

Progress Report on the Scrutiny Review of the Circular Economy and Green Jobs and Working Group on Waste Management

Introduction

1.1 The Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee took evidence from September 2022 to February 2023, considering evidence on the following themes within the Net Zero Carbon programme:

- Islington Council presentation on the Circular Economy Action Plan
- Islington Council presentation on Green Economy and Planning
- Islington Council presentation on Council Housing and Buildings
- Islington Council presentation on the Natural Environment
- Islington Council presentation on Transport
- External evidence on Urban Agriculture
- External evidence on Cally Energy
- External evidence from University of Westminster

1.2 Members of the Committee made eight overall recommendations to the Executive, which were accepted:

- 1) Encourage the North London Waste Authority (NLWA) to support Islington Council in our reduce, reuse, and recycle ambitions through their new Waste Strategy and:
 - a) maximise the opportunities for new Islington-based apprenticeships as a consequence of their future strategy and developments.
 - b) continue to focus on waste reduction and recycling to maximise diversion of waste from incineration.
 - c) review and understand the performance of London Energy and other contractors.
 - d) bring forward carbon capture at the Edmonton ERF.
- 2) Work to support residents in making sustainable choices and reducing waste by:

- a) exploring options for design improvements and resident information to drive behaviour change and support an increase in effective/compliant food and other recycling on estates.
 - b) maximising opportunities for local food growing and food supply, organic practices, prevention of food waste and effective food recycling.
 - c) Work with NLWA and other partners, for example, on campaigns to promote reusable rather than disposable products (e.g. reusable nappies and sanitary products), and the waste disposal of such products.
- 3) Work with London Councils to lobby government for greater regulatory powers, particularly on waste and supermarkets and retail bodies to increase their recycling provision for customers.
 - 4) Focus on how the council can facilitate the development of local retrofitting skills. Explore how the council can build inhouse capacity for retrofitting, for example through developing and training its own accredited retrofit assessors and co-ordinators.
 - 5) Investigate options to relaunch a resident-led 'pesticide free streets' scheme and continue to develop a plan to reduce the use of glyphosate in council operations.
 - 6) Review best practice to help the council support and enable community energy schemes in the borough to support the overall buildings retrofit programme.
 - 7) Develop options for increasing last-mile deliveries by businesses using vehicles that minimise pollution by using cargo-bikes, etc. and that do not lead to nuisance to residents from delivery depots, micro-kitchens, etc.
 - 8) Investigate how we can use air quality monitoring and reporting as part of our performance reporting and promotion of net zero carbon ambitions.

1.3 This report provides an update to explain how the council has been making progress against the recommendations.

Progress Updates

1 Recommendation 1:

Encourage the North London Waste Authority (NLWA) to support Islington Council in our reduce, reuse, and recycle ambitions through their new Waste Strategy:

- A. Maximise the opportunities for new Islington-based apprenticeships as a consequence of their future strategy and developments.
- B. Continue to focus on waste reduction and recycling to maximise diversion of waste from incineration.
- C. Review and understand the performance of London Energy and other contractors.
- D. Bring forward carbon capture at the Edmonton ERF

1.1 Cllr Diarmaid Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance and Cllr Rowena Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport have continued to contribute alongside officers, to the development of the draft joint waste strategy. At the time of writing in September 2024, this was being finalised ahead of public consultation. A final, agreed version of the strategy will be published in Spring 2025.

1A Maximise the opportunities for new Islington-based apprenticeships as a consequence of their future strategy and developments.

1.2 As the NLWA has continued to advertise apprenticeship programmes, officers promote opportunities with positive results for Islington residents. For example, two apprentices from Islington have been recruited to the North London Heat and Power Project. Seven residents from Islington have completed training placements on the project. These efforts will continue throughout the remaining lifetime of the project.

1B Continue to focus on waste reduction and recycling to maximise diversion of waste from incineration.

1.3 Islington Council continues to implement the Reduction and Recycling Plan. A Year 1 update report was submitted to the Mayor of London and is available at [Islington Reduction and Recycling Plan - London Datastore](#).

