

**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 Islington Town Hall, Upper St, N1 2UD on **23 November 2023 at 7.30 pm.**

Enquiries to : Emma Taylor  
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Despatched : 15 November 2023

Membership

Councillor Tricia Clarke (Chair)  
Councillor Clare Jeapes (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Fin Craig  
Councillor Mick Gilgunn  
Councillor Ruth Hayes  
Councillor Claire Zammit  
Councillor Angelo Weekes  
Councillor Caroline Russell

Substitute Members

Councillor Ernestas Jegorovas-Armstrong  
Councillor Praful Nargund  
Councillor Jason Jackson  
Councillor Toby North  
Councillor Dave Poyser  
Councillor Heather Staff  
Councillor Flora Williamson

**Quorum is 4 members of the Committee**

<b>A. Formal Matters</b>	<b>Pages</b>
1. Apologies for Absence	
2. Declarations of Substitute Members	
3. 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 - 8
5. Chair's Report	
6. Order of Business	

7. Public Questions

Questions must be related to an item on the meeting agenda. There is no requirement to submit questions in advance, but a question may be rejected if it:

- (a) is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- (b) requests the disclosure of information which is confidential or exempt; or
- (c) names, or clearly identifies, a member of staff or any other individual.

**B. Items for Decision/Discussion** **Pages**

**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.

8. Active Travel Evidence Session - Public Health, OurBike and Living Streets

9. Update Report on Behavioural Change Scrutiny (2021-22) 9 - 24

10. Quarter 1/2 Performance Report (2023/24) - Net Zero Carbon 25 - 74

11. Workplan 2023/24 75 - 76

**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. 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.

**F. Confidential/exempt items** **Pages**

The next meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee will be on 25  
January 2024

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# Public Document Pack Agenda Item 4

London Borough of Islington

## Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee - 17 October 2023

Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee held at Islington Town Hall, Upper St, N1 2UD on 17 October 2023 at 7.30 pm.

**Present:**      **Councillors:**      Clarke (Chair), Jeapes (Vice-Chair), Craig, Gilgunn, Hayes, Zammit and Weekes

### Councillor Tricia Clarke in the Chair

31      **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item 1)**

Apologies were received from Councillor Russell

32      **DECLARATIONS OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item 2)**

Councillor Jegorovas-Armstrong was a substitute member.

33      **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)**

No declarations of interest were made.

34      **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the previous meeting be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings and the chair be authorised to sign them.

35      **CHAIR'S REPORT (Item 5)**

The Chair updated the committee on the first Task and Finish Group of the year. The topic of this group was apprenticeships focusing on the green economy and women in engineering, speakers included Professor Linda Clarke and council officer Pascal Coyne. The Chair told the committee the Clerk had circulated minute notes from this group. The next Task and Finish group would be in November focusing on affordable workspaces.

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

The order of business was as per the Agenda.

37      **PUBLIC QUESTIONS (Item 7)**

Public questions would be taken after each item.

38      **SCRUTINY INITIATION DOCUMENT - ACTIVE TRAVEL (Item 8)**

The chair introduced the Scrutiny Initiation Document.

**RESOLVED:**

That the committee agree to the Scrutiny Initiation Document focussing on Active Travel

39

**INTRODUCTION TO ACTIVE TRAVEL FROM DIRECTOR OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND TRANSPORT (Item 9)**

Martijn Cooijmans, The Director of Climate Change and Transport, gave a presentation introducing the committee to Active Travel and the plans involving this in the coming year. They noted Islington was a top inner-London borough for Active Travel for the third year in a row.

The Council's Active Travel Program was an integral part of the council's overarching strategy, which included the Vision 2030 strategy and the Transport Strategy. These strategies were developed in tandem, underwent consultation, and were adopted in 2020. Active travel and public health promotion were central elements of these strategies. The program revolved around eight objectives, with a strong focus on making walking and cycling the top choices for local journeys, ensuring safety, reducing road danger, and minimising the environmental and air quality impact of travel.

To gauge progress and performance, the council conducted monitoring reports every two years, aligning with the Transport Strategy's objectives. Key aspects related to active travel included increasing the percentage of journeys taken by walking, cycling, or public transport, with a target of 90% by 2041.

The presentation also highlighted various teams within the council, which collaborated to promote active travel. Other areas of focus included promoting bus priority measures and offering cycle training. Additionally, the council sought to provide secure cycle parking, promote the use of cargo bikes, and encourage the adoption of active travel through bike hire and incentive programs.

The council actively engaged with the community to create "People-Friendly Streets," including Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) and Liveable Neighbourhoods. These initiatives demonstrated positive results, with reduced road danger and increased cycling levels in the areas where they were implemented.

Efforts were made to motivate and incentivise residents to embrace active travel, including initiatives like school travel plans, festivals, and partnerships with various groups, such as Joyriders, Positive Spin, and Silver Cyclists. The ultimate goal was to encourage physical activity through active travel while creating a safe and accessible environment for all Islington residents. The council remained committed to making active travel a practical and preferred choice for all members of the community.

In response to questions from the committee, The Director of Climate Change and Transport explained, while emergency response time does vary it is overall generally good and there were detailed monitored reports for each low traffic neighbourhood. Additionally, it was clarified that potential alterations to 20mph roads are not anticipated to affect highly urbanised areas like Islington.

Regarding inquiries concerning bike hangars and cycling initiatives, the Director explained that the selection of their locations was contingent upon the demand and wait lists. Where there exists a clustering of demand, these facilities would be strategically placed in easily accessible locations. Furthermore, they conveyed that the team is actively exploring methods to reduce the associated costs, with the possibility of costs decreasing as more individuals make use of these amenities.

Behavioural change was identified as a pivotal factor in encouraging people to adopt active travel. This transformation can be facilitated through more effective communication with residents and resident associations and for example, by encouraging residents of housing estates to reduce their reliance on cars. Furthermore, the council was committed to

empowering minority groups to engage in active travel, and this will involve engaging with various organisations, including Joyriders, Cyclesisters, and Transport for All. The Director also expressed willingness to receive suggestions on how to empower diverse groups to embark on more sustainable travel options.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report was noted by the committee

**40 ISLINGTON PENSIONERS FORUM - ACTIVE TRAVEL EVIDENCE SESSION**

**(Item 10)**

Dot Gibson from the Islington Pensioners Forum gave a presentation to the committee on active travel for pensioners in the borough.

Dot Gibson explained that while ample preparation and support are typically available for young individuals, the same cannot be said for those who are ageing. There is a noticeable lack of guidance and information provided about the ageing process, unlike the comprehensive guidance offered to school-age children as they grow up. This gap in preparation for ageing is a critical issue that needs addressing to help older people feel confident walking and cycling.

One crucial aspect of addressing these challenges is increasing social awareness. For example, there are concerns about the behaviour of cyclists who may sometimes move too swiftly without being fully aware of pedestrians, potentially leading to accidents. Uneven pavements can cause difficulties faced by older individuals. Therefore, providing social mobility equipment becomes significantly important in enhancing the quality of life for older people.

There was a notable obstacle is the reluctance of older individuals to seek help, as they may fear appearing old and frail. Encouragement and awareness about the available support systems are essential to change this perception and promote the idea that seeking assistance is a positive step.

Moreover, older people often suffer from age-related hearing impairment, which makes it challenging to hear traffic and signals. To address this, it would be beneficial to raise awareness in schools and among young people so that they are more informed about the specific needs of the elderly and can contribute to a safer environment for them.

In terms of urban planning and infrastructure, shared paths should consider the inclusion of appropriate signage to alert users to the presence of older individuals and pedestrians. Implementing services like a "taxi card" can also enhance mobility for older residents. Additionally, installing more benches in the borough so people can sit down and have a break on longer routes they take.

Creating people-friendly streets is another essential aspect of ensuring pedestrian safety, especially for older individuals. This can involve adjusting crossing lights to remain on for longer durations to accommodate the slower pace of older pedestrians.

In summary, recognising the unique challenges faced by older people and implementing solutions that promote their safety and mobility is crucial, and it requires a comprehensive and socially aware approach.

**41 SCRUTINY REPORT: NET ZERO CARBON REVIEW 2022-23 (Item 11)**

The Committee Clerk presented this report outlining the evidence given to the committee over the previous municipal year for the Scrutiny Review of the Circular

Economy and Green Jobs, including any evidence given to Councillors within scrutiny committee meetings, working groups and other public meetings. This had resulted in 8 main recommendations to the executive outlined on page 11 of the main Agenda pack.

**RESOLVED:**

That the committee noted the report.

42

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR INCLUSIVE ECONOMY AND JOBS - ANNUAL REPORT (Item 12)**

The Executive Member for Inclusive Economy and Jobs presented their annual report to the committee.

The Anchor Institutions Network, which was relaunched this year, was driven by a strategic long-term goal and had the potential for significant impact. For instance, initiatives like Arsenal hired local tradesmen and they have established a local trades directory for these anchor institutions. Steps were taken to reduce their reliance on zero-hour contracts and use progressive procurement policies, such as having a 20% social value in their procurement and strategies.

The Local Economies Officers had done remarkable work, as exemplified by the Archway's successful bid to transform into a Creative Enterprise Zone. This bid not only secured substantial direct investment but also explored innovative ways to utilise these spaces.

In the context of growth sectors, there was a strong focus on creating pathways for working-class individuals to access various industries. This included initiatives like a £250k grant to fund the Health and Social Care Academy, £400k for a net-zero carbon business accelerator that could help improve the Green Economy. Islington was also a lead borough in life sciences.

The LIFT program was designed to empower working-class individuals to pursue long-lasting careers in business-related roles. There was a need to encourage organisations to consider candidates they might not traditionally select, such as those without formal degrees.

