duty to create a new air quality action plan every five years. Our current air quality strategy runs until 2023 so we will soon start the process of creating a new strategy for consultation later in the year.
- **Canals:** all eco mooring zones are now up and running, providing electricity for boaters to run their boat. A ranger has been employed to work with boaters and residents to help with queries and compliance, surveys of use are being conducted and a study monitoring impacts of solid fuel burning inside boats has been completed and is being written up.
- **Anti-idling:** we continue to take part in the Anti-idling London scheme, funded until end March 2022. In 2021 this included an engines off campaign throughout November and we are offering schools anti-idling workshops for children as part of wider school events. We continue to respond to complaints about idling and run events, however these have been reduced recently due to Covid.
- **Construction NRMM:** working with councils across London to regulate vehicles and equipment on construction sites.

Wider Schemes:

- Chapel Market Good Growth Fund

- City Fringe ZEN

#### ULEZ

On 25 October 2021, the Mayor of London expanded the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) up to, but not including, the North and South Circular roads. This means that the area expanded from just covering Bunhill and Clerkenwell wards to covering the whole borough.

Key findings from the first month of operation of the expanded ULEZ are:

- Following the introduction of the ULEZ 92% of vehicles detected in the zone meet the strict emissions standards, up from 39% in 2017.
- Compliance was also up from 87% in the two weeks before the scheme was launched.
- There are 47,000 fewer non-compliant vehicles detected in the expanded zone compared to the two weeks before the scheme was introduced.
- 11,000 fewer vehicles driving each day in the zone. This is a 1% reduction.
- £61 million was made available in scrappage schemes to help low income and disabled Londoners as well as charities and small businesses to prepare for the ULEZ. This equates to removing over 13,500 older, more polluting vehicles from London's roads.

Whilst these are ULEZ wide figures, there is no reason that they would not apply to Islington.

The Chair thanked Andrew Ford for the presentation and welcomed members to raise issues and ask questions.

On the GP project and driving less, being physically active is always better. Exercise is always better than the effects of pollution, while in a car. At no point does the pollution get so bad that exercise would be discouraged. Cars pass on pollution from one car to another while in traffic.

On NRMM and construction, all Construction Management Plans come via the council. However, exemptions do happen from the GLA. The council should be able to have a bigger say on this, as officers can find out, a while later that construction equipment is being used that the Council did not agree to.

On Commercial Cooking, this should be extracted and filtered to ensure that the fine particulates are not going into the air. Licensing could be stronger on this, ensuring that businesses are doing more to ensure the air quality around commercial cooking.

On Sprinklers, all sites need to operate the best practical means of use of sprinklers to prevent dust and it will be different from site to site.

On road transport, work has been done, particularly with bus companies to work on air pollution around idling. Officers will be working with the Net Zero Carbon team

here at the council on this. The transport strategy has a serious of commitments to reducing traffic use and air quality.

**RESOLVED:**

That the presentation be noted

**531 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS INFORMAL WORKING GROUP MEETING AND MEMBER REVIEW (Item B4)**

The Chair noted the minutes of the previous informal working group.

The Chair informed the committee that a third of all food does not reach the human stomach, which was discussed at the informal working group.

**532 WORK PROGRAMME 2021/2022 (Item B5)**

**RESOLVED:**

That the work programme be noted

The meeting ended at 21:45

**CHAIR**

# Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

## Net Zero Carbon Programme

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Workstream 3 – Sustainable and affordable energy

March 2022

# Sections

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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



# 1. Scope

There are two main areas of work within the scope of WS3:

1. Sustainable energy
  - Heat networks
    - Adding new connections to existing networks
    - Decarbonising existing networks
    - Building new zero carbon networks
  - Ground Source Heat Pumps
  - Renewable electricity
    - In-borough generation
    - Out-of-borough generation for self-supply
    - Tariffs
      - Council
      - Residents and businesses
2. Affordable energy
  - SHINE
  - ECO / Warmer Homes schemes

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This workstream has a significant crossover with WS1 (Buildings)

## 2. The Challenge – Why is this important?

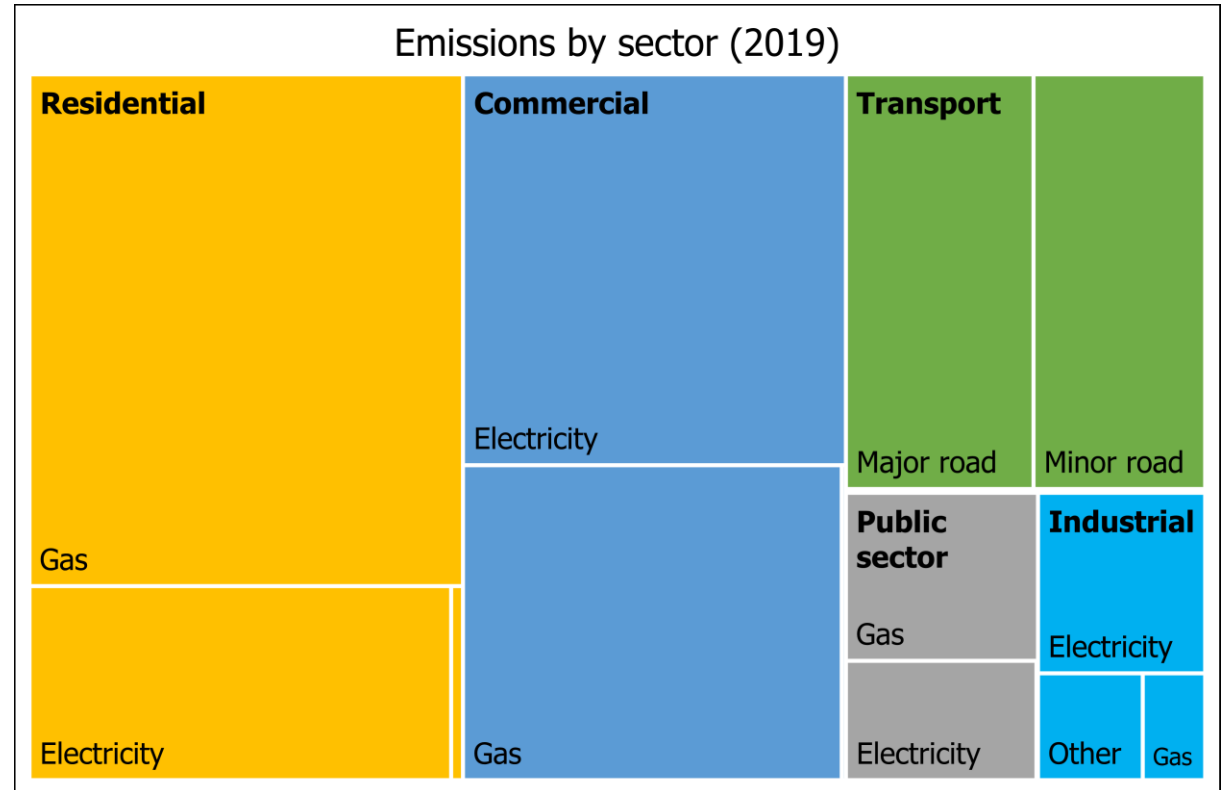
Energy use in buildings accounts for around 82% of direct carbon emissions in Islington - 533,000 tonnes per annum

Within buildings, carbon emissions come from gas (56%), electricity (42%) and other fuels (2%).

WS1 looks at eliminating gas use (shifting to electrical heating) and reducing overall energy consumption in buildings through retrofit.

WS3 looks at how the remaining electricity needs can be met via renewable sources (but also contains some gas-eliminating actions).

Fuel poverty is also a significant priority, with 14.8% of residents classed as in fuel poverty in 2019. Current price rises are likely to significantly increase this figure.



## 3. Our objectives

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The Sustainable and Affordable Energy Workstream Plan has the following priorities:

1. Rolling out, expanding and decarbonising energy networks
2. Maximising solar power generation
3. Increasing access to fairer energy tariffs
4. Purchasing renewable energy for the council and related organisations
5. Supporting residents in fuel poverty
6. Lobbying and marketing

A cross-cutting theme (within and beyond this workstream) is seeking funding.

## 4. Deliverables

### Objective 1 : Energy Networks

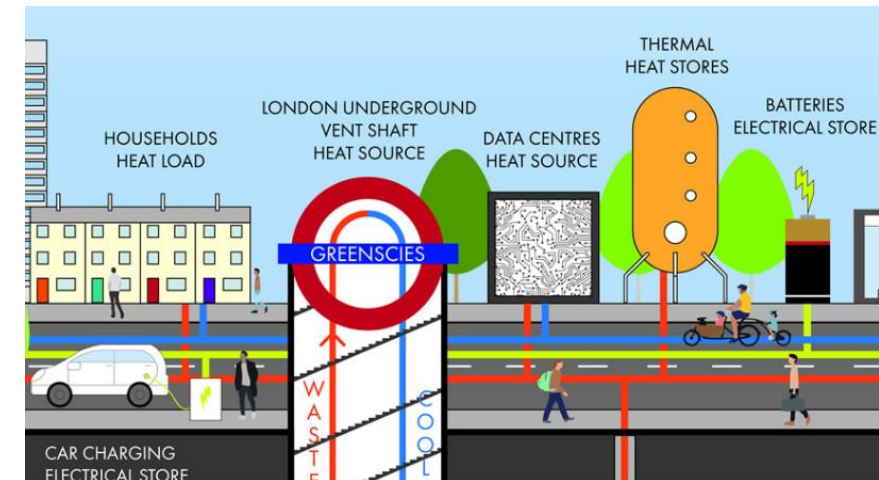
#### Key priorities

- Complete the GreenSCIES design
- Develop other smart energy network projects
- Add new connections to the Bunhill heat network
- Look at how the Bunhill heat network can be made zero emissions
- Connect communally-heated buildings to DH networks where possible
- Look at opportunities for GSHPs in parks and estates

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#### Progress to date:

- GreenSCIES PM appointed and design underway
- Working to connect City Forum development and Telfer House to Bunhill
- Feasibility study proposed for options for replacing Bunhill 1 gas CHP with zero emission heat source as part of wider Finsbury Leisure Centre redevelopment
- GSHPs considered for estates as part of UCL study in WS1



## 4. Deliverables

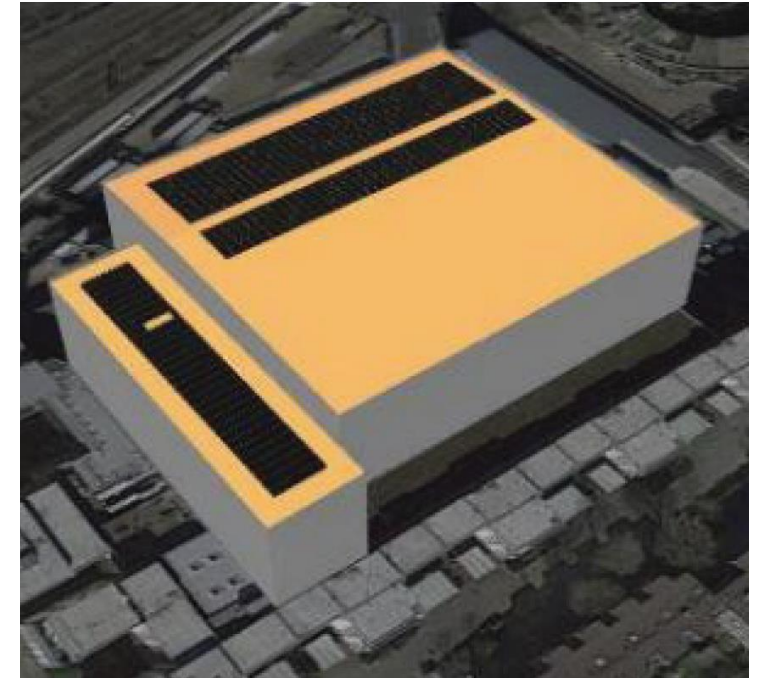
### Objective 2 : Maximise solar power generation

#### Key priorities

- Maximise solar power generation on LBI sites
- Maximise solar power generation at non-LBI sites

#### Progress to date:

- Existing arrays on 10 corporate buildings
- Feasibility studies underway for 20 primary schools, which includes assessing maximum potential for solar PV installation
- Feasibility studies being procured for 60+ council buildings, which will include assessing maximum potential for solar PV installation
- PV to be installed on four council sites as part of a carbon offset-funded project
- PV to be installed on two council sites as part of PSDS-funded project (including an additional 425kWp at the Waste Recycling Centre)
- Solar Together group buying scheme round currently running for residents and local organisations





## 4. Deliverables

### Objective 3 : Increase access to fairer energy tariffs

#### Key priorities

- Residents and businesses on the best tariffs
- Council self-supply through out-of-borough generation

#### Progress to date:

- Work on tariffs and encouraging residents and local businesses to switch is currently on hold due to energy market situation which means switching is likely to result in a worse tariff than staying on the standard variable rate (which is price capped)
- Two-stage feasibility study planned to look at best self-supply options for the council



## 4. Deliverables

### Objective 4 : Purchase remaining electricity needs from renewable sources

#### Progress to date:

- Council's corporate buildings switched to renewable tariff in April 2021
- Leisure centres will switch in April 2022
- Offer schools opportunity to switch from April 2023, following consultation
- Consultation with Housing aimed at switch in 2023

Page 19 Islington is the lead borough for the Renewable Power for London, one of seven London Councils Climate Change programmes. This has three workstreams:

- Decentralised energy: Maximise local innovative energy generation and storage projects to meet zero carbon energy demand
- Renewable energy: Procure energy for London public sector bodies that is 100% renewable, through collaboration
- Energy advice: Support and influence residents to reduce energy consumption, move to renewables and save money



## 4. Deliverables

### Objective 5 : Supporting residents in fuel poverty

#### Key priorities

- Support residents to access WHD and Water Sure
- Secure ECO and Warmer Homes funding

#### Progress to date:

- Between April 2020 and January 2022 we secured over £860,000 for residents through 2,403 Warm Home Discounts, 2,671 water discounts and 33 ECO/ECOflex grant applications resulting in more than £115,500 grant funding spent on energy efficiency measures in fuel poor households
- We were successfully re-appointed to deliver the Mayor of London's Warmer Homes Advice Service in 2018, have on-boarded dozens of contractors fulfilling ECO funding works independently, and successfully partnered with several ECO schemes like the Emergency Central Heating Offer (ECHO).





## 4. Deliverables

### Funding

#### Progress to date:

- The Energy Services team has secured significant external funding to deliver several of these projects, including:
  - £1.097m from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme for corporate building works including PV installation
  - £830k for GreenSCIES from Innovate UK, Local Energy Accelerator and Green Heat Network Transition Fund
  - £120k from Low Carbon Skills Fund for school feasibility studies
- A bid of £792k has been made to HNIP for new Bunhill connections
- The school and corporate building feasibility studies will enable further applications to the PSDS.
- £1m of council capital budgeted for PV installation in next three years

Thank you and questions



## Report of: Corporate Director, Community Wealth Building, and Interim Director of Children's Services

Meeting of:	Date:	Ward(s):
Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee	7 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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### SUBJECT: Employment & Skills Quarter 3 2021/22 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. 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 2021-22 Quarter 3 progress against targets for those performance indicators that fall within the Jobs and Money outcome area, for which the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee has responsibility.

#### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To note performance against targets in 2021-22 Quarter 3 (1<sup>st</sup> October – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021) for measures relating to Jobs and Money outcomes in Environment and Regeneration.

#### 3. Background

- 3.1 A suite of corporate performance indicators was agreed for 2018-22, which help to track progress in delivering the seven priorities set out in the Council's Corporate Plan - *Building a Fairer Islington*. These continue to be reviewed, to ensure that they are fit for purpose, both providing Committee with a measure of overall performance, as well as stretching services to meet the exceptional economic circumstances we now face. Targets are set on an annual basis and performance is monitored internally, through Departmental Management Teams, Corporate Management Board and Joint Board, and externally through the Scrutiny Committees.

3.2 The Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee is responsible for monitoring and challenging performance for the following key outcome area: Jobs and Money which covers delivering an inclusive economy, supporting people into work, and helping them with the cost of living.

#### 4. Quarter 3 performance update - Reduce levels of long-term unemployment and worklessness

##### 4.1 Corporate Indicator JM1 - Number of Islington residents supported into paid work through Team Islington activity.

The Council's corporate plan 2018-22 set out an objective to 'Deliver an Inclusive Economy', supporting people into work helping them with the cost of living. As part of delivering this objective, the Council set a target of supporting **4,000** residents into employment over a 4-year period. The target for this year was 1,000 residents placed in paid employment. **We have surpassed the profiled target by 65%** and at the end of December 2021 had successfully placed **5,309** residents into employment. To achieve the corporate commitment ahead of the expected term and despite the economic downturn due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic is an **excellent achievement**. This result reflects the embodiment of the **Islington working partnership** who have collectively contributed **72%** of the overall outcomes, with the remaining **28%** being achieved by council services.

4.2 We have identified the issues of sustainment in work as a key measure in assessing the effectiveness of employment support services and have developed a '*new performance indicator*' to track clients at 13 and 26 weeks, outcomes for those residents still in work at 13 and 26 weeks will be reported this quarter for outcomes achieved by the Council's iWork service. This will also be rolled out and embedded across the Islington working partnership and included in future reporting.

