

Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy 2019 –2030

Wandsworth - An environmentally friendly borough

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Foreword

Climate change is the ultimate global issue. It affects all of us today in countless different ways. It is a very real and quantifiable threat to the way of life and current and future generations.

The risks are much closer to home than many of us imagine - climate extremes, rising water levels, coastal erosion, river flooding, water shortages and deteriorating air quality. This is happening already.

The Committee on Climate Change puts the challenge for net zero emissions very simply – every tonne of carbon counts.

Local authorities are uniquely placed to take the initiative in building a consensus for action among communities. This strategy sets out how I intend to put Wandsworth at the heart of the capital's response to the net zero challenge.

This council has an unmatched track record in both protecting the local environment and speaking up for its communities.

We have been resisting the environmental nightmare of Heathrow expansion for 20 years. We have formed cross-party coalitions with other councils and environmental groups to fight the Heathrow juggernaut. We have taken on Conservative and Labour governments. We have been doing this to safeguard the environment in London and the South East and to protect the quality of life for our residents that would be destroyed by increased noise and rising air pollution.

It's not just that we are a campaigning council. In the day to day services we provide we have always put the environment first.

We are proud of the commitment shown by our residents every day to the effective recycling of domestic waste. We are proud of the hundreds of new trees we plant every year. We know this all makes a difference.

We have championed the cause of clean air and healthy streets. We have put practical measures in place to get people out of their cars. We were among the first boroughs to embrace car clubs – leading to a rapid rate of growth across the borough. We have lobbied relentlessly for better public transport and we have sought to make walking and cycling in our busy borough safer and less stressful.

Just as we were an early pioneer of car clubs we have been equally ambitious in extending the network of electric charging points across the borough. Our residents have backed us so that we now have one of the highest electric vehicle take-up rates in the capital.

We are trying to set an example in the way we manage our own land and buildings. We are making offices and depots more energy efficient, switching to LED lighting, cutting carbon emissions. On the Thames and the Wandle we are reducing flood risk, and in our parks and commons we are improving biodiversity. We are moving to electric and alternative fuels for our council vehicle fleet

We are now building on this record to help achieve our biggest environmental challenge yet – to be a carbon neutral council by 2030 and a zero emission council by 2050. No area of council life will be left unchallenged. No resident will be left wondering what part they can play in helping us to achieve our objectives. Every tonne of carbon counts.

Introduction

The overwhelming scientific and political consensus is that human-driven climate change is real, that its impacts are already being felt, and that unless action is taken immediately to address the drivers of climate change then there will be huge impacts on the environment and on society globally.

The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has, since 1988, spelled out the climate science, highlighting that greenhouse gas emissions must be drastically reduced in order to avoid a global increase in temperature above 2 °C. The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, signed in Rio in 1992, set limits on greenhouse emissions with the 1997 Kyoto Protocols and 2015 Paris Agreement setting further binding targets on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The most recent Katowice Climate Change Conference in December 2018 and the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C highlighted that the lack of sufficient action over the past 30 years means that immediate action must be taken to prevent a global temperature increase of 1.5 °C. The UK government amended its Climate Change Act in June 2019 to introduce a legally binding zero carbon target for the UK for 2050.

As a Council we take this challenge seriously, both in terms of protecting current and future residents of the borough, but also as part of our responsibility to London as a city and to the world.

Climate change is one of the key long-term challenges for local authorities alongside resource constraints and demographic growth increasing demand for services. As the level of government closest to community, it is essential that our strategies promote the protection and sustainable management of the environment and identify opportunities to achieve improvement in outcomes for our residents through partnerships, activities and advocacy. Environmental protection is a key role for local government and environmental management is one of core functions and Wandsworth has a host of environmental assets such as parks and green spaces that require protection and management. Having a clean and healthy environment has a significant impact on people's health and wellbeing, with poor air quality identified as a cause cardiovascular and respiratory diseases as well as lung cancer, while access to green open space can increase people's overall health and wellbeing.

To accomplish this, we have developed our first Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy (WESS) which sets out our vision for the borough, what we have achieved so far in Wandsworth, the challenges we face, and the actions we will take to address these challenges over the short, medium and long term. By implementing the Strategy, we will improve the overall sustainability of our Borough, improve the health and wellbeing of residents, as well as reducing future costs.

Our Vision

Wandsworth's vision is to be a community living within our environmental limits in an attractive, high quality local environment and to be the greenest council in inner London by 2030.

We will commit ourselves to being carbon neutral as an organisation by 2030 and zero carbon by 2050.

The strategy itself will address specific areas of action that we need to pursue, including:

- We will make Wandsworth the greenest Inner London borough by committing ourselves to urban greening, planting trees, encouraging biodiversity, protecting and enhancing our existing parks and open and green spaces
- We will ensure that our planning and development approach is robust on our requirements around climate change and environmental issues so that development in the borough is low carbon, sustainable and does not negatively impact on the environment
- We will drastically reduce the amount of waste we produce as an organisation and enhance our community leadership role to help and support residents and businesses to reduce, reuse and recycle in their everyday lives
- We will improve our fleet of vehicles by first making they are ULEZ compliant and then move to electric and other renewable fuel sources for our fleet. We will support residents to make a shift in their transport choices and will encourage micro-mobility, such as car sharing, electric scooters and cargo bikes and fulfil our commitment to improve our electric vehicle infrastructure and make Wandsworth the easiest place in the country to run an electric car.
- We will improve our air quality, with our actions on transport, planning and development all contributing to improving air quality, including tackling pollution and emissions from engine-idling
- We will reduce the amount of energy that we use as an organisation, improve the energy efficiency of our housing stock and help our residents to become more energy efficient. The refurbishment of Wandsworth Town Hall will be a flagship building for energy efficiency, whilst respecting its listed status and highlight our eco-credentials
- We will reduce pollution entering the Thames, especially plastics, and ensure the shore of the Thames is clean.
- We will reduce the environmental impact of the purchasing and consumption of the Council, staff and contractors. We will build the principles of sustainability into the way we procure goods and services and encourage our suppliers to improve their own environmental performance.

The Council will promote and enhance its community leadership role, not just by setting a good example in the way we deliver our services and manage our resources, but through working with residents, businesses partners to achieve our joint aim of carbon reduction and an environmentally sustainable borough. We will engage deeply with residents over the length of the delivery of the strategy and will be at the forefront of new and innovative approaches to engagement and behaviour change. We will ensure that all ages and groups across the borough are included in the delivery of the strategy.

Our community leadership approach around climate change and the environment will be more than just information sharing, we will promote positive behaviour change that has meaningful and lasting impacts and support our residents with real resource and funding. We will also challenge ourselves as a Council as well as challenging others to raise their game when it comes to climate change and the environment. This will include working with key partners such as TfL, public sector bodies and schools to implement change in the Borough and support residents to make positive changes.

How will we get there?

We are setting ourselves ambitious and stretching targets. Current financial pressures faced by all councils makes this even more challenging, but it also creates an environment where we constantly challenge ourselves to foster innovation and find solutions which are both financially and environmentally efficient. Sustainability and tackling climate change are not separate issues, they are intertwined and if we are to achieve the objectives set out in this Strategy we will need to ensure that they are integral parts of what we do as a council.

We will rethink our approach, embracing investment in environmental approaches which will yield long term benefits in terms of carbon reduction, cost savings and an improved sustainable environment where people enjoy living and working. This redirection of resources will be matched by a change in culture where everyone takes responsibility and thinks about the environmental impacts of their actions. We will put pressure on central government and the Mayor of London to provide the legislation, policy and funding framework to enable Wandsworth to deliver on the huge willingness there is to combat climate change and protect our communities.

