

Community Safety and Environment Policy and Accountability Committee

Agenda

Tuesday 16 March 2021 6.30 pm Online/Virtual

MEMBERSHIP

Administration	Opposition
Councillor Bora Kwon (Chair) Councillor Iain Cassidy Councillor Ann Rosenberg Councillor Fiona Smith	Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler

CONTACT OFFICER: Amrita Gill

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THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD REMOTLEY

It will be streamed via YouTube on: https://youtu.be/9MUzcR-nfVY

Date Issued: 08 March 2021

Community Safety and Environment Policy and Accountability Committee Agenda

16 March 2021

<u>Item</u> <u>Pages</u>

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To confirm attendance, the Chair will perform a roll call. Members will also have the opportunity to declare any interests.

If a Councillor has a disclosable pecuniary interest in a particular item, whether or not it is entered in the Authority's register of interests, or any other significant interest which they consider should be declared in the public interest, they should declare the existence and, unless it is a sensitive interest as defined in the Member Code of Conduct, the nature of the interest at the commencement of the consideration of that item or as soon as it becomes apparent.

At meetings where members of the public are allowed to be in attendance and speak, any Councillor with a disclosable pecuniary interest or other significant interest may also make representations, give evidence or answer questions about the matter. The Councillor must then withdraw immediately from the meeting before the matter is discussed and any vote taken.

Where Members of the public are not allowed to be in attendance and speak, then the Councillor with a disclosable pecuniary interest should withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is under consideration. Councillors who have declared other significant interests should also withdraw from the meeting if they consider their continued participation in the matter would not be reasonable in the circumstances and may give rise to a perception of a conflict of interest.

Councillors are not obliged to withdraw from the meeting where a dispensation to that effect has been obtained from the Audit, Pensions and Standards Committee.

3. MINUTES 4 - 17

To approve the minutes of the meetings held on the 11th November 2020 and 25th January 2021.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

This meeting is being held remotely via Zoom. If you would like to make a comment or ask a question about any of the items on the agenda, either via Zoom or in writing, please complete the following form by 12pm on Thursday 11th March 2021: https://tinyurl.com/cse-questions

5. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

18 - 86

This report sets out the findings and recommendations of H&F's resident-led Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission.

6. PROTOTYPE CONTAINERISATION AND FOOD WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE

87 - 106

The report outlines the engagement and communication that has taken place and is planned, relating to the council's prototype wheeled bin and food waste collection service in the borough.

7. FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meeting dates are:

- 19th July 2021
- 8th November 2021
- 24th January 2022
- 21st March 2022

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Community Safety and Environment Policy and Accountability Committee



Wednesday 11 November 2020

NOTE: This meeting was held remotely. A recording of the meeting can be found at: https://youtu.be/jjWAECcpHag

PRESENT

Committee members: Councillors Bora Kwon (Chair), Iain Cassidy, David Morton, Ann Rosenberg, Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler

Other Councillors: Councillors Sue Fennimore (Deputy Leader) Wesley Harcourt (Cabinet Member for the Environment)

Officers: Sharon Lea (Strategic Director of Environment), Matthew Hooper (Chief Officer - Safer Neighbourhood & Regulatory Services) Gideon Springer (Strategic Lead Safer Street), Bram Kainth (Chief Officer - Public Realm), Neil Thurlow (Head of Community Safety), Ian Hawthorn (Assistant Director Environment Special Projects and Highways)

Guest: David Crawley (H&F Consultant)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair carried out a roll call to confirm attendance. There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2020 were approved.

The Chair asked for a brief update to be provided on Hammersmith Bridge. In response Bram Kainth (Chief Officer- Public Realm) noted that he sympathised with many people who continued to face challenges as a result of the closure of the Bridge and public safety remained a key priority to the Council. Transport for London (TfL) had received £4m from the Government for urgent stabilisation and repair works. This funding would cover the period up until the end of the financial year. The Council was still waiting for the full funding of £141m to be agreed for a detailed programme of the full stabilisation and strengthening works for the Bridge. Plans for a temporary ferry service to transport school children and residents across the river had been approved. TfL were leading on the procurement process for the ferry service and this should be in place by Spring 2021. Furthermore, a temperature control system would be implemented and would be ready for testing by the end of the month. The Council was also working closely with neighbouring boroughs to ensure that the alternative walking and cycling routes were well lit and as safe as possible for the use of public.

Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler asked how much the Council had contributed towards restoring the Bridge. Bram Kainth (Chief Officer- Public Realm) explained that the Council was spending approx. £2.7m per annum on a number of measures to keep the Bridge safe. Sharon Lea (Strategic Director of Environment) explained that this expenditure was vital to ensure that the Bridge was kept in a safe condition so that repair works could be carried out.

Councillor David Morton said that he welcomed the plans for a ferry service and asked for further details to be provided on who would be operating this service. Bram Kainth (Chief Officer- Public Realm) said that TfL were leading on the procurement process and different options were currently being explored.

Councillor Ann Rosenberg asked when details of an accurate timing and the official announcement of the ferry service would be available. Bram Kainth (Chief Officer- Public Realm) noted that the Department for Transport (DfT) taskforce would take this on as an action and release further details when it was available.

Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler asked for an update to be provided on the temporary road bridge proposals. In response Bram Kainth (Chief Officer-Public Realm) noted that the DfT taskforce was exploring alternative options for the Bridge and the Council was working with them to ensure that this took place as soon as possible.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No questions were received from the public.

5. THE FORMATION OF THE GANGS VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION UNIT

Gideon Springer (Strategic Lead Safer Street), gave a presentation on the work of the Gangs Violence and Exploitation Unit (GVEU). He showed slides

that provided an overview of the Council's progress with resourcing the team, the developing operating model and the work officers intended to undertake within the wider Council and strategic partnerships to reduce the harm caused to young people, who were at risk from gangs, violence and other forms of exploitation. It was noted that the Leader of the Council was instrumental in developing this ground-breaking agreement between the Council and the Metropolitan Police. This new dedicated unit would consist of 11 Council employed officers and 6 Metropolitan Police Officers. The total annual cost of the unit was £983,000. The performance measures which included key performance indicators and qualitive measures were also outlined and explained.

Councillor David Morton, referring to Appendix 1 of the report said that the figures for children and young people sentenced to custody and who were reoffending appeared higher in comparison to last year and asked for further clarification to be provided on these figures. Gideon Springer (Strategic Lead Safer Street) explained that having discussed these figures with the Youth Offending Team (YOT) these figures were based on a small cohort of individuals who were consistent offenders and had been resistant to the interventions put in by the YOT. Therefore, the GVEU was put into place to provide additional support and divert those young people away from crime.

Councillor David Morton asked if officers were working closely with the Prevent Team. Gideon Springer (Strategic Lead Safer Street) said that most of the crime was not counter terrorism related, however the GVEU had close links with the Prevent team to spread the message of the support and interventions that were available through the community group network.

Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler asked for further clarification to be provided on the funding arrangements for the formation of the GVEU. Gideon Springer (Strategic Lead Safer Street) noted that the finance had been secured through section 106 funding for the team.

Councillor Victoria Brocklebank- Fowler noted that the Metropolitan Police had ran a similar scheme in Camden Council which was very successful. The funding was provided by the Mayor's Violence Unit in April 2019. She asked if this funding was also available to the Council based on the high numbers for crime related activities in the Borough.

Councillor Sue Fennimore (Deputy Leader) explained that this was an entirely bespoke programme set up in collaboration with the Metropolitan Police. In addition, the Police were making a significant investment towards the scheme. It was noted that the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) also released £50,000 towards the programme which was allocated to the Council on a criteria basis.

Mathew Hooper (Chief Officer - Safer Neighbourhood & Regulatory Services) said that the funding released by the VRU was not sufficient to form the GVEU, given the scale of the initiative launched in the Borough. Therefore, the Council financed the programme through section 106 funding.

Councillor Victoria Brocklebank- Fowler asked what funding was available to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster City Council. In response, Matt Hooper (Chief Officer - Safer Neighbourhood & Regulatory Services) confirmed that both these Boroughs received upper tier funding, due to the way in which the VRU's resource allocation formula was calculated.

Matt Hooper (Chief Officer - Safer Neighbourhood & Regulatory Services) said that he was pleased with speed of which the Council was able to form the GVEU including the recruitment of Council and Police staff to work directly with venerable young people. He felt confident that this was an effective initiative and results demonstrating the work of the GVEU could be achieved within a year.