4.3 The Inclusive Economy and Jobs (IE&J) service has been operating in a challenging labour market that has up to now, confounded expectations of an impending recession. In response to expert forecasts, the IE&J service and Islington working partnership prepared to support with rising levels of unemployment following the ending of furlough. In fact, unemployment in Islington, as measured by the Claimant Count, has continued to fall in every month since March last year, from 7.6% then to 5.2% in December 2021. Although the count for over 50s workers has fallen from more than 1 in 10 workers in April 2021, at 7.6% it is 25% higher than in London and more than double the UK rate.

4.4 Instead of rising unemployment, we have seen a shortage of labour due to a reduction in inward migration brought about by Brexit, rapid re-opening of businesses and many people dropping out of the labour market in Islington altogether.

4.5 This was reflected in there being slightly more than one vacancy for every unemployed person in the UK in December. Islington has seen an 80% increase in vacancies in the year to February 2021. In the UK vacancies have been highest in the construction, transport and storage and social care sectors. In Islington vacancies have been highest for Sales Accounts and Business Development Managers, Programmers and Software Development Professionals, Primary and Nursery Education Teaching Professionals and Assistants, and Chef occupations. Across the UK the Institute for Employment studies has identified a higher level of vacancies in every industrial sector compared to before the pandemic. Two in five businesses in hospitality and food were also reporting labour shortages at the end of last year. To fill vacancies, the government's 'Way to Work' programme will ensure that if people are not able to find work in their previous occupation or sector, they are expected to look for jobs in other sectors after four weeks instead of three months and this will be part of their requirements for receiving their benefit payment.

4.6 Labour shortages reflect half a million fewer people who are 'economically active' across the UK. Islington mirrors the national trend with 14% fewer people deemed economically active in the borough in June 2021 compared to March 2020. Recruitment difficulties for employers are also partly explained by people shifting jobs to those that they can do at home (e.g., a large rise in single parent mothers working) and towards higher paying opportunities, albeit sometimes in the same industry.

4.7 The Annual Population Survey has identified an 'upskilling' in the labour market with demand highest for workers in Information Technology and Communications double that of the next largest sector needing workers, Public Administration and Civil Service occupations. By contrast, disadvantaged workers seem to be faring less well in the recovery. Demand for lower skilled work and some skilled trades has declined, for example elementary cleaning, service, retail, and sales occupations that have a disproportionate impact upon women. This, compounded with rising inflation, a lifting of the energy cap by £500 to £2,000 a year, and the upcoming National Insurance rise is likely to intensify a cost-of-living crisis for Islington's poorest residents, especially those in low paid, insecure jobs.

4.8 **Corporate Indicator JM1a - Number of Islington resident parents of children aged 0-18 supported into paid work through Team Islington activity** – The profiled target of **248** has been exceeded by 21% this quarter and we are on track to meet the year-end target of **330**. Of the **302** parents reported into work, 97 were reported by Ingeus programmes. Ingeus continue to be a key contributor to employment outcomes in the borough. They are responsible for delivering two Government initiatives in response to the Covid-19 pandemic - Job Entry Targeted Support (JETS) and Restart - and they also deliver the Work and Health Programme in the borough.

109 parents were supported into paid work by council services, 21 of which gained work by directly registering on the Islington working jobs portal. 34 had been unemployed 2 years or more and 28 of these were placed into jobs brokered by the council's iWork service. A further 15 had been unemployed over 4 years.

4.9 **Corporate Indicator JM1b - Number of Islington resident young people aged 18-25 supported into paid work through Team Islington activity** - The number of Islington residents aged 18-25 that have been supported into paid work is currently **290** exceeding the profiled target of **225** by **22%**. We are on track to meet the year-end target of **300**. The Youth Employability and Skills programme continues to respond to the complex needs of our most vulnerable young people by providing tailored world of work opportunities, extensive one-to-one guidance and creating pathways which lead to meaningful and sustained employment.

In Quarter 3, the programme supported 9 young people into a range of roles including fixed term and permanent vacancies in the healthcare, retail, logistics, hospitality, local government, and pharmaceutical sectors. The council's Kick-start programme, which brokers and supports young people claiming universal credit to take up 6 month paid placements, accounted for 4 employment outcomes. The LIFT programme has also proved popular with this age group and has engaged Islington young people in employability workshops, which train them for employment in a start-up, and enterprise workshops, which support budding new entrepreneurs in tech and digital industries.

4.10 **Corporate Indicator JM1c - Number of Islington resident Disabled people / those with long term health conditions supported into paid work through Team Islington activity**

Council services and partners supported **471** Islington residents with a disability or long term health condition into employment exceeding the profiled target of **188** and year-end target of **250**. This strong performance reflects the embodiment of the Islington working partnership and reflects the range of specialist provision targeting those who live with long term health conditions and/or

disabilities. The Work and Health Programme delivered by Ingeus have been a significant contributor to outcomes for this cohort and the Learning Disability and Autism sub group which supported 8 residents into work. 33 residents were supported into work by the Council's iWork service, two thirds were placed into roles brokered by iWork, often with council contractors.

#### 4.11 **Corporate Indicator JM1d - Number of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Islington residents supported into paid work through Team Islington activity**

We continue to report strong outcomes for Black Asian and Minority Ethnic residents with **788** into paid employment in Quarter 3, exceeding the year-end target by **31%**. The Inclusive Economy & Jobs service is determined to broaden our reach to communities and will be testing out an innovative approach to outreach. We will do this by deploying an employment officer into community settings to engage with residents who are unaware of the full scope of employment support services available in the borough.

The council have also undertaken work with London Metropolitan University to explore unemployment within specific Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities in the borough. The research comprised both quantitative and qualitative analysis through a series of focus groups. A final report will be available at the end of February 2022 with recommendations on how to better connect and support residents from marginalised communities, along with refined targets.

#### 4.12 **Corporate Indicator JM1e - Council Contracted Suppliers**

We have achieved our profiled target for jobs with council contracted suppliers through the combined efforts of the iWork for Business teams and contract managers across the council. All partners are re-doubling efforts to introduce iWork to their contractors and making it clear that there is an expectation to recruit locally. All contractors are now required to post vacancies on the Islington working jobs portal, and the iWork team are now beginning to develop stronger relationships with those contractors who do so, as well as internal processes to systematically capture opportunities as they arise through the commissioning process.

#### 4.13 **JM2 – Number of London Living wage entry level jobs achieved through the Islington working partnership –**

This is a new measure, introduced from Quarter 3 20/21. This year will be the first full year of data. Performance has been strong in Quarter 3, and we have already exceeded the year-end target of 200. This strong performance reflects our commitment to work with our contractors and the council's dedicated approach to paying the Living wage through all its contracts.

#### 4.14 **JM3 - Monetary value of social value derived through affordable workspace.**

There are now three Affordable Workspaces which are up and running so far this year, which, up to the end of Quarter 3 had provided a social value of **£1,024,348**. Outputs are categorised using a framework designed in collaboration with The Social Value Portal and are grouped under different 'Themes', 'Outcomes' and 'Measures'. Each measure has a financial proxy attached to it, which allows the team to quantify the level of social value in monetary terms. Output measures fall primarily under Employment, Education and Skills, Business Support, Workspace Management and Community/Other (which includes climate impact and promoting ethical procurement.)

Two of our providers are in the third year of their contract. Space 4/Outlandish has delivered £830,682 and Fashion-Enter £153,032. Fashion-Enter's social value output was impacted by the COVID restrictions and the delayed opening of their workspace. Space4/Outlandish, on the other

hand, has benefited from the demand for online service support in the wake of the pandemic. Betterspace in its first Quarter achieved a Social Value of £40,639.00.

Social Value highlights include:

- **Outlandish** won the first contract to run an Affordable Workspace which targets and develops skills and employment opportunities for local and minority groups and advances an inclusive economy in Islington.

One of Outlandish's highlights in Quarter 3 was giving free work and training space to the social enterprise organisation Breakthrough. Breakthrough supports prison leavers to enter employment, by providing them with skills training relevant to the tech sector, confidence training, and support with CVs and preparing for job interviews. The course lasted 3 months and was attended by 7 prison-leavers. In addition, Breakthrough has provided work to 5 young unemployed people, with support from the Kick-start programme.

- **Fashion Enter:** In Quarter 3 Fashion Enter rented out the last of their Studio Spaces to local businesses. A total of 18 Islington Residents completed their Level 1 Stitching Academy Course.

On 4th December Fashion Enter hosted the Fonthill Road Christmas Market for designers and Fonthill Road traders. In total 16 local start-up businesses and three Fonthill Road traders took advantage of this marketing opportunity.

Prior to the Christmas market, designers were given business development advice on how to increase brand exposure and sales with the design and production of their garments to sell on the market.

- **Betterspace:** The first 6 months of operation in Better Space has seen a range of activities and events to help establish and build connections in the local area. The first milestone was successfully growing the team in June with the hiring of a local resident to the role of Community Manager. After opening doors in July, 10 organisations and over 40 individuals were using the space on a regular basis by the end of the year.
- **Town Square Spaces** are currently fitting out a package of three affordable workspaces (White Collar Factory, 160 Old Street, and 250 City Road) situated by Old Street. The team are working towards a full campus launch in Spring 2022 and a press release was published w/c 31st January announcing the partnership. Despite the spaces not yet being operational, Town Square Spaces have already started to deliver some of their early-stage business support initiatives, notably their Start-Up Club offer, which was well-received by residents.

Outputs are categorised using a framework (designed in collaboration with The Social Value Portal) of different Themes, Outcomes and Measures. Each measure has a financial proxy attached to it, which allows the team to quantify the level of social value in monetary terms. Qualitative updates, insights and case studies are also captured from operators.

#### **JM4 – Assessment by businesses of impact/value added by Inclusive Economy & Jobs**

This is a new corporate indicator for 2021-22 that will be reported on from Quarter 4. An annual survey will be developed to track stakeholder satisfaction in the services provided, to enable full corporate reporting of performance.

The Grants Team has now delivered **almost £9.3 million** in direct grant funding through discretionary schemes since December 2020, through the ARG main fund and target schemes for the workspace, cultural, markets and childcare sectors.

As part of the council's recovery agenda and to enable a more equitable and greener recovery through the pandemic, the Business Recovery Team has launched 12 interventions designed to:

- Address inequalities in entrepreneurship
- Enable the growth of the co-operative sector
- Support businesses to implement circular economy business models
- Enable the growth of local supply chains.

The team also launched two new grant schemes in February 2022 designed to support businesses most impacted by the Omicron variant and to support the re-animation of our high streets.

Local Economies Officers have continued to provide a rapid response support function through the dedicated business support inbox [businesssupport@islington.gov.uk](mailto:businesssupport@islington.gov.uk) as well as leading on business relationships, support and inclusive economy initiatives in designated town centres and high streets, Archway, Caledonian Road, Clerkenwell and Bunhill, Finsbury Park and Nags Head.

In Quarter 3 Local Economies Officers carried out weekly walkabouts in our town centres to provide one to one support and advice to hundreds of businesses on a range of issues and organised several large walkabouts with multiple teams from the council and other major stakeholders, such as the police and TFL (Transport for London). In **Finsbury Park**, one such walkabout took place on Blackstock Road in late January with over thirty attendees from London Borough of Islington, London Borough of Hackney, Police and Councillors, including visits to businesses to discuss areas for improvement. An action plan is now being created as a result, incorporating actions for Inclusive Economy, Transport Planning and Community Safety.

Officers have continued to promote our town centres and high streets through organisation of activities and events, including putting on much welcomed Christmas events in our local economies, such as the 'Archway Christmas Cracker,' bringing the community together, whilst keeping COVID protection measures in place. 1000 people attended the **Archway** event, which involved shopping at the market, taking part in the free activities in the library, Archway Tavern, and on Navigator Square, or by visiting local businesses via an interactive trail. Council services attended to promote their services at the event and reported a successful take up. The Christmas events organised by the Local Economies Team were our best attended, and in view of the pandemic, the most appreciated set of events we have run yet.

In **Clerkenwell** we have been working with the Clerkenwell Alliance on a strategy to involve younger people in the local area and encourage them to start new enterprises, as well as helping local schools benefit from training opportunities offered by anchor institutions, such as Goldsmiths, and brokered free accountancy and legal advice for SMEs through building partnerships with larger business forums.

In **Caledonian Ward**, the Local Economy Officer has made great strides setting up a new Traders' Association, including bringing them to the point of being fully constituted and able to manage their own funds. This has already resulted in the co-production of events and several initiatives such as an upcoming pilot for a new loyalty card scheme. In addition, the Cally Officer has brokered a significant sum from a local supermarket into a social value partnership with a local school.



The **Nag's Head** Officer has been bringing stakeholders together to benefit from the 'High Streets Task Force' and learn from experts on how Islington can support our high streets to sustain and flourish post pandemic, including through initiatives to support residents, such as the Nag's Head Manor Gardens Welfare Trust Food Cooperative Project, which is also project managed by the Nags Head Officer - a project designed to give residents in need a closer connection and engagement with their high street.

Officers have also continued with business-as-usual activities such as organising Town Centre Meetings and Councillors' Delivery Boards, including the Tri-Borough Finsbury Park Town Centre Meeting, Archway Town Centre Meeting, Nags Head Town Centre Meeting, Archway Delivery Board and Finsbury Park Delivery Board.

The Local Economies Team has also recently recruited a specialist Local Economy Officer for People Friendly Streets to support businesses in areas with **Low Traffic Neighbourhoods**. The officer has already carried out extensive business engagement in St Mary's, Clerkenwell and Highbury, as well as project managing on various initiatives to support businesses affected by the changes involved in bringing in People Friendly Streets neighbourhoods. Part of the role is to support businesses to adapt their business model in response to any traffic restrictions.

#### 4.16 **JM5 - Number of Islington residents supported into apprenticeships with an external employer**

In the first two quarters of 2021-22, apprenticeships continued to be impacted by sector shutdowns, which resulted in lower numbers of starts and also delays to training. However, the position picked up from Quarter 3 and we are now exceeding targets. Performance has been strong this quarter with **46** apprentices placed against a profiled target of **23**. Most of the apprenticeships reported have been achieved by our iWork for Construction council team working closely with developers on our Section 106 sites and the council's own contractors. At least a third of apprenticeships achieved were delivered by our Islington working partnership which includes social care contractors and the Aspire Youth employment network.

#### 4.17 **JM6 - Number of Islington residents gaining apprenticeships with council contracted suppliers (subset of JM5)**

In Quarter 3 we placed **23** Islington residents into apprenticeships with council contractors exceeding the profiled target of **15**. Of these:

- 21 were placed by iWork's construction team onto local construction sites subject to a section 106 agreement
- 1 was placed with the council's own New Build programme
- 2 other roles were reported to us by contractors - one being taken on by a social care contractor, the other by a grant funded provider

Performance targets for apprenticeship starts with council contractors is part of our commitment to use our influence and spending power to deliver social value. Year on year comparisons show there has been a marked increase in the number of apprenticeship starts with contractors. This reflects joint working between the iWork construction team, Section 106 officer, and the Housing New Build team and provides some indication of recovery in the sector.

#### 4.18 **JM7 & JM8- Percentage of Islington residents supported into paid work through Team Islington activity who are still in work at 13 weeks and 26 weeks**

This is a new performance indicator introduced from April 2021. Currently reporting is based on iWork job outcomes only and of these, those people we are able to contact (we contact people up to three times, but not all reply).

Of the 255 people placed by iWork into work since April 2021, 201 had reached the 13 week point. We were able to contact 117 of these (84 did not respond). Of the 117 we spoke to, 95 (81%) were still in employment whilst 22 (19%) were no longer in work.

At 26 weeks there were 110 residents who we needed to contact to see if they had sustained employment. We were able to contact 37 of these (73 did not respond). Of the 37 we spoke to 30 (81%) were still in employment whilst 7 (19%) were no longer in work.

We will continue to work with partners to ensure that they also track and report outcomes at 13 and 26 weeks.

#### 5. **Help residents get the skills they need to secure a good job**

##### 5.1 Key performance indicators relating to 'Help residents get the skills they need to secure a good job.'

Adult Community Learning operate over academic years, so performance is not measured by financial quarters, but by return figures at the end of each term. Financial Quarter 1 finishes at the end of June and Quarter two at the end of September. The end of July marks the end of the academic year and mid-September the beginning of the next. As a result Quarter 3's report contains enrolment information for the Autumn Term (August '21 to December '21), the Spring Term is (January 22 to March/April 22) and Summer Term is (April 22 to July 22).

##### 5.2 **Corporate Indicator JM9 - Number of Islington residents enrolled on an Adult Community Learning Course**<sup>1</sup> The gradual lifting of lockdown-related restrictions has resulted in the service offering more face-to-face provision as compared to the same Autumn term last year. August (Summer) drop ins, falling in Autumn 2021, including digital and employability and Bright Start events held in the August period have helped the service engage with residents with provision that was not possible or as effective when delivered online. The data presented above shows an increase in enrolment numbers of 10%. Learner and resident confidence took a dip towards the end of the Autumn term, due to the Omicron variant, but it is still projected that enrolment numbers will increase compared to the previous year.

At the beginning of the academic year, the service hosted face-to-face enrolment days for the first time since before the lockdown. The continued closure of the Arsenal Learning Zone meant that they were not delivered from the usual venue but from the Williamson Street Community Centre.