Addressing inequalities was a key concern, as exemplified by London Met University's extensive research on BAME communities. For instance, research had identified that East African communities were the hardest to reach, highlighting the need for increased support and a more comprehensive data collection approach.

In response to questions from the committee, the Executive Member explained that there were many billion-pound companies in Islington and on the border in the City. It was important to convince these organisations to increase their social value and think more locally, not just globally. They needed to start providing more opportunities to working-class people. Councillors pointed out that some unions had yet to fully engage with these emerging areas of the economy and saw an opportunity to bring various stakeholders together to explore new models.

Councillors raised questions about the availability of local economy officers and how other wards could benefit from having them. The Executive Member explained that local economy officers were placed based on historical reasons and the need to support areas with a significant business community. The idea of expanding this support to other wards was discussed.



Regarding cultural apprenticeships, the focus was on creating opportunities for young people in the creative and cultural industries through initiatives like the creative enterprise program. There was also a commitment to exposing young people to local cultural opportunities. In addition, the Executive Member mentioned the possibility of getting larger organisations involved in local governance.

The status of childcare bursaries was addressed, with the government's new policy to support parents returning to work being a significant change. The Executive Member indicated that there might be a need to reconsider the allocation of bursary funds to address specific needs and ensure the right parents were being reached. There would also be a future task and finish group on affordable workspaces to address councillors' queries on this in more detail.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report was noted by the committee

**43**

**QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE REPORT (2023/24) - LIBRARIES AND HERITAGE (Item 13)**

The Executive Member for Equalities, Culture and Inclusion presented the Q1 performance report for Libraries and Culture.

The report covered what was managed to happen by adding a few more indicators to bring more detail about how the libraries are performing. There was a trend upwards in terms of visits to libraries, getting back to where they were before COVID. There was also the indicator now for online issues, which was also doing well. There were interesting patterns where the usage dipped during the summer when everyone is enjoying the outdoors and then went back up during the winter when everyone is trying to stay indoors and find things to do.

One area for attention was the indicator for the number of issues made versus the number of library visits. It showed that there were fewer issues compared to the number of people visiting the libraries throughout the year. It indicates that libraries are not just for checking out books or DVDs but also for various activities, sitting down, reading, using computers. They served as important community spaces and warmer places outside of people's homes, where they can come and use free Wi-Fi and computers.

The report provided an overview of the types of events and activities that have taken place in the libraries this quarter, catering to a range of ages and celebratory moments. Libraries are being used by various council directorates for their work, such as consultations for the Sobel Centre, external partners and organisations also use library spaces for their activities, like Age UK.

There's room for improvement. By breaking down how the library spaces are being used, it can be identified where they are underutilised and why. It helps to figure out how to improve or use the space differently.

The committee discussed the positive impact of scraping library fines in encouraging more people to utilise libraries and borrow books, DVDs and other things available. Another significant topic was the Summer Reading Challenge, a program designed to encourage children and parents to read. The challenge involved children reading a series of books and receiving certificates and medals upon completion.

Councillors inquired about the progress of allowing card payments within libraries. It was noted that offering both cash and card payment options is essential to accommodate the diverse preferences of library users.

The "Winter Warmers" program was also discussed, which collaborates with partners like Age UK and other organisations to support vulnerable groups during the winter months. The intention is to extend this initiative across all libraries, with a focus on promoting multigenerational support and community engagement.

Social prescribing, a concept involving working with local doctors' surgeries to engage in social prescribing and recommend library activities to combat issues like loneliness. This approach could help connect libraries with groups not regularly engaged, particularly among older individuals. The councillors discussed potential gaps in outreach and efforts to address them. The role of libraries was recognised as extending beyond offering books. Libraries provide services such as adult learning, archives, and support for residents in need.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report was noted by the committee

**44 QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE REPORT (2023/24) - ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT (Item 14)**

The Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport presented the Q1 performance report for Environment and Transport.

The Executive Member asked for questions relating to the report.

Councillors expressed that while recycling is important, a key focus should be on decreasing the overall production of waste. Economic factors and poverty were recognised as elements influencing waste generation and recycling and the possible increase in waste.

A specific concern was the recycling rate, which was noted as 27.7%. This rate, however, had been impacted by certain factors, including green waste, which contributed to a 1.5% reduction. The councillors highlighted the ongoing efforts to improve waste reduction, such as the introduction of a new technical system. Additionally, they acknowledged the importance of measuring progress and ensuring alignment with goals and grants from various sources.

The committee expressed concern about the cleanliness survey and fly-tipping issues. They questioned whether more attention could be given to specific streets, especially those used by schoolchildren. The committee inquired about the increase in construction and demolition waste leading to fly-tipping incidents. The Executive Member indicated a need to identify the sources of such waste and apply appropriate measures, including potential fines.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report was noted by the committee

**45 WORKPLAN 2023/4 AND TERMS OF REFERENCE (Item 15)**

**RESOLVED:**

That the committee noted the Workplan 23/24 and the Terms of Reference.

The meeting ended at 9.40 pm

**CHAIR**

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# Behaviour Change and the Net Zero Carbon Programme

Page 9

An update for Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

Agenda Item 9

# Behaviour change and the net zero carbon programme

- Identified as a key element of our engagement approach in Vision 2030
- Scrutiny Review in 2020/21 made recommendations for the programme which have informed our approach
  - Consider how behaviour change can support delivery of council priorities and outcomes, and cross-departmental opportunities
  - Allocate funding for behaviour change work
  - Commission pilot projects
  - Share findings of pilot projects with E&R scrutiny committee
  - Facilitate internal capacity building
  - Deliver more localised and targeted communications
  - Seek funding to support long-term implementation

# What we did next

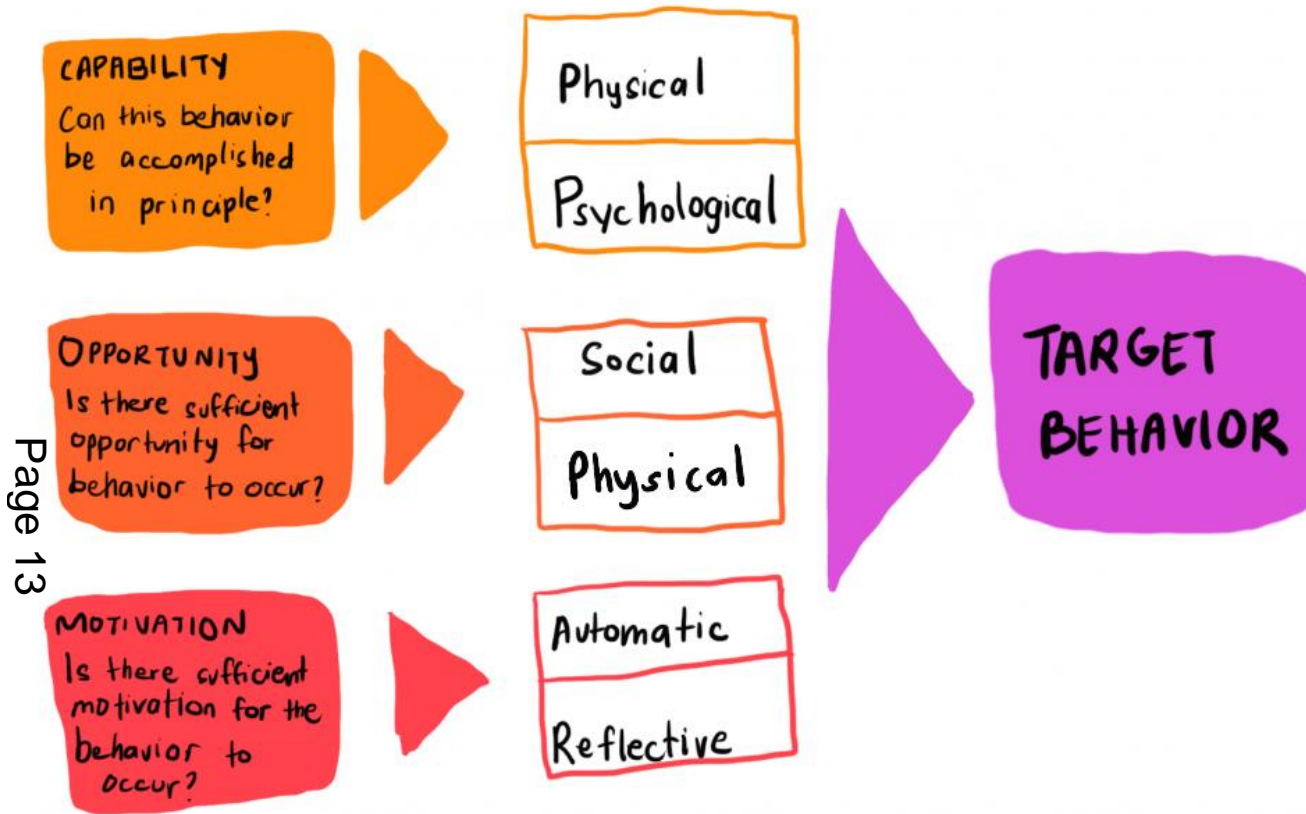
- Workstream staff surveys and stakeholder mapping to identify topics and key audiences for a pilot project commission
- Convened workshops with 11 London boroughs to discuss shared priorities and potential for collaboration on a commission
  - These identified a disparate range of topics, but it was difficult to achieve consensus on priorities
  - Further discussions via London Councils suggested that many didn't feel ready/informed enough to commission any specific pilots.

## Other challenges

- Staff capacity – key lead officer left in February 2022 and has only been replaced in August 2023
- Restructure of key services required to establish a better provision to support campaigns and engagement
- Development of new Corporate Plan with a new set of missions/outcomes to be established and embedded across the council
- Energy price and cost of living crisis provided a new, more challenging context and alternative opportunities in which to promote behaviour change
- Stakeholder mapping across a programme and organisation of this scale proved unwieldy
- Lack of internal understanding of behavioural change programmes (vs communications campaigns) and therefore buy-in to commission pilots.