The Chair asked if the Council was working in collaboration with schools and educational establishments to help identify venerable young people. Gideon Springer (Strategic Lead Safer Street), said that officers were co-ordinating with Children's Services, Housing and Mental Health Services. The Council was also keen to work with all organisations (statutory or non-statutory) to help support in proving referrals. Furthermore, the Council was engaging with local communities to ascertain how they could be supported to improve the lives of young people.

The Chair enquired how the approach taken by the Council for the GVEU, differed to other initiatives launched in the past. Gideon Springer (Strategic Lead Safer Street), explained that this was a non-statutory service provided by the Council to support young people based specifically on their individual needs to reduce the number of crimes committed in the Borough.

The Chair asked for further clarification to be provided on what early intervention measures had been identified by the Council to divert young people from getting involved in crime related activities. Gideon Springer (Strategic Lead Safer Street), said that officers would start early intervention work with young people starting from the age of 10 onwards and the siblings of those who were already involved in crime. By intervening with these children at an early stage, the GVEU would be able to work with them and third sector providers to divert them away from risky behaviour. It was envisaged that the team would operate alongside the Youth Offending Team and Family Assist to identify vulnerable young people who do not yet reach the threshold for statutory intervention but were nevertheless at risk from gangs, violence or exploitation.

Councillor Iain Cassidy thanked Gideon Springer and his team for the work that had been carried out to form the new GVEU. He asked if the lockdown had an impact on the nature of challenges faced by young people and how the work of the team was executed during this period. Gideon Springer (Strategic Lead Safer Street), provided an overview of how the work of the GVEU was delivered during lockdown. The Council had adjusted the way in which it worked with young people and utilised different modes to deliver services throughout lockdown. He noted that during the first lockdown in March 2020, there was a sharp decrease in the number of crime related activities across London. However, the numbers increased shortly after,

following a behavioural shift in the way venerable young people were being victimised and exploited to engage in crime.

The Chair asked what measures were in place for worried parents, guardians or teachers to contact the GVEU directly to share their concerns around young people at risk. In response Gideon Springer (Strategic Lead Safer Street), said that the GVEU was regularly engaging with schools and community groups to ensure any intelligence was passed onto the team. The team was currenting drafting a newsletter and designing a webpage on the Council's website for direct referrals. A contact number and an email address for the team would be available on these platforms. The team was also working alongside external comms to put together a comprehensive launch detailing the work of the GVEU.

Summing up the discussions, the Chair thanked officers for their contributions, and efforts that had gone into developing the GVEU.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee noted and commented on the report.

6. <u>UPDATE ON COUNCIL'S USE OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS (RIPA AND IPA)</u>

Matt Hooper (Chief Officer - Safer Neighbourhood & Regulatory Services) provided an overview and noted that the Council must conduct directed surveillance, and use covert human intelligence sources, in accordance with the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) and the Council policy. The Council's use of covert surveillance was inspected by the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office (IPCO) in April 2020. The outcome of this inspection was positive, and the report detailed the actions the Council would take in response. The inspector made five key recommendations in the report. The Council had created an action plan to address each of these recommendations.

An update was provided on the three separate policies that had been developed since the last inspection and based on the Councils' previous RIPA policy which covered:

- Policy for use of directed surveillance and covert human intelligence Sources.
- Policy for use of direct surveillance (without Judicial Approval/"Non-RIPA")
- Policy for accessing communications data

Councillor Victoria Brocklebank- Fowler praised the positive work of the team for the inspection. She was pleased to note that direct surveillance was permitted to an authorising officer for the purpose of preventing or detecting crime and disorder and fell under the Licensing Act 2003 (sale of alcohol to children and allowing the sale of alcohol and tobacco to children). She felt that this was key in running licensed premises legally in the Borough.

Councillor Victoria Brocklebank- Fowler asked for further clarification to be provided on how the Council was complying with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) data retention. Sharon Lea (Strategic Director of Environment) said that data protection and compliance with GDPR was a priority to the Council. GDPR training was provided to all staff through out the Council on a regular basis and attendance was vigorously monitored to ensure this was being completed.

The Chair asked if any members of the public had contacted the Council with regards to any privacy issues. In response Matt Hooper (Chief Officer - Safer Neighbourhood) noted that since his employment at the Council he was only aware of two concerns from members of the public. However, no complaints had been upheld against the Council. If any issues came to light the Council would work with residents to resolve these.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee noted and commented on the report.