The target of engaging with 2,000 unique Islington residents was one set for ACL provision prior to the pandemic, when most teaching was face-to-face. Although the figures reported are not on target to meet this overarching target, they indicate that the service is on the road to recovery and that engagement is better than this time last year. The service is taking the following steps to increase delivery:

- Maintaining online classes where they have worked (at the higher levels)
- Phasing back face-to-face provision in venues that are open and available, such as Finsbury Library and First Steps

- Commissioning provision that the service is unable to deliver itself – specifically the Level 3 National Skills Funding
- Planning Family Learning provision with Bright Start centres
- Planning increased ESOL provision for the advent of recent Afghan refugees
- Delivering Skills for Life and Work qualifications as a subcontractor for the Workers Education Alliance.

### 5.3 **Corporate Indicator JM9a - Number of parents of children aged 0-18 enrolled on an Adult & Community Learning Course**

As mentioned above, the service has enrolled more learners as compared to the same period last year. Specifically, there has been an increase in Family and Community Learning provision; offers that traditionally attract parents. The Curriculum Manager for Family Learning has exciting and ambitious plans to deliver more provision within children's centres in co-ordination with Bright Start, with agreed internal targets against enrolment via schools; Bright Start Centres; on short courses and on accredited courses.

### 5.4 **Corporate Indicator JM9b - Number of residents with disabilities/those with a long-term health condition enrolled on an Adult & Community Learning Course**

The service has enrolled a little over the profiled number for last year. As more face-to-face is being delivered, more residents with disabilities and long-term health conditions will be enrolled onto courses. The Service is acting as a subcontractor for the Workers' Educational Association, with the aim of delivering the Entry 3 award in Skills for Independence and Employability with Islington Mind. This provision will target and support residents who have struggled with their mental health and wellbeing.

### 5.5 **Corporate Indicator JM9c - Number of Black, Asian and Ethnic Minorities enrolled on an Adult & Community Learning Course**

As with the higher numbers of residents enrolled on courses, the service continues to engage a high number of learners from black, Asian, and other ethnic minorities. It is expected that this number will increase as the year draws on. The service is in discussion with partners who are planning for an intake of new Afghan refugees, with plans to enrol those suitable on English language courses.

### 5.6 **Corporate Indicator JM9d - Number of residents engaging with online courses**

As the number of classes delivered face-to-face increases, the number of online courses has decreased. As there is more flexibility in modes of delivery, the service will continue to deliver courses online where it is to the residents' benefit.

### 5.7 **JM10 - Number of schools engaged in 100 hours of work programme**

All secondary schools apart from The Bridge SEN (Special Educational Needs) school have engaged to date this year. This has been due to stretched resources at the schools during the height of the pandemic but planned activities have been rescheduled. Activities have also been rescheduled due to staff or students' sickness at a further 3 schools. The focus for Quarter 4 is building engagement across primary settings with a series of events planned for National Careers Week (7-12 March 2022).

## 5.8 **JM11 - Number of page views for 100 hours of the world of work**

We are ahead of profiled target, although we have seen the numbers of unique visitors to our web sites level off to between 200-250 per month. Home learning is not taking place in most schools and feedback from careers teams is that young people are struggling to engage meaningfully with online content this term, with many schools indicating a preference for face-to-face careers activities only. However, we will continue to update and promote our online content for those who use these resources.

## 6. **Implications**

### 6.1 **Financial implications:**

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

### 6.2 **Legal Implications:**

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

### **Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030:**

6.3 There is no environmental impact arising from monitoring performance.

### **Resident Impact Assessment:**

6.4 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).

6.5 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.

## **Conclusion**

7. The Council's Corporate Plan sets out a clear set of priorities, underpinned by a set of firm commitments and actions that we will take to work towards our vision of a Fairer Islington. The corporate performance indicators are one of several tools that enable us to ensure that we are making progress in delivering key priorities whilst maintaining excellent quality services.

7.1 It is evident that the Covid-19 crisis has had, and will continue to have, significant impact on progress against targets for those performance indicators that fall within the Jobs and Money outcome area. As the economy and labour market change, it is likely that a corresponding evolution of the performance reports to this Committee will be needed to ensure that it is able to provide oversight and challenge to the relevant Services.

**Signed by:**

Date: March 2022

Stephen Biggs, Programme Director  
of Community Wealth Building

Report Author:

Heads of Service for: Employment,  
Adult Community Learning, Youth  
Employment, Progression and Skills

## Appendix A : Employment & Skills Dashboard Quarter 3 2021-22

PI No.	Indicator	Frequency reported	Latest data for period	YTD / Latest Figure	Profiled target (expected position this point in year)	Target 2021-22	Actual 2020/21	Same period last year	Direction of travel
<b>Reduce levels of long term unemployment and worklessness</b>									
JM1	Number of Islington residents supported into paid work through Team Islington activity; with sub-targets for:	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	1,651	750	1,000	988	473	↑
	a) Parents of children aged 0-18	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	302	248	330	223	103	↑
	b) Young people aged 18-25	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	290	225	300	238	115	↑
	c) Residents with disabilities / those with long term health conditions	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	471	188	250	186	115	↑
	d) BAME	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	788	450	600	491	278	↑
	e) Council Contracted Suppliers	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	190	188	250	180	38	↑
JM2	Number of London Living Wage entry level jobs achieved through the Islington working partnership	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	276	150	200	307	80	↑
JM3	Monetary value of social value derived through affordable workspace	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	£1,043,677.04	Baseline year	New Indicator	£157,968	£403,324	↑
JM4	Assessment by businesses of impact/value added by Inclusive Economy and Jobs	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	Annual Indicator	Annual Indicator	New Indicator	New Indicator	New Indicator	New Indicator
JM5	Number of Islington residents supported into Apprenticeships with an external employer	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	46	23	30	67	25	↑
JM6	Number of Islington residents gaining apprenticeships with council contracted suppliers	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	23	15	20	9	1	↑

JM7	Percentage of Islington residents supported into paid work through team Islington activity who were still in work at 13 weeks	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	81%	50%	50%	New Indicator	New Indicator	New Indicator
JM8	Percentage of Islington residents supported into paid work through team Islington activity who were still in work at 26 weeks	Quarterly	April 21-Dec 21	81%	50%	50%	New Indicator	New Indicator	New Indicator
<b>Help residents get the skills they need to secure a good job</b> Adult Community Learning (ACL) performance is measured in academic years and Quarter 3 reporting covers the Autumn term of 2021 -22 academic year.									
JM9	Number of Islington residents enrolled on an Adult & Community Learning Course with sub-targets for:	Termly	Autumn Term <b>August 21 to December 21</b>	601	500	2000	954	532	↑
	a) Parents of children aged 0-18	Termly	Autumn Term <b>August 21 to December 21</b>	297	200	700	420	232	↑
	b) Residents with disabilities / those with long term health conditions	Termly	Autumn Term <b>August 21 to December 21</b>	124	150	450	175	121	↑
	c) BAME	Termly	Autumn Term <b>August 21 to December 21</b>	507	350	1,540	859	434	↑
	d) Residents engaging with online courses	Termly	Autumn Term <b>August 21 to December 21</b>	281	130	400	865	448	↑
JM10	Number of schools engaged in 100 hours of work programme	Quarterly	Apr21 -Dec 21	19	30	40	22	21	↔
JM11	Number of page views for 100 hours of the world of work	Annually	Annual Indicator	1970	1500	2000	4504	2760	↓

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**Executive Member for Environment and Transport and Corporate Director of Environment.**

<b>Meeting of:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Ward(s):</b>
Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee	7 March 2022	All

<b>Delete as appropriate:</b>		Non-exempt
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## **SUBJECT: Quarter 3 Performance Report: Place and Environment**

### **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. Progress on key performance measures are 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 Q3 2021/22 progress against targets for those performance indicators that mainly fall within the Place and Environment outcome area, for which the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee has responsibility. There is also an Energy measure from the Jobs and Money outcome area that relate to helping residents cope with the cost of living.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 To note performance against targets as at end of Q3 2021/22.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 A suite of corporate performance indicators has been agreed for 2018-22, which help track progress in delivering the seven priorities set out in the Council's Corporate Plan - Building a Fairer Islington. Targets are set on an annual basis and performance is monitored internally, through Departmental Management Teams, Corporate Management Board, and externally through the Scrutiny Committees.
- 3.2 The Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee is responsible for monitoring and challenging performance for the Place and Environment outcome area of making Islington a

welcoming and attractive borough and creating a healthier environment for all, and also a couple of Energy measures from the Jobs and Money outcome area that relate to helping residents cope with the cost of living.

### Quarter 3 performance update – Keep the streets clean and promote recycling.

3.3

PI No.	Indicator	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	21/22 Target	Q3 21/22 or latest	On target?	Q3 or same period last year	Direction of travel
E1	Percentage of household waste recycled and composted (Q in arrears)	29.6%	31.3%	32%	30.5% (Q1)	No	31.3% (20/21)	Same
E11	Number missed waste collections - domestic and commercial (average per calendar month)	318	289	290	278 (Q3)	Yes	325	Better
n/a	Number of reported flytips (all land types)	1,764	1,982	n/a	340 (Q3)	n/a	573	Better
E6	Cleanliness surveys - Litter (% sites above acceptable standard)	89.9%	93.5%	94%	96.2% (Q3)	Yes	93.5% (20/21)	Better
E7	Cleanliness surveys – Detritus (% sites above acceptable standard)	93.5%	91.1%	92%	93.4% (Q3)	Yes	91.1% (20/21)	Better
E8	Cleanliness surveys –Graffiti (% sites above acceptable standard)	96.8%	94.9%	97%	99.4% (Q3)	Yes	94.9% (20/21)	Better
E9	Cleanliness surveys – Flyposting (% sites above acceptable standard)	98.6%	98.5%	98%	99.7% (Q3)	Yes	98.5% (20/21)	Better

### **Recycling rate**

- 3.4 Audited quarterly recycling rate data from Waste Data Flow usually comes in around three months after the end of the quarter with Q1's figure now revised down from the 30.9% given in the last report to 30.5%. This compares to the overall 20/21 outturn of 31.3% and against the higher 21/22 target of 32%.

The provisional Q2 figures showed unusually high residual waste (non-recycled) tonnages, which seem anomalous, These are being analysed and checked for errors before being confirmed.

Newly produced London benchmarking data for 20/21 shows that our 31.3% outturn maintained Islington in 4<sup>th</sup> place out of all 13 inner London Boroughs, behind Lambeth, Southwark and Greenwich, but ahead of Camden, Lewisham, Hackney, Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea, Wandsworth, Westminster and Tower Hamlets.

### **Missed Collections**

- 3.5 Average overall monthly reported missed waste collections in Q3 was 278, consistently maintaining the better than target position and with the year-to-date average now and improved 264 compared to last year's 289.

There are an average of 2.12 million collections made every month so the above performance represents 0.012% reported missed or only one in every 8,000.

### **Fly-tipping**

- 3.6 The 'fly-capture' fly-tipping indicator measures the total number of reported fly-tips across all land types and waste types, with the number in Q3 being 340, substantially lower than the 573 in Q3 of last year. This brings the 21/22 year-to-date figure to 1,122 which is 32% down on the corresponding period in 20/21. The reduction in numbers of flytips is likely to be related to the numbers of bulky waste collections the council makes and which is currently running at a high level, up 26% year-to-date on the same period in 19/20. This is considered a better comparison to the same figure for 20/21 as lockdown conditions encouraged high levels of domestic clear-outs.

Looking at the raw numbers of fly-tips reported across all 33 London Boroughs across 20/21, Islington had the very lowest number, and this benchmarked position has also been maintained across the first three quarters of 21/22.

Of the reported fly-tips on the public highway year-to-date, we removed 91% within our 24-hour target time-scale.

### **Street cleanliness surveys**

- 3.7 Street Cleanliness surveys in Islington used to be conducted by Keep Britain Tidy (KBT) but are now conducted in-house using the same on-street survey methodology. These are now conducted continuously as opposed to in tranches with survey sites covering all local land types across retail, industrial, housing, highways and recreation etc.

All measures are collated to represent the observable amounts of litter, detritus (organic matter and gravel/sand etc), graffiti and flyposting. The results are then analysed, weighted and presented as a single percentage under each category giving the proportion of sites that are at or above a defined acceptable standard (or its inverse). Therefore in the table above, the higher the figures (closer to 100%) the better. Given the nature of the data, a tolerance of one percentage point has been applied to achievement of our performance targets and comparisons with previous years. This means for example, that in the table above, actual litter performance would only trigger an orange RAG rating in relation to the 94% target, if it dropped to below 93%.

With litter, performance has improved as the year has progressed with Q3 showing 96.2% and the year to date now at 94.9%, ahead of the ambitious 21/22 target of 94.0% This is well ahead of the 19/20 London benchmark of 91.1%. The return of individual sweepers to their substantive rounds has enabled better and more focussed attention to local detail, and this has also resulted in much improved detritus scores as below.

Levels of detritus had deteriorated earlier in the year with the average for Q1 and Q2 being 88.5% against the 92% target, with the scores on residential streets being the poorest. We have turned that around to show 93.4% in Q3 and raising the year-to-date average to 90.1%. This compares to the 19/20 London benchmark of 89%. The above mentioned changes in sweeper deployment, early removal of leaf fall, and better oversight of a consistent surveying methodology have all contributed to the improved figures.

With flyposting we've also had very strong performance with Q3 coming in at 99.7% and bringing the year-to-date average up to 98.6%, comparable to last year and staying well ahead of the London 96% average. Similarly with graffiti, where Q3's 99.4% pushes the average for the year so far to 98.3% compared to last year's 94.9%. This is mainly down to having a fully resourced team and better using local data and being more proactive in removing graffiti from third party infrastructure.

**Quarter 3 performance update - Make sure residents have access to high quality parks, leisure facilities and cultural opportunities**

3.8

PI No.	Indicator	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Target	Q3 21/22 or latest	On target ?	Same period last year	Direction of travel
E10	Number of Leisure Visits	2.067m	298k	<b>1.231m</b>	<b>843k (April-Nov)</b>	<b>Yes</b>	249k	<b>Better</b>

**Leisure Centre visits**

3.9 After the managed leisure centres reopening in early April last year, year-to-date visitor numbers have been substantially stronger than expected, now standing at 843k for the period to November and 23% up on the profiled target, now standing at around 60% of pre-pandemic levels.

Reliable figures for December are not yet available due to issues with the GLL FLO data collection system and the steep rise in Omicron cases is expected to impact visitor numbers in December and January. The visitor targets across Q4 of 21/22 build progressively and are based on the assumption of no further lockdown closures or restrictions.

**Quarter 3 performance update - Provide practical support to help residents cope with the cost of living**

3.10

PI No.	Indicator	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Target	Q3 21/22 or latest	On target ?	Same Period last year	Direction of travel
E13	Residents supported through SHINE – unique household referrals	3,643*	5,479*	<b>2,500</b>	<b>2,885</b>	<b>Yes</b>	n/a	<b>n/a</b>

\* These figures are not directly comparable with current performance as they were presented using the old methodology which included re-referrals of the same household.

### Islington SHINE referrals

3.11 The KPI on SHINE (Seasonal Health Interventions Network) referrals has been modified to bring it into line with that required by and supplied to funders as well as public commitments made in the council's Challenging Inequalities Strategy. Previously this measure was presented as counting all referrals, including re-referrals, but now we are presenting this as unique household referrals only.

Performance remains very strong, with Q1-Q3 unique referrals being 2,885 against the profiled in-year target of 1,725. The corresponding number of interventions was 10,446 so averaging 3.6 per referral, slightly up on last year's figure of 3.2. The reason for this over-performance is due to unexpectedly high residual lockdown related demand and also the opening of Warm Home Discount. As domestic energy bills continue to rise steeply, demand for this service is also expected to increase and the council is urgently reviewing how it can best respond to support residents.

### Quarter 3 performance update - Make it easier and safer for people to travel through the borough and beyond

3.12

PI No.	Indicator	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Target	Q3 21/22 or latest	On target ?	Q3 or same period last year	Direction of travel
E2	Number of secure cycle parking facilities on streets	221	222	400	240	No	222 (Q3 20/21)	Better
E3	Number of <b>new</b> electric vehicle charging points across the borough	176	284	400	285	No	248 (Q3 20/21)	Better
n/a	Percentage of parking appeals won at the Enforcement and Traffic Tribunal	52% (18/19)	52% (19/20)	75% (21/22)	69.3% (20/21)	n/a	52% (19/20)	Better
n/a	People killed or seriously injured on our roads	141 (2018)	111 (2019)	n/a	84 (2020)	n/a	111 (2019)	Better

### Secure cycle parking

3.13 Delivery of this programme has suffered due to pandemic delays and issues with funding but the team has been working very hard to catch up. A substantial and fast-paced roll-out of the remaining facilities started on 7<sup>th</sup> February and the service remain confident of reaching the 400 target total by the end of March. These facilities are expected to be of added importance to residents with the expected post lockdown upsurge in cycling.

### Electric vehicle charging points

- 3.14 The Council has also committed to installing 400 new electric vehicle charging points (EVCPs) over the same four-year period. In 20/21 we added 108 taking the total to 284, though we had to remove some from Liverpool Road due to Cycleway 38.

The programme of required consultations and site assessments has been stepping up and from the position of 285 as at the end of December, we are currently projecting getting to around 385 by the end of March, with the remainder being delivered in April. In updated benchmarking terms as at October 2021, the provision of EVCPs in Islington remained as ranking 9<sup>th</sup> per head of population across all 33 London Boroughs.