1.4 A series of reuse and repair events were held throughout the last year, focusing on giving residents the opportunity and skills to repair more and to increase reuse and sharing of items such as textiles, furniture, and electrical items. These have included:

- Eight textile repair cafes delivered, with 87 individuals attending and additional monthly events arranged for 2024/25.

- Two furniture repair café events were delivered with Islington’s Repair Team in October 2023 and March 2024. 16 people attended across both events.
 - The council worked with the Restart Project and Islington Climate Centre to set up Islington Fixers, a community group that will be organising repairing events in the borough. At the time of writing, three events had been delivered with regular monthly events organised for 2024/25.
 - Eight electrical and electronic items repair events have been held with 180 people attending. Three were organised by the Tufnell Park Restarters group, two by Islington Council: one of these with the Library Service, one with City University and three by Islington Fixers (as above).
 - Engagement with community groups has largely been around the reuse events (including Archway Upcyclers and the Islington Fixers) and Recycling Champion volunteers have routinely been invited to engage with events. There is a newsletter distribution list of over 100 volunteers managed via expression of interest, with communications sent regularly throughout the year.
- 1.5 Our objective to increase the scope of reusable products continues with the promotion of real nappies through a voucher scheme. This has included:
- In 2023/24, 126 nappy vouchers were issued to Islington households, with 104 redeemed compared with 107 vouchers issued and 80 redeemed in 2022/23. This was a 17.7% increase in vouchers issued and a 30% increase in vouchers redeemed in one year.
 - This resulted in a saving of 119.49 tonnes of residual waste in 2023/24.
 - 19 vouchers had been issued between 1st April and 21st May this year.
- 1.6 The council also launched with the NLWA a new campaign to promote reusable period products. Results at the time of writing included:
- 9000 visitors to the campaign website
 - 2.9 million impressions across the whole social media campaign
 - 7000 click-throughs from the social campaign to the website
 - 200 locations for outdoor advertising
 - 145 people signed up for the Reduce, Reuse, Your Cycle email newsletter, and 49 discount codes have been issued.
 - The Women’s Environmental Network have delivered 14 events.
- 1.7 NLWA also funded the “Bring it” campaign which encourages customers and businesses to use reusable items and reduce single use plastics.
- 1.8 NLWA has increased the range of materials collected at reuse and recycling centres to include hard plastics, polystyrene, and mattresses. In addition, DIY items and paint in a reusable condition are made available for reuse.
- 1.9 NLWA and the LEL have together invested in a redevelopment of the pedestrian and cycle drop off point at Hornsey Street Reuse and Recycling Centre. These improvements have enabled a more accessible facility, with a wider range of materials

now being accepted. Improved signage has also been included that relates to the drop off point and for the facility overall.

1.10 NLWA has delivered, in partnership with boroughs a high-profile recycling campaign “Together We Recycle.”

1.11 Islington is also taking a leading role in promoting the prevention agenda with the pan-London food waste prevention campaign “Eat Like a Londoner.”

1C Review and understand the performance of London Energy and other contractors

1.12 The council continues to actively review the performance of London Energy and other contractors through our position on the North London Waste Authority.

1.13 The performance of London Energy Ltd (LEL) is reported publicly and discussed at Authority meetings. Two Islington Executive Members sit on the Authority: Cllr Diarmaid Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance and Cllr Rowena Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport. Cllr Champion is also a member of the London Energy Ltd Board in her capacity as the Vice Chair of the NLWA, which meets regularly to make major decisions about the direction of the company and approve proposals for capital expenditure.

1.14 The performance of other contractors is reported on publicly and discussed at Authority meetings, Programme Committees, Members Recycling Working Group and Members Finance Working Group. Summaries of papers for public meetings are sent to borough officers and discussed in briefings ahead of the meetings.

