



Together we can make
Islington net zero carbon
by 2030



ISLINGTON

Net Zero Carbon Strategy

Quarterly progress report (Quarter 2)

Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
30 November 2021



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

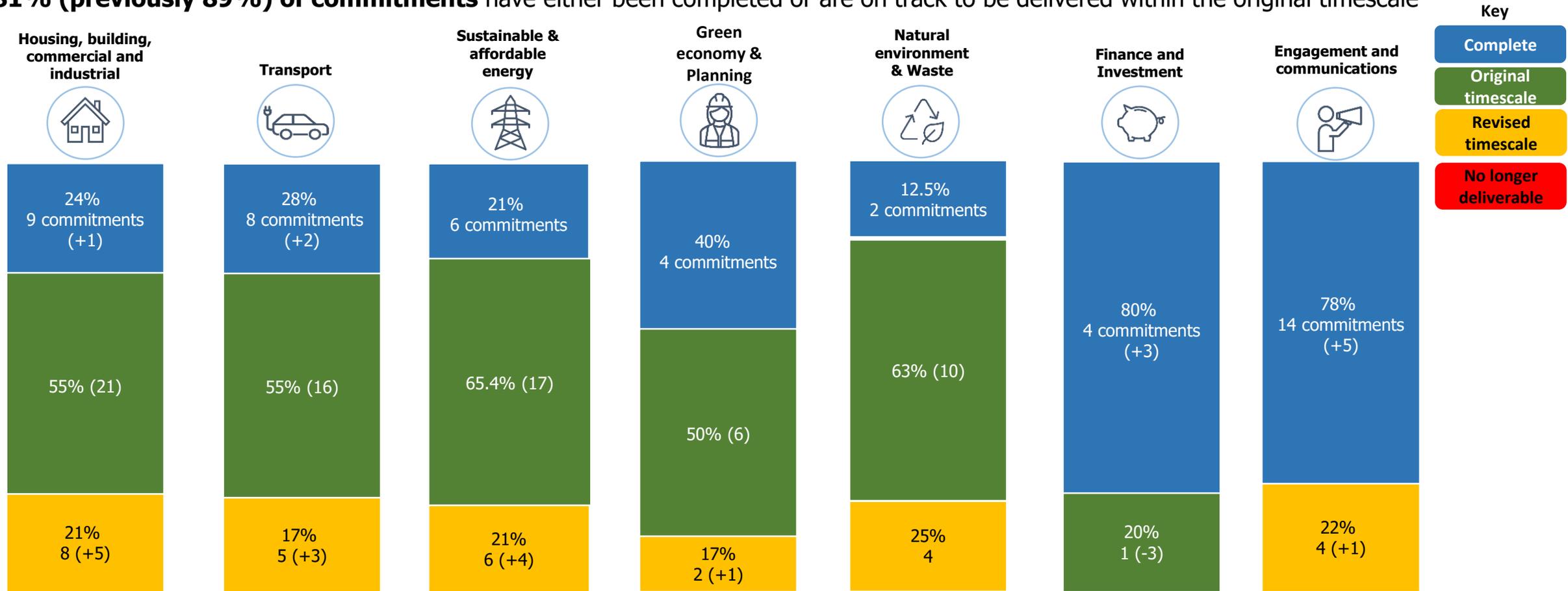
Some key progress highlights

- Islington Climate Festival launched across council channels – over 100 events in total with the Gazette on board as media partner. Jason Torrance of UK 100, David Harrison of Living Streets and Jeremy Corbyn MP spoke at launch event on the 18th of October.
 - Community Municipal Investment (CMI) launched on the 29th of October, the final day of the 'Islington Together: Let's talk about a greener future' festival.
 - Renewable Power for London working groups now mobilised and working towards developing two-year action plans in line with the December 2021 programme deadline set by London Councils.
 - Grant funded ethical green delivery bike collective, Wings, has completed 11 trading weekends to date serving 12 restaurants with plans to expand and has received very strong press coverage.
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- We have implemented the switch to renewable sources for 100% of electricity being used across our corporate buildings.
 - We continue to deliver on major transport priority areas including implementing seven low-traffic neighbourhoods as trials and having installed a total of 279 on-street charging points (including rapid chargers) by the end of Sept 2021.
 - Completion of the first phase report by University College London to develop a road map for how we achieve Net Zero Carbon with our existing housing stock. Stage 2 approach is now being developed.
 - Tree planting season now underway, with 600+ trees having been reserved, significantly surpassing the original target of 430.
 - Developed social value guidance in draft form to include integrating net zero objectives into the awarding of all contracts.
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Up to date (end of October) overview of progress being made on the delivery of all commitments based on the original dates and timescales set out in the Net Zero Carbon strategy.