### Parking appeals

- 3.15 The percentage of parking appeals won by the council at the Enforcement and Traffic Tribunal is an annual measure reflecting the quality of our parking service. Confirmed London Council's data for 20/21 just available shows a substantial improvement from 52% in each of the previous two years, to a much improved 69.3% for 20/21. This is a slightly adjusted figure from the 71% reported in the last report as we mistakenly excluded some categories of appeal that are actually within the PI definition. Our benchmarked position against all 34 other London parking authorities has moved up from 18<sup>th</sup> in 19/20 to 3<sup>rd</sup> in 20/21 and we have now also set a 75% target for 21/22.

This much stronger position is as a result of better quality assurance for new CCTV schemes, improved on-street signage and working collaboratively with the adjudicators on the specific reasons for previous cases lost. We have also reintroduced an 'evidence request letter' early in the appeals process which has reduced cancellations on the basis of subsequent new evidence. Manual inputted internal data suggests that the improvements across 20/21 are continuing into 21/22.

### Road traffic collisions

- 3.16 The ambitious Islington Transport Strategy 2019-2041 contains a commitment to achieving 'Vision Zero' by 2041, eliminating all transport related deaths and serious injuries in Islington over the next 20 years.

After the very positive reductions in the 2020 annual figure presented in Quarter 1, next new data for 2021 will be available in the late summer.

### Quarter 3 performance update – Working towards a net zero carbon Islington by 2030

3.17

PI No.	Indicator	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Target	Q3 2021/22 or latest	On target ?	Same period last year	Direction of travel
E4	Carbon emissions for Council buildings (Q in arrears and tonnes CO2)	4,574	4,164	2,701	754 (Q1/Q2)	Yes	1,494 (Q1/Q2 20/21)	Better
E5	Carbon emissions from Council Transport fleet (tonnes CO2)	2,886	2,415	2,805	1,844 (Q1-Q3)	Yes	1,837 (Q1-Q3 20/21)	Same

### Carbon emissions from council buildings

- 3.18 In June 2019, the Council declared an Environment and Climate Change Emergency and the Carbon Zero Strategy 2030 was adopted by the Executive in November 2020. We are now monitoring the Council's own internal progress with quarterly measures of the CO2 emissions for Council operational buildings (within the Borough) and those from the Council's transport fleet. The former is reported a quarter in arrears in order to minimise using billing estimates, though these remained especially high under periods of lockdown when meter access was more difficult.

The Q1+Q2 outturn figure of 754 tonnes represents a halving on the same period last year and also 32% lower than the profiled in-year target. The former reduction is mainly as a result of new Green Electricity tariffs, ongoing lockdown related building closures and under-occupation, as well as some adjustment to previously over-estimated gas bills.

#### **Carbon emissions from council vehicle fleet**

- 3.19 Council fleet carbon emissions across the first three quarters of 21/22 are 13% lower than the profiled in-year target and very similar to the same period last year which was at the height of lockdown and the suspension of the of the Community Transport service. The targets for each year to 2030 are based on the percentage reduction from the 19/20 baseline and form a trajectory to net-zero based on an ambitious programme of fleet electrification, especially multiple heavier vehicles.

Progress with the electrification of the council's fleet is ongoing, not only in procuring full electric vehicles, but also an overall reduction in diesel vehicles and replacement with less polluting petrol, hybrid and bi-fuel alternatives.

## **4. Implications**

### **4.1 Financial implications:**

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

### **4.2 Legal Implications:**

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

### **4.3 Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030.**

There are no environmental impact arising from monitoring performance.

### **4.4 Resident Impact Assessment:**

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.

## **5. Reason for recommendations**

5.1 The Council's Corporate Plan sets out a clear set of priorities, underpinned by a set of firm commitments and actions that we will take over the next four years to work towards our vision of a Fairer Islington. The corporate performance indicators are one of a number of tools that enable us to ensure that we are making progress in delivering key priorities whilst maintaining good quality services.

Appendices - none

Final report clearance:

**Signed by:**



25.2.22

Corporate Director of Environment

Date



25.2.22

Executive Member for Environment and Transport Date

Report Author: Steve Wills, E&R Performance and Business Officer 17.2.22  
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# Net Zero Carbon Strategy Quarterly Progress Report (Quarter 3)

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Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

7 March 2022

Agenda Item 11

# 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 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 3 (October - December 2021)**

The progress updates on commitments are organised according to the **eight different programme workstreams** that are responsible for the delivery of actions. These work streams are:



# Overall summary of progress



Overview of the progress on delivery of commitments set out in the Net Zero Carbon strategy since the last report.

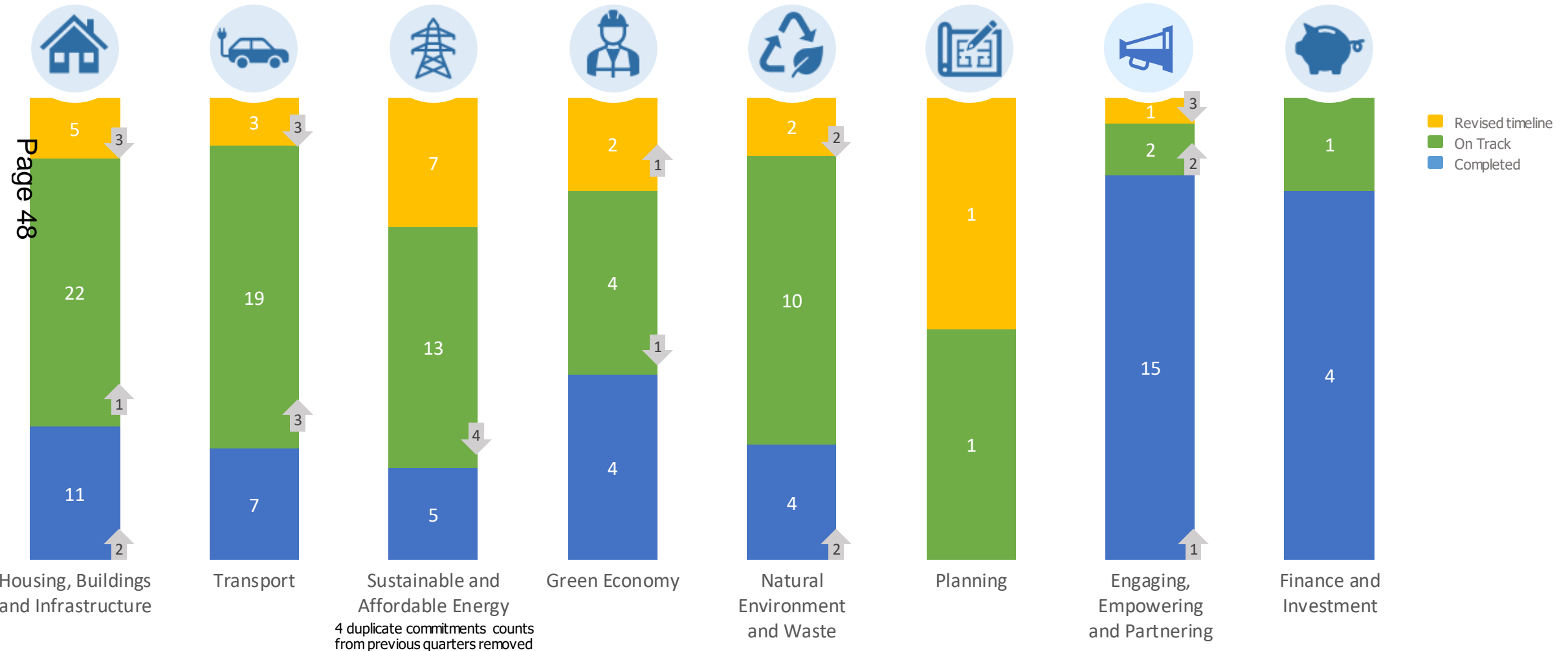
## Some key progress highlights

- Successful bid submitted to Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, securing £1.2 million funding to deliver retrofit work across council and housing association residential properties
- Islington's Community Municipal Investment bond launched in October, successfully reached its £1 million target by the end of January.
- Positive feedback received from our Let's Talk about a Greener Future festival in October 2021 now informing future engagement plans. Our Greener Together microsite and pledge tool have gone live.
- Circular Economy grants for small businesses launched
- Letters sent in February to households eligible for solar panel & battery installs under Solar Together 2022 scheme
- Community-led boroughwide green proposals programme 'Islington Greener Together' to launch March 2022.
- GLA development grant agreed for a Local Economy Plan following the submission of a Cally Future Neighbourhoods bid
- York Way cycle lane was made permanent in December 2021 and St Mary's Church LTN trial introduced in February 2022

# Performance

Overview of progress to date (December 2021) on the delivery of all commitments, based on the original dates and timescales set out in the Net Zero Carbon strategy or, where they have been reported to Scrutiny Committee, reprofiled timescales. A full review of all action plans is currently underway to ensure they are up-to-date and still accurate/relevant to future delivery.

**85% (previously 81%) of commitments** have either been completed or are on track.



# Buildings, Housing, Commercial & Infrastructure

Workstream Owner: Matt West



## Progress highlights on delivering commitments

### Residential – council owned

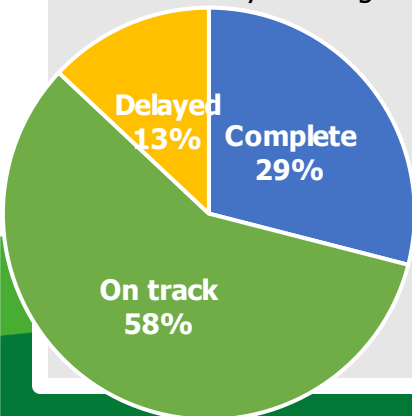
- **Harvist Estate** pilot to install wall insulation and cladding at four blocks is being reprofiled. A project manager has been appointed to take this project forward.
- Successful Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) wave 1 bid of £372,600 to be match funded by LBI to raise 32 homes to an EPC category C rating through our street properties pilot scheme.
- Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Funding (GHG LAD 1a) scheme completed including provision of energy efficiency measures to 53 homes with an EPC-rating of E or below
- Received draft report on the UCL detailed review of high-rise buildings outlining options for prioritising retrofit work (Feb 2022)

### Residential – housing associations

- Planning presentation delivered to housing association meeting in December – positive conversation focusing on planning's role in supporting housing associations in their ambition to deliver NZC homes.
- Peabody housing successful in securing £800,000 for work

### Residential – private landlords and tenants

- GHG LAD 1a lessons report completed with key insights on issues and successes relating to owner occupied and private rented properties
- Introductory meetings with service providers to discuss opportunities within the able-to-pay market



Commitments due last quarter	Status
Seek approval to continue with insulation/cladding schemes as part of Hard-to-insulate programme at four blocks (Harvist Estate)	Revised Dec 21

## Next steps



### Residential – council owned

- Harvist Estate Pilot - appoint consultant, carry out survey and site assessments
- Set out leaseholder charging approach for NZC related measures
- Identify buildings suitable for SHDF wave 2 bid

### Residential – housing associations

- Develop initial housing association carbon emission baseline report
- Current housing association plans for improving energy efficiency and achieving NZC

### Residential – private landlords and tenants

- Solar Together launched February 2022 for both residential and non-residential properties.
- Develop carbon baseline and housing stock composition evidence and insight
- Feasibility paper setting out options and recommendations around setting higher EPC standard
- Owner/occupier content for net zero website

# Buildings, Housing, Commercial & Infrastructure

Workstream Owner: Matt West



## Progress highlights on delivering commitments

### New Build

- Tree Mitigation strategy completed now to be incorporated into Greening the Borough Strategy as a policy.
- Decarbonising New Homes Design Guidance complete
- Guide for residents moving into new homes was delayed in order complete the above guidance but is now underway. The guide will help new tenants make environmentally friendly choices and make the most of energy efficiency features in their home

### Non-residential council owned

- Funding secured to carry out feasibility studies for 20 schools
- There were delays in agreeing the final list of buildings and procurement arrangements but 60 corporate buildings have now been selected for feasibility studies to assess suitability for gas boiler replacement

### Non-residential non-council

- Business audit launched, with 5 applications and 3 audits already complete

Commitments due last quarter	Status
<b>New build</b> – Introduce new measures to ensure that development plans, wherever possible, make a positive contribution to the protection, enhancement, creation and management of biodiversity ( <b>Tree Mitigation Strategy</b> )	Complete Dec 21
<b>New build</b> - develop a robust design compliance process to ensure zero carbon strategy is being incorporated across all design and construction the programme	Complete Dec 21
<b>New build</b> - develop a plan and identify resources needed to support occupants of new homes to operate new systems	Revised Mar 22
<b>Non-residential</b> - assess all council buildings to establish most suitable replacement for gas boilers	Revised Sep 22
<b>Non-residential</b> - investigate funding options for Green Deal style loan scheme for private property owners	Revised Mar 22
<b>Non-residential</b> - produce feasibility study for above scheme	Revised Mar 22

## Next steps



### New Build

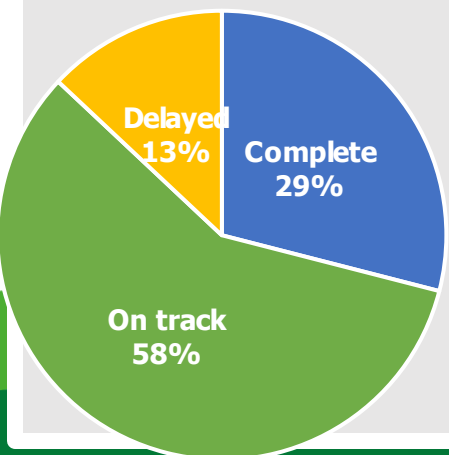
- Production of new home user guide
- Establish post-occupancy evaluation model
- Testing Tree Mitigation policy at two developments (Hathersage and Besant Court)

### Non-residential council owned

- Consultancy service agreement for the corporate building feasibility studies
- Heat decarbonisation plans for 20 schools (feasibility studies)

### Non-residential – non-council

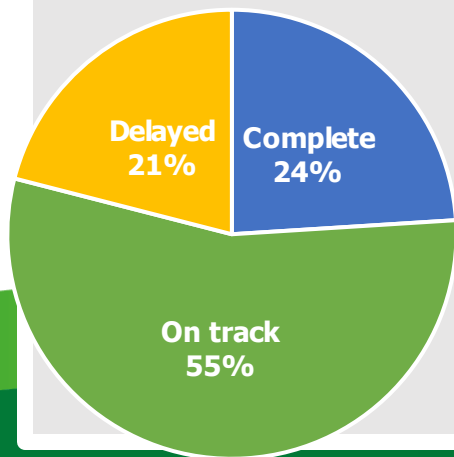
- Solar Together initiative launch
- Feasibility study for potential loan scheme
- Business section on net zero website (awareness, actions, and grants)
- Engagement plan with Anchor institutions



## Progress highlights on delivering commitments

- The waste recycling centre grid connection and substation has a **revised completion timescale of September 2022** because of the delayed appointment of the contractor.
- York Way cycle lane has been approved as a permanent scheme following consultation. Liverpool Road scheme consultation analysis underway.
- Public consultation on five low-traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs) complete, and underway on Highbury LTNs
- St Mary's Church LTN trial introduced in February 2022 including blue badge exemption
- Continuation of LTNs in St Peter's and Canonbury East with blue badge exemption
- By the end of December 2021, we had delivered 285 electric vehicle charging points, 72% of our target 400 and are working on delivery of the remaining 115 charging points.

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Commitments due last quarter	Status
Waste recycling centre grid connection and substation completed	Revised Sept 22

## Next steps



### Fleet electrification

- Contractors starting works to deliver Waste Recycling Centre grid connection and substation for September 2022.