1D Bring forward carbon capture at the Edmonton ERF

1.15 A full update on carbon capture was presented and discussed at the Authority Meeting on 30 July 2024: <https://www.nlwa.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-07/nlwa-carbon-capture-update-report.pdf>

1.16 The recommendations of the above report to the Authority were as follows:

- Note the findings of the Strategic Assessment and recommendations to be taken forward as part of the Strategic Outline Case.
- Agree to commence the next stage of the business case development work referred to as Stage 1 Strategic Outline Case.

1.17 This would be within the financial limit of £3.2 million, expected to be delivered over a period of 3 years. Expenditure and the extent of work for each year would be approved by Members as part of the annual budgeting process.

2 Recommendation 2:

Work to support residents in making sustainable choices and reducing waste by:

- A. Exploring options for design improvements and resident information to drive behaviour change and support an increase in effective/ compliant food and other recycling on estates.**
- B. Maximising opportunities for local food growing and food supply, organic practices, prevention of food waste and effective food recycling.**
- C. Work with NLWA and other partners, for example, on campaigns to promote reusable rather than disposable products (e.g. reusable nappies and sanitary products), and the waste disposal of such products.**

2A Exploring options for design improvements and resident information to drive behaviour change and support an increase in effective/ compliant food and other recycling on estates.

- 2.1** Alongside the series of reuse and repair events referenced above, a major food waste recycling campaign has been delivered between October and December 2024 to encourage more residents to use the food waste recycling service, and to increase the food waste recycling rate. The campaign includes targeted door to door engagement, via a commissioned external partner. This was supported by a high-level communications campaign including targeted social media to engage with residents. The council will be reviewing the success of different elements of the campaign to learn lessons for future work.
- 2.2** £2m investment in Islington estate recycling facilities continues as part of the Thriving Neighbourhoods campaign. Our aim is to “ensure that:
 - All estates have enough space in their recycling bins so residents can recycle at all times.
 - Wherever possible, recycling sites for estate residents are conveniently located within the grounds of those estates.
 - Local recycling facilities are kept to at least the ‘Flats Recycling Package standard’ (a quality standard),
 - We engage with residents to help achieve higher levels of recycling on our estates.” (Islington’s Reduction and Recycling Plan 2023-25 P17).
- 2.3** A small team of three Estate Recycling Officers are working with residents, with colleagues leading the Thriving Neighbourhoods programme, in Housing and in other teams to deliver improvements to recycling facilities on estates across Islington. The Team is prioritising sites identified through the Thriving Neighbourhoods programme, as well as other sites with historically inadequate recycling facilities. Many of the projects are large and complex and will take time to deliver to achieve the right outcomes.

- 2.4 To date, 35 projects have been completed for 2679 households. 12 have had works commissioned for 958 households and a further 85 projects for 7623 households are being progressed.
- 2.5 Initial surveys with residents from the Bemerton estate suggest that 56% of people feel recycling is easier than before the improvements, as opposed to 21% who feel recycling is harder. 35% of people reported recycling more as opposed to 12% who say they recycle less, and 51% feel the recycling site changes have made their estate look nice. 26% say the changes make their estate look worse. These are early results from a small set of responses (42) on one estate. Further surveys are being carried out across several more estates to get further feedback from residents.
- 2.6 “Eat Like a Londoner” was delivered successfully, receiving more than 100,000 video views on YouTube and 480,000 views on Facebook and Instagram. The next phase of the campaign is being planned and will be more targeted.
- 2.7 The food waste campaign runs through to the beginning of 2025, while the estate recycling investment programme is currently scheduled to run through to March 2026.

2B Maximising opportunities for local food growing and food supply, organic practices, prevention of food waste and effective food recycling.