81% (previously 89%) of commitments have either been completed or are on track to be delivered within the original timescale



The following pages provide a more detailed breakdown of, and commentary on individual **strategy commitments with delivery dates that are due before and during Quarter 2 (July to September 2021)**

Buildings, Housing, Commercial and Infrastructure

Workstream	Owner	Commitments	Due dates	Revised date	
Buildings, Housing, Commercial and Infrastructure	Matt West	Council new build	Introduce new measures to ensure that development plans, wherever possible, make a positive contribution to the protection, enhancement, creation and management of biodiversity and improved carbon absorption	Apr 21	Dec 21
		Private rented housing	Work with landlords of privately rented domestic properties, through our HMO licensing function, to ensure that their properties are compliant with (MEES) - <i>Landlord awareness/ engagement programme</i>	Apr 21	Oct 21
		Existing council stock	Options appraisal of implementing a large-scale trial of low carbon heating solution at a pilot estate	Sep 21	Mar 22
			Identify funding for external wall insulation and cladding at four blocks and consider recharging implications if appropriate.	Sep 21	Dec 21

Progress update

- **Council New Build** - Tree Mitigation Strategy and associated design guidance complete. Still in process of introducing firm targets for offsetting loss of carbon sequestration from trees on our development sites which is subject to internal consultation. Process for strategy governance and adoption still unclear. Revised due date due to work to analyse associated costs still to be undertaken, and strategy has taken on a potentially wider adoption for other council departments. Work and research to extend our strategy to include the public realm is underway.
- **Private residential properties** – Targeted work with landlords is ongoing and landlord awareness engagement activity to be informed by newly drafted stakeholder engagement strategy and associated activities.
- **Existing housing stock**
 - Low carbon pilot estate - Harry Weston selected. Delays in developing a brief in collaboration with TMO. Preparing to seek quotes from consultants to undertake a detailed feasibility and subsequently prepare tender specification and documentation for the scheme.
 - External Walls - Funding has been identified for Harvist Estate. This includes £1m of CIL funding. Currently seeking legal advice on recharging implications.
 - UCL Phase 1 roadmap towards NZC for existing council stock now complete. Criteria for first stage of Phase 2 agreed and wider UCL project group schedule to meet to start work on this stage. Phase 2 will include completing feasibility studies for minimising carbon footprint of our larger housing estates.
- **Non-residential properties** – Decision made on how to progress council feasibility studies.

Transport

Workstream	Owner	Commitments	Original due dates	Revised date
Transport	Martijn Cooijmans	Reduce need for cars by delivering a network of high-quality segregated cycle lanes: York Way, Balls Pond Road, Green Lanes, Highbury Fields to Finsbury Park and Liverpool Road to Penton Street	Apr 21	July 21 Complete
		Enable Vehicle 2 Grid1 (V2G) at locations with parked vehicles, expanding on the Town Hall V2G trial: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trial completed (July 2021) Rollout plan agreed, subject to successful trial (September 2021) 	July 21	July 22
		Support TFL to deliver rapid charging infrastructure in Islington	Dec 21 Complete	
		Install electric charging bollards across all Regents Canal moorings in Islington	Nov 20	July 21 Complete
		Comms and engagement plan for supporting electric car club and carpooling schemes	Dec 21	Feb 22

Progress update

- Eco-mooring zone electric charging bollards all fully operational and being used by boaters along Islington section of Regents canal reducing diesel and solid fuel use.
- LBI works on York Way cycle lane now complete and consultation led by LB Camden is also complete.
- The seven Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTN) have been introduced as trials with first consultation, on St. Peter's LTN, finished, and consultations on Canonbury East and Clerkenwell Green LTNs underway.
- WRC electrical upgrade contract awarded.

Sustainable and affordable energy

Workstream	Owner	Commitments	Due dates	Revised date
Sustainable and affordable energy	Martijn Cooijmans	Commerical options appraisal for the GreenSCIES project	Sep 21	Mar 22
		Ensure 100% of electricity procured by the council is from certifiable renewable sources	Feb 21	July 21 Complete
		Explore the possibility of the council purchasing or building renewable electricity generation assets outside Islington to supply its energy needs - <i>complete options appraisal</i>	Jun 21	Mar 22
		Develop two-year work plans for workstreams we are participating in or leading on (Renewable Power for London)	Jan-21	Dec 21

Progress update

- **GreenSCIES** - delayed but we are building team capacity by recruiting a Project Manager to bring this back on track to meet the Mar 22 timescale.
- **Purchasing/building renewable generation assets** - work has been progressing, but further work is needed to complete the options appraisal.
- **Develop two-year work plans for work streams we are participating in or leading on (Renewable Power for London)** – Established the governance model and working groups as lead authority on the Renewable Power for London programme. Groups now mobilised and working towards developing the two-year action plans in line with the December 2021 programme deadline set by London Councils.