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		Meeting started: Meeting ended:	•
Chair			
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London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Joint Policy and Accountability Committee Budget Meeting (CSE & EHA PACs) Minutes



Monday 25 January 2021

PRESENT

NOTE: This meeting was held remotely. A recording of the meeting can be found at: https://youtu.be/7CsybbQ-IOA

PRESENT

Committee members for the Community Safety and Environment PAC: Councillors Bora Kwon (Chair), Iain Cassidy, Fiona Smith Councillor Ann Rosenberg, Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler

Committee members for the Economy, Housing and the Arts PAC: Councillors Rory Vaughan (Chair), Daryl Brown, Ann Rosenberg, Helen Rowbottom, Adronie Alford

Other Councillors: Councillor Sue Fennimore (Deputy Leader), Wesley Harcourt (Cabinet Member for the Environment), Lisa Homan (Cabinet Member for Housing), Max Schmid (Cabinet Member for Finance and Commercial Services)

Officers: Sharon Lea (Strategic Director of Environment), Emily Hill (Director of Finance), Andrew Lord (Head of Strategic Planning and Monitoring), Daniel Rochford (Head of Finance – Economy), Sukvinder Kalsi (Head of Finance – The Environment), Cliff Parker (Assistant Director Housing Finance), Gary Hannaway (Head of Finance (Parking), Glendine Shepherd (Assistant Director Housing Management), Mark Meehan (Chief Housing Officer),

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair (Councillor Bora Kwon) carried out a roll call to confirm attendance. There were no declarations of interest.

3. 2021 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS)

Councillor Lisa Homan (Cabinet Member for Housing), provided the opening remarks and explained that when the two committees were combined, the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) which is usually considered, was omitted from the agenda. Councillor Lisa Homan confirmed that a Housing Representatives Forum meeting was held on 12th January 2021 and attended by 17 Housing Representatives, which provided them with an opportunity to provide their feedback on the HRA. It was noted that the presentation and the minutes of this meeting were available upon request.

Councillor Adronie Alford expressed her concern that the Committee had not received the HRA and asked to be provided with all the documentation.

Action: That officers provide Councillor Adronie Alford with all the HRA documentation.

Corporate Budget Context

Emily Hill (Director of Finance), gave a presentation outlining the Council's budget proposals and proposed changes in fees and charges in the budget. The gross General Fund budget rolled forward to 2021/22 was £528m of which the net budget requirement of £156.9m was funded from Council resources (such as council tax and business rates) and general government grant. She showed slides that outlined the local spending power increase across local government and the Council. It was noted that the spending power increase for both London and the Council were below the national average. An overview of the Council's savings and growth including the reserves and general balances was also provided.

The budget proposals for 2021/22 and forecast to 2024/25 were summarised. A balanced budget was proposed for 2021/22 with a contribution to general balances, arising from one-off/ non recurrent benefits, to enhance financial resilience of £1.1m and set aside a contingency for unfunded Covid-19 pressures of £1.1m. The direct impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Council expenditure and income was summarised. The government had announced that the fees and charges grant compensation scheme would continue in the first quarter of 2021/22 and that a new emergency Covid-19 pressures grant of £6.2m would be receivable in 2021/22. The Council anticipated a reduction in business rates income and the ending of the London business rates pool. There would also be an impact on the economic downturn on major Council projects, such as the Civic Campus or Education City development, and risk to future contributions from developers.

Summing up Emily Hill (Director of Finance) provided an overview of the budget assumptions for 2021/22. These included an increased budget gap between 2021/22 to 2023/24 to fund the unfunded 2020/21 collection fund losses. Including a lower council tax rate and allowance for an increase in the number of residents entitled to claim council tax support.

Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler asked for further clarification to be provided on what was covered in the earmarked and restricted reserves. In response, Emily Hill (Director of Finance) outlined the difference between the two reserves, noting that the earmarked reserves were amounts set aside for specific policy purposes such as the Civic Campus and that the restricted reserves were for grants and insurances purposes. It was noted that a Cabinet report sets out all the reserves in more detail and a copy of this would be provided to Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler.

Action: That officers provide Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler with all the reserves documentation.

The Chair asked how the Council forecasted and managed the budget during these challenging times. Emily Hill (Director of Finance) provided a summary of some of the risks faced by the Council, including the reduction in the business rates income due to the Covid-19 restrictions. However, the budget had been based on the minimum amount that was guaranteed to be received by the government. A Covid-19 contingency of £1.1m had also been included in the budget to cover any additional costs.

