

E&R Special Scrutiny

Engaging Local Stakeholders on the Climate Emergency

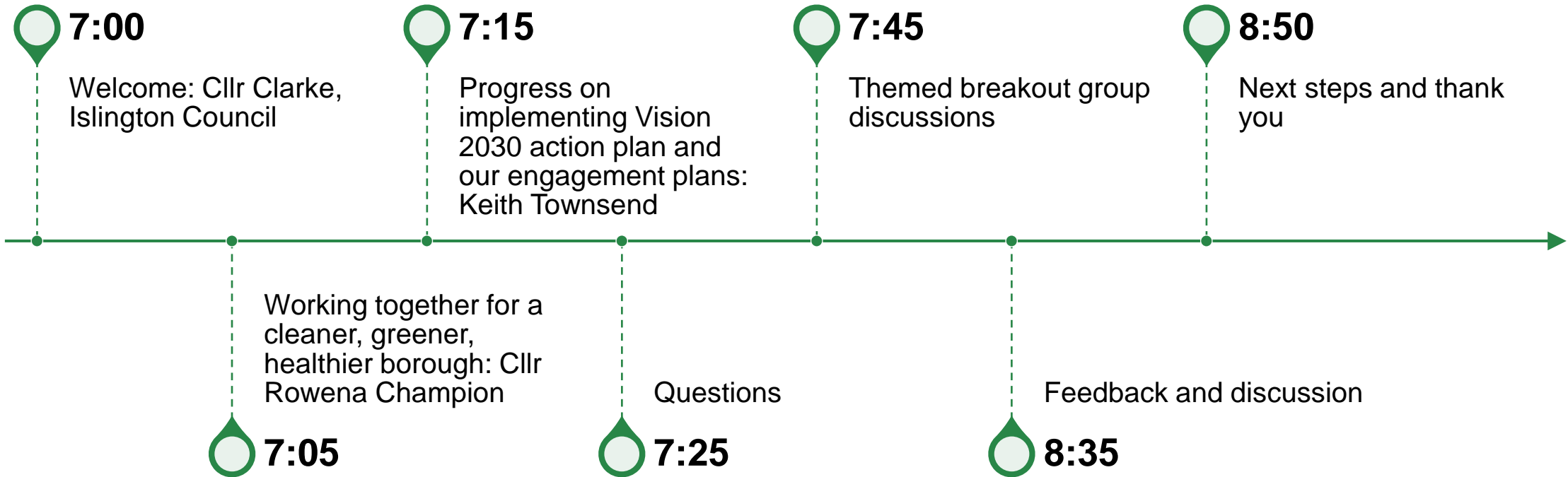
Welcome

This is an online only event. Please keep your microphone muted unless speaking.

Welcome & Housekeeping

Cllr Tricia Clarke

Agenda



Welcome & Housekeeping

Keep your microphone muted

Time for questions later

Use 'raise hand' function if you need to ask a question

Chat will sometimes be disabled

Camera on if you're comfortable

Creating a cleaner, greener, healthier Islington

Cllr Rowena Champion,

Islington Council's Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality, and Transport

Where are we now?



We declared a climate emergency in 2019 and are working to help make Islington net-zero carbon by 2030.

Islington is one of the six London boroughs most at risk to climate change. Last summer's weather events show that London is already changing and feeling the impacts

We are working with local people, groups, businesses, and other boroughs.

Our priorities



Housing, buildings and infrastructure



Transport



Sustainable and affordable energy



Green economy



Natural environment and waste



Planning



Engagement, empowering and partnering



Finance



ISLINGTON

For a more equal future

Housing, buildings and infrastructure



Housing buildings and infrastructure

Our corporate energy savings programme is forecast to save more than £5 million on energy bills over three years.

We've secured £3.5m in grant funding to bring energy efficiency measures to 403 homes, saving more than one million kWh energy per year.

Delivery of new Passivhaus standard council homes on Vorley Road will commence once full planning permission has been granted.

Work on energy efficiency measures at our Waste and Recycling Centre is expected to save 146 tonnes of CO2 per year.

How we're working with others to reduce emissions

Our Energising Small Business Grant scheme has awarded a total of £160k to 128 businesses, saving 161 tonnes of CO2.

We have worked with schools on heat decarbonisation plans and delivered energy efficiency advice. Funding applications have been submitted for 9 schools eligible for PSDS

The Islington Community Energy Fund supports community-led, innovative energy projects that benefit Islington residents, particularly those struggling with fuel poverty, and reduce carbon emissions in the borough.