### Vehicles use reduction by residents and local businesses

- Liverpool Road cycle lane consultation analysis and decision
- St Mary's low-traffic neighbourhood trial period

### Rollout of public EV infrastructure

- Deliver 400 electric vehicle charging points by March 2022

### Reduce fossil-fuel based plant usage

- Recruitment is underway for an officer to lead on these commitments

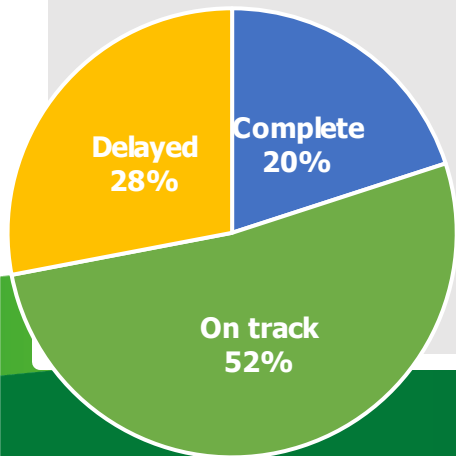
# Sustainable and affordable energy

Workstream Owner: Martijn Cooijmans



## Progress highlights on delivering commitments

- **Commercial options appraisal and funding structure options appraisal for GreenSCIES** have **revised completion timescales to June 2022** due to limited team capacity. However, GreenSCIES project manager started in February 2022, which will help with progressing this deliverable.
- **Develop connection offer package and agree funding for Bunhill** is partially completed – work to connect City Forum is ongoing and the connection offer package is pending funding confirmation and formal agreement. However, further work is needed to review potential future connections and impact on network capacity. Completion timescales for the overall commitment are being reviewed.
- **Look at opportunities for ground source heat pumps in parks & housing estates - Options appraisal.** Phase 1 of UCL feasibility study completed in December 2021 covering options appraisal for ground source heat pumps in housing estates. Parks and housing estates to be progressed as separate projects, reprofiling of commitment and completion timescales for parks are being reviewed.
- **Maximise solar power generation: LBI Sites - Complete prioritised solar project report** has a **revised completion timescale to August 2022** due to limited team capacity in Energy Services team. The procurement route for feasibility studies is agreed and the process is underway.
- **Explore self-supply through out of borough renewable generation** – completion of initial feasibility study delayed due to limited team capacity. Completion timescales for the overall deliverable have been **revised to Q4 22/23**



Commitments due last quarter	Status
Funding structure options appraisal for GreenSCIES	Revised Jun 22
Develop connection offer package and agree funding for Bunhill	Revised - under review
Look at opportunities for ground source heat pumps in parks & housing estates - Options appraisal for ground source heat pumps	Parks timescales under review
Complete prioritised solar project report	Revised Aug 22
Explore self-supply through out of borough renewable generation - Secure funding	Revised Q4 22/23

## Next steps



### Energy Networks

- Procure contractors to develop the commercial options appraisal for GreenSCIES

### Maximise solar power generation

- Procure consultants for prioritised solar photovoltaic (PV) assessment as part of the corporate building net-zero feasibility studies. 60+ council buildings are included in the studies, which will assess the maximum potential solar PV capacity.
- Letters have now been sent out to households that are eligible for solar panel & battery installs under the Solar Together 2022 scheme. There is also a Comms Plan in place to support the scheme for the duration of the registration window

### Increase access to fairer energy tariffs

- Detailed feasibility study planned to look at best options for self-supply through out of-borough renewable energy generation

### Purchase remaining electricity needs from renewable sources

- Leisure centres will switch to renewable electricity tariff in April 2022



# Green Economy

Workstream Owner: Caroline Wilson



## Progress highlights on delivering commitments

- **Skills Strategy** – We are participating in London Councils project, associated with Central London Forward research commission, to inform local skills planning. This was delayed therefore we have adjusted our timeline. We have also commissioned further Islington-specific analysis on the back of their research.
- **Affordable workspaces** – due to staff changes we are still reviewing our current portfolio and pipeline to see whether there is scope for a workspace to focus on green innovation and entrepreneurship. Our new Head of Affordable Workspace is now in post to take forward this review.

### Other updates

- **Promoting 'green' jobs** - Ongoing discussions with ISEP and LIFT to expand training and apprenticeship opportunities in the knowledge/arts/built environment sector.
- **Business fora and networks** - We have supported Angel.London in establishing the Angel Sustainability Forum for businesses to deliver practical projects.



## Next steps

### Skills Strategy

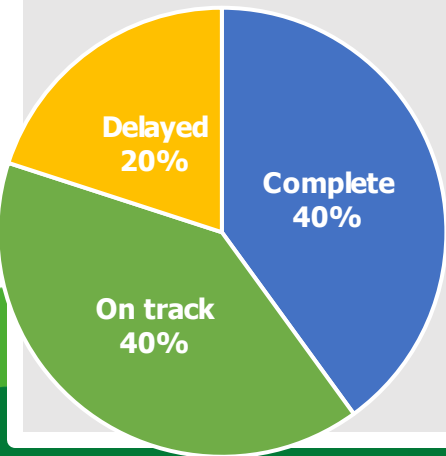
- Draft strategy being reviewed internally pending formal approval – to be included in a wider Community Wealth Building Strategy.

### Supporting ISEP

- Setting up a programme of sustainability masterclasses/workshops for SMEs in 2022
- Working with youth progression team to raise awareness about 'green' jobs and careers in schools from the Spring term.

### Promoting 'green' jobs

- increasing promotion of green jobs through iWork and developing a stronger outreach offer. Ensure that 4 -19 years old are well informed about green economy issues/green jobs and skills through 100 hours of work programme.



Commitments due last quarter	Status
Complete the development of a skills strategy that will identify priority areas for 'green jobs' and emerging local skills requirements.	Revised Mar 22
Promote and incentivise inclusive innovation through affordable workspaces	Revised Mar 22

# Green Economy

Workstream Owner: Caroline Wilson

## Progress highlights on delivering commitments

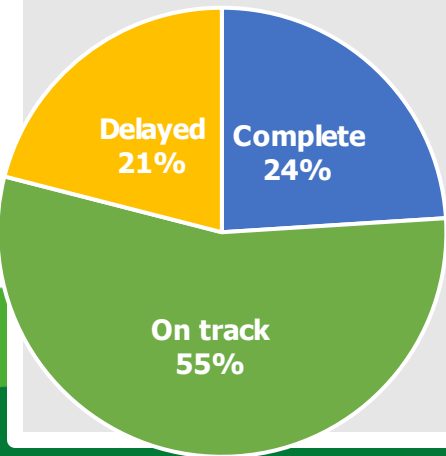
- **Sharing economy** - working with ReLondon we have promoted our circular economy grants for small businesses, which was over-subscribed even before officially accepting applications in January.
- **Co-Operative Development Hub Project** - steering group established. Legal clarification being sought around grant defrayal which may impact other schemes
- **Anchor Institutions** – in collaboration with key organisations we have scoped our approach to engaging with Anchor Institutions, including developing a series of KPIs for discussion. Our Anchor Institutions network will launch in February with an inaugural meeting.

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## Next steps

### Anchor Institutions

- Our Anchor Institutions network will launch in February with an inaugural meeting.



Commitments due last quarter	Status
Collaborate with anchor institutions and networks such as Knowledge Quarter, to reduce carbon emissions including through commissioning and procurement processes	Revised Feb 22

# Natural Environment and Waste

Workstream Owner: Tony Ralph



## Progress highlights on delivering commitments

### Natural Environment

- Community-led boroughwide green proposals programme 'Islington Greener Together' to launch 2 March 2022.
- Octopus Communities selected as lead delivery partner for Greener Together Champions to launch 28 February 2022.
- Submitted application for £100k against 'Green Finance for Islington Pocket Park Framework' to the Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund (NEIRF) in Feb 2022. The bid incorporates a stub road audit of 1000 sites, green infrastructure project pipeline, new bespoke green investment financing and proposed strategic assessment tools.
- 700 trees planted to date (target 680) as of 24 Feb 2022
- Future Parks Accelerator extension funding application made to establish a nature recovery network and increase access to nature on people's doorsteps.

### Waste reduction and recycling

- Completed commercial waste strategy looking at expanding services in the borough
- Completed Circular Economy Action Plan
- Expansion of food waste service and recycling site improvement projects for estates continue.
- Library of Things opened in the Bright Sparks store at Finsbury Park in November 2021

## Next steps

### Natural Environment

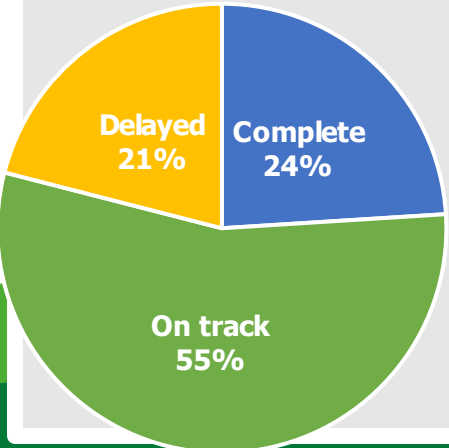
- Launch of community-led greening programme and Champions network (2 March 2022)

### Waste reduction and Recycling

- Deliver a food waste collection service trial for flats above shops (Spring 2022)
- Options appraisal for prioritising recycling and waste reduction interventions
- Expansion of food waste service continues
- Low Plastic Zone engagement work to begin at Cally Road
- Support for national and regional campaigns on food waste, repair and flexible plastics recycling



Commitments due last quarter	Status
Implement online resident tree planting donation process	Revised Mar 22
Introduce principles in the Local Plan to require developers to adopt a circular economy approach to building design and construction (minimise construction waste)	Complete Dec 21
Investigate options and develop a business case for expanding commercial recycling services in the borough	Complete Dec 21



# Planning

Workstream Owner: Karen Sullivan



## Progress highlights on delivering commitments

- The Local Plan remains with the Planning Inspectors. Consultation on further modifications to the Plan are unlikely to be able to start until March 2022.

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## Next steps

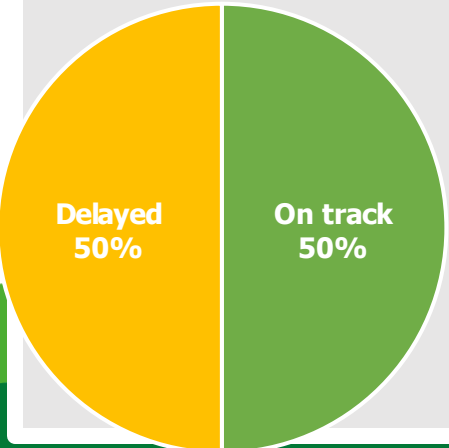


### Local Plan Adoption

- Planning Inspectors decision and consultation on further modifications

### Adoption of Supplementary Planning Document

- Expected start date dependent on above



Commitments due last quarter	Status
Strengthen existing policies through adoption of the new Local Plan	Revised June 22

# Engaging, Empowering and Partnering

Workstream Owner: Jane Simmonds



## Progress highlights on delivering commitments

- The Greener Together microsite and pledge tool were finalised in December, but due to the proximity of Christmas, it was agreed that a launch in January would be more effective. Both were launched publicly on 20 January.
- Officers developed a set of draft KPIs for discussion with the Anchor Institutions network. The network will have its inaugural meeting in February to discuss taking these commitments forward.
- A two year action plan for the Renewable Power for London workstream was finalised and submitted to London Councils in December (as part of the London Council's Climate Change Programme). Islington is the lead borough for this workstream. This marks the start of an ongoing collaboration to deliver the action plan in partnership with councils across London.

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Commitments due last quarter	Status
Launch Energy Hub site	Revised Jan 22
Launch online resource for climate emergency declarations	Revised Jan 22
Integration of net zero carbon commitments into upcoming Anchor Institution Strategy	Due Dec 21
Develop Two Year work plan as part of partnership work through London Council's Climate Change Programme	Dec 21

## Next steps



### Greener together website and pledge tool

- Ongoing monitoring of the use of the website and pledge tool.
- Regular updates for those who make a pledge to keep them motivated.
- Follow up to evaluate the efficacy of the tool in stimulating behaviour change.

### Renewable Power for London (London Councils)

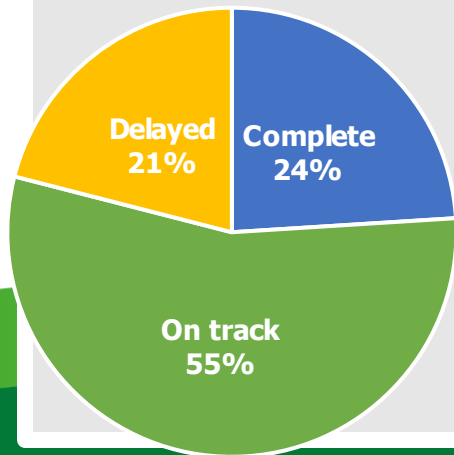
- Regular meetings with working groups have been scheduled to take forward the action plan.

### Anchor Institutions Network

- Launch of the network in February
- Ongoing collaboration and development of the network

### Stakeholder engagement

- Work is underway to scope the annual Special Scrutiny meeting in March which will give local people the opportunity to help shape next steps in our engagement strategy



# Finance and Investment

Workstream Owner: Paul Clarke



## Progress highlights on delivering commitments

- Islington launched its Community Municipal Investment on the final day of the Let's Talk about a Greener Future festival in October 2021 and was 80% funded at the end of December 2021.
- The latest capital programme will be considered by Executive on 13 January which includes £48m of investment in Net Zero Carbon including additional investment for GreenSCIES + Retrofitting (£18m).
- Finance has been reviewing government policy issued by BEIS and HMT in October 2021 and is actively monitoring c. 25 funding opportunities with workstream leads and Strategic Business Managers.
- Finance & Investment gave a full update on Deliverables at Executive Board in December 2021 and will give a presentation to Environment & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee in February 2022.

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## Next steps

### Community Municipal Investment

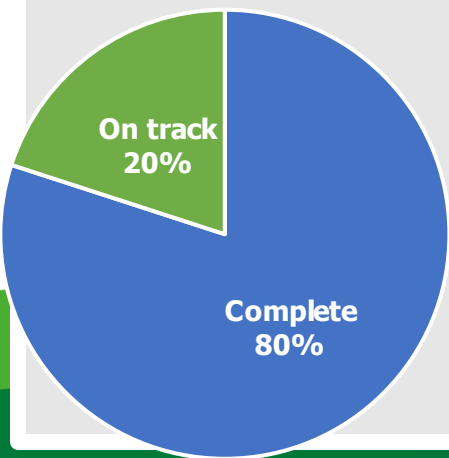
- Provide investor updates to individuals supporting the investment
- Consider future CMI opportunities as part of our financial strategy for the Net Zero Carbon programme

### NZC Financial Strategy

- Support capital programme approval at Executive (Jan)/Council (Mar) and support creation of benefit realization plans in departments
- Further work with workstream delivery groups to establish full cost of delivering NZC and target emerging funding opportunities
- Further work on alternative funding mechanisms including as Joint Ventures and ESCOs
- Develop financial strategy based on financial/environmental benefits and continue to collaborate with partners + lobby government

### Decarbonisation of Pension Fund and Council Investments

- Continue to monitor and review the decarbonisation of Pension Fund and Council Investments
- Further work on Environmental, Social, Governance risks




Commitments due last quarter	Status
Launch CMI if feasible	Oct 21



# Member review of the Net Zero Carbon Program and Informal Working Group

## DRAFT REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

A decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping, wavy bands of green in various shades, ranging from light lime green to dark forest green, positioned horizontally across the middle of the page.

London Borough of Islington  
February 2022

## INTRODUCTION

1. The Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee review of the Council's Net Carbon Program is coming to an end. As has the Informal Working Group. Members have been asked to give feedback on these reviews and provide recommendations for the committee to make to the Executive.

## THE INFORMAL WORKING GROUP

2. The Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee formed an Informal Working Group in order to look at waste, recycling and the renewal of the North London Waste Authority Energy Recovery Facility.
3. The Informal Working held three meetings and considered evidence from a number of witnesses, council officers and members.
  - At the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on 8 June 2021, Cllr Tricia Clarke, the Chair, announced the formation of an Informal Working Group to look at waste, recycling and the renewal of the North London Waste Authority Energy Recovery Facility.
  - The overall aim of the of the Informal Working Group was to consider the proposals for the North London Heat and Power Project and implications for Islington in terms of reducing waste and increasing recycling in the borough.
  - The Informal Working Group agreed to cover three themes:
    - NLWA Waste Disposal
    - A refreshing and understanding of waste collection by the council
    - Waste Reduction, Minimisation and Reuse
  - Types of evidence that was within scope of the Informal Working Group:
    - Update from Islington's Environment and Commercial Operations Director
    - NLWA representatives on waste disposal and its plans North ondon Heat and Power project
    - Other Local Authorities Action Plan on waste minimisation policy
    - Presentation from Islington's Head of Street Service Operations
    - Presentation from Islington's Waste Strategy Manager
    - Site visit to the Edmonton Energy Recovery Facility
2. The witness evidence and meeting details can be found in **Appendix A** at the end of this report.
3. Islington is preparing a new Reduction and Recycling Plan (RRP) to follow on from its current plan. This RRP will set out its programme of recycling and waste reduction from April 2023 for at least the next two years and beyond. The evidence and ideas received during the informal review of waste and recycling will be reviewed and assessed with ideas being fed into the new RRP based on their potential impact and cost.



## **NET ZERO CARBON PROGRAM**

4. The Council declared a climate emergency in June 2019, recognising the need to drastically reduce carbon emissions in the borough. A pledge was made to work towards being a net zero borough by 2030. In November 2020 the council adopted its Vision 2030 strategy.
5. At the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on 29 September 2020, member resolved that they would consider the Net Zero 2030 Carbon Strategy at future meetings.
6. There have been ten items so far for the Net Zero Carbon review:
  - Overview of the Council's 2030 Net Zero Carbon Programme
  - Planning for Zero Carbon
  - The Green Economy Work Stream
  - Transport
  - Engagement and Communication
  - Housing (council, private owner occupied and rented housing)
  - Buildings (commercial and infrastructure)
  - Natural environment
  - Waste reduction and recycling & circular economy
  - Finance and investment
7. At the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee 7 March 2022, members will consider the final item of the Net Zero Carbon review, on Sustainable and Affordable Energy.
8. The member discussions around each of the Net Zero Topics can be found in **Appendix B** at the end of this report.

## **QUESTIONS FOR MEMBERS TO CONSIDER:**

9. The following questions are for members to consider when reflecting on the Informal Working Group and the Net Zero Carbon Program so far:
  - How do we get more residents to use our recycling services more effectively? What measures should we consider where residents do not engage in recycling services? Do we rely on engagement and encouragement, or should we consider firmer 'nudges' such as restricting people's capacity to throw away as much as they want through changing collection frequencies or enforcement measures?
  - Recycling more is important, but reducing consumption and carbon emissions is the ultimate aim. How do we balance these priorities?
  - Residents in flats above shops currently put their waste and recycling in sacks on the pavement for collection but have no food waste collections. Would good quality, communal food waste recycling bins at intervals along pavements on main roads be a way of providing a food waste recycling service for these residents?