We have a track record in piloting new and innovative approaches and we will build on this as well as making sure we are learning from experimentation and innovation elsewhere, using new ideas and experiences to deliver the strategy.

We will explore how we can make funding available for community projects aimed at reducing carbon emissions, increasing sustainability and improving the environment. We will also promote the existing funding sources in place, such as the Wandsworth Local Fund, which can currently be used to support environmental projects, as well as looking at ways that CIL can be used to support environmentally beneficial projects.



The Wandsworth Context and our Challenges

Wandsworth is London's ninth biggest borough, in terms of population and the largest inner London borough. Located in South West London with approximately 325,000 residents and is a hub of investments and an area of significant growth. At approx. 35km² the area is identified in the London Plan as one of 35 major centres in Greater London. Wandsworth is home to Clapham Junction railway station, the country's busiest station and the London Heliport, London's only heliport. The borough has experienced a period of sustained development and growth and is a mix of attractive urban environment with rich heritage and well-maintained green spaces.

Wandsworth is a place of enormous change, around a third of our residents leave every year as part of the turnover in private rented accommodation in London. This can make reaching these short-term residents and shaping behaviour a challenge, although this does also mean we have an influx of new ideas and experiences coming into the borough. We have areas of growth, including Nine Elms and Battersea Power Station, as well as areas north of Wandsworth Town Centre due to be redeveloped, all of which give exciting opportunities to shape our urban environment and communities to reduce our environmental impact.

Drivers for action:

There are many different drivers impacting on our approach to environment and sustainability, ranging from international requirements placed upon the UK, through to national and regional policy as well as our already agreed priorities, plans and approaches. The table below highlights some of the key ones for Wandsworth:

International	National	London	Current Wandsworth Policies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), otherwise known as the Rio Earth Summit. • Adoption of Agenda 21 • Kyoto Protocol <p>EU Directives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings • EU Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) • EU Directive on the Restriction of the use of Certain Hazardous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Committee on Climate Change report 'Net Zero – The UK's contribution to stopping global warming' May 2019 • Climate Change Bill (2008) (with zero carbon target introduced June 2019) • Energy White Paper (2003) • The Climate Change Levy • The Carbon Reduction Commitment • UK National Sustainable Development Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor of London Environment Strategy 2018 • The London Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's corporate objectives • Cycling Strategy to 2020 • Local Implementation Plan (LIP) • Local Air Quality Action Plan • Sustainable Procurement Strategy • Operational Enforcement Policy • Air Quality Action Plan 2016-2021 • Local Plan • Active Wandsworth Strategy 2017-2022

<p>Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (ROHS)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UK Climate Change Programme • The Code for Sustainable Homes (Communities and Local Government 2008) • Decent Homes Standard • Clean Growth Strategy (2017) 		
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Our Opportunities

There are significant opportunities available to us in delivering our vision to be the greenest inner-city borough, which include:

- **Varying socioeconomic pressures** - Wandsworth is split into a variety of neighbourhoods with their own characteristics, needs and varying socioeconomic and environmental pressures, as well as 5 town centres, which will require tailored solutions and not a ‘one size fits all’ approach to climate adaptation
- **Sustainable urban growth** – We need to ensure that development and demand for new homes and jobs is balanced with our aims to mitigate the effects of climate change. As our population increases and there are more users of infrastructure and less space, we have the opportunity to ensure that new transport and environmental infrastructure is climate change resilient
- **Protection of cultural heritage and assets** – Older buildings have cultural value to society, but often their energy efficiency is lower than very energy efficient modern buildings and their carbon emissions can only be reduced so far
- **Biodiversity conservation** - Climate change is a major threat to biodiversity, ecosystem services and human wellbeing. Mitigating and adapting to the effects on living organisms and societies, is increasingly at the heart of environmental management strategies
- **Fossil fuel dependence** – Current energy usage depends on fossil fuels, which are non-renewable and cause significant greenhouse emissions, requiring a move away from their use and an increase in the renewable energy composition of our energy portfolio. The national shift towards renewable energy will enable us to reduce our carbon emissions but there are opportunities to explore local energy generation.
- **Water management and quality degradation** - until the Thames Tideway Tunnel is built raw sewage flows directly into the Thames when it rains, as this is the only way to stop homes and streets from flooding when the existing sewers overflow
- **Single use plastics** – Single use plastics is a major source of pollution in rivers and tributaries, with a big opportunity to shape behaviours and reduce their use
- **Waste Management** - Our consumption of resources is increasing rapidly, which is reflected in increasing amounts of waste which has significant environmental impacts as well as driving demands on our waste collection services

What we have achieved so far

Despite these challenges, Wandsworth Council has an impressive and long standing track record of achievement in terms of the environment and sustainability:

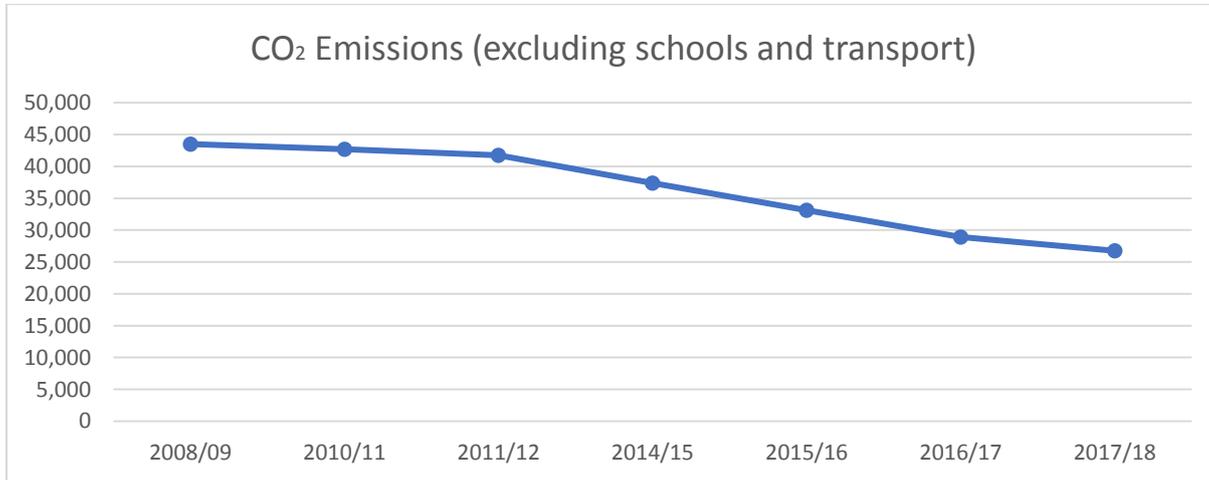
- We have invested over £200,000 on electric charging points in 2018/19, with more scheduled to continue. We provide a comprehensive network of electric vehicle charging points and by the middle of 2019, Wandsworth will have around 500 charging points including many using existing infrastructure such as lampposts. This is one of the highest number of charging points in any London borough.
- The Council has invested over £250,000 in solar Photovoltaics to date. The panels have collectively produced over 480,000kWh in energy and saving 15,000 tCO₂ in emissions.
- We are one of the largest landlords in the country, with nearly 33,000 properties managed, of which almost half are leasehold, and we take our role in promoting energy efficiency very seriously. We have an outstanding track record in achieving and maintaining the Decent Homes Standard. We have invested £82.28m over the past 5 years in improving the energy efficiency of our stock and reducing the carbon emissions.
- Across our estate we have reduced our CO₂ emissions in 2018/19 by 7.5% on the previous year's total reflecting a positive trend achieved over previous years which saw us achieve reductions of 12.6% in 2017/18 and 18.9% in 2016/17. We achieved our Carbon reduction commitment in 2017/18, gaining an excellent score
- We have planted over 1,200 trees in the last two winters and we are actively exploring new areas to plant street trees. For 2019/20 we plan on planting 400 trees.
- The Council has launched the "For Fish's Sake" campaign, which highlights the damaging impact of waste entering the River Thames, Wandle and Beverly Brook. This campaign included lamppost wraps, banners, voting bins, floor vinyl, a rower's guide to reducing plastic in the river and river litter network and talks and workshops for businesses and schools. In Wandsworth around 50,000 single use plastic cups picked up in Putney following the boat race.
- We have worked with schools in the development of School Travel Plans which reduce the number of cars used on the school run through initiatives like 'walking buses' and car pools, while our Smarter Driving campaign which aimed to help drivers reduce their vehicle emissions.
- Wandsworth carried out a £1,500,000 project which developed a model for reaching small businesses to raise awareness of how environmental practices can help their business and what practical and affordable steps they can take to improve performance. 219 businesses were supported with environmental action plans, 57 reporting environmental improvements through implementation within the project reporting period and target 62 achieved new environmental accreditations. The project was able to report 44 tonnes of CO₂ saved and 150 tonnes of waste diverted from landfill.
- We have drastically improved the air quality in Putney with a significant reduction in the number of hours NO₂ levels breached EU guidelines, from 76 to 25, improving on our reduction from 2016, when there were 1271 breaches. This has been done by working with TfL on introducing cleaner buses and working with businesses to reduce deliveries during daytime.
- We have promoted innovative 'plogging' events, where residents can combine exercise with tidying up their neighbourhoods and parks.