# Establishing the foundations to introduce behaviour change



- Evidence based, systemic approach to understanding and targeting behaviours through carefully designed interventions and evaluation.
- Recognizes that behaviour is influenced by many factors, and that behaviour changes are induced by modifying at least one of these components on the left.
- Information and comms is not enough. Think campaigns, incentives, penalties, physical constraints or environmental changes, service re-design

The Net Zero Carbon programme was still finding its feet and we simply weren't ready to commission a new programme of projects in 2022

# How we have adapted our approach

- Developed a Logic Model approach for the NZC Programme, currently underway, to:
  - Support an evidence-based approach to workstream action plans
  - Focus on impact and outcomes
  - Prioritise interventions and inform priorities for engagement.

Page 14

Allocated £40k funding and commenced procurement for a Behaviour Change specialist organisation to:

- work with workstreams, anchor institution partners and the wider council to identify and scope priority behaviour change initiatives and develop an initial programme for delivery.
- Meetings held and correspondence with potential providers to complete soft market testing.

# How we have adapted our approach

- Delivered a winter 2022 staff campaign in response to the Energy Price crisis and achieved a cost avoidance of c. £2m through our cross-departmental Corporate Energy Saving Programme
- Commissioned a series of workshops exploring the “Barriers to Net Zero” over the summer of 2023:
  - 4 sessions on retrofit to inform the development of the NZC Supplementary Planning Document
  - 1 session on encouraging active travel
  - 1 session on encouraging re-use and repair
  - Findings to inform the Engaging, Empowering and Partnering strategy and plan.

• Page 15

Save energy  
**TURN OFF YOUR  
COMPUTER**  
when not in use

A vertical poster with a green background and a yellow band at the bottom. At the top left is the Islington logo. The main text in white reads: "LET'S WORK TOGETHER AND SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY". Below this, in smaller white text, it says: "Find out about the changes we are making, and what you can do. Search 'Net Zero Carbon' on izzl for easy tips you can follow". There are two speech bubble icons on the right side, one at the top and one at the bottom, both containing the text "MAKE SMALL CHANGES EVERYDAY". At the bottom left is the "Islington Together for a greener future" logo, and at the bottom right is the "ISLINGTON For a more equal future" logo.

**LET'S WORK TOGETHER AND SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY**

Find out about the changes we are making, and what you can do.  
Search 'Net Zero Carbon' on izzl for easy tips you can follow

**MAKE SMALL CHANGES EVERYDAY**

**ISLINGTON**  
For a more equal future

 **ISLINGTON**  
For a more equal future

# How we have adapted our approach



## **Delivered introductory staff training for key teams to support awareness of the value of behavioural science and its use in engagement activities:**

- Engaging the public in climate action
- Encouraging sustainable choices using behavioural science

22 staff trained across NZC, Comms and Campaigns, Inclusive Economy, Waste and Recycling, Energy, Transport, Housing, Planning and Finance



## **Developed proposals for culture change within the council including**

a re-brand of the NZC Programme team to Climate Action

commitments from senior leadership to undertake Climate Literacy training

progressing initiatives to strengthen and embed low carbon decision-making across the council

## Other delivery

- Improved access to information including:
  - Promotion of the Together Greener website, particularly during Go Zero
  - enhanced support through the duty planning service for those seeking to retrofit their homes
  - Business directory developed and promoted through shop local campaign
- Financial incentives to our SMEs through the Energising Small Business grants and our Circular Economy work
- Continued delivery of our Active Travel programme and People Friendly Streets, maximising available funding for initiatives such as TFL Travel for Life and working with public health and our leisure service to develop a campaign to encourage physical activity.
- Repair cafes and upcycling workshops

Page 17



Developed joint action plan with our Anchor Institutions which includes engagement and behaviour change as one area for collaboration – launched this in April 2023 with a 6 week Go Zero campaign which focused on opportunities to make sustainable choices

## Go ZERO

Our energy advice service provides brilliant, free guidance on how you can save energy at home.



Find out how you can reduce your carbon footprint, and save money: [togethergreener.islington.gov.uk](https://togethergreener.islington.gov.uk)



## Go ZERO

Choosing to walk and cycle more often can help reduce emissions, on the way to creating a net-zero carbon Islington. Our Dr Bike experts can provide great tips on looking after your bike!



Find out how you can get involved at [islingtonlife.london/EarthDay](https://islingtonlife.london/EarthDay)



## Go ZERO

Planting in your home, park, or local community space is a healthy way to relax, meet new people, and create a greener Islington.



Find out more about local planting initiatives: [togethergreener.islington.gov.uk](https://togethergreener.islington.gov.uk)



## Go ZERO

By shopping local, you can ensure your community thrives, support businesses that care about the environment, and save money.



Find out more about reducing your carbon footprint: [togethergreener.islington.gov.uk](https://togethergreener.islington.gov.uk)



## Go ZERO

We offer brilliant, free bikeability courses, which allow residents of all ages to learn to be safe, competent cyclists.



Find out more about how you can make greener choices about the way you travel: [togethergreener.islington.gov.uk](https://togethergreener.islington.gov.uk)



## Go ZERO

Thinking carefully and planning your meals can help reduce food and plastic waste, save money, and lower your carbon footprint.



Find out how can you reduce your impact on the planet: [togethergreener.islington.gov.uk](https://togethergreener.islington.gov.uk)



# Cally Fest in partnership with the Archway Upcyclers and ISN

Page 19



## Next steps

- Select specialist organisation to work with workstreams over next 6 months to develop a behaviour change programme and scope priority projects for delivery
- Consider the role of the planned Citizen's Panel in helping to shape our climate action engagement work and priorities
- Staff survey to understand perceptions / motivations on climate action
- Develop improved climate awareness training for all staff, in collaboration with other boroughs.
- A review of the Together Greener site and pledge tool to further develop its use.
- Build on Go Zero and co-design a new campaign for 2024



# Summary

- Although we have had to adapt our approach as we have developed the programme, we remain committed to delivering against the recommendations:
  - Consider how behaviour change can support delivery of council priorities and outcomes, and cross-departmental opportunities:
    - As part of the logic model process and action planning
    - Aligning with the Together 2030 corporate plan and five missions
  - Allocate funding for behaviour change work
    - £40k allocated this year to deliver Barriers to Net Zero workshops and to commission specialist support
  - Commission pilot projects
    - to be scoped with the support of the commissioned behaviour change organisation
  - Share findings of pilot projects with E&R scrutiny committee
    - we will report back again next year to the committee on our progress

# Summary

- Facilitate internal capacity building
  - underway through staff training and awareness and will be built into the commission
- Deliver more localised and targeted communications
  - underway
- Seek funding to support long-term implementation
  - ongoing as part of our financial strategy to support climate action

# Questions?

Page 23

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# Net Zero Carbon Strategy Progress report (April-Sep 2023)

Page 25

Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

November 2023

Agenda Item 10

# Introduction

- This report covers April to September 2023. The first section provides an overview of the borough's carbon emissions (latest government figures) and our own council emissions. The second section is organised according to the eight different programme workstreams that are responsible for the delivery of actions. These work streams are:
  - Buildings, Housing, Commercial and Infrastructure
  - Transport
  - Sustainable and affordable energy
  - Natural environment, waste reduction and recycling
  - Green Economy
  - Planning
  - Engaging, Empowering and Partnering
  - Finance and Investment
- The workstream updates set out the objectives and expected key outcomes of the priority work areas, activity highlights from the past 6 months and work programme delivery status.
- As well as reducing carbon emissions (primary benefit), we expect the programme to deliver a number of other co-benefits. Some examples of these benefits are given on the following page, and icons are included throughout the report to indicate where an intervention is expected to achieve a particular co-benefit. We are developing our benefits monitoring framework so this will evolve over time.
- The net zero carbon programme is a corporate commitment and as such climate action will be reflected and run through the delivery of the 5 missions within the Corporate Plan:
  - Child-friendly Islington
  - Fairer Together
  - A Safe Place to Call Home
  - Community Wealth Building and
  - Greener, Healthier Islington.

# Expected Outcomes



## Improved Health and Wellbeing

residents less prone to pollution-related illness and more physically active



## Equity & Social Cohesion

ensuring a just transition and bringing communities together to address a common goal



## Increased resilience

of our streets and communities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the impacts of climatic events