- We are investing in improvements to recycling sites on estates, but what else can we do to encourage residents on estates to recycle more? Is the presence of refuse chutes in some estate buildings a barrier to higher recycling rates?
- Only a small proportion of homes in Islington have gardens and generate garden waste, while those with larger gardens generate more. Would it be fair to charge for those garden waste collections in order to invest in better recycling services?
- How can we better engage with residents and other organisations on the net zero carbon programme and encourage their participation.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

10. Based on member discussion, a full report of recommendations will be presented to a future meeting of the Executive. Approval of the final report and recommendations will be delegated to the Chair, following consultation with members.

## **APPENDIX A: INFORMAL WORKING GROUP**

### **1. MEETING 1**

- 1.1. The first meeting of the Informal Working Group was held on 20 June 2021 on the theme of North London Waste Authority Incinerator. Full notes of this meeting can be found on the agenda of the 14 September 2021 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.2. Members of the Informal Working group made a site visit to the of North London Waste Authority incinerator plant, however due to Covid-19 restrictions, were unable to view the recycling facilities.
- 1.3. Dr. Rembrandt Koppelaar, EcoWise, made a presentation during which the following points were highlighted:
  - The three main areas of relevance for members to consider , the collection service within LBI, noting that his responses had been sent by e mail as to how this could be improved, in particular on what level of improvements that the 7 boroughs could implement, the prevention of plastic waste and how the NLWA plant rebuild fits into the waste strategy
  - The Government's commitment to a 65% recycling target by 2035 is extremely challenging especially for densely populated boroughs such as Islington. Wales has already achieved this target though. The NLWA incinerator would not be finished until 2027 with the likelihood that it would only be viable for a further 25/30 years. The Government's recycling target would have implications at a local level
  - There is a need to move towards net zero carbon and importantly there is an urgent need to reduce the use of plastics and to look at a separate plastic recycling facility, which has been developed in other countries. It was noted that NLWA are working towards this is recognised that most of the unwanted carbon emissions arose from plastic, and the cost of plastic per tonne would make this financially viable
  - At the local level, Islington could employ more digital technology to get more information on waste disposal, that there is need for political knowledge on how waste is disposed. Streets could be identified and targeted for action to make it easier to recycle for residents
  - The renaming of NLWA as NLW Zero Carbon authority would be beneficial, as it would have a big impact. It was noted that NLWA has done some good work around waste reduction and reuse over the years, and a campaign had been developed in conjunction with London Boroughs.
  - Dr Koppelaar also expressed the view that it was important that authorities request from NLWA the current costs/Levy for incinerating waste, prior to 2026/27 before the new incinerator comes into operation for comparison reason so as to assess its impact on its residents. It was noted that there is likely to be spare incineration capacity, that this could reduce incentives to recycle waste, especially given the proposals for new incineration plants across the country.

1.4. Jeremy Corbyn MP referred to the fact that when he was a Councillor at L.B. Haringey he was involved in the construction of the original NLWA Edmonton incinerator and then it was felt that this was more sustainable than landfill option in addition that it will generate electricity. Meeting was advised that a number of people were now of the view that incineration of waste is unacceptable, that plastic waste needed to be reduced and that effort that is more concerted be made in approaching both businesses and residents to address this issue.

## **2. MEETING 2**

2.1. The Second meeting of the Informal Working Group was held on 14 September 2021 on the theme of How Council manages its Waste and Recycling. Full notes of this meeting can be found on the agenda of the 30 November 2021 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.

2.2. Cathy Cook of Re London made a presentation during which the following points were highlighted:

- Work had been undertaken with LBI on the development of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan, the overall waste strategy and circular economy plans
- LBI were also assisting Re;London in a project to look at recycling in 2 new flats
- It was noted that energy from NLWA would increase costs; that LBI waste reduction and recycling plan is committed to reducing the level of household waste, and a commitment to expand food waste collection. In addition it was noted that there is a need to expand food waste collection especially with flats above shops
- Government consultation on Residual Waste services is the biggest undertaken in 25 years, and extends producer responsibility, introduces consistency in Housing and Business recycling, and introduces a deposit return scheme. LBI current service meets the requirements of the current proposals on recycling, food waste, residual waste and garden waste, however the proposal of removal of waste from flats above shops will present a challenge
- Opportunities for Islington were outlined including installation of drinking fountains, water refill stations, information on waste being available on the website, support to residents to remove bulky waste items, real nappy scheme etc.
- Biggest opportunity is to reduce residual waste by reducing capacity of containers, frequency of collections etc. Flat recycling package leading to increase in recycling rate
- Re:London resource support includes resource bank free service for London, Flat pack recycling package, involvement in innovation of knowledge projects, targeted London recycling campaign, individual support provided at cost
- In relation to a question as to whether the scheme introduced in Wales to recycle disposable nappies, it was stated that no real work had been done on

this in London and the logistics and costs made this difficult, however encouragement was being given to residents to use real nappies

- In response to a question it was stated that incineration would take place in London for the foreseeable future due to the lack of landfill
- Noted that LBI did have a waste reduction and recycling plan in place and scrutiny committee recommendations had assisted in this and move in the right direction on increasing recycling

2.3. Matthew Homer, Street Scene Strategy Manager, made a presentation during which the following main points were made:

- Waste reduction and recycling plan 2018-22 – recycling rate of 33% by 2022, 36% by 2025. Set up and achieve LA collection of waste recycling targets
- The Council had a number of objectives – Reduce single use plastic, reduce food waste, circular economy, encourage reuse, work with NLWA. Also to maximise recycling by recycling from flats and estates, recycling on the go, expansion of food waste recycling, increase commercial waste. Also to reduce the environmental impact of waste ULEZ and zero emissions fleet. Maximise local waste sites and ensure London has sufficient infrastructure to manage all the waste it produces by responsible recycling, redevelopment of the energy from waste facility at Edmonton by 2026, and household reuse and recycling. Noted that food collection from flats above shops would be a challenge but solutions would have to be found if it was Government regulation
- Although £100000 is the budget for waste recycling and reduction however other funding sources are being investigated. It was also noted that some ward partnerships had contributed funds
- It was stated that the use S106 of SIL monies on estates, such as the recent scheme on the Andover Estate should be looked at. It was stated that on new builds, recycling chutes were being built into the design of the building but this was often very difficult to do retrospectively

2.4. Jon Mootealoo, Head of Street Environment Services made a presentation during which the following points were made:

- LBI has the second lowest rate of flytipping in London whereas LB Camden has the highest
- Islington bulky waste collection – 3 items £30, 10 items £100
- Noted prosecutions and fines issued for flytipping
- Education and encouragement – noted CSI tapes scheme introduced at 5 locations in the north of the borough
- Working with Partners – Keep Britain Tidy, and colleagues in Housing, compliance teams and CCTV
- It was stated that consideration should be given to planters being put in in areas of constant flytipping to discourage flytippers and show the Council cared about the area.

### **3. MEETING 3**

- 3.1. The second meeting of the Informal Working Group was held on 13 January 2022 on the theme of How Council manages its Waste and Recycling. Full notes of this meeting can be found on the agenda of the 1 February 2022 pm of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.2. Dr Christian Reynolds, Centre for Food Policy, City, University of London made a presentation during which the following points were highlighted:
- Idea 1 – Measures to reduce food waste: Convince people and organisations that action is needed, e.g. creating a business case. Understand what is effective at preventing or diverting FLW Target action to where it is needed: types of food, parts of a supply chain / process, destinations. Demonstrate that progress has been made and is sufficient to hit targets. Supply chain: \$1 companies invested to reduce food loss and waste, they saved \$14 in operating costs.
  - Idea 2 – Make moments of change, moments to reduce food waste Multiple synergies between HSE and FW Integrate Healthy Eating and Food Waste education Welsh pilot (Low income communities) 53% increase in Fruit and Vegetable Consumption 7% food waste reduction Hospitality and food service sector can be “champions” of message (and have major wins themselves). Portions and Pack size can have an effect. 9% reduction in avoidable food waste generated per household per week (kg/hh/ wk) between 2017 and 2019. The amount generated fell from 1.59 kg/hh/week to 1.44 kg/hh/week. No change in the weight of unavoidable food waste per household recycled via the caddy. On the other hand, there was a 14% increase in the amount of avoidable food waste recycled. 15% increase in Londoners demonstrating knowledge of and reporting taking action on healthy sustainable eating, according to the project evaluation survey
  - Idea 3 – Scale your solution to reduce food waste – let’s go local! The city/municipal level is the right place to combat Food Waste. FLW action can be at multiple government levels. Prevention Diversion Redistribution (Food Security)
- 3.3. Tony Ralph, Director of Environment & Commercial Operations, reiterated that the Council continues to promote among its residents it’s policy the need to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. He welcomed suggestions from Dr Reynolds, noting that officers are willing to work with him going forward. Tony Ralph acknowledged that the Council has just retrofitted some of its older vehicles which fits into the Council’s Circular Economy agenda instead of purchasing.
- 3.4. Caz Royds, Islington Environmental Emergency Alliance, said that people living above shops are keen to recycle, that FLW matters enormously and she is involved in a measuring food waste project with Octopus. Islington Environmental Emergency Alliance took part in a food waste stall and so many people said that they didn’t have any food waste. 5% England’s waste is cat litter. The council is seen as a trusted friend to residents and the council can change food waste policies.
- 3.5. 1/3 of food produced never reaches a human stomach. Food production causes 26% of green house emissions and food waste produces 6% of emission.

## **APPENDIX B: NET ZERO CARBON REVIEW**

### **1. OVERVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S 2030 NET ZERO CARBON PROGRAMME**

1.1. Full notes of this item can be found in the minutes of the 16 November 2020 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.

1.2. Keith Townsend, Director of Environment and Regeneration, presented the Overview of the Council's 2030 Net Zero Carbon Programme:

- Climate change is clear the level of global warming related to the amount of Carbon Dioxide that human activities add to the atmosphere
- The Climate Change Act 2008 has set the UK to achieve net zero carbon borough by 2030
- Islington declared a Climate Emergency in June 2019 net zero carbon borough by 2030, and a draft strategy published February 2020. Special meeting held of E&R in February 2020. Consultation process from April to end July 2020 and Executive report in November 2020
- What does this mean for Islington – developing a net Zero Carbon strategy for Islington, 4% of Islington's carbon emissions are from our operations and buildings and 9% of gas boilers in council-owned homes are included. There are 679,600 tonnes of emissions in the borough
- The strategy at a glance – residential buildings, Commercial and industrial buildings and infrastructure – improve the energy efficiency and reduce the level of carbon emissions of all buildings and infrastructure. Transport – reduce emissions in the borough for transport. Sustainable and affordable energy generation and supply – increase local generation of renewable heat and electricity, increase the update of affordable and renewable energy tariffs and mitigate fuel poverty. The Green Economy and Planning – deliver on net zero carbon target whilst assuring the economic success and vitality of the borough by working closely with the 18800 businesses in the borough, most of them small or micro sized. The natural environment and waste reduction and recycling – integrate ongoing activities in recycling and reducing waste and managing our natural environment
- Our approach – identified short, medium and long term commitments and actions, and there is a need to work with partners, consult and engage extensively, have cross- Council working to support the commitments and action plan, significant development of a programme with workstreams and detailed workplans, how to engage with residents, businesses and organisations
- Governance model in place
- How progress can be measured – Pilot of ClimateView software – used by both Newcastle and Nottingham City Councils, visualise challenges and targets, setting targets link related ongoing or planned actions, access and adapt – for each transition target the listed actions are sufficient, insufficient or unrealistic
- In response to a question as to whether electric boilers would be installed at the Holloway Prison development with Peabody Trust it was stated that if the member of the public wished to write to the Executive Member Housing, Councillor Ward he would respond thereon

- In response to a question as to supplementary planning guidance changes in relation to the Net Zero Carbon strategy, it was stated that this was under consideration and being developed
- It was stated that in relation to the ClimateView proposal that work progress would be reported back to the Committee in approximately 6 months. However, behavioural change would be needed in a number of areas, and there would need to be engagement with the community, through a communications strategy, and applying the recommendations of the recent Scrutiny Review on Behavioural Change
- Key risks and next steps – Lack of direct control, dependency on other parties such as Government, GLA, businesses, Borough partners, residents.
- Creating organisation momentum and capacity to deliver the programme, financial resources investment and benefits not clearly defined, developing a detailed scope and plan for each workstream in order to be clear about what we will do directly, what we could do, and what we will do to influence and work with others
- Net Zero Carbon strategy approval – November report to Executive recommending additional capital investment, and revenue funding, required to deliver strategy, note detailed proposals for borough partner and anchor institution engagement, note role of E&R scrutiny Committee, approve officers to work on pan-London basis as part of the London Climate Change programme. Also note further work is underway to develop the scope and detail in relation to resident engagement, including a net zero carbon themed Citizens Assembly and to adopt a Net Zero Carbon strategy and Action Plan
- Scrutiny work – 18 month E&R programme to allow for detailed scrutiny of key chapters of the strategy, regular programme update, opportunity to meet with delivery teams and detailed understanding of the workstreams to shape future scrutiny programme and have guest speakers an external experts
- Scrutiny Work Programme – 4 February – Green Economy and Planning commitments, 8 March – Transport and Sustainable and affordable energy generation and supply commitments, 27 April – Residential Buildings, Commercial and Industrial Buildings and Infrastructure and the Natural Environment and Waste Reduction and Recycling commitments. This will support the Committee to determine its work programme for 2021/22
- Noted that work is taking place with London Councils, and the Mayor of London to develop a climate change programme for London, and Islington will be the lead authority on energy
- A Member stated that there is a need to ensure water conservation is included in any strategy, and a focus on solar panels to heat water. It was stated that planning policy was being looked in order to include water usage and conservation
- A Member expressed the view that community experts should be involved, and consulted on proposals, and there is a need to consider how to engage them in future. It was stated that there would be engagement in this regard, and that the special meeting to be held with stakeholders in February/March will seek to build on this
- A Member stated that there is a need for the planning process to complement the Net Zero Carbon strategy, and it was stated that there were opportunities through the Local Plan, and supplementary planning guidance to influence this
- In response to a question about the need to engage TfL, it was stated that the Government bailout of TfL, and the Department of Transport had given a block



funding grant to TfL and it was hoped that this would assist in developing local schemes

## **2. PLANNING FOR ZERO CARBON**

2.1. Full notes of this item can be found in the minutes of the 4 February 2021 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.

2.2. Sakiba Gurda, Head of Planning Policy and Karen Sullivan, Service Director Planning and Development were present and made a presentation to the Committee:

- Planning plays an important role in ensuring that developments minimise their contributions towards climate change as well as adapt to and be more resilient to its impacts. Islington has implemented ambitious and robust planning policies over recent years to minimise the contribution of development to climate change
- Current local plan – Developments required to minimise their carbon emissions on site, including through energy efficiency. One of the first Councils to require carbon offset payments, as part of net zero carbon approach which is then used to fund projects that reduce carbon emissions. Planning policies to promote and develop decentralised energy networks. One of the first to implement a car free policy for all new developments
- New Local Plan – approach to net zero emissions - commits the Council to ensuring all buildings in Islington will be net Zero Carbon by 2050, consistent with the London Plan. The Council has declared a climate and environment emergency and will strive to achieve net carbon zero by 2030, ahead of the 2050 target. Planning policy plays a critically important role as part of moving towards net zero carbon emissions from buildings in the borough. Planning is however only part of meeting the net zero carbon target. The Council's planning policies can only reduce carbon emissions through the design and construction of new and refurbished buildings that require planning permission. The ambitious planning policies in the Local Plan must be accompanied by a range of other interventions, as set out in the Council's net zero carbon strategy
- Trajectory to net zero – achieving net zero carbon from all buildings in Islington will require significant retrofitting of existing building stock to ensure that it meets the highest possible energy efficiency standards. Decarbonisation of the electricity grid and a move away from gas boilers is also required. This is outside the current scope of the planning system and would require significant changes to national policy and legislation
- All developments of 1 unit or more must be zero carbon, ensure development proposals reduce energy demand through energy efficiency, reducing emissions through low carbon energy sources and renewables, approach requires compliance with Fabric Energy Efficiency statement. Major development proposals should calculate and demonstrate actions to reduce whole life-cycle carbon emissions
- New Local Plan Energy infrastructure – selection of heat sources in line with the policy will ensure developments prioritise low and zero carbon heating options, major developments required to have communal low temperature heating system, heat sources for communal systems selected in accordance with heating hierarchy, and connection to heat networks prioritised. The new local plan and the zero carbon and energy policies are supported by other policies which are important in building climate resilience. These include policies on thermal comfort, integrated approach to

water management, requirement for site specific flood risk assessments, continue commitment to reducing car use and promoting walking and cycling

- There is a commitment to delivering a net zero carbon supplementary planning document in the Local Plan and Zero Carbon strategy. This will assist with the implementation of policy and provided practical guidance
- Planning reform – currently undergoing an unprecedented period of planning reform, significant increase in permitted development rights mean planning permission is not required and planning policies cannot be applied. Further significant permitted development rights proposed and this will erode the ability to achieve net zero and further increase costs of retrofit. Due to the deregulation of planning controls the Government will place greater reliance on building control to secure energy efficiency measures
- Reference was made to the need to inform residents of proposals and it was stated that a presentation to residents could take place in the future
- Noted that Government were being lobbied in relation to the proposals in relation to permitted development rights proposals, and the proposals around commercial to residential and how the Council could influence this
- A Member stated that he welcomed the new SDP and that consideration should be given to looking at the current policy in conservation areas and historic buildings, and how this could be tailored to better meet net Zero carbon aims. It was noted that this is an area currently under consideration
- Reference was made to carbon offsetting and it was stated that developers did generally try to comply however in certain developments it was not always possible, and therefore a financial contribution is made

### **3. THE GREEN ECONOMY WORK STREAM**

3.1. Full notes of this item can be found in the minutes of the 8 March 2021 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.