Our Baseline

The carbon footprint of Wandsworth is a measure of the total amount of CO₂ generated by activities within the borough, expressed in tonnes of CO₂.

Wandsworth’s Carbon Emissions

Wandsworth’s CO₂ emissions, based on our 2008/09 baseline, are shown below:

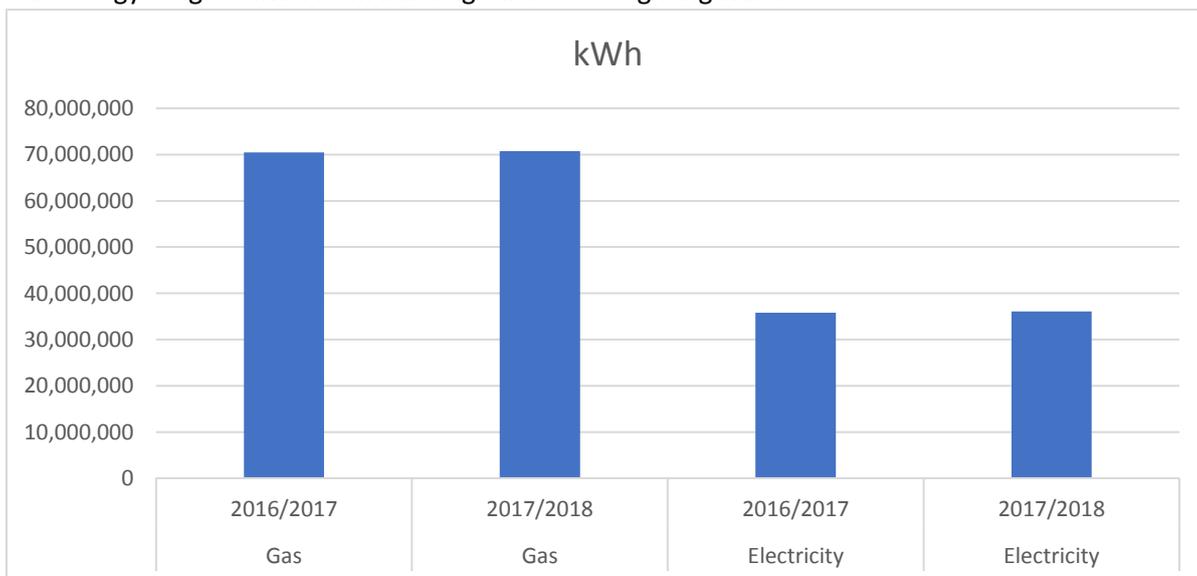


As can be seen from the graph, we have reduced our CO₂ emissions by 39%, from 43,505 tonnes in 2008/09 to 26,576 tonnes in 2017/18. While we have made progress in reducing emissions, there is still a long way to go

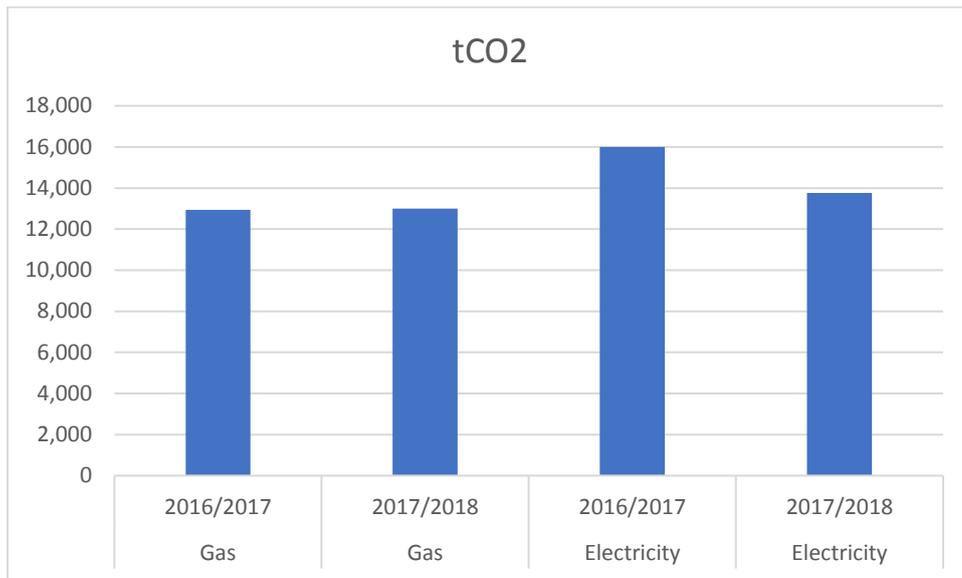
Our CO₂ emissions per capita in for 2016, compared to London and the UK, were:

	Wandsworth	London	UK Average
Per capita CO₂ (tonnes)	2.9	3.6	5.4

Our energy usage in kWh from buildings and street lighting were:



This converts into emissions of:



There were a total of 200,000 litres of petrol and around 5,500 litres of diesel consumed by our transport fleet to deliver a range of services across the borough in 2017/18 and contributed a total of 480.1 tCO₂ to the Council's carbon emissions.

Wandsworth's Waste Production

We are in the top 8 London boroughs for the least amount of collected household waste per person and in the top 20 nationally. This amount has been in a steady decline for the last 9 years with zero waste from the borough being sent to landfill and a total of 102,424 tonnes collected from the borough in 2017/18.

Key Issues

Sustainable Transport

Wandsworth is one of the most desirable and dynamic places to live and work in London and is experiencing growth and expansion of developments. This places huge demands on our transport infrastructure, in 2017 there were 124m passengers at Wandsworth's railway stations alone, not including bus and underground usage. The Council's key transport challenge is therefore to provide the additional transport capacity that is needed to support its housing objectives and deliver economic recovery, regeneration and growth.

The Council already encourages methods of sustainable travel, for example, the Active Wandsworth strategy highlights that sustainable travel means such as walking and cycling are good for our physical and mental health and that in Wandsworth, the proportion of residents regularly undertaking travel by active methods is higher than the London average. Objectives in the Active Wandsworth Strategy include normalising cycling as an everyday choice, increasing the cycling modal share and advocating greater prioritisation of physically active modes of travel (walking, cycling and using public transport). The Strategy also advocates improved travel planning in the borough, including transport links and improving driver awareness of cyclists in the borough. We have also worked with TfL to connect the borough to the major cross-London cycle routes and supported 'Quietways' for less busy roads. We have facilitated Dr Bike surgeries to promote cycling and teach residents basic maintenance skills and we will explore micro-mobility solutions as technology develops.