Transport



Transport

Low-traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs)

- Four of our seven LTNs have been made permanent.
- Air quality improved in all LTNs between 2019 and 2021.
- Islington topped the 2022 Healthy Streets Scorecard for our action to create healthier streets

School Streets

- Islington has 35 School Streets, covering 88% of eligible primary schools.
- School Streets are set to be introduced at secondary schools from 2023/24.

Transport (and place-making)

- We've announced exciting plans to cover 70% of Islington in LTNs and Liveable Neighbourhoods (target is 100% by 2030).
- Liveable neighbourhoods will see new green spaces, community enhancements, and public realm improvements to make Islington more resilient to climate change.

Cleaner, greener travel



Our fleet now includes 80 full-battery electric vehicles, saving 300 tonnes in emissions per year.

Consultations underway on main road improvements on Essex Road and Southgate Road.

Engagement underway on four Liveable Neighbourhoods

More than 5,400 secure bike parking spaces across Islington

Sustainable, affordable energy

Sustainable, affordable energy

Our Seasonal Health Intervention Network (SHINE) supported 3,014 residents in 2022/23, saving 651 tonnes in carbon.

We're installing solar panels on five council buildings, including the Ecology Centre and Laycock Building.

Our innovative GreenSCIES project provides a blueprint for making use of previously-wasted heat.



Green economy



Green economy

Secured more than £2.7m to fund new Green Skills workshops at 13 colleges.

£60k Defra funding being used to deliver Smarter Greener Logistics programme, including potential shared e-cargo bikes programme.

Requirement for net-zero carbon added to our Affordable Workspace Specification.



Natural environment and waste



Natural environment and waste



We've launched Islington Greener Together, which is supporting 38 community greening projects in phase one.

We've created our first Rain garden at Cleveland Road and the first Parklet at Mayton Street.

We've planted 450 new trees this year.

We're also giving all Islington primary school pupils a pack of calendula seeds to mark Islington in Bloom's 20th year.



We're running a pioneering food waste collection trial for flats above shops on Holloway Road.

We're also investing £2m in improving recycling on estates, and are improving recycling through the Thriving Neighbourhoods programme.

Waste and Recycling Plan 2023-25

In March, we published our Waste and Recycling Plan for 2023-25.

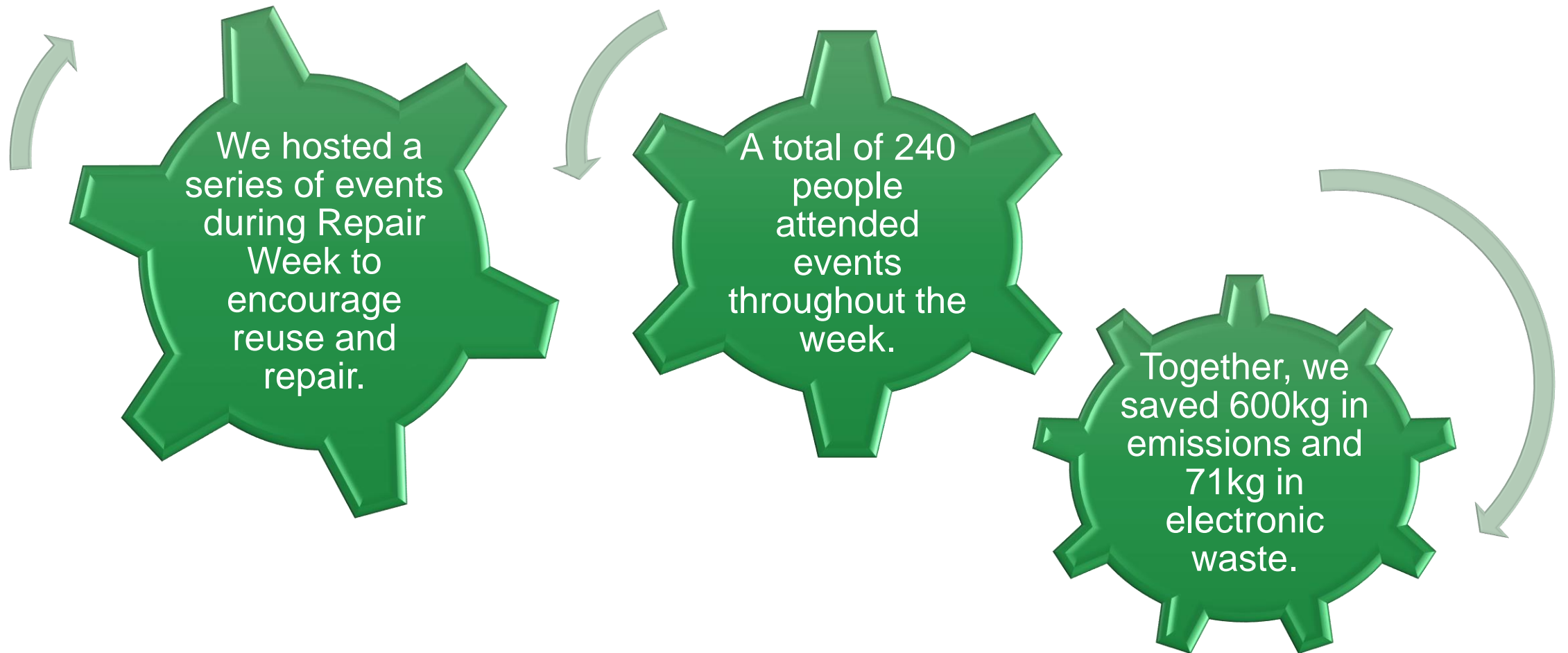
We've committed to expanding food waste collection to all suitable purpose-built blocks of flats by next March.