3.2. Councillor Asima Shaikh, Executive Member for Inclusive Economy and Jobs, and Caroline Wilson, Head of Inclusive Development were present for discussion of this item. During consideration of the report the following main points were made:

- Noted Net Zero carbon programme governance model
- Green Energy ambition – move towards a low carbon, more resource efficient economy that has fewer adverse effects on the environment. Industries need to contribute toward ecological sustainability, need to create a generation of green jobs, and need for innovative ownership structures that promote meaningful employee participation. Residents need to be skilled for these new sectors
- Journey towards a green economy – Definition, research, scanning, scoping and green economy strategic framework and full action plan
- Beginning to define the green economy – work underway collaborating on two pieces of work of pan-London work and research with London Recovery Board and Central London Forward. Initiated discussions with UCL to organise an expert roundtable to interrogate emerging research and application to Islington
- Estimated there could be 6000 low carbon jobs created by 2050 in Islington

- Scanning for early opportunities green jobs and skills – GLA projections for London indicate that new demand for 3400 and a replacement demand for 10300 over the period 2020-24 in the construction sector
- Scoping policy – work underway – need to define policy framework to enable SME's to be green, early stakeholder engagement, coherent policy framework to support local SME's
- Scoping partnerships – work underway included in the new Progressive Procurement strategy as part of the social value requirements. Integrated net zero targets into draft Anchor Institutions Framework
- Next steps – work over next 6 months – strategic - continue to evolve Green Economy strategic framework, appoint dedicated Green Economy officer, launch responsible sector initiative with construction partners to promote social value, continue to support apprenticeships, initiate business development programme for Chapel Market, Investigate circular economy initiatives, commission eco -friendly delivery service, explore 'last mile' delivery hubs, increase awareness of a sharing economy. Develop engagement with commissioners and local supply chains, agree a common ambition across anchor organisations on carbon reductions, develop work with local universities to promote innovation in carbon reduction
- Noted that the NHS had recently published a net Zero carbon strategy and it was stated that work would be taking place with NHS providers and work is taking place with the Whittington Hospital
- In response to a question it was stated that additional funding had been obtained to build on the air quality work recently carried out in Archway on green deliveries and that there would now be a focus on the Nags Head. This could also be linked in to low traffic neighbourhoods
- A Member expressed the view that opportunities of low traffic neighbourhoods to use cargo bikes and e bikes to make deliveries. Councillor Shaikh stated that funding was not available at present but any funding from the GLA would be welcomed
- It was stated that work was taking place with L.B.Camden on sustainable construction
- Discussion took place as to charity shops and any influence that could be leveraged and it was stated that discussions could be held with the Executive Member Community Development in this regard
- Reference was made to the Holloway road site and that there was a need to ensure that the benefits are realised in terms of the green economy, and there is a need to negotiate S106 agreement with Peabody Trust

#### **4. TRANSPORT**

4.1. Full notes of this item can be found in the minutes of the 27 April 2021 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.

4.2. The Director of Environment and Regeneration, Keith Townsend and Martin Cooijmans, Interim Director Climate Change and Transport were present for discussion of this item, during consideration of the presentation the following main points were made:

- Transport Scope – The aim is to reduce emissions from all forms of transport in the borough whether private, commercial and public. This workstream aims to reduce emissions from transport in the borough by reducing

- emissions from the Council's fleet, reducing vehicle usage, encouraging use of electric vehicles, discouraging fossil fuel based plant usage, influencing Government policy, securing cleaner bus services
- Transport deliverable – reduction in overall vehicle fleet and increase number of electric vehicles, waste recycling centre (WRC) initial smart charger installation to existing power supply, WRC new grid connection and substation, low voltage infrastructure and smart charger installations, smart charger installations at other council premises, increase solar capacity at Council charging sites, enable vehicle to Grid (V2G) at locations with parked vehicles, expanding on Town Hall V2G trial
  - Transport deliverable – Fleet replacement programme electrification – reduction in fleet and increase in electric vehicles, WRC smart charger installation, WRC grid connection and substation, low voltage infrastructure and smart charger installations, smart charger installations at other Council premises, increase solar capacity at council charging points, enable vehicle to Grid at locations with parked vehicles, expanding on Town Hall V2G trial.
  - Members were advised that so far the Council has delivered over 10% of its fleet is electric, WRC smart chargers have been installed using existing power supply, smart chargers operate at Randels Road and Laycock Centre, V2G trial at Town Hall has commenced. Meeting was advised that over the next 12-18 months, the Council will be procuring new vehicles and EV chargers in line with updated procurement strategy; that its WRC new HV grid connection and substation will be completed, smart chargers will be sited at other Council premises and further scoping will be carried out on additional sites. In addition support will be increased to the energy team to increase solar capacity at council charging sites, and complete Council's VG2 trial
  - In terms of vehicle use reduction by residents and local businesses, the Council aims to make active travel the easiest and most enjoyable option. The Council has also implemented low traffic neighbourhoods and liveable neighbourhoods, network of cycle lanes and cycle routes, delivered school streets or similar interventions where possible at all primary schools in the borough. Members were informed of plans to introduce a borough wide lorry control scheme, working towards banning lorries (HGV) from driving through the borough on residential roads. Other initiatives by the council include ensuring that new developments are car free or have restricted on-site parking and access to controlled parking zones; provision of adequate cycling facilities, developing and delivering accessibility plan; walking and cycling action plan, developing a parking strategy, exploring workplace parking levies and working towards a freight consolidation strategy. It was noted that 16% of carbon emissions in the borough are due to transport emissions
  - The meeting was advised that so far 7 low traffic neighbourhoods, network of cycle lanes and routes have been delivered, camera installed to enforce schools streets at every primary school not on a main road, STARS travel behaviour change programme, Try before you Bike scheme launched. In the next 12-18 months the council will continue delivery of People Friendly Streets, additional cycle routes, support TfL on Camden to Tottenham Hale cycle route, continue to apply car free policies to new developments, develop cycling/walking action plan,

- The Council will continue investing in EV charging infrastructure such as lamp columns and rapid chargers, encourage the use of electric taxis, by ensuring Islington has sufficient on street rapid chargers for taxi drivers, support and promote electric car club schemes and carpooling activities, encourage local businesses to switch to zero emissions vehicles or cargo bikes, ensure EV infrastructure is powered by renewable sources
- Members were advised that so far in terms of public EV charging infrastructure, nearly 300 publicly accessible charging points have been rolled out and that all existing suppliers have agreed transition plans to ensure EV infrastructure is powered by renewable sources, continued support to businesses through the Zero Emissions Network. In addition meeting was informed of new incentives, ie to trial local deliveries through the use of cargo bikes.
- Over the next 12-18 months – Communications and engagement plan will be developed to support and promote electric car club schemes and carpooling and in addition the Council aims to deliver 400 EV charging points, continue supporting TfL with delivery of public rapid charging infrastructure
- The Council aims to discourage fossil fuel based plant usage by replacing grounds maintenance equipment with viable electrical alternatives, replace its diesel generators with emission free alternatives and implement UK first Eco Zone at the Regents Canal to provide cleaner power to canal boats that use diesel engines and wood stoves, and build on its success to provide these benefits in other areas with poor air quality. Members were advised that so half the Eco Zone electric bollards for mooring installed along Regents Canal has been delivered and that over the next 12-18 months, the Council will be replacing grounds maintenance equipment with viable electrical alternatives at end of life, and will commence the review of non-road mobile machinery across the Council's operations and complete the Eco Zone at Regents Canal
- On the issue of influencing and engagement, members were advised that the work stream aims to influence departments, local authorities and Government in order for Islington to achieve its net zero target. Meeting was informed of TfL's plans to create a Zero Emission Zone across the expanded ULEZ area by 2030, ensuring that all routes through Islington are served by electric or hydrogen vehicles. The Officer also advised of London wide approaches to parking levies and road charging, acknowledging that additional action and national policies will be required on addressing red diesel policies, changes to road and vehicle taxation, strategic support for local authorities, national diesel scrappage schemes, improvements to charging infrastructure before the ban on new diesel and petrol vehicles
- The Officer advised that in rolling out of the existing initiatives and going forward, the Council has been able to secure funding and have pending funding. Meeting was advised that the bid for funding of £120000 had just been agreed which will deliver 60 lamp column charging points
- Members were advised that work was taking place with the Mayor to reduce car use and the ULEZ scheme. Officer noted concerns regarding the safer school streets in St.George's Ward, of vehicles being diverted onto nearby streets and difficulties experienced around junctions. It was stated that officers meet regularly with TfL who are committed to reducing traffic

speeds. Work is also taking place on additional cycling facilities and looking at improvements in junctions in low traffic neighbourhoods especially in Holloway Road. It was noted that at present, due to discussions with the Government on future funding, TfL were in a difficult position

- With regard to enforcement of the 20mph speed zones, meeting was informed that this is the responsibility of the Police, however discussions are taking place through the LGA to encourage Government to transfer this responsibility to Local Authorities
- In response to a question it was stated that officers were working with local Councillors on the noise of the cameras in St. George's Ward and if necessary new cameras could be installed, as has happened in other areas. Work is also taking place to reduce traffic
- Reference was made to a survey that had taken place in Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTN's) about residents views on the changes and this could be circulated to Members
- Discussion took place as to the STARS programme, and it was stated that without TfL funding the programme has been paused, however officers are of the view that the programme would recommence once the TfL funding position has been resolved
- In response to a question, the officer advised that discussion have taken place regarding the freight consolidation scheme and is currently being considered.
- Reference was made to the need to promote the use of cargo bikes to reduce the number of van journeys in the borough. It was stated that this was under consideration, however it was unlikely toilet facilities would be made available
- In response to a question it was stated that work is taking place to roll out electric charging points and to ensure that they were situated in the right places. Reference was also made to the fact that car users should be encouraged to purchase smaller electric vehicles, and that this should be looked at when the parking plan is reviewed
- It was noted that at present in the borough there are 7 Low Traffic Neighbourhoods in existence; that there would be a full public consultation next year, although the Council are committed to LTN's, and additional LTN's are being planned. Work is also taking place to engage with the community and schools. The view was expressed that the ROAMER scheme should be discontinued given that only about 30% of Islington residents had cars. It was noted that there is a need for more bike hangers, and that the Council is committed to roll more of these out and it was planned to have 400 by the end of the year
- In response to a question on school travel plans and the STARS programme it was stated that once TfL funding is reinstated work will take place with schools and that a project manager had been employed to assist in this regard, linking in with LNT's
- In response to a question it was stated that whilst there had been hostility to LTN's and People Friendly Streets there has been a huge level of support as well.

## 5. ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

5.1. Full notes of this item can be found in the minutes of the 8 June 2021 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.

5.2. Keith Townsend, Corporate Director, Environment and Regeneration and Timi Ashaye, Net Zero Carbon Programme Lead gave a presentation to the Committee, during consideration of the presentation the following main points were made:

- It was noted that progress would be reported on a quarterly basis
- A budget of £700k pa has been secured to support the delivery of the Net Zero Carbon strategy over the next 3 years. Council is in the process of securing £3m of additional programme funding through Carbon Offset Fund
- Meeting was advised that by securing the budget for engagement and communications, it has been able to recruit a dedicated communications officer. Also council has completed first phase of work with University College of London to develop a road map for how council will achieve net zero carbon emissions on Council's housing stock
- Council is in process of securing approval for key strategy document on decarbonising its New Build Homes. It is delivering on major transport priority areas, increasing the number of electric vehicles within the Council's fleet, trials have been completed on its seven low traffic neighbourhoods and now has 35 school streets covering 36 schools.
- Meeting was advised that it is identifying and developing new opportunities for green jobs and skills, and that the new local SPD will strengthen existing policies to reduce carbon emissions for development proposals
- Generally in terms of performances of the various themes of the strategy, 85% of commitments have either been completed or are on track to be delivered within the original timescale
- Committee noted progress on strategy commitments that are due before and up to March 2021 on buildings, homes and infrastructure, Transport, Sustainable and affordable energy, Green economy, natural environment, waste reduction and recycling, Planning and Engagement and Communications
- Members were informed that opportunities with regards to achieving Net Zero Carbon emission with new housing developments is taking place on the Holloway prison site.
- Reference was made to the details of incentives for use of cargo bikes to businesses and residents and it was stated that this information could be provided to Members
- In response to a question it was stated that resources available for the engagement strategy would be available in July and these could be circulated
- A Member referred to the greenspaces/trees on Council estates and that more work is needed to look at this with housing staff. It was stated that Environment and Regeneration officers were working with their counterparts in Housing in this regard
- Reference was made to work taking place on the walkways at Andover Estate, that excellent work had taken place to ensure appropriate greening by the use of tree canopies and greening.

## **6. HOUSING (COUNCIL, PRIVATE OWNER OCCUPIED AND RENTED HOUSING)**

6.1. Full notes of this item can be found in the minutes of the 15 July 2021 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.

6.2. Simon Kwong, Director, Housing Property Services, Councillor O'Sullivan, Chair of Housing Scrutiny Committee, and Professor Linda Clarke, Westminster University were present and made witness submissions to the Committee. During consideration of the submissions the following main points were made:

- Professor Clarke stated that the main issue in terms of achieving net zero carbon in housing was the lack of a trained workforce, that more training needed to be undertaken in order to skill up the future workforce. In addition she noted that as the larger contractors often sub-contracted work out, they were not directly responsible for skilling their workforce.
- More training opportunities at college and also work experience should be made available, noting that the workforce in this industry tended to be more male dominated. Professor Clarke advised that this is an opportunity to look at models in Canada and Europe to ascertain best practice, and was concerned that presently there were not enough trainers to train the numbers of staff required. In addition a number of European staff, who were well trained had left after BREXIT which further exacerbated staffing shortages
- Meeting was advised that Islington should take advantage of its situation especially as it has a directly employed DL workforce, to train them up to broaden expertise and build a multi-skilled workforce. It was noted that workforce capacity in the DL workforce was an issue that was being looked at, in view of the speed of training and costs that this would involve. The current level of qualifications also needed to be raised and there needed to be a better understanding of the requirements of other trades when such workforce was trained
- Reference was made to the GLA construction hubs, that Councils should engage with them, and enter discussions with larger contractors to skill staff up, as well as ensuring that DLO workforces were engaged as well
- It was noted that with regard to retrofitting, London Councils are looking at this and there was a meeting the following week where this could be raised
- It was noted that LBI with its variety of housing stock, which presented a number of challenges, there is a need to balance the requirements of tenants and leaseholders, and the Council were looking at a workforce 'roadmap'
- Noted that work was being undertaken by the Council in terms of employing apprenticeships and that evidence on this could come to the Committee
- Noted the initiative at Glasgow City Council which employs 2200 staff, and trains 60 apprentices, and focusing on building green homes and retrofitting. Also noted that the Holloway Prison site where discussions were taking place with the GLA. It was felt that the Council could start a pilot to look at a fuel poverty estate and train up the workforce



### 6.3. Presentation by Simon Kwong

- Scope – residential homes, commercial and industrial buildings – commercial and industrial buildings c.323k tonnes of CO2 – 48% of all emissions. Residential homes c,246 tonnes of CO2 36% of all emissions, and new build Council homes, existing Council stock including street properties, Housing Association properties, and privately owned properties
- The Challenge – reducing carbon emissions from residential buildings which consist of 172,324 tonnes from gas 79%, 72434 tonnes from electricity 29%, 1726 tonnes from other fuels 1%. Mitigating fuel poverty – lower energy efficiency of a home drives increase in fuel costs
- Objectives – to reduce carbon emissions from our buildings - have to replace communal gas heating with low carbon alternatives where feasible, maximise energy efficiency of buildings through retrofit of fittings, change the technical standards that we use to design and construct new buildings. Encourage behaviour change from, and provide support to owners of residential homes, to reduce carbon emissions from their properties. As it is unlikely the Council would be able to assist financially for those able to pay, there was a need to have an engagement and communication strategy in place and this was being looked at
- Deliverables – key priority to change the technical standards that are used to design and construct new buildings. Achieved to date - a comprehensive review of how our new build programme can meet the net zero carbon target, developed a decarbonising new homes strategy with agreed implementation strategy, introduced 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
- Deliverables – what we want to achieve in the next 12 months – develop a design compliance process to ensure net zero carbon strategy is being incorporated throughout all stages of build development. Produce technical specifications for incorporation into Islington’s new homes design requirements. Implement a post-construction building performance data management strategy, better support occupants of new homes to ensure they understand new, unfamiliar systems, and to promote/encourage greater energy efficiency
- Deliverables existing Council housing stock – key priorities to replace gas heating with low carbon alternatives, where feasible, and retrofit all domestic buildings to an average level of EPCB where feasible
- What has been achieved so far – worked with UC London to complete an analysis of retrofitting and energy changes to existing Council housing stock. The work sets out a summary overview of existing, and future technologies, in the net zero market, how technologies can help deliver the required emission reductions, alongside the benefits and draw up different options. Also the strategic level of opportunities and costs associated with taking different routes toward net zero carbon. The work assists the formation of the Council strategy to ensure Council homes support the delivery of the 2030 net zero carbon target
- Deliverables – what we want to achieve in the next 12 months – feasibility study into delivering a large scale trial of low carbon heating solutions on a pilot estate. Commission appraisal of building elements, lighting, heating pipework insulation, lifts, to determine most effective areas for retrofit investment. Purchase of a building stock model that identifies the most feasible improvements to residential

properties in order to eliminate emissions. Ongoing feasibility studies for minimising the carbon footprint of larger housing estates