In addition to promoting sustainable transport, the Council currently has approximately 130 vehicles that are used by a number of different services including highways, building works, housing, facilities management and vehicles contracted to third party companies for our school minibus and refuse collection service. The Ultra Low Emissions Zone (ULEZ) will be extended to include Wandsworth in October 2021 and therefore it is vital that we achieve compliance with the ULEZ requirements. Wandsworth's vehicles are currently a mix of diesel and petrol vehicles and the Council has a policy to replace all cars under 1.2 tonnes with petrol options and will be phased in by October 2021, with other more cost-effective measures such as leasing vehicles considered where possible. So far 28 housing vehicles are ULEZ compliant and another 30 will be ULEZ compliant by July 2019. The approximate cost of replacing the entire fleet with ULEZ compliant vehicles currently stands at £3.2m (costs are estimated on outright purchase).

As part of the extension of the refuse collection contract to 2024 we have secured a commitment from our provider to provide a fleet which is ULEZ compliant. Under EU regulations, zero-emission municipal waste and cleaning vehicles must be deployed throughout Member States by 2030. Moving to electric vehicles for our refuse/recycling and street cleaning would reduce emissions, however as electric vehicles for refuse/recycling collections and street cleaning are still in their infancy we need to be realistic and ensure that the technology becomes more reliable and the costs per vehicle decrease to reasonable levels in order to ensure we maintain the high levels of service our residents expect.

Objectives

We will be champions for the delivery of sustainable travel initiatives and projects to encourage walking, cycling, use of public transport and car sharing and to reduce carbon emissions from transport, improve air quality and create a transport network which supports a mobile, affordable low-carbon future and ensure that the transport network operates safely and efficiently to meet the needs of all users.

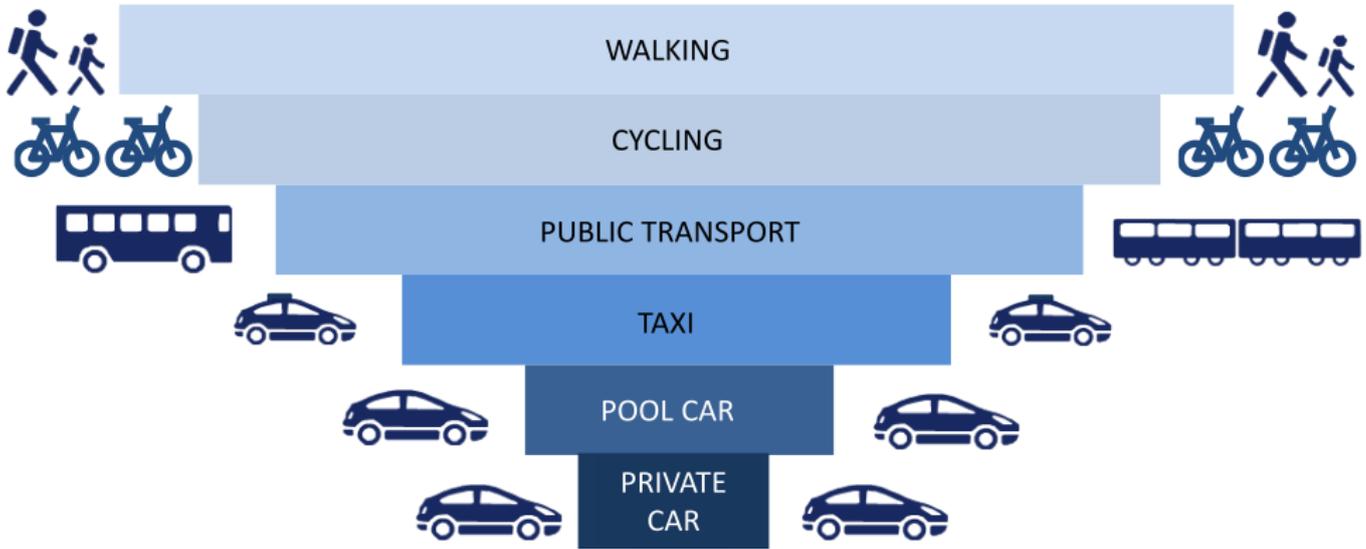
Wandsworth will be an easy place to use, own and store a bicycle

Staff will use sustainable transport options to get to work and to move around the borough while carrying out their roles.

We will improve the Council's own transport fleet policies and practices and the Council's own and our contractor's vehicle fleet.

Actions

We will work on the principle of a sustainable transport hierarchy as seen below, encouraging the most sustainable methods of transport for our operations, residents and businesses in the borough.



We will produce a guide for staff and councillors on how they can use sustainable transport options and encourage modal shift from private car use towards those sustainable travel options.

We will maintain our exemplar standards by maintaining 20mph zones in the borough and improving already good transport links by helping to progress implementation of the Northern Line Extension to Battersea. The building of the NLE was a pre-requisite of the development of the area as we wanted to ensure that residents had access to good public transport links. This is an approach we will replicate where appropriate.

We will continue to promote and support the use of the River Thames for passenger transport, including construction of new piers, improvements to existing ones and securing services.

Wandsworth now has one of the fastest growing cycling rates in London according to Government statistics, we will maintain this momentum by continuing to invest in improved cycling infrastructure and by offering free bike safety lessons for children and adults to give more residents the confidence and skills they need to start cycling.

Targets

2019- 2022:

- Build upon our electric charging infrastructure and continue to invest in programs to improve the Council’s electric charging infrastructure.
- Continue to work with car clubs to increase the location and accessibility of vehicles in the borough
- Increase in % of staff to be regularly commuting to work by sustainable modes of travel by 2022.
- Upgrading of vehicles to reduce emissions, and retrofitting of vehicles with technology to reduce emissions where appropriate such as in-cab telematics
- Compliance with the LEZ and ULEZ for Council vehicles
- Increase the amount of high quality cycling infrastructure
- Deliver the new Cycling Strategy

2022-2025:

- Ban diesel cars from the Council office estate

- Review car parking charges on high polluting vehicles, including consulting with residents on a diesel surcharge for parking permits and hourly/daily car parking.
- Implementation of local zero emissions zones (for municipal buildings) and become exemplars for public sector partners, schools and businesses in Wandsworth
- Work with schools to develop their own local zero emissions zones

2025- 2030:

- Review transport policy to comply with zero carbon policy
- Make all fleet vehicles non-fossil fuel powered

Air Quality

Wandsworth's most recent Air Quality Action Plan was adopted in 2016 and is designed to protect health, ecosystems and buildings, and to reduce pollution to below national air quality objectives. It contains measures to improve air quality across the borough helping to reduce the key pollutants of concern within the borough – Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and Particulate Matter (PM₁₀). Reducing emissions and air pollution now will have lifelong, lasting benefits for the borough's population, remove barriers to further economic development and make the borough a more attractive place to work, live and visit.

Transport can have a significant impact on the environment, primarily by polluting our air through the release of three key pollutants (Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) and Particulate Matter e.g. PM₁₀).

Heathrow airport is less than ten miles away from Wandsworth and the proposed expansion is highly likely to affect the borough in a number of ways, including impacting on air quality due to additional passenger and freight journeys. Pollution levels in the area surrounding Heathrow already exceed statutory levels and will not be below legal limits for many years to come, even without a third runway. Wandsworth with its partners continues to challenge the proposed Heathrow airport expansion on the grounds of air quality, climate change, strategic environmental assessment including the failure to properly deal with the noise consequences and surface access impacts. Although our original application for Judicial Review was unsuccessful earlier this year, we have lodged an appeal to the Court of Appeal on several key grounds and we will continue to hold Heathrow to account in relation to its impact on air quality and the environment.