Green Economy

Workstream	Owner	Deliverables	Due dates	Revised date
Green Economy	Caroline Wilson	Complete the development of a skills strategy that will identify priority areas for ' green jobs ' and emerging local skills requirements. These could include jobs related to installing insulation, renewable energy and other energy-saving measures, their ongoing maintenance and servicing, sustainable food production and cycle freight	Mar 21	Dec 21

Progress update

- Grant funded **ethical green delivery bike** collective Wings has completed 11 trading weekends to date serving 12 restaurants with plans to expand. Very strong press coverage of this collective has been achieved.
- Part of Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) funding from Government to help businesses in Islington recover from COVID has been earmarked for grants to encourage businesses to adopt circular economy principles (e.g. reducing their waste, ways to extend product life cycle, etc) – grant offer for businesses to be launched next year.
- Training and tailored support for Islington's independent restaurants has been launched to help them save money, improve their environmental performance and reputation.
- Anchor Institution baselining assessment underway, including NZC KPIs with a view to potentially setting joint targets and priorities in 2022.
- We are participating in work commissioned by Central London Forward to inform local skills planning.
- The partnership with My Virtual Neighbourhood continues to support the council's shop local campaign which highlights environmental benefits.
- Manor Gardens Welfare Trust's High Streets for All project held its third community meal on 23 Sept. The project aims to engage people through food to help develop a shared vision for the Nag's head town centre and establish a high street community food hub.

Natural environment, waste reduction and recycling

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

Progress update

Natural environment

- Urban Tree Challenge funding bid complete, and now awaiting result.
- Tree planting season underway, 600+ trees reserved (target was 430).
- The online donation process set up but was paused while working in partnership with Islington Clean Air Parents on the Forest for Change donation process in (raised over £23k). Anticipate resuming online donation process and running a test in December.
- Revised date for completion of Community Food Growing strategy as it will be integrated in a bigger piece of work around Greening the Borough. An initial draft set of recommendations for the food growing element of the strategy has been completed in October, following which it will go through an approval process.

Waste reduction and recycling

- **Developing a circular economy action plan** – The due date has been revised due to delays in agreeing scope and content across the various teams involved. It has now been drafted and is progressing through internal approvals.
- Revised date for completion of business case for expanding commercial waste services due to request for further financial information.

Planning

Workstream	Owner	Deliverables	Due dates	Revised date
Planning	Karen Sullivan	Strengthen existing policies through adoption of the new Local Plan.	Dec 21	Mar 22

Progress update

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

- Draft Local Plan proceeded to the Examination in Public. The examination hearings were originally expected in the summer but took place in September over a 3 week period from Monday 13 September. The Inspectors closed the public hearings on Friday 1 October.
- Completion is dependent on when the Inspectors' Binding Report is received therefore timescale revised for likely formal adoption of the Local Plan to Spring 2022.

Finance and Investment

Workstream	Owner	Deliverables	Due dates	Revised date
Finance and Investment	Paul Clarke	No deliverables scheduled for this quarter		

Progress update

- Community Municipal Investment launched on final day of Islington Together festival
- Approval of £3m+ of Carbon Offset Funding to support the programme between 2021/22 and 2023/24
- Funding & Finance Officer appointed who is supporting workstreams and working with NZC Strategic Business Managers to identify grants, loans, investment opportunities

Workstream	Owner	Deliverables	Due dates	Revised dates
Engaging, Empowering and Partnering Others	Jane Simmonds	Agree initial communications and engagement plan	Apr 21	Sep 21 Complete
		Raise awareness amongst our public sector partners, e.g. the NHS, the Metropolitan Police and higher and further education institutions, on the importance of this priority and support them to look at their own operations - Provide input into comms and engagement plan	Mar 21	Dec 21
		Hold a Net Zero Carbon-themed Citizens' Assembly - Agree approach and scope	Mar 21	July 21 Complete
		Start business audit scheme to advise businesses on what they can do to help towards NZC	Sep 21 Complete	
	Martijn Cooijmans	Implement the NZC Executive Board	Apr 21	Aug 21 Complete

Progress update

- **Energy Hub and Portal** – Good progress, with content now well developed. On track to launch in December.
- **Initial communications plan** – Stakeholder engagement strategy agreed
- **Islington Climate Change Festival** – Citizen's Assembly re-scoped into Festival. Festival branded and launched across council channels – over 100 events in total with the Gazette on board as media partner. UK 100 and Living Streets secured to speak at launch event
- **Business audit schemes** - Free Business Audit Scheme launched in September 2021 offering practical advice to SMEs on how to make efficiency improvements – it will look at existing heating/cooling systems, water usage, waste, travel and any other operational activities that affect their environmental impact.
- **Awareness raising amongst public sector partners** – partners were engaged to input to initial comms and engagement plan but broader awareness raising will be dovetailed with the Anchor Institutions Strategy.