## Maintain/Increase Biodiversity

protecting species and communities against sudden changes and stresses



## Economic Development

emerging sectors bring new jobs and business innovation

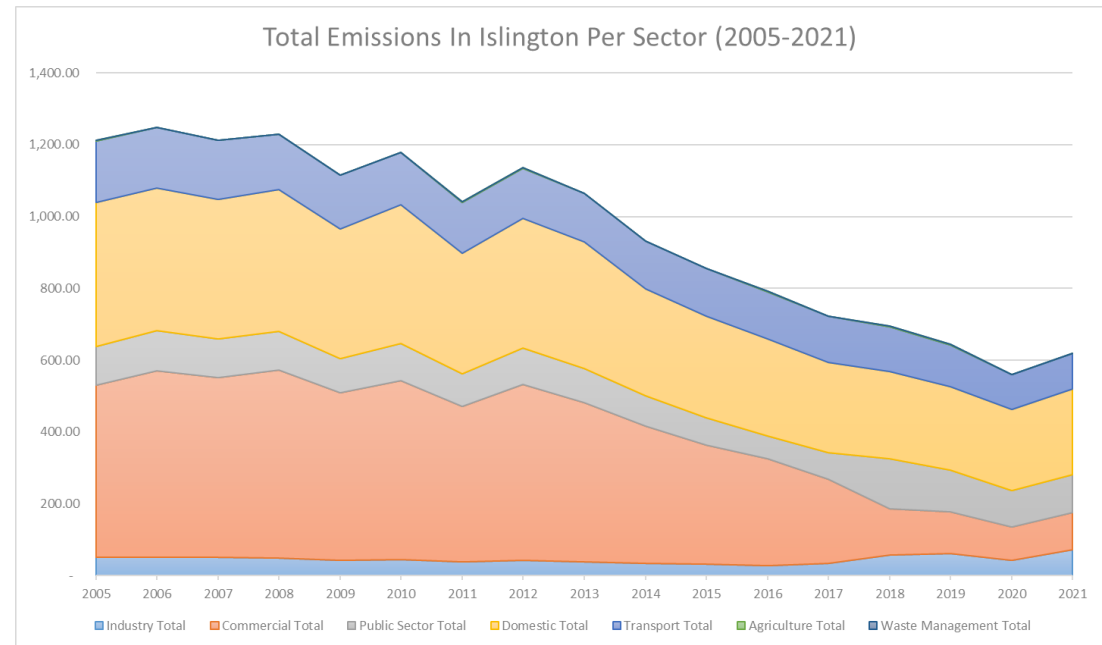
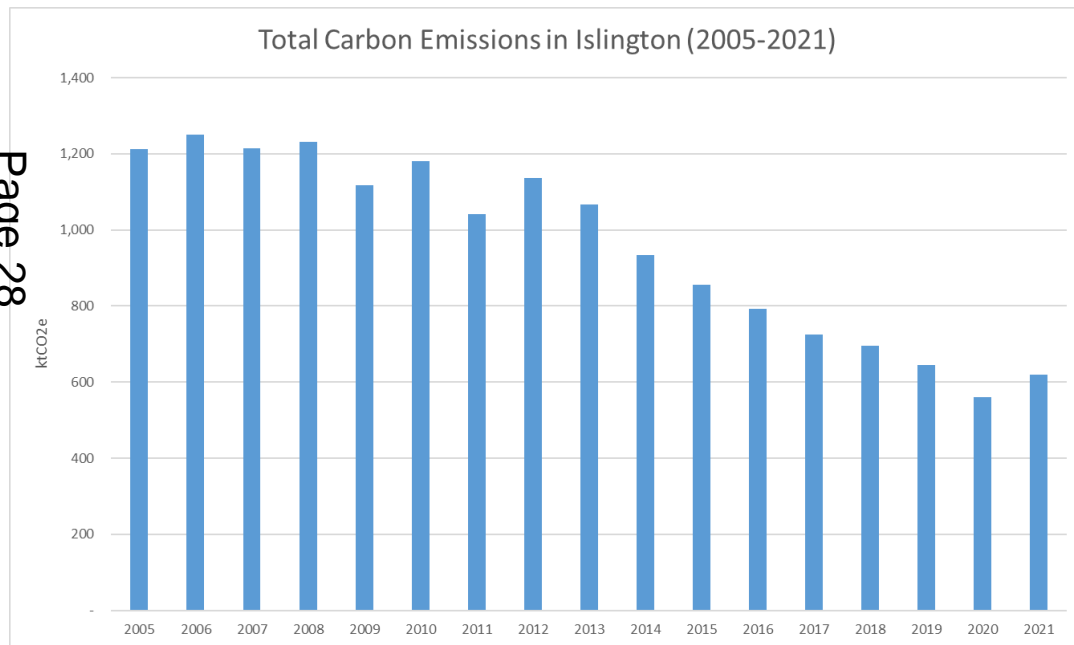


## Clean and safe streets

an improved environment for residents and communities

# Carbon Data Overview

- The latest data on Boroughwide carbon emissions is shown below for years 2005-2021. This is correct at July 2023 and shows an overall 10% increase in emissions from 2020 to 2021, which can be mainly attributed to the easing of nationwide lockdowns post COVID-19. Emissions in 2021 are still 3.9% lower in Islington than in 2019. For further analysis please review the [full report made available by DESNZ](#).

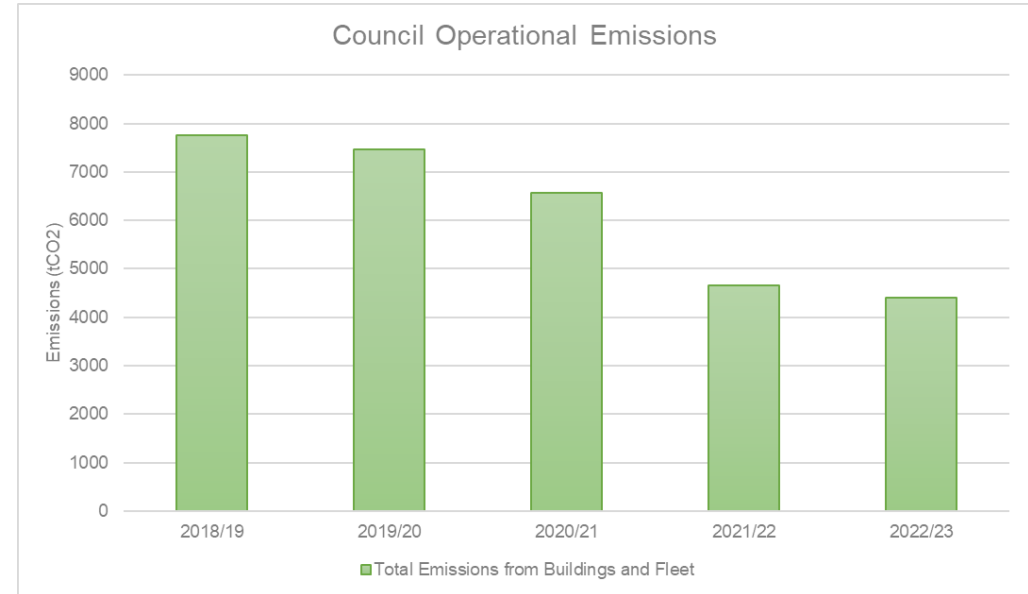
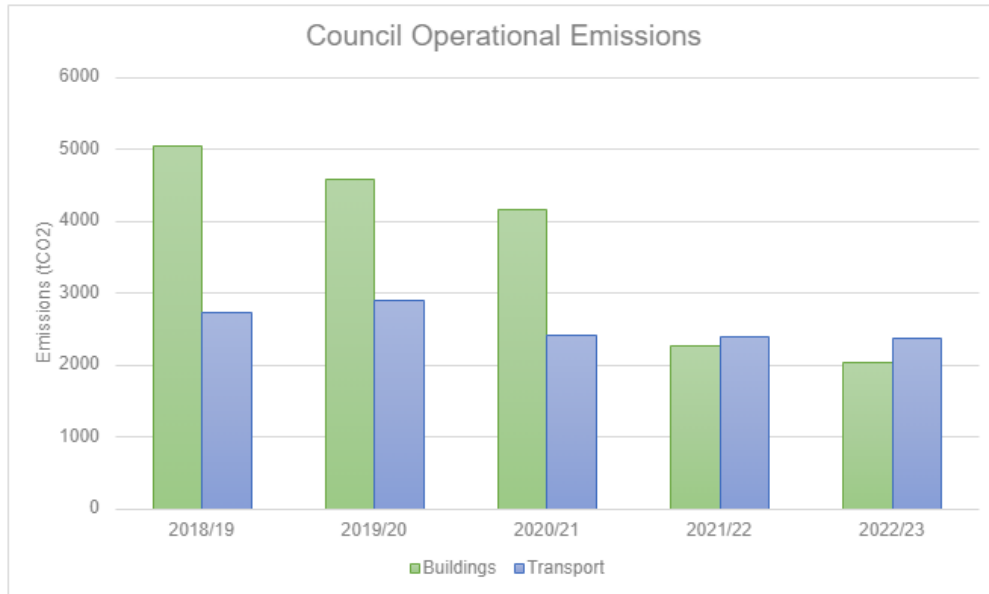




# Carbon Data Overview

- The latest data on the council's own direct carbon emissions is shown below. This is calculated from fuel billing data correct at end of FY 2022/23 and shows an **overall 6% reduction** in the council's operational emissions (buildings and transport) between FY 21/22 and 22/23, and a 43% reduction within the last five years.
- This shows the council's performance in reducing emissions. It should be noted that the council switched the electricity supply of most of its corporate buildings to a renewable tariff in 2021, resulting in the electricity-related emissions of those buildings reducing to zero.

Page 29



# Workstreams



**BUILDINGS, HOUSING,  
COMMERCIAL AND  
INDUSTRIAL**



**TRANSPORT AND  
ACTIVE TRAVEL**



**SUSTAINABLE AND  
AFFORDABLE ENERGY**



**GREEN ECONOMY**



**NATURAL  
ENVIRONMENT, WASTE  
REDUCTION AND  
RECYCLING**



**PLANNING**



**ENGAGING,  
EMPOWERING,  
PARTNERING**



**FINANCE AND  
INVESTMENT**

# WS1: Buildings, Housing, Commercial and Infrastructure

To improve the energy efficiency and reduce the level of carbon emissions of buildings and infrastructure in Islington.

Page 3

Total	Complete	On track	Overdue	Off track
22	4	14	3	2

## Expected outcomes



# Decarbonising Council Buildings

Workstream Owner: Director of Housing, Matt West

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5	WS7 ✓
WS2	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- Develop a corporate buildings decarbonisation strategy informed by Heat Decarbonisation Plans (HDPs) and other evidence sources
- Develop a plan to optimise the implementation of retrofit and low carbon technologies whilst taking account of no cost or low-cost behavioural change methods
- Develop a dynamic means of monitoring and evaluating progress in the plan towards achieving the goals of the strategy
- Secure all government grant funding available and grasp opportunities to maximise social value in implementing the strategy.

