

Meeting:	Executive
Meeting Date:	24 October 2024
Publication:	Open
Council Priority:	Greener, Healthier
Wards:	All
Report of:	Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Report No.	I029291

---

## Subject: Scrutiny Review of Net Zero Carbon 2030 – Active Travel – Report of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

### 1. Recommendations

- 1.1. To receive the report of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
- 1.2. To note that the Executive Member's response will be reported to a future meeting of the Executive, including having due regard to any relevant implications of the Committee's recommendations.

### 2. Report summary

- 2.1. This report requests that the Executive receive the report of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee following the completion of its review of Active Travel. A response to the recommendations set out in the report will be considered at a future meeting of the Executive.

2.2. The review was held between October 2023 and May 2024. The overall aim was to consider how the council is working and can work to take the lead on supporting and enabling people to change to active travel, developing initiatives to widen the uptake of active travel and identifying ways to support residents and businesses to achieve both health benefits and financial resilience through active travel. The Committee also agreed to the following objectives:

- Enabling active travel – the council’s programme of projects, initiatives and promotion of different forms of active travel (cycling, walking and wheeling) and making residents aware of the services available to them (e.g. cycle training schemes, working with schools and businesses, cargo bikes, assisted purchase of cycles, secure cycle parking, cycle hire schemes).
- Inclusivity and disability – To consider equalities issues relating to active travel, and how the council can successfully challenge inequalities (such as physical and financial) in this area.
- Health and wellbeing – an exploration of the contribution of active travel to physical and mental wellbeing.
- Overcoming obstacles – a discussion of the key barriers to active travel and solutions available, including working with Transport for London to explore opportunities for joint working on active travel

### 3. Details of the proposal

3.1. The Committee has made eleven recommendations focused on infrastructure maintenance, equitable access to active travel, working with external partners and the relationship between people who walk and people who cycle. The Committee would like to thank all the witnesses that gave evidence in relation to the review.

### 4. Other options considered and the reasons for recommending this proposal

4.1. None. The reasons for the committee’s recommendations are set out in the appended report.

### 5. Key impacts and risks of the proposal

5.1. It is hoped that the committee’s review will have a positive impact on the council’s work to promote active travel in the borough.

### 6. Contribution to the Islington Together 2030 Plan

6.1. This report contributes to the council’s priority of a Greener, Healthier Borough, and the recommendations help contribute to the following priorities:

- People in Islington can live healthy and independent lives and enjoy London’s greenest, cleanest and healthiest neighbourhoods.

- Support the transition to cycling and active travel across the whole borough by creating new routes and cycle networks, alongside delivering additional residential bike hangars and borough wide bike bays.

## 7. Consultation and community engagement

- 7.1. In undertaking the review, the committee received evidence from a number of stakeholders, including evidence from residents received as part of the committee's Special Public Meeting on the Climate Emergency, evidence from council officers and Transport for London, and evidence from local campaigners and organisations including Islington Pensioners Forum, OurBike, Living Streets, Wheels for Wellbeing, and JoyRiders.

## 8. Implications

### 8.1. Financial Implications

- 8.1.1. The proposals in the report need to be costed before a response is made by the Executive.

### 8.2. Legal Implications

- 8.2.1. Relevant legal implications will be considered as part of the response to the review.

### 8.3. Climate Change and Environmental Implications

- 8.3.1. Any environmental implications and contributions to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030 will be identified as part of the Executive Member response.

### 8.4. Equalities Impact Assessment

- 8.4.1. The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.
- 8.4.2. An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required in relation to this report. Any equality impacts will be identified as part of the Executive Member response.

## 9. Timetable for implementation

9.1. The report will be received and considered at the meeting of Executive on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

9.1.1. The Executive's response to the report and recommendations will be submitted to a future Executive meeting.

### **Appendices:**

- Appendix 1 - Scrutiny Review of Net Zero Carbon 2030 – Active Travel – Report of the Health and Care Scrutiny Committee

### **Background papers:**

- None.

### **Report approval:**

Authorised by:

**Chair of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee**

Date: 3 September 2024

Responsible Officer: Emma Taylor, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Email: [emma.taylor@islington.gov.uk](mailto:emma.taylor@islington.gov.uk)