- 2.8 Since the last response to this report, the Council has secured funding from UCL Climate Action to outline a potential vision for urban agriculture in Islington which included an assessment of the challenges and obstacles to making local food production commercially viable. The report is complete and has been accompanied by a number of other food growing initiatives, which are set out below.
- 2.9 The council has supported Cranfield University to develop a mapping tool for urban food growing. The results of this project are discussed in the YouTube link here [Dr. Daniel Evans- Urban Cultivate - Cranfield University. mapping urban food growing & vacant space \(youtube.com\)](#)
- 2.10 Through the Thriving Estates Programme and Local Community Infrastructure Levy, the council has refreshed or created new food growing spaces on estates and in parks.
- 2.11 As part of Islington in Bloom, the council ran the Grow Shop at the Ecology centre as an opportunity for food growers in the borough to come and display their successes and help widen the network of food growers in the borough.
- 2.12 ReLondon has funded a circular economy café at Jean Stokes to reuse surplus food from Chapel Market. There are classes and events for local people to learn how to reduce food waste. The project is in its infancy and results will be available soon.
- 2.13 Islington Food Partnership has been regularly active in this space, facilitating a wide range of different initiatives across its membership, including:

- a Black Urban Gardeners session at Manor Gardens in the early spring where people could learn how to grow Afro-Caribbean food and how to be a part of a local gardener community, and which was funded jointly by the GLA, Islington Council and SFP Choices.
- Resident and community activist training in growing systems at the Mildmay Community Centre, which included composting and waste minimisation and for which the partnership won Google funding.
- a survey of 80 Islington food businesses in March 2023, which enquired about people's attitudes to food waste, food waste collections and surplus food donations as well as giving information on the council's food waste collections, and green energy surveys.
- Signing up community food providers to the Felix Project, removing surplus food from the food waste chain and bringing back into use.
- Training and support for the Islington-wide local food activist network on how to run campaigns with the goal of fixing a broken food system. There were sign ups to the "right to grow" and a pre-election meeting with Jeremy Corbyn.

2.14 When possible, the WRAP food waste reduction toolkit is being promoted to some food businesses at time of hygiene inspections [Food Waste Reduction Roadmap | WRAP](#)

2.15 There are new food growing areas at Walter Sickert Court, Camden, and Thornhill Estates, an herb garden in Laycock Street and a refurbished food growing area at Rowstock Gardens.

2C Work with NLWA and other partners, for example, on campaigns to promote reusable rather than disposable products (e.g. reusable nappies and sanitary products), and the waste disposal of such products.

2.16 As detailed above under 1.5 and 1.6 officers continue to successfully promote the nappy voucher scheme and launched with the NLWA a new campaign to promote reuseable period products.

3 Recommendation 3:

Work with London Councils to lobby government for greater regulatory powers, particularly on waste and supermarkets and retail bodies to increase their recycling provision for customers.

3.1 The council has created a small Public Affairs team, and the following "asks" have been developed to maximise opportunities arising from the election and change of government and help deliver on our greener, healthier mission:

- Announce a Green & Decent Homes Programme: a long-term, capital funded programme to bring all council housing up to the new standard of safety, decency, and energy efficiency by 2030 – and a road map for achieving net zero by 2050.
 - Clear guidance on the national waste policy, including specific timelines, updates on ongoing developments, and a commitment to progress.
 - A new settlement to create a resilient adult social care system that's fit for the future and guarantees everyone the support and care they deserve.
 - The development of a policy ask around climate adaptation arising from the Islington Climate Panel.
- 3.2 The council provided feedback and a response to the Government consultations on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and the Deposit Return System (DRS). Both are now progressing under the new government, with funding having come through specifically in relation to EPR. £2.371m will be received from 2025/26 as an EPR payment and there will be an annual revenue payment going forwards.
- 3.3 NLWA has appointed a Public Affairs Manager and is working with ReLondon, London Councils and other partners to influence government. NLWA brought together the political leads for waste authorities and councils across London and are creating working groups to take actions forward.

4 Recommendation 4

Focus on how the council can facilitate the development of local retrofitting skills. Explore how the council can build inhouse capacity for retrofitting, for example through developing and training its own accredited retrofit assessors and co-ordinators.