## Highlights from the last 6 months

- Secured over £1.2 millions of funding
- Completed upgrade of Building Management System (BMS) for corporate buildings
- Out of 196 buildings identified, 56 Heat Decarbonisation Plans have been completed to date, and 32 more are due to be completed by the end of 2024
- Installed solar panels on five of our corporate buildings
- Installed ground source heat pump at New River College
- Produced a new procurement framework to make future delivery easier

Page 32	Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments (if delayed)
	Develop council non-residential buildings retrofit implementation plan	Scoping/investigation		2021	2023	
	Deliver decarbonisation measures at New River College	Delivery		2022	2024	
	Deliver decarbonisation measures at Drayton Park School	Initiation		2022	2024	
	Deliver decarbonisation measures at Archway Leisure Centre	Initiation		2023	2025	
	Deliver decarbonisation measures at King Henry's Walk	Initiation		2023	2025	
	Deliver decarbonisation measures at the Waste and Recycling Centre	Delivery		2022	2023	
	Install solar PV at the Islington Ecology Centre	Complete		2022	2023	
	Install solar PV at Laycock Centre	Complete		2022	2023	
	Install solar PV at Fairbridge Depot	Complete		2022	2023	
	Install solar PV at Dowham Road Depot	Complete		2022	2023	

# Decarbonising Social Housing

Workstream Owner: Director of Housing, Matt West

## Workstream Interdependencies

WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5	WS7 ✓
WS2	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

### Objectives

- To minimise carbon emissions across our council housing stock.
- To capture learning from our pilot projects (and the UCL study) to inform development of an effective decarbonisation programme.
- To reduce fuel poverty in our worst performing housing stock.
- To integrate climate adaptation measures into our projects where possible
- To work alongside LBI's Housing Associations, share best practice, and ensure that low carbon solutions are part of their priority

### Highlights from the last 6 months

- Planning permission secured for Ground Source Heat Pump at Bevin Court, works now out to tender.
- Feasibility studies completed for Harvist estate retrofit pilot project.
- Surveys started for Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 2 properties
- New Bunhill connection made to Telfer House.
- Islington Social Housing providers briefed on Net Zero Carbon opportunities emerging in the new Supplementary Planning Document on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

	Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments (if delayed)
Page 33	Deliver Highbury Quadrant Low Carbon Exemplar Home	Development		2022	2024	Increased cost of delivering to full Passivhaus certification currently being reviewed
	Deliver Vorley Road Passivhaus Pilot	Planning		2020	2026	Subject to re-design to anticipate new fire safety requirements
	Redbrick estate monitoring and metering	Delivery		2022	2023	Took longer than anticipated to engage residents
	Develop housing stock retrofit implementation plan	Development		2021	2023	Work is ongoing as part of 10 yr investment plan, but taking longer than expected due to complexity and financial considerations
	Deliver low carbon retrofit at Harvist Estate in Arsenal Ward	Planning		2021	2025	
	Deliver low carbon retrofit at Bevin Court and Holford House in Clerkenwell Ward	Detailed design		2021	2025	
	Deliver low carbon retrofit at Newbury house in Canonbury Ward	Planning		2021	2025	
	Deliver low carbon retrofit at Harry Weston Estate	Planning		2021	2025	
	Housing Retrofit Wave 1 (32 street and low rise properties)	Delivery		Q4 21/22	Q3 23/24	
	Housing Retrofit Wave 2 (371 properties)	Delivery		Q1 22/23	Q1 25/26	

# Decarbonising Corporate Buildings in Action

Page 34

Solar panels have been installed on four corporate buildings: the Ecology Centre, Downham Road, Laycock Centre & Fairbridge Road

the new panels will save approximately **18 tons of carbon dioxide** per year

The panels will generate more than **70,000 kilowatt hours of electricity** annually, and are expected to save the council approximately **£20,000 per year**



# Decarbonising Private Buildings

Workstream Owner: Director of Housing, Matt West

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5	WS7 ✓
WS2	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- Understand the net zero carbon potential of different types of private housing and commercial stock
- Understand the different types of messages preferred by different audiences to promote net zero retrofit technologies amongst Islington residents, businesses, and landlords
- Share appropriate information on funding opportunities and measures for owners of homes and commercial buildings to reduce energy consumption
- Enforce MEES restrictions on all private properties
- Exploit new opportunities to promote net zero carbon measures afforded by the Supplementary Planning Document
- Investigate the feasibility of employing a retrofit co-ordinator to engage private residential owners, landlords and tenants in implementing retrofit technologies.

## Highlights from the last 6 months

- Developed an expression of interest for inclusion in 3ci's Net Zero Neighbourhood pitchbook, building case for place based decarbonisation and investment
- Working with Planning to draw upon their research on private residential typologies , private owner segmentation, and tailored interventions and use this to engage owners, landlords and tenants in implementing retrofit measures.
- 21 Energising Small Business approvals; £39,682 of measures installed, 18,564kg of carbon saving
- MEES letter sent to all private residential landlords whose properties are below an EPC C, and to private business landlords whose properties are below an EPC E

Page 35

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments (if delayed)
Develop retrofit offer and deliver engagement activities for private building owners, landlords and tenants	Planning		2022	2024	Developing scope and focus of offer and role for an officer to be appointed to lead this. Paused to respond to Net Zero Neighbourhood opportunity, now resumed.
Enforce MEES restrictions on all private sector buildings	Planning		2020	2025	

# WS2: Transport

To reduce emissions in the borough from transport:

- Reduce the number of KM driven by encouraging walking, cycling and public transport

Page 36

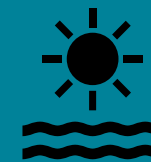
transform our streets

secure better cleaner and more accessible public transport services

- improve air quality for residents
- Reduce and electrify our fleet
- Increase electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the borough

Total	Complete	On track	Overdue	Off track
18	2	13	3	0

## Expected benefits





# Reducing Vehicle Use in Islington

Workstream Owner: Martijn Cooijmans – Director of Climate Change and Transport

## Objectives

- Reduce the number of KM driven by encouraging walking, cycling and public transport
- Transform our streets
- Improve air quality for residents.

## Page 37 Highlights from the last 6 months and changes

- Clerkenwell Green, St.Mary's, Canonbury West and Amwell low traffic neighbourhoods made permanent.
- Engagement for Mildmay, Cally, Barnsbury & Laycock, Bunhill & Golden Lane and Dartmouth Park liveable neighbourhoods.
- Delivered Saddle & Sole festival in Highbury Fields to promote cycling and walking
- School streets
- Cycleway 50 between Camden and Finsbury Park, collaboratively delivered by Islington and Transport for London



# Reducing Vehicle Use in Islington

Workstream Owner: Martijn Cooijmans – Director of Climate Change and Transport

## Workstream Interdependencies

WS1	WS3	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments(if delayed)
Ensure every area in Islington is a Liveable Neighbourhood, where feasible	Delivery		Current	Q3 30/31	
Deliver alternative “School Street” measures on all primary schools on main roads where feasible	Delivery		Q4 21/22	Q1 25/26	
Deliver final phase of school streets not on main roads, where feasible	Delivery		Q2 22/23	Q4 23/24	
Develop a Walking and Cycling Action Plan and Accessibility Action plan	Initiation & Scoping		Current	Q2 23/24	Challenges in staff recruitment has delayed progress
Deliver the ongoing programme of high-quality segregated cycle routes	Delivery		Current	Q3 30/31	
STARS – school cycle engagement program	Delivery		Current	Ongoing	
Cycle Training program	Delivery		Current	Ongoing	
Bike Hangers program	Delivery		Current	Ongoing	
Develop and adopt a parking pricing and availability plan	Initiation & Scoping		Q3 2022	Q4 23/24	
Develop a Freight Action Plan	Development		Current	Q4 22/23	Challenges in staff recruitment has delayed progress

# Discouraging the use of Fossil Fuel based plant & machinery

Workstream Owner: Martijn Coojmans – Director of Climate Change and Transport

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1	WS3	WS5	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- Improve air quality for residents

## Highlights from the last 6 months and changes

- 25 pieces of council owned Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) identified. Business surveys suggest very few other NRMM in the borough. Other fossil fuel-based plants identified are used intermittently and occasionally e.g., back-up generators.
- Funding to replace council equipment still to be identified.
- Eco Zone trial is finishing, and the evaluation report is being finalised.

Page 39

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments(if delayed)
Replace diesel generators with emissions-free alternatives such as battery packs or fuel cells in the council's non-road mobile machinery (NRMM)	Development		Q2 2022	Q4 24/25	
Conduct a trial of the UK's first Eco Zone at the Regent's 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.	Delivery		Q3 2021	Q3 23/24	

# Reducing emissions from the council's fleet

Workstream Owner: Martijn Coolijmans – Director of Climate Change and Transport

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- Reduce and electrify our fleet

## Highlights from the last 6 months and changes

- EV charging
  - Completed WRC project with all EV Charging Points operational (34 new).
  - Completed Central Library works with new EV Charging Points operational.
  - Works on new EVCPs have commenced at Downham Road.
  - Scoping of new site 305 Hornsey Rd has been completed with design work underway
- EV procurement
  - Total EVs on fleet 87 (19% of owned fleet & 15% if including hired vehicles)

Page 40

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments(if delayed)
WRC grid connection & infrastructure installation	Complete		current	Q3 22/23	
Other council sites smart charger installations	Delivery		current	Q3 30/31	Installation of additional council charging points extended for duration of the electrification of the fleet project
Conduct V2G trial	Complete		current	Q1 23/24	
Replace & retrofit fleet to be electric	Delivery		current	Q3 30/31	
Reduce size and use of the fleet	Delivery		current	Q3 30/31	

# Encouraging the Use of Electric Vehicles

Workstream Owner: Martijn Coolijmans – Director of Climate Change and Transport

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- Increase electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the borough
- Secure better cleaner and more accessible public transport services

## Highlights from the last 6 months and changes

- Installation of the 490<sup>th</sup> public Electric Vehicle Charging Point in Islington (from 476 in April)
- Consultation completed on 117 potential EVCP locations

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments(if delayed)
Complete the delivery of 500 electric charging points	Delivery		Current	Q4 22/23	Target was 500 by March 2023, updated to 600 by March 2024. Recruiting a second officer to work on the borough's expanding EV program and completion of extended consultation on new sites will accelerate progress. Improved reporting of risk via the monthly Climate Change and Transport project board (CCT) will closely monitor progress.