- Deliverables – Privately owned homes – emerging offer funding support for eligible property owners, support for able to pay private property owners, access to borrowing/loan schemes, compliance and enforcement. Activity in this area includes – delivery of green homes grant, ECO flex scheme to identify households to qualify for grants under the Warmer Homes schemes, development of a realistic offer for able to pay private occupiers, loan schemes, working with landlords of privately rented homes to ensure that their properties are compliant with Minimum energy efficiency standards. Investigating the possibility of setting a higher energy efficiency standard for licensed rented housing, and delivery of a landlord awareness/engagement programmeEmpowerment, engaging and influencing others to achieve net zero carbon – 4% of the borough’s carbon emissions are generated by the Council, 9% are generated by other activity. Residents, businesses community groups and borough partner organisations must all play their part, with the Council leading by example. Other priority activities for engaging and influencing – stakeholder engagement plan with a priority focus on residential homes and commercial businesses, Islington Climate Change emergency festival, London Council climate change programme (Retrofit), COP 26 opportunities
- Other opportunities included – green jobs and skills e.g. retrofitting, Green SCIES and Bunhill 2 e.g. connection opportunities, greening the borough, adoption of the new local plan
- A Member referred to the greening of Andover Estate and that this had made considerable improvements and assisted in reducing carbon at a relatively low cost. It was stated that work is taking place on a number of schemes, and Public Realm were also looking at ways to green the borough. However work is also taking place to reduce carbon in housing by looking at the use of heat pumps, and replacing individual gas boilers. However there was a need to balance the costs involved for the HRA and for tenants and leaseholders and achieve an equitable balance
- Reference was made to the UCL report, that this should be made available to Members when finalised
- In response to a question it was stated that it was not possible that every property could be retrofitted, that it is essential initially to retrofit properties with the most impact on carbon reduction
- It was noted that although most properties could achieve ECPB status, however it might not be economically viable to achieve this status in some properties
- The Council needs clear guidance from the Government as to what funding opportunities would be made available
- The Chair of Housing Scrutiny Committee stated that in his view the first thing that should be considered was insulation of properties, and other possibilities included double/triple glazing, underfloor heating, thermostatic valves on radiators, storage heaters, metering, solar panels, thermometer valves, and that most of these technologies were well advanced. He added that at present there is a lack of knowledge and training for the workforce in the construction industry. In his view the most important measure to introduce with the most impact in

reducing carbon emissions quickly was installation of insulation. Some of these solutions can be done quickly and relatively inexpensively

- Reference was made to the fact that every effort should be made for easy installation of solar panels, however it was noted that issues existed around its impact in conservation areas, installation problems and maintenance issues, however it was noted that solar roof tiles are now available

6.4. With regards to installation of solar panels on schools, meeting was advised this had been done in some cases, however the Council were looking at all options such as using railway embankments, and schools to maximise solar power

## **7. HOUSING (COUNCIL, PRIVATE OWNER OCCUPIED AND RENTED HOUSING)**

7.1. Full notes of this item can be found in the minutes of the 14 September 2021 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.

7.2. Matt West, Director of Housing Services and James Wilson, Energy Sustainability and Consulting Manager gave a presentation, with the following points highlighted:

- Priority is to reduce carbon emissions from commercial, industrial and public sector buildings, which consist of 158,822tonnes from electricity (54%)
- 124,080tonnes from gas (42%), 9,892tonnes from 'other' fuels (3%) 166tonnes from large industrial installations and agriculture (0.06%)
- Presently 33% of borough emissions emanate from commercial buildings, 7% from public sector buildings and 6% from industrial buildings.
- It was noted that emissions from gas in commercial buildings is one of the few areas where there has been no emission reduction since 2005, in fact it has noticeably increased by 4%.
- With regards to Council owned buildings, reduction in carbon emissions will be achieved by replacing gas heating with zero carbon alternatives, maximise energy efficiency of buildings through insulation and retrofit, maximise on-site renewables and purchase where possible any remaining electricity needs from renewable sources
- In the case of reducing carbon emissions from other commercial/industrial/public sector buildings, the Council will not only continue to raise awareness of the need for businesses to make changes as climate change is a big issue, but encourage local organisations to act and provide support for local organisations to act.
- The Council have identified buildings in scope for feasibility studies—all non-Housing and non-school sites, developed a specification for feasibility studies to assess buildings. The Council will be identifying the most cost-effective zero carbon heating system to replace gas boilers, including possible connection to or creation of new district heating networks. Other proposed measure will include identifying and introducing energy efficiency improvements, such as insulation, glazing, heating controls, lighting upgrades, passive cooling measures.
- Members were advised of Council's unsuccessful application for a grant from the Low Carbon Skills Fund which would have enabled the Council carry out the feasibility studies to produce a Heat Decarbonisation Plan for 57 corporate buildings with gas heating.

- Over the next 12 months, meeting was advised that the Council will procure and complete the feasibility studies, prioritise buildings for work and create a retrofit programme. It will also identify and try and secure funding to start deliver
- With regards schools, the officer advised that so far the Council has 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), this will provide funding to decarbonise buildings as it becomes available.
- In addition, the Council recently applied to the Low Carbon Skills Fund to carry out feasibility studies on 20 additional schools, however this was unsuccessful due to an oversubscription of the fund, but there is another opportunity to apply on 13 September. A Schools page is being planned for net zero information website with ideas for teachers and students
- In terms of commercial and industrial buildings, the Council has launched the Energising Small Business Fund, offering grants to small businesses for energy efficiency improvements. In addition the Islington Community Energy Fund, will offers grants to organisation for innovative energy projects, which include energy efficiency measures for buildings.
- Council continues to promote the Solar Together scheme to encourage small businesses to install solar PV and it continues to support the Islington Sustainable Energy Partnership (ISEP), which brings together organisations in the borough that are interested in sustainability.
- With regards to Residential Homes, Commercial and Industrial buildings, the officer advised that in September the Council will start a business audit scheme for small businesses, launch a new net zero information website in November with a section dedicated to businesses, which his will include information on what organisations can do and how they can do it.
- In November, the Council aims to get organisations to pledge action using a pledge tool being developed for the net zero website, refocus ISEP to the net zero agenda and make it more targeted towards smaller businesses.
- On whether ventilation measures were being considered as one of the proposed energy improvement efficiency improvements, the Director of Housing Property Services, acknowledged that this is taken into consideration in all the council's new build right from conception and not as an afterthought.
- Meeting was advised that staff have a role to play in ensuring the Council meets it's carbon emissions target, that the Council has a staff communication plan, that training modules have been developed which will be delivered via e training and the Council will be appointing recycling champions amongst staff to help promote the council's vision 2030
- On the question of whether the Council could take advantage of the Solar Togetherness Scheme, meeting was advised that the eligibility criteria was only suitable for small firms and not corporate organisations like the Council. The Solar Togetherness Scheme is promoted via Newsletters and also a communication plan exist for small firms to apply and that the Council will be using it's tried and tested channels/forums to signpost firms for such schemes
- On timescales with regards to the proposed feasibility assessment to be carried on whether council housing stock would be suitable for solar panels, the officer advised

that an external consultant is to be commissioned so it will be completed within the year so that the Council can then move onto the next phase.

- On what options exists for replacing the heating system at the Council Town Hall, officers advised that no decision had been taken and that any technology employed or introduced will have been tried and tested . Members were also reminded about the importance of the Enable Vehicle 2 Grid 1 trial in the town hall.

## **8. BUILDINGS (COMMERCIAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE)**

8.1. Full notes of this item can be found in the minutes of the 12 October 2021 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.

8.2. Matt West, Director of Housing Services and James Wilson, Energy Sustainability and Consulting Manager gave a presentation, with the following points highlighted:

- Priority is to reduce carbon emissions from commercial, industrial and public sector buildings, which consist of 158,822tonnes from electricity (54%)
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- The Council have identified buildings in scope for feasibility studies—all non-Housing and non-school sites, developed a specification for feasibility studies to assess buildings. The Council will be identifying the most cost-effective zero carbon heating system to replace gas boilers, including possible connection to or creation of new district heating networks. Other proposed measure will include identifying and introducing energy efficiency improvements, such as insulation, glazing, heating controls, lighting upgrades, passive cooling measures.
- Members were advised of Council's unsuccessful application for a grant from the Low Carbon Skills Fund which would have enabled the Council carry out the feasibility studies to produce a Heat Decarbonisation Plan for 57 corporate buildings with gas heating.
- Over the next 12 months, meeting was advised that the Council will procure and complete the feasibility studies, prioritise buildings for work and create a

retrofit programme. It will also identify and try and secure funding to start delivery

- With regards schools, the officer advised that so far the Council has 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), this will provide funding to decarbonise buildings as it becomes available.
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- In November, the Council aims to get organisations to pledge action using a pledge tool being developed for the net zero website, refocus ISEP to the net zero agenda and make it more targeted towards smaller businesses.
- On whether ventilation measures were being considered as one of the proposed energy improvement efficiency improvements, the Director of Housing Property Services, acknowledged that this is taken into consideration in all the council's new build right from conception and not as an afterthought.
- Meeting was advised that staff have a role to play in ensuring the Council meets it's carbon emissions target, that the Council has a staff communication plan, that training modules have been developed which will be delivered via e training and the Council will be appointing recycling champions amongst staff to help promote the council's vision 2030
- On the question of whether the Council could take advantage of the Solar Togetherness Scheme, meeting was advised that the eligibility criteria was only suitable for small firms and not corporate organisations like the Council. The Solar Togetherness Scheme is promoted via Newsletters and also a communication plan exist for small firms to apply and that the Council will be using it's tried and tested channels/forums to signpost firms for such schemes
- On timescales with regards to the proposed feasibility assessment to be carried on whether council housing stock would be suitable for solar panels,

the officer advised that an external consultant is to be commissioned so it will be completed within the year so that the Council can then move onto the next phase.

- On what options exists for replacing the heating system at the Council Town Hall, officers advised that no decision had been taken and that any technology employed or introduced will have been tried and tested . Members were also reminded about the importance of the Enable Vehicle 2 Grid 1 trial in the town hall.

## 9. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

9.1. Full notes of this item can be found in the minutes of the 12 October 2021 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.

9.2. Sally Oldfield, Nature Conservation Manager, and Andrew Bedford, Head of Greenspace and Leisure Services was present, together with Barry Emmerson Park and Open Spaces Manager for discussion of this item and made a presentation to the Committee, copy interleaved

9.3. The **scope, challenge, objective and deliverables** of what the council wants to achieve across the natural environment in the next twelve months were reported. The following points were highlighted:

- On **Scope**, the whole borough is in scope. The council needs to look at how we can create greening opportunities and developments across every part of the borough. This included parks, Highways, housing (private and council owned) and commercial land.
- On **Challenges**, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) , 9th August issued "code red for humanity" Without deep carbon pollution cuts now, the 1.5°C goal will fall quickly out of reach. Climate Vulnerability Mapping produced City Hall and Bloomberg Associates, Bloomberg Philanthropies' pro-bono consultancy for cities, shows that six London boroughs are at particularly high risk from the effects of climate change. Islington is identified as one of those boroughs at high risk. Greening the borough will cool microclimates, absorb carbon and aid in flood risk mitigation as well as offering up many more benefits
- On **Objectives**, the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) was highlighted, along with the need to identify new opportunities to increase the amount of green infrastructure on all council public realm developments. And the increase tree canopy cover in Islington from 25% to 30%.
- On **Deliverables**, the following achievements were noted:
  - Launched consultation of the new BAP in spring 2020, receiving 175 responses.
  - Published final BAP September 2020.
  - Provided opportunities for local residents to learn about and enjoy nature, through events, volunteering and education, e.g. 6,500 children benefitted from activities provided by The Garden Classroom during the past year.

- Seek to maximise benefits for biodiversity through the emerging Greening the Borough Programme.
- Engage with new audiences to ensure equal access to nature for all, e.g. through a new programme of activities aimed at improving mental health.
- Work with Bright Lives to deliver environmental education activities for under fives plus a training programme to skill up the Bright Start team with accredited forest school training.
- Planning applications are carefully scrutinised for their biodiversity impacts and developers are challenged to improve their contributions to the natural environment.
- Proper consideration for tree protection and tree mitigation through the planning process, with a dedicated tree officer commenting on planning applications and strong tree protection policies in the Local plan.
- The adoption of the new Local Plan will include clearer and more robust biodiversity requirements for developers.
- New legislation on Biodiversity Net Gain comes into force in 2023 and the Council will provide guidance to developers on how to comply with this.
- Set up a Greening the Borough Task Group to develop an action plan with the aim of accelerating the delivery of greening the borough.
- Completed a review of Community Gardening and Food Growing in the borough which will support the development of the Greening the Borough Action Plan.
  - Secured funding and appointed a new dedicated Project Greening the Borough Programme Manager.
- Secured funding to develop a master plan of greening opportunities on the public highways.
- Secured an addition £140K per year to invest in greening improvements on the highways.
- Identify and deliver training programs for current staff to support the delivery of more green infrastructure in Public Realm Projects.
- Complete the Master Plan of greening opportunities in the public realm.
- Secured £150K of funding for a new Housing Community Gardening Team to improve the planting/biodiversity on estates and supporting/develop community gardening.
- Commissioned reports to understand the baseline tree data and allow for focused tree planting
- Secured a central tree planting budget to enable a minimum of 430+ trees annually to be planted on public land via Capital Programme.
- Continued tree mitigation for tree loss to development.
- 161 trees planted in conjunction with Forest of Change and Islington Clean Air Parents
  - 680+ trees planted in the 21-22 tree planting season
- Implement online tree planting donation process
- Develop a tree warden scheme to encourage resident engagement and promote private tree planting
- Seminars on tree management and tree walks delivered for the climate festival



## 10. WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

10.1. Full notes of this item can be found in the minutes of the 30 November 2021 of Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.

10.2. Matthew Homer, Street Scene Strategy Manager was present, together with Keith Townsend, Corporate Director Environment and Regeneration, for discussion of this item and made a presentation to the Committee, copy interleaved. The following points were highlighted:

**Scope:** Islington's Waste Reduction and Recycling Action Plan, including the draft Circular Economy Action Plan update.

**The Challenge – Why is this important:** In June 2019 the Council declared an Environment and Climate Emergency, which commits Islington to becoming carbon neutral by 2030. Reducing waste and recycling and moving towards a more circular economy is a key part of achieving this.

- 60,000 tonnes household waste per annum
- 31% is recycled, composted or reused

Vision 2030 – Scope 1 and 2 emissions, 680,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e each year Total Islington related emissions ~ 2 million tCO<sub>2</sub>e each year.

Net zero carbon target for Islington does not include emissions outside Islington related to the production and disposal of goods and food consumed in the borough. These are emissions that we – the council, residents and businesses – still have control over through our consumption.

As well as reducing waste and increasing recycling, we need a focus on reducing emissions arising outside of Islington, as a direct result of our own consumption and behaviour.

### **Our objectives:**

1. Reduce waste focusing on food waste and single use packaging.
2. Maximise recycling rates.
3. Reduce the environmental impact of waste activities (greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants).
4. Maximise local waste sites and ensure London has sufficient infrastructure to manage all the waste it produces.

### **Deliverables:**

Objective 1: Reduce waste focusing on food waste and single use packaging

Key priorities:

- Take action to reduce single use plastic
  - Take action to reduce food waste
  - Increase reuse • Deliver waste minimisation and recycling communications campaigns
  - Develop a Circular Economy Action Plan
- Objective 2: Maximise recycling rates

Key priorities:

- Household recycling target of 33% by 2022 and 36% by 2025
- Expand food waste collections to all remaining purpose-built blocks of flats and trial the service for flats above shops
- Improve service standards for recycling container deliveries and make recycling sacks easier to access
- Develop a new business waste recycling plan

Objective 3: Reduce the environmental impact of waste activities

Key priorities:

- Comply with the ULEZ and transition the recycling and waste fleet to low/zero emission vehicles

Objective 4: Maximise local waste sites and ensure London has sufficient infrastructure to manage all the waste it produces

Key priorities:

- London to manage net 100% of all the waste it produces by 2026

Circular Economy Action Plan Draft

- An alternative to a linear 'take, make, dispose' economy, based on three principles: eliminate waste and pollution, circulate products and materials, and regenerate nature
- Targets consumption based 'scope 3' emissions.
- Supports Vision 2030 objectives

Interventions at various points in the cycle for example:

- Procurement strategy – drive out waste from procured goods
- Home design guide – design homes to minimise impact
- Library of Things & Dress for Success – reuse consumer goods
- Repair Cafes – repair consumer goods
- Recycle – locally and into new products
- Recover – EfW

### **14 MARCH 2022 – Special Meeting**

- 1) Tackling the Environment and Climate Emergency – With stakeholders
  - 2) Work Programme 2021/2022
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### **14 JUNE 2021**

- 1) Scrutiny Review : Topics
  - 2) Work Programme 2022/23
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