We're working to create a zero emissions waste-collection fleet by 2030.

We've committed to recycling 75% of the commercial waste we collect by 2030.



Repair Week



Planning

Planning

We're developing a new net-zero Supplementary Planning Document. We're directly engaging with residents and businesses on this, to hear your views.

To support households and businesses, we're now providing free, specialist pre-application advice. We've also created a new plain English guide to planning policies.

All new developments are required to be car free and new local plan policy will require all major developments and residential developments of one unit or more to be net zero



Engaging, empowering and partnering



Engaging, empowering and partnering



We've announced Islington in Bloom's 20th anniversary, and are working with the community to make it bigger than ever.



Through Greener Together and our Trees for Streets programme, we're helping local people and groups to shape the look and feel of their streets.



More than 3,000 people are subscribed to our environment bulletin and we continue to update our Together Greener website.



We supported the Islington Environmental Alliance, Islington Climate Centre and Union Chapel in delivering the borough's first Circular Economy event in September 2022

Launching Go Zero

Anchor Institutions are exploring plans for:

- joint communications campaigns, starting with Go Zero
- bulk procurement of low carbon tech
- energy supply – links to Renewable Power for London
- transport infrastructure and travel planning
- sharing of information and joint promotion of tree planting/biodiversity activities where appropriate
- monitoring and funding



- Launching on 18 April around Earth Day
- Six weeks of net zero news and events
- Residents, partners and staff encouraged to consider greener lifestyle choices and signpost to info and support – including our pledge tool

Finance



Finance

We've raised more than £9m through external grants in 2022/23, and we're working with partners including the Green Finance Institute to realise our net-zero carbon ambitions.

Islington submitted its return to the 'UK Cities Climate Investment Commission' which identified potential projects totalling £1.490bn and counting...

We need greater support from central Government to make our ambitions a reality.

Progress on implementing Vision 2030

Keith Townsend,
Corporate Director Environment and Regeneration

Net Zero Carbon Programme Strategy - overview

2020

Establish the Vision

- Vision 2030 published

2021

Re-organise

- Corporate re-organisation
- Appoint NZC programme team

2022

Set up / consolidate

- establish workstream delivery structures
- Review and agree workstream roles and responsibilities
- Establish monitoring and reporting on activity

2023

Engagement and creating the roadmap to 2030

- Identifying and building relationships
- Understanding barriers
- Co-creating the roadmap to 2030 – creating a culture and changing behaviours

Responding to your feedback last year

- Planning guidance is out of date and needed urgently
- Residents are keen to co-design new planning guidance
- Tension between visual impact of solar panels and climate emergency
- Appointed an **NZC SPD Officer** in November 2022 to begin preparation of the Net Zero SPD. The Local plan will be adopted in the interim.
- Prepared a **simple guide to permitted development** which explains how residents can install solar panels on their homes without planning permission, as well as outlining the process for other retrofit measures.
- Developed **engagement plans** to ensure participation in the SPD development process starting with tonight's breakout session.
- Reassessing the council's position on solar panels and other interventions to protected buildings

Responding to your feedback last year

- No trustmark contractors locally to deliver retrofit
- What about green funding for non council decarbonisation (residential/commercial)?
- Can we scale up CMIs? Are we looking at PFI models?
- Can we adopt a “polluter pays” approach?
- Produced a **construction directory** of 159 suppliers. Next stage will badge those able to provide retrofit works. Green construction officer to be appointed to enable in house and external capacity to deliver retrofit.
- Working with **Green Finance Institute** and others to explore alternative funding mechanisms including loans and property linked finance.
- **Energising Small Business** grants continuing £286,000
- Working with community energy groups and reviewing how best we can support these.
- Wider market conditions and recent CMIs show a decrease in demand. GLA have delayed issuing a Green Bond.
- Reviewing alternative delivery models including **Joint Ventures, partnership** and **ESCOs**
- Have introduced changes to parking fees and charges to support environmental priorities.