Page 41

# Highlights

Page 42



Islington's *Saddle and Sole* festival, held on Sunday 24 September



Consultation on proposals for the Mildmay Liveable Neighbourhood,

# WS3: Sustainable and Affordable Energy

- increase local generation of renewable heat and electricity - *heat pumps and solar PV*.
- increase the uptake of affordable and renewable energy tariffs and mitigate fuel poverty – *SHINE*.
- increase the use of smart, zero carbon district heating in the borough, considering the whole energy system – *heat networks*.

Page 43

Total	Complete	On track	Overdue	Off track
6	1	3	0	2

## Expected benefits



**ISLINGTON**

For a more equal future

# Installation of Solar PV

Workstream Owner: Martijn Cooijmans – Director of Climate Change and Transport

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	<b>WS3 ✓</b>	WS5	WS7 ✓
WS2	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- Increase local generation of renewable heat and electricity

## Highlights from the last 6 months and changes

- Solar PV arrays installed at five sites: Waste Recycling Centre; Downham Road; Fairbridge Road; Islington Ecology Centre and Laycock Centre (see buildings workstream for details)

Page 44

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments(if delayed)
Promote Solar Together to residents and businesses	Completed		Ongoing	Closed	
Support community energy schemes	Delivery		Ongoing	Ongoing	
Installation of Solar PV on council buildings <i>details of solar arrays as per buildings workstream</i>	Delivery		Ongoing	Ongoing	



# Addressing fuel poverty and energy efficiency

Workstream Owner: Martijn Cooijmans – Director of Climate Change and Transport

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	<b>WS3 ✓</b>	WS5	WS7 ✓
WS2	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- Increase the uptake of affordable and renewable energy tariffs and mitigate fuel poverty

## Highlights from the last 6 months and changes

- SHINE's contract with the GLA has increased and the team are taking on two additional Energy Doctors and one additional Energy Advisor.

Page 45	Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments(if delayed)
	SHINE energy and fuel poverty advice and referral service (ongoing)	Delivery		Ongoing	Ongoing	
	Energy Doctors - deliver energy and cost saving measures to mainly low-income owner occupiers and private tenants (ongoing)	Delivery		Ongoing	Ongoing	Deficit between target no of visits and those delivered due to staff changes but expected to catch up with new recruits.

# Heat and Energy networks

Workstream Owner: Martijn Cooijmans – Director of Climate Change and Transport

## Workstream Interdependencies

WS1 ✓	<b>WS3 ✓</b>	WS5	WS7 ✓
WS2	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- Increase the use of smart, zero carbon district heating in the borough, considering the whole energy system

## Highlights from the last 6 months and changes

- Funding bid submitted to complete the GreenSCIES outline business case

Page 46

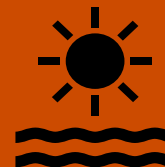
Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments (if delayed)
Deliver GreenSCIES New River Network	Secure resources & approvals		Q1 2022/23	2024/25	Lack of staff resources has delayed progress

# WS4: Green Economy

To deliver on our net zero carbon target whilst assuring the economic success and vitality of our borough by working closely with the 21,000 businesses in the borough, most of them small or micro-sized.

Total	Complete	On track	Overdue	Off track
3	1	0	2	0

## Expected outcomes



# Our Future Approach for the Green Economy

Workstream Owner: Caroline Wilson

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- Decarbonise the commercial sector: retrofit job and skills development, supply chain development, business engagement and funding
- Reduce emissions from business transport: modal shift and freight consolidation
- Reduce our Scope 3 emissions and deliver social value through procurement
- Drive green business innovation and skills development: accelerator programmes, business models
- Drive a circular economy and reduce waste
- Improve climate resilience of our high streets

Page 48

- The Green Economy is in the process of undergoing a workstream review to re-establish priorities
- The key objective of this workstream is to ensure the success of other net zero carbon workstreams, primarily housing and transport through supply chain development and business support
- Work is still continuing as detailed in the following pages.

# Commercial Property and High Street Decarbonisation

Workstream Owner: Caroline Wilson

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

Page 49

## Objectives

- Improve the energy efficiency and carbon emissions of commercial premises
- Enable and encourage mode shift, including sustainable freight and delivery options, amongst local businesses
- Create a new generation of jobs in the industries and infrastructure we need to tackle the climate crisis: in low carbon sectors such as retrofitting, building, climate adaptation and in the environmental sector or in other sectors where the roles are involved in protecting the environment
- Position our residents to be skilled in new sectors, especially the newly unemployed, disadvantaged and young people who are out of work:

## Highlights from the last 6 months

- Created green jobs tracker to develop progression pathways map and identify gaps for green construction and related roles
- Signed contract with MP Smarter Travel to support in application for DEFRA funding to roll out e-cargo bikes for 35 businesses – DEFRA bid submitted 29/09/23
- 21 Energising Small Business grants approved

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments (if delayed)
Business Directory of Local Construction Suppliers	Delivery		Feb-23	Sep-23	The test site has been created and is currently undergoing testing. A few testing issues have caused delays. Due to launch end Oct with online promotion

# Commercial Property and High Street Decarbonisation Highlights

Workstream Owner: Caroline Wilson

## Energising Small Business

21 ESB grant approvals for high street businesses  
£39,682 of energy saving measures installed  
**18,564kg of CO2 saved**



**2 new e-cargo bikes**  
located in Highbury Barn and on  
Blackstock Road



**Two new apprenticeships** secured as part of the new contract with Marlborough Highways and will be starting in September 2023



**Promoting green skills as part of Climate Action Week** including showcasing case studies from some of our contractors



**Pilot for Saturday School completed successfully in June**, teaching architecture and the built environment to 13-16yrs  
LIFT funded

# Green Business, Innovation and Procurement

Workstream Owner: Caroline Wilson

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- Improve the energy efficiency and carbon emissions of commercial premises
- Enable and encourage mode shift, including sustainable freight and delivery options, amongst local businesses
- Increase availability and take up of surplus, repair and reuse facilities
- Increase awareness and take up of 'Shop Local' (both consumer and B2B)

## Highlights from the last 6 months

- Created first draft of green social value guidance to support commissioners in understanding the council's progressive procurement policy including circular economy principles. Through a Social Value Operations Group green skills and jobs are being embedded in council contracts and S106 agreements
- The Anchor Institutions Net Zero Carbon Task & Finish Group has continued to meet and collaborated in Go Zero Activities (see Engaging, Empowering and Partnering section)

Page 51

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments (if delayed)
Social Value through procurement: Establish a framework to embed the need for green skills in our council contracts and S106 agreements	Complete		Dec 21	Sep 23	
Deliver Net Zero Affordable Workspace with specialist operator	Delivery		Oct-21	June-23	Unable to appoint via procurement, reviewing alternative let options with environment to be considered in social value

# Green Business & Innovation Upcoming Activities

Workstream Owner: Caroline Wilson

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓



Islington has partnered with Start-up Discovery School (SDS) to run a **first-of-its-kind Zero Carbon Business Accelerator Programme**, working with diverse start-ups on solutions directly addressing:

- infrastructure development
- retrofitting energy inefficient homes
- increasing access to fair energy tariffs
- building low carbon energy networks

Page 52

## Islington Council Circular Economy Grants

**Roll-out second round of circular economy grant scheme:** to be officially announced at Circular Economy week 16-20th Oct  
15 businesses to receive grants



**Support Cally Trade Association to develop model for tool sharing for business:** developing a business-led model to encourage resource sharing between businesses and support with sourcing equipment.



**Food surplus café at Jean Stokes:** developing operational model including staffing. Talk to Chapel Market traders about potential link up to food surplus from the market.  
Part of Cally Green Economy Plan



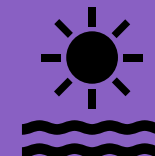
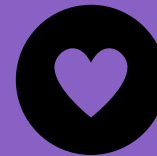
# WS5: Natural Environment

To improve the quality of our natural environment and maximise opportunities to reduce carbon emissions, adapt and become more resilient to the effects of climate change.

Page 53

Projects Total	Complete	On track	Challenges	Off track On Hold
7	0	4	1	2

## Expected outcomes



# Greener Together Programme – enabling green infrastructure in the public realm in collaboration with the community

Workstream Owner: Tony Ralph

## Objectives

- To increase the number of people engaged in caring for the environment
- To help meet the council’s target to increase tree canopy cover from 25 to 27% by 2023
- To increase the number of local composting facilities
- To enhance Islington’s biodiversity
- To Improve resilience to climate change
- To increase local food growing opportunities
- To widen access to nature, including through enabling access to pocket parks

Page 54

## Highlights from the last 6 months

- 14 projects from Greener Together Phase 1 now complete out of 38 in total. Two have been removed and remaining 22 to be completed by the end of March 2024.
- Delivering online and in person training for staff on green infrastructure delivery in partnership with Camden and Urban Design London (Highways Greening Accelerator Programme). 30 people trained on biodiversity and sustainable drainage. Case studies being developed for best practice report.
- Completed first phases of research for private investment financial model and Pocket Park framework. Engaged with early adopters (GLA and other councils) to understand the research process..
- Groundwork appointed as partner to deliver Islington Greener Together Champions. Training needs assessment complete and a training plan for champions is now being developed.