We have drastically improved the air quality in Putney with a significant reduction in the number of hours NO₂ levels breached EU guidelines, from 76 to 25, improving on our reduction from 2016, when there were 1271 breaches. This has been done by working with TfL on introducing cleaner buses travelling through Putney and working with businesses to reduce deliveries during daytime.

Wandsworth is already one of the best places in London to own an electric vehicle (EV) and invested over £200,000 on electric charging points in 2018/19. We provide a comprehensive network of electric vehicle charging points and by the middle of 2019, Wandsworth will have around 500 charging points including many using existing infrastructure such as lampposts. A recent investment of £400,000 is aimed at helping the Council meet its target of delivering up to 900 on-street charging points in total and Wandsworth has also announced plans to spend £3m to encourage people to switch to this more environmentally-friendly form of motoring.

The Council has a significant impact in this regard through the operation of its own or our contractors' vehicles and our staff's travel arrangements both in terms of commuting and travelling around the borough on Council work. Our actions and approaches have been set out in detail under the Transport section.

The Council has an active school travel strategy, which aim to improve safety in and around schools, and to encourage of use of sustainable modes of transport while reducing the number of cars used on the school run, improving air quality for schools. This includes School Streets, where the road outside a school is closed to traffic during school arrival and departure times.

Objectives

We are committed to taking actions to improve air quality, identifying areas where levels of local air pollutants are exceeding air quality objectives and working with the community to reduce the pollutants and their effects on health.

Continue to be the easiest place in the UK to own and run an electric vehicle by installing a comprehensive infrastructure of EV charging points.

Ensure our staff are working smarter and taking advantage of new technologies to reduce unnecessary journeys to work and within working hours, reducing air pollution caused from these journeys.

Actions

The dirtiest buses will no longer operate on routes through Battersea and are to be replaced with cleaner, less polluting models.

We will deliver training to all civil enforcement officers to issue fixed penalty notices to drivers who are idling.

Expand the number of school streets and play streets in Wandsworth

Place restrictions on delivery vehicles in busy high streets.

We will raise awareness of air quality amongst school children and their parents or guardians by working with schools each year to improve their status in TfL's School Travel Plan accreditation scheme, as well as promoting sustainable travel to schools

We will invest in smart technology that will allow colleagues to make smart choices. Implementing new Skype, teleconferencing and OneDrive will help colleagues working from home or conduct remote meetings and not need to undertake unnecessary journeys.

Deliver a nation-leading network of charging infrastructure for electric vehicles through London's most ambitious proposals to promote electric vehicles.

Targets

2019-2022:

- Improve the borough's air quality, especially in identified hotspot areas
- Reduce emissions and exposure to poor quality air
- Demonstrating the Council's commitment to improving air quality
- Increase communication around Air Quality
- Better management of deliveries at air quality 'hotspots' such as Putney High Street
- Support staff to make effective use of smart technologies in order to reduce unnecessary journeys

2022-2025:

- Building on successful engagement with local businesses in hotspot area
- Continue installation of energy savings measures in Council buildings

2025- 2030:

- Continue to review differential car parking charges based on emissions, ULEZ criteria, with high emission vehicles paying more

Energy Management

Global research has shown that at least 50% of all carbon emissions come from buildings. We have over 2000 properties in our portfolio include offices and numerous operational sites so cutting carbon emissions from Council buildings, operations and services is a primary priority when reducing our emissions. All probable pathways to zero carbon in 2050 rely on a high level of energy efficiency building retrofits by 2030. Only 35 per cent of homes currently achieve adequate energy efficiency performance (EPC C or above) and many will still be in use by 2050.

We will develop a system in line with the energy hierarchy that encourages a building management system that strives to use less energy, supply energy efficiently and use renewable energy.



Wandsworth will have to comply with the Carbon reduction commitment for the last time by the end of July 2019 and surrender allowances for emissions from energy supplied in the 2018-19 compliance year by the end of October 2019. The CRC is not being replaced directly, but the Climate Change Levy has been increased to ensure that the abolition of the CRC remains fiscally neutral to the Treasury. A Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (“SECR”) is currently being proposed that will require businesses and local authorities with emissions over a certain level to report on their carbon dioxide emissions and energy use in annual reports.

Objectives

Our objective is to improve the Council’s energy efficiency performance by complying with all relevant government legislation, policies and planning instruments, and by meeting obligations required for UK Government environmental and sustainability reporting.

We aim to decrease our environmental impact by reducing energy usage, moving away from carbon intense fuels and focus on generation from low to zero carbon sources. Reducing our utilities costs by implementing robust energy management system and reporting mechanisms and reduce the Council’s scope 1 and 2 emissions and start reporting on scope 3.

We will deliver a refurbished Wandsworth Town Hall that stands as an exemplar for energy efficiency, sustainability and innovative approaches to redevelopment.

We will work with pension funds and other investors to reduce our carbon footprint by increasing investment in energy efficiency, low carbon transport and low carbon heat solutions. There is a legal requirement for the Wandsworth Pension Fund to detail how it approaches environmental, social and governance issues and this is currently being actively reviewed by the Pensions Committee who have engaged consultants to look at options for enhancing the current arrangements and have tasked Officers with procuring services which will evaluate the Funds current carbon footprint.

Actions

We will continue to monitor energy consumption at Council buildings and identify operational improvements to save energy, such as switch off campaigns and staff energy awareness training. There will be engagement with staff through reestablishment of a 'Green Champions' group as a means of engaging staff on environmental and sustainability issues and engaging staff in the identification of ways in which we can reduce our energy consumption.

A programme of energy audits will identify opportunities to improve energy efficiency and enable the Council to develop energy investment strategies and then feed into the development of a decarbonisation strategy for council owned and managed buildings.

We will also work with businesses in the borough, including running advice sessions for businesses, an award scheme to incentivise them and providing best practice information for stakeholders in the borough who wish to become more climate resilient.

We will move towards an increasing programme of using small-scale energy technologies, such as solar water heating, photovoltaics (PV) and combined heat and power and purchasing energy from low carbon resources, where feasible and cost-effective.

We will develop and deliver plans for the redevelopment of Wandsworth Town Hall to the highest eco-standards that are practical.

Targets

2019- 2022:

- Improve energy efficiency of Council municipal buildings by 10% by 2022
- Purchase at least 20% of Council electricity from low carbon sources
- Produce a comprehensive decarbonisation action plan
- Reduce the tonnes of CO2 emissions by 5% in 2019/20
- Invest in improving the energy efficiency of our stock
- Roll out of smart meters to all buildings owned and managed by Wandsworth (residential and commercial).
- Complete energy audits for all municipal buildings to establish baselines for carbon reduction and work with partners and providers (including schools, libraries and leisure centres) around energy audits for buildings not in our direct control

2022-2025:

- 25% of electricity supply met by low-carbon and district energy
- 60% reduction on emissions target
- Promote and deliver district heating in regeneration areas
- Increase the number of buildings retrofitted with energy efficiency measures
- Work with schools to encourage climate resilience and help work towards decarbonisation

2025- 2030:

