

THE CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY –HARROW’S INTERIM STRATEGY AND ACTIONS

7 Themes to work towards Carbon Neutrality as an organisation and a borough by 2030

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Strategic Aims for 2030</i>	<i>Priority Action Areas for the Organisation 2020/21</i>	<i>Additional Borough-wide Action Areas</i>
CLEAN ENERGY USED EFFICIENTLY	<p>To transition our borough to 100% renewable and low carbon energy solutions</p> <p>To maximise energy efficiency and conservation measures across our borough’s buildings</p> <p>To ensure our borough’s long term access to secure and affordable energy supplies through a significant increase in local energy generation, to include council owned and operated renewable energy generation infrastructure</p>	<p><u>Existing Council Corporate Buildings, Schools and Infrastructure</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a business case to install a solar array on the new depot roof, at a cost of circa £150,000, and assess whether heat pump technology could supply its heating requirements, rather than gas boilers 2. Continue programme to replace existing inefficient light fittings and bulbs with LEDs in Harrow schools, corporate buildings, parks and leisure centres 3. Continue the conversion of the Borough’s street lighting to LED / low energy technologies 4. Consult upon selective night time switch off / dimming of street lighting 5. Complete installation of Automatic Meter Read (AMR) in all remaining schools and corporate buildings 6. Plan for replacement of fluorescent lighting in all remaining unconverted Harrow buildings 7. Cost priority capital projects across the corporate buildings and school estate, to develop a pathway (including financing options) to achieve efficient 100% renewable and low carbon energy use by the council by 2030 8. Consider, as part of planned maintenance and renewal activity across the council’s estate, (i) the replacement of gas boilers with heat pumps; and (ii) to ensure that rooves are suitable for solar installation 9. Re-procure the corporate buildings and schools energy supply contract 10. Reduce the evening hours of operation of the Civic Centre boilers 11. Develop and implement a policy for council staff and members around best practice energy use and conservation whilst on the civic and school estate <p><u>Existing Housing Stock</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Promote uptake of affordable green energy tariffs amongst tenants and leaseholders (eg London Power) 13. Undertake a pilot project to retrofit a small number of council homes (eg a terrace of older houses) to highlight best practice in energy conservation 14. Undertake feasibility work to assess the cost of retrofitting the borough’s suitable housing stock with energy conservation and generation measures, to include financing options <p><u>New Development</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Explore the feasibility of a municipally owned and operated heat network 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote the benefits of retrofitting privately owned housing and commercial property with energy conservation and generation measures, identifying and focussing upon worst performing stock first 2. Continue to ensure that the planning framework facilitates decentralised renewable energy generation initiatives, including consideration as part of the emerging new local development framework whether any sites in the borough are suitable locations for renewable generation at scale 3. Consider implementing a local, municipally owned and operated heat network serving parts of the borough 4. Ensure all major new development prioritises connection to a local heat network (if available) or as a minimum safeguards connection to a future network. 5. Lobby government for changes to national policy in key areas, to include building energy standards and funding initiatives to support retrofitting of domestic properties

