

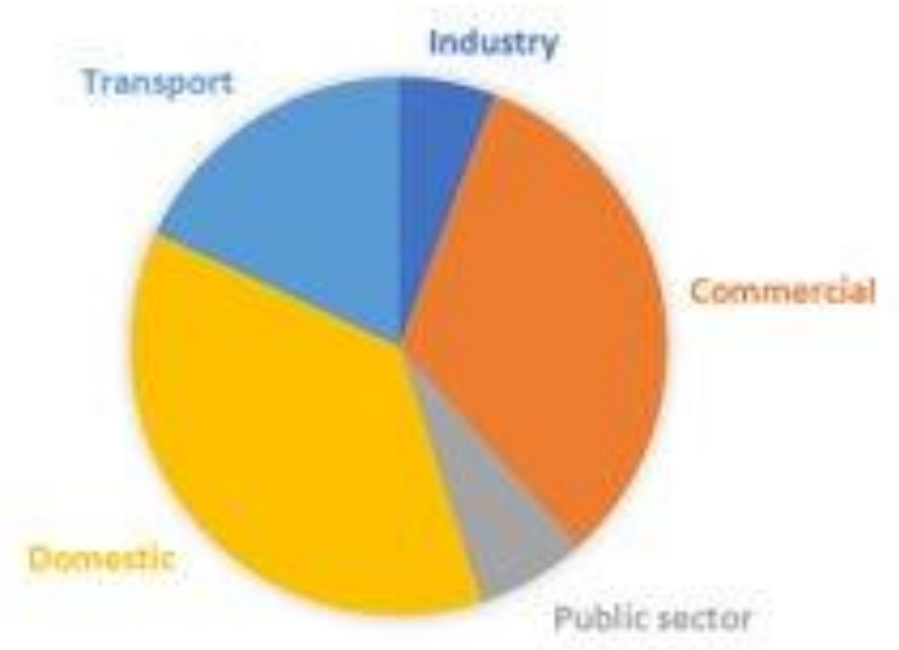
Engaging our communities on the Climate Emergency

Tuesday 18th April 2023

**Supporting retrofit and low carbon development in our borough –
Introducing the Net Zero Carbon Supplementary Planning Document
and how you can shape it.**

1. The challenge of decarbonising Islington's buildings

- Islington has a target for the borough to be Net Zero by 2030
- Buildings, their construction and operations account for the majority of the borough's CO2 emissions
- A large proportion of Islington's housing stock is pre-1900 and performs poorly in terms of thermal comfort
- A large proportion of non-residential buildings are reliant on carbon-based energy systems and are not energy self-sufficient
- Retrofitting and repurposing existing buildings frequently requires planning permission, and this can delay the process
- For the borough to meet its Net Zero target, building owners need to be empowered and guided to retrofit their properties and move towards energy independence
- The challenge for the planning team is to streamline this process as much as possible without allowing for harmful development



2019 BEIS Dataset

2. What is an SPD?

- An SPD is a Supplementary Planning Document which sits alongside national and local planning policies.
- An SPD is specifically focused on the local context, in this case the typical urban form of Islington, its challenges and constraints.
- While national and local planning policies provide a more strategic framework for new development and building projects, an SPD provides a finer level of detail and an explanation of how planning decisions are made relative to specific proposals. This provides both a greater level of clarity for property owners before they make applications, as well as establishing a standard for decision making for the borough's planning team.
- Islington has consistently produced SPDs covering a wide range of issues and found them to be effective

Inclusive Design in Islington

Supplementary Planning Document (February 2014)

Design standards including those for accessible housing and inclusive student accommodation



3. What we have done so far

- New Local Plan contains progressive sustainability policies to ensure all new development meets the highest environmental standards
- NZ SPD is being prepared throughout 2023 to complement these new policies and offer clear guidance to applicants
- A simplified guide to Permitted Development rights, relevant to NZ/retrofit/renewable energy for homeowners and small business owners
- Duty Planner service free of charge for homeowners and small businesses for high level advice on NZ/retrofit/renewable energy
- In summer 2023, a new position will be filled to offer more comprehensive pre-app advice charge to homeowners and small businesses
- Over £3m secured in carbon off-set contributions from planning applications since 2019 to fund carbon reduction initiatives across the borough.

4. How can people get involved?

- For the Net Zero SPD to be successful, it needs to be useful for those applying for planning permission. Extensive engagement with all relevant stakeholders is planned to ensure the target audience is understood.
- Workshops will be held throughout spring 2023 to hear from stakeholders and inform the aims of the SPD (residents, architects, local businesses, landlords, and activist groups)
- Open consultation will continue throughout the development of the SPD via a dedicated mailbox
- Final stage workshops with key stakeholders on the Draft SPD
- Dedicated NZ Let's Talk Islington web page soon to be set-up which will provide updates on the SPD's development, allow for engagement, and link to other relevant net zero work projects from the council

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Key stakeholder groups for SPD

Residents

Property
Developers

Architects

Landlords

Local
Businesses

Anchor
Institutions

Councillors

LBI Teams

Activist
Groups

Spring 2023:

- Initial workshops with key stakeholder groups
 - Preparation of scoping paper
- Commissioning of technical research

Summer 2023:

- Publishing of scoping paper
- Open public consultation
- Preparation of Draft SPD

Autumn 2023:

- Review of technical evidence from research
 - Complete draft SPD
- Public consultation on Draft SPD

Winter 2023/4:

- Final workshops on Draft SPD
- Review of all consultation responses
 - Preparation of Final SPD

5. Questions for discussion

- What guidance and clarity on the planning process would you like to see in the SPD?
- How confident are you that you understand the most effective and efficient ways to retrofit your property?
- What would motivate you to introduce retrofit measures at your property?