Responding to your feedback last year

- LTNs can be a hindrance for local businesses
- How can we use licensing to encourage sustainability?
- Peer to peer business support could be more effective than council led?
- Can we upskill council staff to help spread net zero messaging
- Opportunity to use Union Chapel for a sustainability event – can we collaborate?
- **Local Economies Officer** working with businesses on concerns around LTNs
- New **licensing policy** sets expectations for supporting the council's net zero ambitions
- **Islington Sustainability Network**, (a community of businesses, non-profit organisations, and groups committed to sustainability), re-launched last autumn, now scoping plans for mentoring support and training for businesses.
- Reviewing **internal training** to introduce greater climate awareness and develop a Making Every Contact Council net zero module.
- Supported the successful **Waste Stops Here event** in September, led by the Islington Environmental Alliance and Islington Climate Centre and the Union Chapel events team

Responding to your feedback last year

- Council should ask suppliers for more commitment to sustainability
- People don't have access to Food Waste recycling across the borough
- We need to address food waste
- We should capitalise on engagement with greening as tangible link to Net Zero
- Increase focus on biodiversity in Islington in Bloom
- More opportunities for greening?
- Introduced 30% **social value and environmental commitments** on Highways Contract, exploring emerging contracts for opportunities and joint approach with London Responsible Procurement Network
- Introduced a **food waste trial** for flats above shops
- New **Islington Food Strategy** published and working with ReLondon via London Councils on Eat Like a Londoner campaign.
- We launched the **Greener Together** programme – 38 community led projects in first phase.
- Greater focus on biodiversity and increased promotion of **Islington in Bloom for 20th Anniversary**
- Secured funding to identify greening of '**stub roads**'

Building our capacity over the last year

Free duty planner advice available on obtaining planning permission for retrofit works

NZC SPD Planning Officer appointed

Energy Analyst appointed to develop approach to carbon monitoring

Increased number of Energy Doctors to support vulnerable residents

Additional Recycling Officers to support resident engagement on estates

Green Skills Officer to work with construction businesses

Local Economies Officer appointed to work with businesses around LTNs

Restructure to create a participation and engagement team

Investment in a digital engagement tool

- Increasing the capital programme to boost delivery:

- £10m for match funding corporate building decarbonisation projects
- £2.3m for recycling improvements
- £500k for food waste programme for flats above shops

New online consultation platform: Let's talk Islington

- The platform offers a range of tools to allow residents to engage with a consultation project.