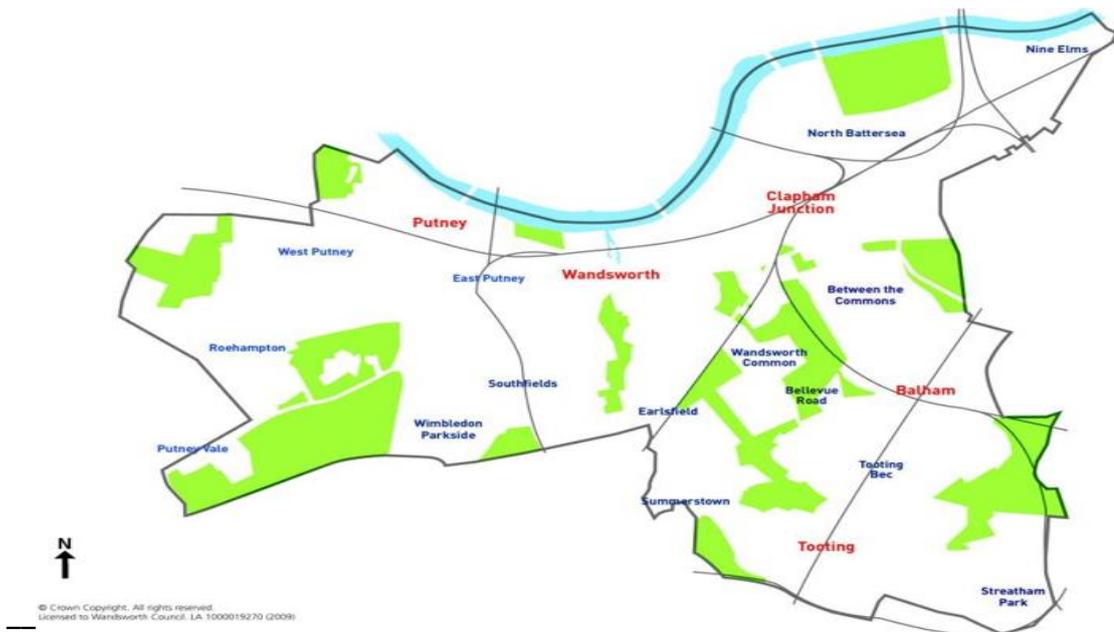
- Reducing our tCO2 emissions by in line with target agreed in decarbonisation action plan
- Where feasible install photovoltaics on council buildings to reduce dependence on the national grid and increase energy security
- At least 70 per cent of Wandsworth's municipal buildings to be rated EPC C by 2030.

Urban Greening and Open Spaces

Wandsworth has a well-deserved reputation for being one of London’s greenest boroughs, we have 34 parks, 8 allotments and 5 cemeteries, as well as grass verges on Council land and a small number of church yards and old burial grounds, encompassing 1700 acres spread across the borough. We have invested over £3 million in improvements from Formula E and Neighbourhood CIL funding, resulting in 2 parks being awarded Green Flags. Our Parks Management Strategy (2011-2020) has provided the foundation for the ground’s maintenance contract specification and excellent work that has been done over the last ten years. In addition, housing estates, schools, nurseries and youth clubs all provide additional green infrastructure which is maintained and managed separately.

In July 2019, London will become the first National Park City in the world, with the aim of making London greener, healthier and wilder. Wandsworth will be celebrating the National Park City campaign and aims to play its part in achieving its aims. In total the council looks after more than 60,000 trees in its parks, commons and open spaces while around 16,000 grow in residential streets and on the borough’s housing estates. Our lakes and open water spaces in our parks help promote and support biodiversity, while the Wandle Trail and the Wandle Valley Park make the most of the River Wandle running through our borough.

In 2020 we will apply for 3 Green Flags and our aim is to have our 5 largest parks gain Green Flag accreditation. We already work closely with conservation groups such as the Wimbledon and Putney Conservators and we are building on this work by developing pocket parks and actively seeking our residents input into their development.



Open spaces provide the vital green infrastructure that enables us to deal with floods or mitigate and adapt to climate change while providing wildlife habitats, sporting facilities and beautiful parks that benefit residents’ physical and mental health and wellbeing. Parks and green spaces form a vital part of regeneration as well, with the new Linear Park in Nine Elms, running from Vauxhall Bridge to Battersea Power Station, providing a sustainable, green backbone to the regeneration area, an approach that we will seek to replicate in other regeneration projects and schemes across the borough.

Wandsworth’s trees and woodlands help to conserve and enhance biodiversity, our approach is to plant mainly indigenous species in order to reinforce local character and identity and because they help to promote biodiversity. Wandsworth has a high level of biodiversity, with a total of 1,600 different species recorded within 27 different habitat types. We host six species of bats, have badger sets and sites of special scientific interest. Several rare and endangered species can be found in Wandsworth, including peregrine falcons, black redstarts and stag beetles.

Our Parks and Open Spaces team have planted over 1,200 trees in the last two winters and as a result our vacant tree pits are nearly now full. We are actively exploring new areas to plant street trees and we plan on planting 400 trees by 2020. The borough has also received a donation of over 50 cherry trees from the British Japanese society which will be planted in King George's Park. While not all streets in the borough are able to sustain trees, we are committed to review the opportunities for planting more trees when works are being carried out on streets.

Objectives

We will introduce measures to increase protection and enhancement of green infrastructure and biodiversity and, where possible, improve private green spaces in in the borough.

We will enable community and voluntary group participation in green space and management, supporting friends of parks groups who can help create and maintain open spaces across the borough.

We will investigate an urban greening factor in order to identify the appropriate amount of urban greening required in new developments.

Actions

We will aim to provide a wide variety of parks with a mix of areas and open spaces to meet the needs of both nature and residents and visitors to the borough.

We will maintain access to existing open spaces and enhance the quality of these spaces, in terms of both design, infrastructure and management and will update our playing pitch strategy and tree strategy as a means of facilitating this.

With the help of other mechanisms and policies such as the Local Plan, we will build on our existing approach to consider how new developments in the borough should be designed, taking into consideration local landscape character, and how it can contribute to our wider green infrastructure network.

We will ensure all borough wards will receive new trees, with species including London plane, cherry, lime, pear, crab apple, rowan, oak, hazel, whitebeam, maple, hornbeam and birch and we will maintain the Wandsworth Tree Warden scheme.

We will renew our grounds maintenance contract in 2021, which will outline how we plan on balancing formal sporting use, commuting, family use, benefits on mental health.

Targets

2019-2022:

- Maintain our habitats and ensure our protected trees in good condition
- Continue to maintain good working relationships with private land owners
- Build upon our successful tree planting programme by planting at least 400 new trees per year and looking at ways to increase this year on year
- Piloting an 'adopt a tree' programme
- Embed the successful 'water a tree' campaign
- Invest £450k from the Capital Programme in parks and open spaces in 2019/20
- Continue to ensure that the urban greening factor is considered in all developments in the borough and build upon the best practice and learning from Nine Elms
- Renewed ground maintenance contract by 2021

2022-2025:

- Promotion of Wandsworth as a Green borough
- Increase green infrastructure assets for the city by creation or management of a green infrastructure asset register and maintenance plan
- Develop core biodiversity areas

2025- 2030:

- Continue to safeguard green infrastructure functions that support health and wellbeing
- Take opportunities through development, regeneration and land management programmes to expand and connect core biodiversity areas

Waste Management

There have been significant changes to waste management legislation over the last 10 years in response to a number of key environmental challenges. Wandsworth's waste management principles are in line with the requirements of UK and EU statutory drivers for waste management whilst supporting the needs of residents and businesses in the borough. Wandsworth have been selected to be part of the first phase of the Mayor of London's waste modelling which calculates the carbon impact of waste and is an essential component of London's future waste and recycling requirements. The Council has reached its recycling rate target of 22.3% for the year 2018/19 with a recycling rate of 23.2%.