		<p>linking key council development sites</p> <p>16. Plan for how the Council’s major development schemes – including those within the Harrow Strategic Development Partnership and Grange Farm – can be delivered on a 100% district energy/ renewable energy basis, so that they are carbon neutral in operation</p> <p>17. Explore delivery of new affordable housing development on suitable council estates in a way that includes retrofitting the existing buildings, such that all existing and new homes are carbon neutral in operation</p>	
<p>ZERO-EMISSION TRANSPORT</p>	<p>To decarbonise all council operated vehicles and to support significant decarbonisation of public and private transport in our borough</p> <p>To maximise the use of active and public transport options across our borough</p> <p>To significantly improve air quality in our borough</p>	<p>1. Ensure strategic development of an electric vehicle charging network at council sites, to support working towards further decarbonisation of the council vehicle fleet at the next contract renewal date in 2027</p> <p>2. Promote changes in staff transport habits to decrease car use, including car sharing initiatives and cycling / e-bikes</p> <p>3. Ensure that sustainable transport options are prioritised when developing the council’s own land (including via HSDP and at Grange Farm), to include robust transport assessments</p> <p>4. Establish the total carbon footprint of council related transport, to include work related use of private vehicles by staff and members, and consider mitigations including electric pool cars where necessary</p>	<p>1. Introduce emissions based parking permit charges to incentivise zero / low emission vehicles</p> <p>2. Implement a trial of anti-idling policies in selected locations in the borough, backed up with enforcement activity</p> <p>3. Consider a trial of ‘School Streets’ at appropriate sites (temporary closure of school roads to non -residents at drop off / pick up times)</p> <p>4. In the intensification area of Wealdstone, and with a view to using the learning to implement more borough-wide approaches, to:</p> <p>(a) develop a co-ordinated freight delivery plan for Wealdstone Town Centre</p> <p>(b) deliver a Liveable Neighbourhoods project encouraging sustainable transport initiatives, to include improvements to bus capacity</p> <p>5. Engage with TfL regarding the implementation of low / zero emission buses across the Harrow network</p> <p>6. Support further London wide expansion of TfL’s Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ)</p> <p>7. Consider the impact of any future expansion of Heathrow on the borough’s road transport and public transport system, air quality and Scope 3 emissions, and investigate offsetting funding opportunities</p> <p>8. Ensure new developments prioritise green and affordable mobility solutions, to include development of new walking and cycling routes across Harrow, partly funded by developer contributions</p> <p>9. Trial the first electric-only street in Harrow and</p>

			<p>explore the potential of further pedestrianisation of suitable areas in the borough</p> <p>10. Develop a strategic position on future electrification of vehicular transport in the borough, identifying the role that the council should play in that transition</p>
A WASTE-FREE BOROUGH	<p>To ensure all waste is minimised, recycled and re-used as part of a circular economy approach</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phase out single use plastics across the civic and school estate during 2020, including via the Harrow catering supply chain 2. Develop best in class waste management and recycling practice within the Council's civic buildings, to include minimisation of food waste 3. Work with WLWA partners to establish good data and develop targets and actions in order to progressively reduce the carbon footprint of the Council's waste management operations towards net zero by 2030, focussing on minimisation of waste at source 4. Develop a sustainable procurement policy to drive low carbon outcomes through our supply chain, with a priority focus on construction activity 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with local businesses to support changes in consumer habits and grow a green local economy 2. Engage with residents to responsibly minimise waste entering the Council's waste management system, for example reviewing bin sizes and encouraging and promoting the use of reusable nappies (the average child goes through 5,000 nappy changes) 3. Promote the benefits of textile recycling and re-use and provide residents with good information regarding opportunities to reduce, reuse and recycle waste generally.
HEALTHY PLACES FOR US AND THE REST OF NATURE	<p>To ensure land and other natural resource use in our borough better balances the needs of people and the rest of nature</p> <p>To ensure that new developments are carbon neutral and designed and implemented to ensure long term environmental and community sustainability</p> <p>To ensure the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems in our borough</p> <p>To optimise tree / hedge planting and other natural carbon sequestration measures in our borough</p> <p>To provide public access to high quality and ecologically diverse green spaces</p> <p>To increase levels of local food</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that all new council development being brought forward is carbon neutral in accordance with the proposed London Plan, focussing upon further reductions in on-site emissions beyond the minimum requirement of 35% 2. Audit public owned land to identify suitable sites for planting initiatives, in a way that maximises carbon sequestration, biodiversity gain, local food production and community engagement (eg Forest Gardens, Community Growing projects) 3. Ensure that all new corporate buildings are actively designed to support the health and well-being of users, utilising biophilic design principles and providing access to high quality green space where possible 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Align the new emerging local development framework to support delivery of the council's climate emergency response, to include greater emphasis on the importance a natural capital approach and enhancing biodiversity 2. Develop proposals to implement biodiversity net gain as a requirement for all new developments 3. Ensure that new third party development is carbon neutral, collecting appropriate offset payments via the planning framework and developing spend protocols for carbon reduction initiatives in the borough 4. Engage with park user groups and look for opportunities to collaborate further on this agenda 5. Promote 'Plant a tree' initiatives and other projects (eg wildlife and forest gardens) to enable residents, through the borough's extensive network of private gardens, to increase tree cover, improve and enhance Harrow's biodiversity, and meet more food demand through local production