- 4.1 Four members of staff have been trained to be fully certified Passivhaus Designers. The Passivhaus standard normally refers to new build schemes, but the skills the team members developed through the training are being used to deliver a deep decarbonisation-retrofit to the St John's Mansions project. The team are extremely motivated and committed to delivering these kinds of projects. Going forward, they are keen to get involved in further schemes on other council owned buildings.
- 4.2 Six staff within housing property services capital team have undertaken the 'National Open College Network (NOCN) Level 3 Award in Energy Efficiency Measures for Older and Traditional Buildings' course, enabling them to recommend retrofit measures for domestic buildings in conservation areas and those with heritage protected characteristics. They are managing the delivery of insulation schemes via the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) to spend £3m of grant match funding and to deliver future schemes.

- 4.3 The retrofit programmes conducted to both housing properties and corporate buildings so far, have started to inform the types of green jobs and skills requirements needed in future. Work has started to build up a list of those requirements including heat pump engineers, solar PV maintenance engineers, green and solar roofs maintenance staff. This list is being shared with the Green Skills and Jobs Officer to help in the selection of training courses, the shaping of apprenticeships to support more local employment opportunities.
- 4.4 The significant challenges with securing guaranteed grant funding opportunities for a building decarbonisation programme with a clear pipeline of retrofit works, mean that it is difficult to resource in-house retrofit assessors and co-ordinators. As a result, and due to the complexities and magnitude of the works involved, the capital works team deliver retrofit works via external contractors. Despite this, starting with electricians, housing property services have embarked on an exercise to ensure retrofit and green installations can be maintained and repaired in future by in house staff. Islington Council are also working with G15 and London Councils to embed retrofit and green skills across London using London-wide housing asset data.
- 4.5 Social Value guidance is also being tightened, a process scheduled for completion in December 2024, with contractors asked to provide green jobs as part of their social value agreements. A series of courses have been developed in Islington to boost retrofit skills in the borough including, Understanding Domestic Retrofit Level 2, Exploring Careers in the Green Industries with Small Scale Retrofit DIY Measures. At the time of writing one cohort of students had completed the Level 2, Understanding Domestic Retrofit course, and two cohorts of students, E3 Exploring Careers in the Green Industries.
- 4.6 The council are awaiting delivery of the financial contributions towards training from the Barnsbury Estate redevelopment and once this is resolved the opportunity of contributions to green skills will become available.

5 Recommendation 5:

Investigate options to relaunch a resident-led 'pesticide free streets' scheme and continue to develop a plan to reduce the use of glyphosate in council operations.

- 5.1 As an alternative to traditional spray applications used for suppressing intrusive weeds a community scheme is being proposed, which is likely to be implemented in 2025. This will involve residents adopting roads where removal of invasive weeds is required, exempting wild plants that could potentially thrive and flower. Volunteers who sign up to the scheme will identify plants that could cause trip hazards, or damage pavements or walls, and remove them before they become an issue. This would link into Greener Islington biodiversity initiatives and targets.
- 5.2 It is envisaged that a scheme co-ordinator will record activities and be point of contact for the council. There are some logistical challenges such as monitoring to ensure

scheme compliance, and the removal of green waste from pre-selected location(s). The scheme would also link into community clean-up events throughout the year.