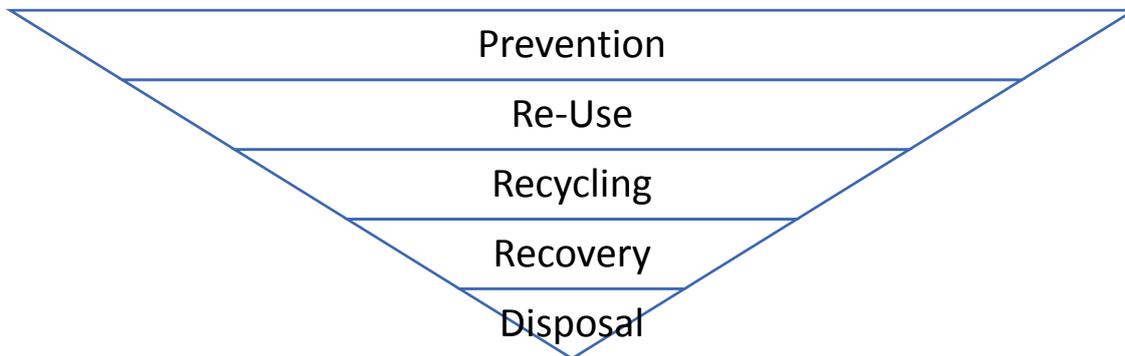
Objectives

Our main objectives are to continue to reduce the overall volume of household waste generated and maximise the 3Rs principles of reduce, reuse, recycle, and continue to send zero waste to landfill. We will continually seek ways to improve our service to residents and business while providing good value for money and ensure our waste practices reflect our championing of the environment's quality in the borough.

We will seek to overcome the significant challenges faced by inner city boroughs tackling waste collection and recycling rates. A main priority is to implement initiatives that encourage our residents to take responsibility to reduce the overall household waste they produce and engaging with residents on how we can support them in this.

Actions

We will work using the waste hierarchy, prioritising waste reduction, reuse and recycling our disposal. We will maximise waste hierarchy management and performance from our operations through new equipment and technology innovation.



We will reduce our impact on the environment by eliminating all avoidable single use plastics and work to reduce the use of unnecessary single use plastics from our operations and encourage and support others to do the same. We will also introduce initiatives to cut back on the amount of plastic we consume in the future. These changes will be driven by the delivery of training and awareness programs and guidance for staff on reducing waste and review the performance of the co-mingled recycling collection for staff and establish targets for improvement.

We will also work to strengthen and leverage our community partnership, young people and volunteers, and businesses by linking to other Council strategies and will support these aims with clear messaging in order to achieve our waste minimisation, reuse and recycling ambitions, particularly as behaviour change is critical to the success of these activities.

We will engage with the public around the costs, benefits and drawbacks of new approaches to waste collection, including food waste collections and green garden waste services.

We will provide a dependable and consistent waste and recycling service across like for like households in the borough. In addition, we will report performance through internal governance processes and externally via stakeholder groups, websites and annual reports.

We will engage with residents on how they can decrease the amount of waste they produce and increase the percentage of their waste which is recycled, including promoting composting and the use of composting bins.

Targets

2019- 2022:

- Reduce the amount of waste (tonnes) generated from municipal buildings
- 50% reduction in all single use plastics from council operations
- Increase the % municipal waste recycled
- Eliminate waste sent to landfill
- Reduction on percentage of waste generated that is recycled or composted (for construction and non-construction waste)
- Move into the top quartile for least amount of collected household waste per person in London

2022-2025:

- At least a 75% reduction in all single use plastics from council operations
- Reduction in total waste collected from municipal buildings and residential buildings
- 20% reduction in the volume of paper we buy across the council.

2025- 2030:

- Long term targets to be developed

Sustainable Procurement

The Council has robust procurement processes built on best value principles. The requirement under Best Value to address issues of sustainability and to strive for continuous improvement are also driving forces behind improving the environmental performance of the Council and as a major purchaser, the Council influences its suppliers and contractors to make their goods and services less harmful to the environment and to develop their own environmental policies.

Objectives

We aim to minimise our environmental impacts and maximise community benefits of our procurement activities by encouraging suppliers in our supply chain to minimise their environmental impact and deliver community benefits in relation to their own operations and throughout the supply chains in which they operate. We will work with suppliers and partners to achieve common goal and improve performance and innovation and encourage the use of recycled products and products derived from reclaimed materials in our operations where feasible.

Minimise adverse environmental impacts and promote sustainability by implementing responsibilities and actions to ensure there is efficient, effective and economical procurement, including:

- the assessment of products on a whole-of-life cycle basis and evaluating suppliers for social responsibility
- the management of resource consumption and demand thereby improving product utilisation, efficiency and financial performance
- environmental standards, principles and practices for energy use, greenhouse gas emissions, ozone depleting substances; resource use; product, supplier and materials selection; materials waste and resource recovery; and potable water use and waste water treatment.

Through these actions, we will reduce the environmental effects caused by purchasing and consumption by the Council, staff and contractors and encourage our suppliers to improve their own environmental performance.

Actions

We will include guidance in contracts likely to have a significant effect on the environment to encourage contractors and suppliers to minimise their environmental impact and adhere to our Environmental Policy.

Provide appropriate training and guidance to staff within Procurement Services and institutions who are involved in purchasing decisions and promote the value of sustainable purchasing to staff and contractors.

There will be consideration to the whole life cost of products and investing in more durable quality products that offer better long-term value and purchasing of less environmentally damaging and recycled products, subject to cost and quality considerations and avoiding the use of non-renewable resources.

Targets

2019-2022:

- Continue to remove the barriers for SMEs and the third sector to ensure they are encouraged and able to bid for council contracts
- Establish procedures for publicising successes in Sustainable Procurement

2025- 2030:

- 100% of all contracts that have been reviewed to encompass Social Value element.

Water Management and Flooding Resilience

Wandsworth includes an extensive stretch of the Thames foreshore and our presence on the Thames contributes to the attractiveness of the borough. However, our proximity to the Thames and other rivers in the borough such as the Wandle increases our risk of flooding, a risk that is likely to increase if global climate change continues. Increased extreme weather events such as intense rainfall can result in rivers exceed their capacity and causing flooding in areas close to the river. In addition, intense rainfall, the large number of impermeable surfaces in the borough, combined with an ageing Victorian sewer system and increasing pressure from growing populations could result in surface water flooding becoming an increasing problem.

The Thames Tideway Tunnel is currently under construction and will offer the increased capacity needed to prevent the tens of millions of tonnes of pollution that currently pollute the River Thames every year. Alongside the tunnel, sustainable drainage systems will also play their part, with systems in place at Putney Embankment Foreshore, King George's Park, Falconbrook Pumping Station and Dormay Street.

There have been sustainable urban drainage projects (SuDS) in a number of areas in the borough, including Nine Elms and Trewent Street. The Nine Elms SuDS project is one of the largest in the UK costing £14.5m and has seen close co-operation between Thames Water and the Nine Elms Partnership, as well as other occupants of the site. We maintain a register of assets that are prone to flooding in the borough and are obligated to investigate incidents of flooding under s19 of the Flood and Water Management Act and the Local Plan.

Objectives

To identify sustainable urban drainage schemes, their costs, benefits and associated outcomes measures.

To comply with environmental legislation and identify opportunities for environmental enhancement, allowing where possible the natural process and evolution of the river and tributaries.

To identify opportunities for broader outcomes linked to goals of the borough and the Environmental Strategy such as regeneration, recreation and amenity.

Actions

Identify funding sources for drainage and waterways improvements, working in partnership with Thames Water, The Environment Agency and Port of London Authority. We will also continue to support the work of the Tideway project and foster good working relationships and collaborations with external organisations to help maintain the quality of our local waterways.