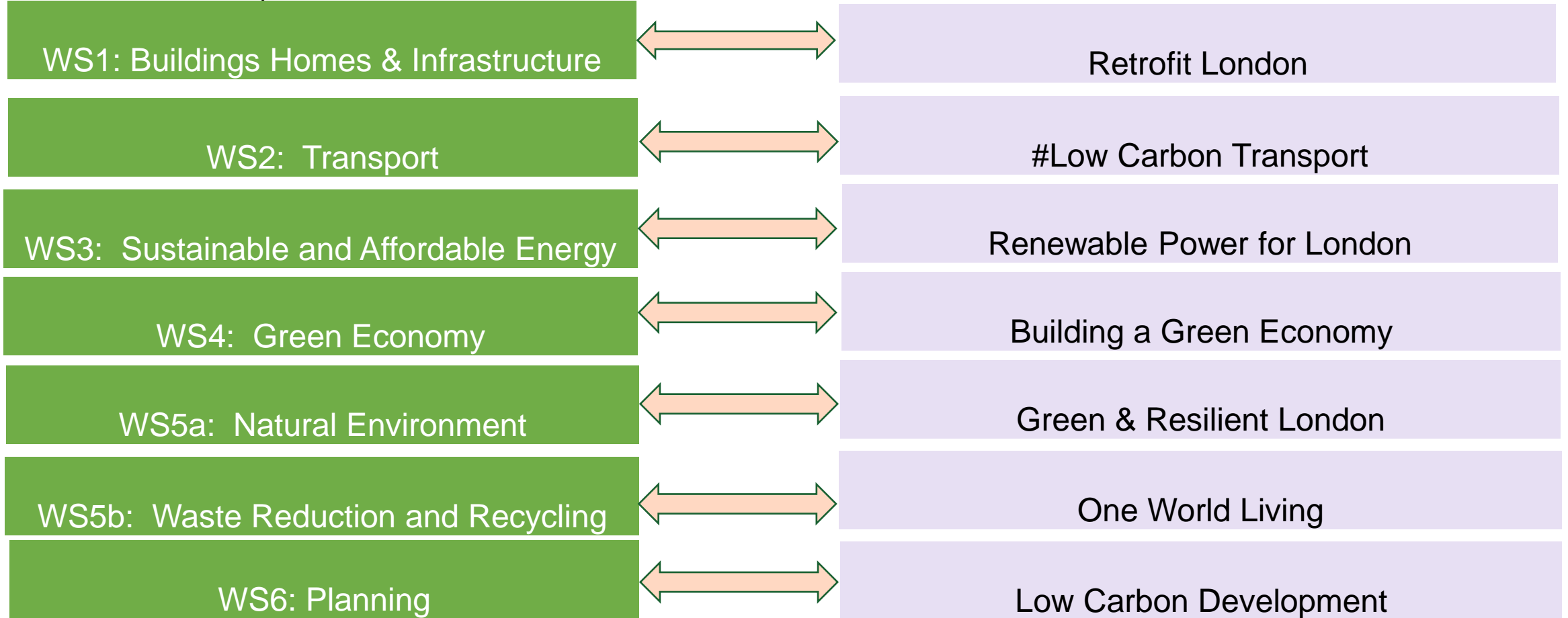
Let's talk net zero

Suggested citizens panel model

1. **Hybrid:** quarterly meetings in person in an accessible community location and some online sessions that could include expert workshops or surveys and focus groups.
2. **Externally facilitated:** we will approach expert organisations to facilitate the quarterly sessions.
3. **Robust sortition:** to ensure effective democratic participation we will recruit a demographically representative pool and also ensure an effective spread of views and knowledge of NZC issues.
4. **Inclusivity:** we will fund every participant to undergo climate awareness training to be able to participate effectively and ensure that sessions are run in a way that people can express their views in multiple ways, are held at appropriate times etc.
5. **Align with a wider council citizens network:** the council has big ambitions to put communities in the driving seat and in the medium term to have a “Let’s Talk Community” (building on our Let’s Talk Islington engagement programme) which members of the NZC panel would be eligible to be part of and take advantage of other opportunities.

London Councils Climate Change Programme

We are joining forces with other boroughs to share learning and pool resources as well as engaging with a range of different external organisations at workstream level



Anchor Institutions

Launched October 2022

9 founding members:

- Angel Business Improvement District
- Arsenal Football Club
- Camden & Islington NHS Foundation Trust
- Capital City College Group
- City University
- Islington Council
- London Met University
- Peabody Trust
- Whittington Health NHS Trust

Net Zero Carbon Task and Finish Group

Emerging Draft Action Plan aligns with NZC Programme for e.g. but not limited to:

- Joint communications campaigns
- Bulk procurement of low carbon tech
- Energy supply – links to Renewable Power for London
- Transport infrastructure and travel planning
- Sharing of information and joint promotion of tree planting /biodiversity activities where appropriate
- Monitoring and funding

Underway

- Workshops on Engagement planning for Earth Day, Transport and Renewable Power for London (RP4L)



Anchor institutions: driving net zero engagement



- Launching on 18 April 2023
- Residents, partners and staff encouraged to consider greener lifestyle choices and signpost to info and support – including our pledge tool
- Six weeks of net zero news and events from the council and partners – do you have an activity to share or a project to showcase?

Week starting	Theme
17 April	18 April launch and Earth Day events
24 April	Food and waste
1 May	Building retrofit and energy efficiency
8 May	Community Living and Volunteering
15 May	Active Travel
22 May	Natural Environment
29 May	Circular Economy



Find out how you can get involved at islingtonlife.london/EarthDay



Continuous review to move us forward

Momentum and Value Add of the NZC Programme

Fostering Collaboration

Bringing teams closer together,
maximising our networks
internally & pan London



*How do we overcome the
barriers and maximise
opportunities for collaboration?*

Funding

Unlocking funding
opportunities



How do we pay for it all?

Monitoring

Right measures, efficient
reporting and appropriate
governance



*How do we tighten up our
monitoring & how we
communicate our progress?*

Engagement & Communication

Behaviour change and
education: internal & external



*How do we enable a greater
level of engagement and
empowerment in the NZC
agenda?*

Creating a roadmap to 2030

Questions

Breakout Rooms

Feedback from Breakout Rooms

Questions

Thank you