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments (if Delayed)
Highways Greening Accelerator Programme	Development		Q4 22/23	Q4 23/24	
Develop a private investment financial model and Pocket Park Framework	Development		Q2 22/23	Q4 23/24	
Greener Together Round 1	Delivery		Q1 22/23	Q4 22/23	14 projects complete. Many in later stages of development and a few are on-site. Aiming for completion - March 2024.
Greener Together Round 2	Development	On hold	Q1 23/24		On hold due to resource constraints
Greener Together Champions Programme	Development				

# Tree Canopy and Biodiversity

Workstream Owner: Tony Ralph

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1	WS3	<b>WS5 ✓</b>	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- increase tree canopy cover in the Borough from 25% to 27% by 2030 by protecting our trees and open spaces and increasing our woodland in line with our Biodiversity Action Plan
- Reduce area of deficiency in access to nature from 17% to 15% through improvements to Sites of Importance for Nature (SINCs)
- Support community involvement in managing spaces for biodiversity

## Highlights from the last 6 months

- Biodiversity Progress Report being finalised and draft excerpts have been included as highlights at the end of this section

Work package	Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Status
WS5: Tree Canopy Cover	Urban Forest Management Policy	Initiation & Scoping		2019	Q4 23/24	£55k required for tree canopy assessment. New funding stream found and application in process
WS5: Biodiversity and engagement with nature	Review progress against the Biodiversity Action Plan 2020 - 2025	Delivery		Q2 22/23	Q1 23/24	Draft report being finalised and date being scheduled to present to E&R Scrutiny.

Page 55

# Nature-based climate mitigation and adaptation solutions

- The Gillespie Park reedbed restoration project carried out in Spring 2023
  - A project to benefit biodiversity, and a nature based sustainable urban drainage project
  - 600 metres square
  - A shallow bed that holds water and creates a wetland/reedbed area for the benefit of birds and other wildlife.
  - Completed by Siemens working on the adjacent railway line.
- Greening Together Programme now creating new climate adaptation projects on highways and other sites.

Page 56



# New River Re-Opens to Enhance Biodiversity and Delivers Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Benefit

Improvement works included,

- Emptying the water and dredging the silt, increasing water holding capacities.
  - Re-using the silt on site to create new wooden borders planted with native plants.
- Total area improved 3,531 square metres.

Volunteers are now invited to help create an environmentally friendly, more biodiverse environment where a range of native species can flourish.



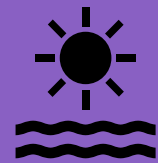
# WS5: Waste Reduction, Recycling and the Circular Economy

To integrate our ongoing activities in recycling and reducing waste and managing our natural environment.

We will ensure that these objectives are coherent in our efforts to achieve net zero and help mitigate the risks from severe loss of biodiversity which will impact people, the economy and the environment.

Total	Complete	On track	Overdue	Off track
4	1	2	1	0

Expected outcomes



# Highlights

Page 59



## Repair Café Programme

We have developed an ongoing programme of 12 repair workshops until March, targeting textile and repair. **This is double the yearly target!**

GOODMINE

## Accelerating the Circular Economy for Consumer Goods within Islington

Net Zero Digital Accelerator

ISLINGTON

## Accelerating the Circular Economy

We have begun working with **Goodmine**, an Islington-based profit-for-purpose tech company to develop circular pathways in Islington, **diverting reusable household goods from the waste stream and maximising their lifespan**



**Food waste trial for flats above shops on Holloway Road now completed** and working with ReLondon to improve recycling

# Waste Reduction, Maximising Recycling and Circular Economy

Workstream Owner: Tony Ralph

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- Recycling 40 per cent of household waste by 2030
- Residual waste per household to be 329kg
- Expand food waste recycling collections

## Highlights from the last 6 months

- Library of things: developing proposals for the N4 Library, working through funding and costing
- Litter bin recycling in parks trial: initial 15 bins in place, to be complimented with 20 additional bins
- Circular Economy workstream review to re-establish priorities and KPIs

Page 60

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments (if delayed)
Recycling site improvements on estates	Delivery			Mar-26	
Food waste recycling for purpose-built flats	Delivery			Mar-24	
Food waste for flats above shops - Trial on Holloway Road	Complete			Mar-25	
We will update our recycling and waste storage space guidance for new developments, as appropriate, to ensure it is robust and effective.	Feasibility		Not started	New end date TBC	Investigating funding options for project delivery



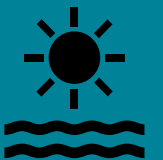
# WS6: Planning

Climate action embedded in planning to deliver emissions reduction while maximising economic and social benefits for Islington residents and businesses.

Page 61

Total	Complete	On track	Overdue	Off track
2	1	1	0	0

## Expected Outcomes



# Supplementary Planning Guidance – Delivering a Zero Carbon Planning Framework in Islington

Workstream Owner: Director of Planning, Karen Sullivan

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- To develop appropriate technical background information to inform the SPD.
- To develop the SPD and realise its benefits in more easily, facilitating net zero carbon retrofit planning applications through meaningful and open public engagement with local people, businesses, landlords and organisations.

## Highlights from the last 6 months

- Islington's new local plan was adopted on 28 September 2023
- 58 duty planner appointments made to discuss retrofit between April to October 2023
- 415 visits to the Let's Talk Islington Supplementary Planning Document page launched on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2023
- Over 50 responses to the SPD scoping paper and a programme of engagement involving separate workshops with councillors, residents, local businesses, architects and housings associations
- Let's Talk Islington webpage now linked to every page of the Together Greener webpages
- Local heritage societies, including the Canonbury Society, engaged

Page 62

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Status (if delayed)
Take the draft Local Plan forward for adoption	Delivery		Q1 22/23	Q1 23/24	Delays because of modifications requested by HM Planning Inspectorate
Development and adoption of new Supplementary Planning Document	Delivery		Q3 2022/23	Q1 2024/25	

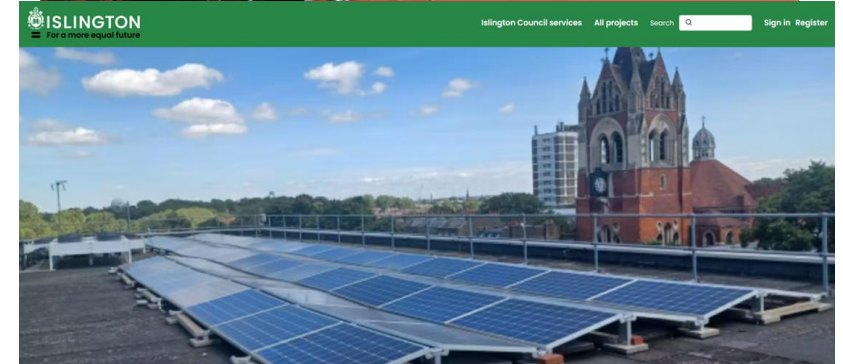
# Highlights

- Delivered a programme of engagement to raise awareness of Islington's net zero ambitions, involving workshops with residents, architects, local businesses, housing associations and councillors
- Free planning advice for householders on when planning permission is required for retrofit

Commissioned a study on Islington's most common housing typologies and the NZC retrofit opportunities available, with a view to guiding residents to implement cost-effective carbon reduction measures

Page 63

## Islington Permitted Development Guide for Net Zero Works



# WS7: Engaging, Empowering and Partnering

Although the council has a leading role in delivering carbon emissions in Islington, we cannot deliver on the net zero carbon target on our own. We will work closely with residents and local businesses and community groups to enable and encourage them to help our borough achieve net zero.

Page 64

Total	Complete	On track	Overdue	Off track
7	2	0	4	1

# Engaging, Empowering and Partnering Actions

Workstream Owner: Assistant Director of Communications and Campaigns, David Hardiman

## Workstream Interdependencies

WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- To provide all workstreams with effective communications support to raise awareness of the council's net zero carbon programme
- To increase awareness, collaboration and commitment amongst:
  - Staff
  - Councillors
  - Residents
  - Business
  - Partners
- To attract new investment into the programme
- To manage the council's reputation
- To influence government policy and approach

Page 65

## Highlights from the last 6 months

- Delivered April's Special Scrutiny event
- Supported delivery of a range of engagement and campaign events around Earth Day, London Climate Action Week, etc. in partnership with Anchor Institutions
- Commissioned a series of workshops on the Barriers to Net Zero to inform engagement plans
- Scoped out further detail on the Citizens Panel model and secured corporate approval
- Completed major departmental restructure to support effective delivery of communications and campaigns going forwards, alongside a new team dedicated to partnerships and engagement
- Worked with London Councils on the scope for a jointly commissioned climate essentials module
- Developed brief for Behaviour Change commission and initiated procurement process for specialist support
- Identified and arranged behaviour change training for staff, scheduled for delivery in October.
- Continued input into London Councils' Climate Change Programmes
- Collaboration with Public Health on physical activity campaign as well as scoping work on climate vulnerabilities and adaptation needs.