	production		
GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY	<p>To embed long-term environmental and community sustainability at the heart of local decision making</p> <p>To protect and enhance the well-being of future generations whilst meeting the essential needs of the present</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In 2020, to develop a 10 year overarching strategic policy framework integrating the climate emergency response with the Borough Plan / Vision, the organisational transformation agenda and the emerging new Local Development Framework 2. Develop a more comprehensive data set (including estimated scope 3 emissions) and reporting methodology in order to establish measurable carbon reduction pathways to 2030 and financing options 3. Consider how existing council plans and policies can be aligned to take into account carbon reduction pathways to 2030 4. Recommend the appointment of a portfolio holder for the climate and ecological emergency 5. Consider new governance processes to ensure that the climate and ecological impacts of council actions are considered at the point of decision 6. Review the level of investment in fossil fuels by the Pension Fund and across other Council investments 7. Explore alternative financing solutions for capital infrastructure projects (eg social impact bonds, retargeted borough and neighbourhood CIL, draw downs from the Mayor's Energy Efficiency Fund) 8. Ensure that the council is in a position to take advantage of grant funding opportunities (inter alia from central government, the GLA) to support the transition to a low carbon future 9. Develop a resilience and adaptation plan to run alongside this strategy, in order to plan for climate change impacts 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage school governing bodies and other key local partners to endorse the Council's climate emergency declaration and develop their own action plans 2. Encourage community and voluntary sector groups to develop their energy efficiency proposals and look to crowdfund these during 2020
ECOLITERATE AND ENGAGED COMMUNITIES	To support and encourage our staff, members, partners and the public to take informed actions to address the climate and ecological challenges	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and implement comprehensive, compulsory ecoliteracy (including carbon literacy) training for all staff 2. Develop advice and guidance on the practical and meaningful actions that all staff and members can take across the key areas of energy, transport, food, consumption / waste and to promote a deeper understanding of the natural world 3. Provide specific support and training for council commissioners of goods and services on how to drive low carbon outcomes through our supply chain 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote a change in food consumption habits towards low meat diets 2. Promote alternatives to car ownership 3. Inform residents about energy efficient retrofits (improving take up of available grants) and, through Council sponsored pilot projects, to demonstrate net zero standard alternatives for new builds and low carbon retrofits 4. Develop a Citizens' Engagement programme, to include Citizens' events on the Climate Emergency in 2020 and celebration of Earth Day on 22nd April 5. Work with schools to further embed the sustainability and ecoliteracy agenda into the curriculum, including effective engagement with governing bodies

			<p>6. Establish a Harrow Climate and Sustainability Partnership across key stakeholders in the borough</p> <p>7. Work with children and young people to support and empower them to help lead a Harrow wide response to the Climate & Ecological Emergency</p>
A SOCIALLY JUST TRANSITION	<p>To ensure a just transition to a sustainable and equitable low carbon future for all, thereby actively reducing inequality in our borough</p> <p>To ensure that the most vulnerable in our communities are supported and protected during this period of major social and economic transformation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support council tenants to implement basic energy conservation measures in their homes to reduce utility costs and ill health 2. Inform and advise tenants on grants available to mitigate fuel poverty such as Warm Home Discount, Cold Weather Payment, and Winter Fuel Payment 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prioritise the development of green, low cost mobility solutions for all 2. Consider how the development of municipally owned local heat and power generation could positively impact fuel poverty in the borough