- 5.3 There are risks such as potential litigation from slips, trips and falls if the highway is not maintained to mandated standards. Insufficient buy-in by residents to ensure weeding needs to be consistent and effective on any road, a condition met with more vigorous engagement. Failed locations would have to be brought back within the council's cleansing regime, which is likely to increase labour costs or impact on outputs elsewhere.
- 5.4 Controlling weeds within the built environment is essential and glyphosate is used in limited circumstances, such as on hard standing areas (footways and on housing land) because it reduces the risk of excessive weed growth undermining the road infrastructure and leading to uneven surfaces and a rise to slips, trips and falls. The council have reduced its use over the last few years and have removed it from use within the Greener More Active Service area (previously Greenspaces) since 2022. As such, the council no longer uses glyphosate to manage weeds in green spaces, parks, and estates except when a need arises to manage invasive plants such as Japanese Knot weed.
- 5.5 The council has investigated different options, comparing the application of glyphosate to alternatives and none outperform in cost benefit or factors identified to implement an effective weed control programme (e.g. efficacy, length of control, environmental impact, degree to which the activity may disrupt others, productivity, and Health and Safety implications.) Methods using hot foam, water and / or steam systems, or mechanised brushing have serious environmental drawbacks and additional negative implications. Furthermore, hand weeding is not a viable option because it is too expensive.
- 5.6 During further research, a site visit was made to another London Borough who are glyphosate free to observe and take learnings. Observations were predominantly good, although side streets had evidence of significant weed growth on the back lines, footways and in hard standing areas. This issue is being tackled by mobile crews being employed to support street cleansing, which has significantly increased the cleansing budget.
- 5.7 The council continues to review new products and methods and seek to explore alternatives where they are feasible. It should also be noted that work to engage the community will further help to reduce reliance upon this control agent.

6 Recommendation 6

Review best practice to help the council support and enable community energy schemes in the borough to support the overall buildings retrofit programme.

- 6.1 Islington Council recently completed Round 6 of the Islington Community Energy Fund (ICEF), a grant funding scheme that supports community-led innovative energy projects that reduce carbon emissions and benefit residents, providing both funding for feasibility studies and capital delivery. Prior to each round, officers look at other community energy funds across London, including the London Community Energy Fund (LCEF), to ensure that we are working together to assist groups in the most effective way possible.
- 6.2 All uncompleted projects from Round 6 have been reviewed and any unspent/underspent funding from all rounds has been accounted for. There is £168,000 remaining and the previous rounds are being evaluated before committing to a further round.
- 6.3 Currently the officer responsible for the Community Energy Fund consults with Community Energy groups to link them with groups interested in adding solar PV to their site. This ensures the Community Energy groups have access to projects and the other groups have assistance.

7 Recommendation 7

Develop options for increasing last-mile deliveries by businesses using vehicles that minimise pollution by using cargo-bikes, etc. and that do not lead to nuisance to residents from delivery depots, micro-kitchens, etc.

- 7.1 The Council is currently developing a Freight Action Plan to strategically reduce emissions from freight. This is due to be completed Summer 2025 which is later than originally planned due to shortage of staff.
- 7.2 The overarching approach of the Freight Action Plan is to ensure actions align with the three 'R's':
- Reduce - the number of freight trips and impact on the borough's roads.
 - Remode - increasing the use of zero emission vehicles for freight.
 - Retime - extending deliveries & servicing times outside of peak hours.
- 7.3 The plan will focus on the key areas of:
- 7.4 Partnership working
- 7.5 Developing communications
- 7.6 Promotion of sustainable freight
- 7.7 Managing freight at the kerbside which includes freight consolidation and onward distribution projects, information and data monitoring, and cycle freight for last mile deliveries.