# Engaging, Empowering and Partnering Actions

Workstream Owner: Assistant Director of Communications and Campaigns, David Hardiman

## Workstream Interdependencies

WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments (if delayed)
Develop and deliver a programme wide communications and engagement plan for next 18 months with workstreams	Development		Q1 22/23	Q2 23/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aligned engagement and communications objectives with each NZC workstream and reviewed planned activities. Overarching plan being finalised for sign off.</li> <li>Recruited new Communications and Campaigns Officer dedicated to NZC activities to deliver the plan</li> </ul>
Establish a community forum to help shape our engagement programme	Secure Resources and Approvals		Q1 22/23	Q2 23/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtained approval to develop a corporate Citizens Panel – first phase to focus on climate change</li> </ul>
Develop and promote staff training programme	Development		Q1 23/24	Q4 23/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff behaviour change workshops scheduled for October.</li> <li>Liaising with organizational development colleagues and training providers</li> <li>Contributed to London Councils meetings around a collaborative approach to e-learning</li> </ul>

# Engaging, Empowering and Partnering Actions

Workstream Owner: Assistant Director of Communications and Campaigns, David Hardiman

## Workstream Interdependencies

WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

Key projects	Phase	Status	Start	End	Comments (if delayed)
Deliver a 6 week campaign with partners to raise awareness of Net Zero	Completed		Q4 22/23	Q1 23/24	
Publish new webpages setting out the activity across the programme and progress updates	Development		Q1 22/23	Q2 23/24	New pages drafted – awaiting sign off
Develop a carbon monitoring approach and set interim targets	Secure Resources and Approvals		Q1 22/23	Q2 23/24	Main workstreams reviewed and CO2 savings collated into a monitoring framework. Annual report completed as shown in this report above. Targets to be confirmed. Exploring how waste and recycling could be measured
Deliver and collaborate on themed events to explore key challenges with our communities	Completed		Q1 22/23	Q4 22/23	

Page 6 of 7

# Highlights



## Earth Day

Page 88  
Islington Council and Anchor Institutions promoted ways that local people could lower their carbon footprint through a range of activities

## Go ZERO

### “Go Zero” campaign

A six-week communications campaign to promote our carbon emissions reduction activities and to encourage local people, groups, and businesses to play their part.



## Boots and sports equipment collection in collaboration with Arsenal and Better Sports Centres

Arsenal community will redistribute boots to children and to Union Chapel for Asylum seekers



## Cook for Good: A sustainable food event

An Islington & Peabody collaboration promoting eating a healthy, plant base diet with an emphasis on reducing food waste



## NHS Whittington Hospital Food Waste Event

for staff, patients and carers/ families



The Anchor Institutions and community groups ran a range of activities with a focus on upcycling, transport and green skills



Front page coverage in the Gazette for the TFL STARS programme poster contest winners



# Highlights

- Encouraging nearly 1,000 people to attend our [Saddle and Sole event on Highbury Fields](#), with promotional social media posts gaining more than 15,000 impressions. This included [our promotion of local cycling group JoyRiders](#).
- Promoting the pioneering work the council is doing to [improve air quality in care homes](#) (including a piece in the [summer edition of Islington Life](#)).
- Working with [Zero Hour, and Muslims Declare to host a climate change exhibition at Finsbury Park Mosque](#).
- Promoting Love Parks Week (28 July to 6 August), including by [profiling female staff that work in parks](#). This gained more than 10,700 impressions on social media - more than double the impressions we gained the last time we promoted Love Parks Week.
- Promoting the council's work [to cut emissions from its pension fund](#), including in [The MJ magazine](#).
- Successfully delivering communications on Liveable Neighbourhood engagements, including our first public consultation [on Mildmay](#) (which was the feature of the [Leader's column in the Islington Gazette](#))

# Upcoming Activities



31 Oct - 1 Nov 2023  
Business Design Centre  
London

**Delivering a 30min panel discussion at the Showcase stage featuring our work to achieve Vision 2030.**

Participating in the festival provides a unique chance to tell our story to a national audience and for our initiatives to gain exposure with the business and investment communities.



**Working with Navigate to design an effective panel process**

Determining the role of the panel and the topics for engagement.

Due to launch early 2024.



**Reuse & Repair Pavilion**

A reuse and repair café for staff, students and the public in support of City beehives.

**Career Fair and Speed Recruitment**

Aimed at students ready to enter the workforce, to promote green jobs and bring together organisations prepared to hire/offer internships and permanent jobs



**Repair Café**

Held at the North Library 14<sup>th</sup> Oct in collaboration with Restart Project

# WS8: Finance & Investment

To establish the investment, financial strategy and pathways to achieve Net Zero Carbon, supporting Workstreams on Vision 2030 and helping to deliver high quality outcomes for residents in the community and our stakeholders.

Total	Complete	On track	Overdue	Off track
11	0	8	3	0

# Finance & Investment Action Plan

Workstream Owner: Director of Finance, Paul Clarke

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

## Objectives

- To understand cost to achieve NZC and how to achieve it.
  - High quality capital projects, delivered on time and on budget - putting our residents and community first.
  - Maximising funding opportunities on NZC – limiting overall cost to taxpayer.
  - Delivering benefits with green finance, private finance including Community Municipal Investment(s).
- Continued decarbonisation of our pension fund  
 Long lasting (and effective) working relationships with internal/external stakeholders locally and nationally.

Page 72

## Highlights from the last 6 months

- Supported Capital Budget Setting including enhanced proposals for decarbonising council buildings (c. £18m)
- Conducted NZC impact assessment of council savings proposals (to feature in Budget Report)
- Member of a Climate Budgeting Working Group with GLA and 12 Boroughs to integrate NZ into Budget
- Worked with Consultants and LAs on Alternative Delivery Models eg: GreenSCIES, Bristol City Leap
- Networking in 3Ci Forums supporting a submission of Net Zero Neighbourhood expression of interest (Decision 2024)
- A review of the council's pension fund and assets this summer showed that we have cut direct emissions from our pension fund by 40% between 2021 and 2023
- Active participation across London Councils Climate Programmes (eg: Retrofit London working with GFI)
- Developed and Tendered Green Finance Fund EOI for match funding PSDS 3c c. £8m (subject to approval)
- Negotiated/Implemented GrantFinder software to maximise grant funding supporting financial strategy



# Finance & Investment Action Plan

Workstream Owner: Director of Finance, Paul Clarke

Workstream Interdependencies			
WS1 ✓	WS3 ✓	WS5 ✓	WS7 ✓
WS2 ✓	WS4 ✓	WS6 ✓	WS8 ✓

Deliverable	Status	Start	End	Revised Start	Revised End	Comments (if Delayed)
<b>Programme Development, Implementation and Governance</b>						
Establish total cost of delivering NZC per workstream	On Track	Current	Ongoing			
Co-ordinate Islington business cases and align to PMO principles	On Track	Current	Ongoing			
Support the delivery of NZC capital/revenue programme through improved monitoring	On Track	Current	Ongoing			
<b>Net Zero Carbon Funding Strategy</b>						
Enhance funding opportunities database with workstream leads	On Track	Current	Ongoing			
Explore Green Finance opportunities in Islington	On Track	Current	Ongoing			
Explore Private Finance opportunities and delivery models	On Track	Current	Ongoing			
Develop financial strategy in Workstream 1 targeting action on Retrofit	Overdue	Current	Sep-22		Mar-24	Funding mechanisms are not fully established (yet).
<b>Our Investments and Pension Fund</b>						
Enhance quality and frequency of reporting	On Track	Current	Mar-23			
Review investment strategy statement and approach to Environmental and Social Governance risk	On Track	Current	Mar-23			
<b>Fundraising and Sponsorship Strategy</b>						
Support the development of fundraising and sponsorship strategy with Workstream 4	Overdue	Jan-23	Mar-23		Mar-24	Working on deliverables with Green Economy Workstream.
Investigate alternative ownership models (inc. mutuals and cooperatives) with Workstream 4	Overdue	Jan-23	Mar-23		Mar-24	Working on deliverables with Green Economy Workstream.

Page 73

# Upcoming Activities

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Continue work on Climate Budgeting w/GLA and London Boroughs to establish how much we spend and need to spend on NZC.

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NZC Financial Strategy (includes green finance/private finance) in context of economic/political uncertainty (eg: rising interest rates).

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Support major grant applications (opportunities include: £230m PSDS 3c, £36m LEVI, SHDF £TBCm...).

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Support delivery of high quality capital projects (on time and on budget) including projects under the RE:FIT framework.

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Work with consultants to finalise GreenSCIES Outline Business Case (subject to funding) with an appraisal of potential delivery models eg: JV ESCO.

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Our investments and pension fund, together with our fundraising + sponsorship.

## **Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Workplan 2023/24**

### **4 July 2023**

Membership, Terms of Reference, and Dates of Meetings  
Select New Scrutiny Topic for 2023-24  
Environment & Transport – Q4 Performance Report  
Employment & Skills – Q4 Performance Report  
Libraries and Heritage – Q4 Performance Report  
Net Zero Carbon Programme – Q4 Performance Report  
Agree work plan for 2023-24

### **12 September 2023**

Employment & Skills – Q1 Performance Report

### **17 October 2023**

Scrutiny Topic – Scrutiny Initiation Document  
Scrutiny Topic – Islington Pensioners Forum – Evidence Session  
Scrutiny Report: Net Zero Carbon Review 2022-23  
Libraries and Heritage – Q1 Performance Report  
Environment & Transport – Q1 Performance Report  
Executive Member for Inclusive Economy and Jobs – Annual Report

### **23 November 2023**

Scrutiny Topic – Evidence Session – Active Travel  
Report back on Behavioural Change Scrutiny (2021-22)  
Net Zero Carbon Programme – Q1/Q2 Performance Report

### **25 January 2024**

Scrutiny Topic – Evidence Session – Active Travel  
Executive Member for Environment and Transport – Annual Report  
Libraries and Heritage – Q2 Performance Report  
Employment & Skills – Q2 Performance Report  
Environment & Transport – Q2 Performance Report

### **7 March 2024**

Scrutiny Topic – Evidence Session (*SPD*)  
Annual Update from North London Waste Authority  
Environment & Transport – Q3 Performance Report

### **25 March 2024 – Special Climate Emergency Public Meeting**

**16 April 2024**

Scrutiny Topic – Evidence Session (*Green Skills*)

Scrutiny Review: Draft Recommendations

Libraries and Heritage – Q3 Performance Report

Employment & Skills – Q3 Performance Report

*NLWA – Joint Waste Strategy Consultation Draft Document.*

**First Meeting of the next year:**

Net Zero Carbon Programme – Q3/Q4 Performance Report

Agree Scrutiny Topic