Targets

2019-2022:

- Update our flood risk policy
- Develop a programme for retrofitting roofs on residential and commercial buildings with green or blue roofs
- To meet at least 30% of Council's water demand from alternative water sources by 2025
- Investigate new and innovative use of SUDs in the borough, such as the creation of rain gardens to allow rainwater runoff the opportunity to be absorbed, as opposed to entering the drainage system.

2022-2025:

- Maintenance of the flooding hotspot register and flooding database
- Investigation into alternate areas of SUDs such as schools, library grounds and roofs
- To meet at least 30% of Council's water demand from alternative water sources by 2025

2025- 2030:

- Investment in resources and maintenance to maintain existing SUDs

Planning and Sustainable Development

Sustainable development is the key principle of the NPPF and London Plan. The Wandsworth Local Plan is the main framework for sustainable development in the borough. The Strategy focuses on the balance to be struck between economic, social and environmental objectives and makes provision to meet needs for housing, business activity, community services and infrastructure, in a sustainable way, protecting both the built and natural environments.

The Mayor of London's Environment Strategy was published in May 2018 and sets out a number of key aims for London, including making London a zero carbon city by 2050, with energy efficient buildings, clean transport and clean energy. Key actions and approaches within the strategy include improving energy efficiency in all buildings, increasing communal heating networks using local energy sources, increase solar power energy generation, recommendation that all new developments are zero carbon and trialling low carbon technologies like heat pumps and batteries.

We aim to promote zero-carbon development and for major applications. The Local Plan review will incorporate where applicable the principles of the Draft London Plan and support measures that mitigate and adapt to climate change and reduce emissions of carbon dioxide.

Objectives

The Council currently seeks development to achieve zero carbon standards without the need to mitigate through off-setting carbon via planning commuted sums however, where an applicant can demonstrate that development has maximised CO2 emission reduction on or off site but still falls short of meeting the required London Plan (2016) target, a payment in lieu must be made to the Council of £60 per tonne of CO2. The Council will consider adopting the updated Draft London Plan financial contribution figure of £95 per tonne as part of the Council's calculation.

Local Plan Policy IS2 sets out the Council's approach to improving energy conservation and efficiency and contributions to renewable energy that all new residential development should achieve the specified elements of the national technical standards. The overall CO2 savings achieved by a development will be taken into account in assessing proposals in line with the energy hierarchy and London Plan policies.

Local Plan Policy DMS3 'Sustainable Design and low- carbon energy' sets out the Council's requirement for major non – residential development to achieve relevant BREEAM standards, from 2019 this level is 'Outstanding'. This is the current position of the London Plan and the review of the Council's Local Plan will aim to achieve this if can be proved a viable target. All Wandsworth Local Plan policies and recommendations will be reviewed and implemented following extensive evidence-based research.

Actions

In line with the draft London Plan in meeting the zero-carbon target a minimum on-site reduction of at least 35 per cent beyond Building Regulations is expected. Residential development should aim for 10 per cent, and non-residential should aim to achieve 15 per cent carbon reductions through energy efficiency measures.

Only where it can be clearly demonstrated that the zero-carbon target cannot be fully achieved on-site, any shortfall should be provided through a cash in lieu contribution to the Council's carbon offset fund or off-site provided that an alternative proposal is identified and delivery is certain.

Consideration as to where it is viable to continue to require 'Outstanding' BREEAM standards as part of the Local Plan Full Review.

Further opportunities for District Heat Networks will be explored looking at the feasibility of decentralised energy and combined heat and power areas.

Targets

2019-2022:

- Development of Decarbonisation strategy to help the Council reach zero carbon by 2050
- BREEAM 'Outstanding' for non-residential developments where applicable.
- Developments are reaching their zero-carbon building targets, and if not are contributing offset payments to our local Carbon Offset Fund
- Review the carbon off set financial contribution amount in line with the Draft London Plan.

2022-2025:

- Ensure the Council is well on its way to being zero-carbon as an organisation by 2050
- Explore and increase District Heating Network opportunity areas as part of the Local Plan Review

2025- 2030:

- Working towards zero carbon target by 2050

Implementation and Governance

The Strategy as laid out here will need sustained and clear activity driven from throughout the organisation in order to complete the actions, hit our targets and ultimately deliver our vision for a cleaner, greener and more sustainable Wandsworth that has made its contribution to preventing climate change. The next step will be to develop a clear and robust action plan, providing detail and action to the ideas and aims expressed here.

An internal chief officer Climate Change Steering Group will be formed which will include a senior representative from all strategic areas and will ensure performance monitoring and strategic oversight of delivery of the Strategy. Its responsibilities will include:

- Driving forward the implementation of the Strategy
- Identifying and shaping on-going priorities for the Strategy.
- Leading on partnership working, creating links with public sector organisations, including schools, and businesses to work jointly on climate change approaches
- Leading on engagement with residents to support and inspire them to do their part to lower their greenhouse gas emissions, prevent climate change and become more sustainable
- Monitoring performance on key targets and agreeing actions if performance is not on profile.
- Monitoring progress on delivery of projects and agreeing actions if performance is not on profile
- Promoting a joined-up Council-wide approach to climate change

A Climate Change Action Group will also be formed, which will lead on more operational matters, ensuring that identified projects and approaches are being delivered on time. Its responsibilities will include:

- Delivery of individual projects
- Monitoring and delivering on performance indicators
- Identifying potential opportunities for new projects/developments, funding and promoting innovative approaches and solutions
- Delivering on partnership projects
- Ensuring information sharing on climate change is being spread throughout the organisation
- Ensuring up to date and relevant information is available for residents on climate change issues and delivering on community engagement
- Regular reporting to the Climate Change Steering Group

We will also ensure there is regular reporting on progress, as well as the climate Change Steering Group monitoring performance and delivery we will produce an annual Environmental Sustainability Report which will be published online providing transparency about our approach and progress and submitted to Finance and Corporate Resources Scrutiny Committee.

The action plan will be updated annually to reflect progress, changing deliverables and opportunities and the strategy will be refreshed every 3 years to ensure that we are aligned with changing international, national and regional legislation policies and priorities as well as making sure we are taking advantage of new technology and innovation and reflecting the changing needs of Wandsworth as a borough.

We will identify opportunities for increased partnership working with other public sector organisations, business and third sector organisations to share approaches on how to decrease carbon emissions across the borough. We will increase engagement and involvement of residents and community groups so that we are working in partnership with the people of the borough to improve the environment, make it more sustainable and do what we can to prevent climate change.

Definitions

To provide clarity in relation to the Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy the following applies:

- Carbon neutral is defined as no net release of CO₂ into the atmosphere, either through zero emissions or offsetting. Whilst we aim to make no carbon emissions by 2030 we may still make carbon emissions, but we will offset any we make.
- Zero carbon means making no carbon emissions in the delivery of our operations. In this regard our target is different from the ambitious target set by the Government for net zero UK carbon emissions by 2050 as this target applies to the UK as a whole (not just government operations) and allows for offsetting as it takes into account that by 2050 the technology may not have been developed for all sectors to be zero carbon.
- The targets for carbon neutral and zero carbon apply only to the Council's operations.
- The targets do not apply to the borough of Wandsworth. Whilst the Council through its leadership role and in-depth communications and engagement programme will seek to support, encourage and challenge residents, local businesses and partners to reduce their emissions it cannot exert direct control over these and therefore cannot set a target for their reduction.
- Council operations are defined as areas within the Council's direct control. This includes the energy it purchases to deliver services and supply the buildings it uses, contractors whilst on council business, street lighting and contractor operated facilities. It does not include the energy purchased by leaseholders and tenants for the homes or leased buildings they occupy. Schools are not included in the target, but the Council will continue to work with them on their energy efficiency. This definition reflects the fact that the Council can only measure what it manages and pays for.