- 7.8 In addition, the action plan will build on the Council's strong existing foundation of efforts to reduce carbon emissions from freight, including:
- 7.9 Reducing the council's vehicle fleet and a transition to electric vehicles for the remaining fleet.
 - 7.10 The use of e-bikes and e-cargo bikes for mail deliveries, ground maintenance and street cleaning and provision of e-cargo bikes for local organisations to use for delivering and collecting food.
 - 7.11 Implementing the council's liveable neighbourhoods programme that use modal filters including bollards and smart cameras to restrict through traffic including freight from cutting through residential streets and local lorry controls to restrict the movement of HGVs to certain main roads.
 - 7.12 The council's fleet service provided five high specification cargo bikes for its fleet in February 2023, and these continue to be well used by services including Parks and Open Spaces, Ground Maintenance and Facilities teams. Community Partnerships have seven e-cargo bikes which are deployed at community centres.
 - 7.13 Anyone living, working, or studying in the borough, along with local businesses can purchase cargo bikes through the council's accessible purchasing scheme, Try Before You Bike. This includes child and adult bikes, cargo bikes, e-bikes, and adapted cycles. So far in 2024/25, 44 bikes have been delivered, including eight cargo bikes and nine e-bikes. A total of 301 bikes of all kinds have been delivered since March 2021. The council is developing a targeted cargo bike and e-bike voucher opportunity, where the first three instalments are free to the recipient.
 - 7.14 The council is working closely with our project partners at Cross River Partnership (CRP) on initiatives to support the council's Climate Action and Transport Strategy objectives to reduce carbon emissions associated with servicing and deliveries by delivering more river freight trials and micro logistics hubs, supported by low emission delivery modes such as EV's, cargo bikes and walking freight. CRP funding has helped us add an additional four e-cargo bikes for shared use, bringing the Islington fleet to six. These are operated by OurBike and hosted by local businesses, facilitated by the council's Local Economies team. The cargo bikes can be booked for hire by other businesses, workers, or residents, from the locations at Caledonian Road, North Road, Highbury Park, Blackstock Road, Junction Road and Holloway Road. The initial uptake was slow but has significantly increased in 2024. Use of individual bikes is being monitored, and new locations will be sought for those bikes that are underutilised.
 - 7.15 The council is also working in partnership with CRP to identify and deliver a trial micro logistics hub within the borough. The hub would function as a last mile delivery location to facilitate sustainable movement of goods by cargo bike. A location for a trial is being investigated and if implemented would support a reduction in the number of delivery vans on the road, resulting in less congestion and CO2 emissions. The trial

is expected to last six months, but if it is a success, the operator may choose to continue.

- 7.16 Parcel locker facilities are being established across Islington in shops and on private forecourts, providing residents with opportunities to reduce doorstep deliveries. Cross River Partnership (CRP) has developed a tool to view the distribution of major locker providers [CLICK. COLLECT. CLEAN AIR. \(clickcollect.london\)](https://clickcollect.london). Due to the extent of these developments and outstanding questions about the desirability of adding further objects on the public highway and on estates, there are currently no council plans to facilitate the roll-out of parcel lockers in these places.
- 7.17 At specific locations including Highbury Corner, the council works with TfL, Community Safety, licencing, and the Metropolitan Police to improve facilities and education to reduce the impact on the local area of delivery riders.
- 7.18 The Inclusive Economy service secured a GLA grant to support the expansion of the Wings ethical food delivery service and to trial a new business model that better benefitted businesses. The funded project ended at the end of March 2023. Deliveries continued until the end of 2023 when Wings stopped taking orders. The project was successful in not only highlighting the negative issues faced by many food delivery platforms and their riders, but also in demonstrating solutions for increasing rider welfare and reducing complaints about riders. Although they ceased trading at the end of 2023, Wings is still sharing their experience and knowledge with other groups looking to start up similar initiatives.

8 Recommendation 8:

Investigate how we can use air quality monitoring and reporting as part of our performance reporting and promotion of net zero carbon ambitions.

- 8.1 Pollution measurements are published annually, collated from over 280 locations around the borough, giving greater granularity into the concentrations of CO₂ proxy.
- 8.2 The latest Annual Status Report (ASR) on air quality report shows a 50% reduction on NO₂ pollution concentration across the borough over the past 7 years. NO₂ is produced at the same time as CO₂ suggesting that there has also been a significant reduction from CO₂ produced in the borough from combustion over a similar period.
- 8.3 Priority actions have been developed using the latest Local Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (LAEI) data and included in a new five-year Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) being delivered with teams across the council. Many actions both reduce pollution and carbon emissions. Annual updates will provide pollution data for the borough. The next AQAP is due to be published before the end of the financial year.

- 8.4 The Highbury and Mildmay project has moved forward, and citizen science workshops are underway. As part of this project residents will be able to see in real time the impact of actions on pollution levels, and by proxy CO₂.
- 8.5 Officers are also exploring tools with the data analytics team, that would be useful to properly analyse data to better use it to promote the council's climate action ambitions.