Councillor Helen Rowbottom commented on the 75% which was being met by government and therefore the 25% shortfall spread over 3 years. She asked what mitigations were in place and how the shortfall would be met. In response, Emily Hill explained that the Council tax loss had been factored into the budget gap. In terms of the fees and charges losses, these would be met from the contingency sums which had been set aside, or alternatively from reserves.

Community Safety and Environment PAC Departmental Budget

Sharon Lea (Strategic Director of Environment) and Sukvinder Kalsi (Head of Finance – The Environment) gave a presentation of the Environment revenue budget for 2021/22, highlighting the following key points:

- The department was responsible for the delivery of a wide range of universal services to residents.
- A number of major service changes had been implemented to reflect the Council priorities.
- The department had a good fiscal and financial management record, including the implementation of any recovery action plans.
- The outturn for 2019/20 showed a marginal overspend of 1.1% of the budget.
- The Covid-19 pandemic would have a major impact on the department finances in 2020/21. Excluding that impact the department was expecting to deliver a net expenditure outturn of no more than £0.5m of the approved budget.
- A summary of the proposed departmental budget for 2021/22 was provided.
- The key budget investments and future strategic issues were outlined in detail

Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler queried why the Council felt it was necessary to implement the new recycling service in the borough during the Covid-19 pandemic from a financial point of view and asked if residents had been consulted on this. In response Sharon Lea (Strategic Director of Environment) provided a summary of why the Council went ahead with the trial for the new recycling service, noting that majority of the Council's nationally operated with a wheeled bin system. This was a much safer way of collection for the operatives and also encouraged residents to do more recycling.

This was a prototype service to ascertain whether residents would engage and embrace the new recycling service delivery. There had been a lot of interaction with residents over the course of the protype trial, however the Council encountered some challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic. During the roll out of the trial the Council had achieved an overall increase in recycling rates in the borough. In addition, it was noted that a decision around the continuation of the new recycling trial had not yet been made.

Sukvinder Kalsi (Head of Finance – The Environment) explained that the current waste collection and street cleaning contract with Serco was worth approximately £11.5m. He provided an overview of the costs associated with the new recycling trial and the savings made to date on the Serco contract.

Councillor Wesley Harcourt (Cabinet Member for the Environment) explained that the Council had declared a climate emergency and therefore it was vital to improve recycling rates across the borough in line with the Councils target of being net carbon zero by 2030. He outlined the various cost savings that would be made by implementing the new recycling service and highlighted the increase in recycling rates in the areas where the trial had been rolled out.

Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler asked for further clarification to be provided on the figures for the new South Fulham traffic cameras. Sharon Lea (Strategic Director of Environment) noted that these figures were not included in the report and if the figures were available these would be circulated to Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler after the meeting.

Action; That officers provide Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler with the figures for the new South Fulham traffic cameras if they were available.

Councillor Iain Cassidy asked for further information to be provided on how the equality impact assessment (EIA) was conducted. Sharon Lea (Strategic Director of Environment) explained that officers in collaboration with and the Co-production Team would undertake a review of the EIA. She also confirmed that training and development would be provided by the Co-production Team which would improve how future EIA were managed. It was noted that any proposed changes to EIA that impacted upon residents would be also be acknowledged.

Max Schmid (Cabinet Member for Finance and Commercial Services) provided further assurances to the Committee, explaining that the Council carried out an in-depth EIA for all the individual budget items prior to the

implementation stage (which addressed many of the concerns raised by Councillor Iain Cassidy).

The Chair asked how the Council managed expenditure as well as the loss of income during the pandemic. In response, Emily Hill (Director of Finance) explained that the government had introduced a fees and charges compensation scheme. This scheme provided a mechanism for the Council to be reimbursed by the government on a quarterly basis to cover some of the losses incurred during the pandemic.

The Economy, Housing and the Arts PAC Departmental Budget

Danny Rochford (Head of Finance, The Economy Department) provided a presentation of the Economy general fund budget for 2021/22, highlighting the following key points:

- The plan for the next fiscal year included a combination of inflation and temporary growth requirements as well as savings.
- The proposed budget for the Economy Department includes the following services: Housing Solutions, Operations, Economic Development, Learning and Skills, Planning, Regeneration and Development and Place.
- £1.1m savings had been identified through: The Commercialisation of Planning fees income (£0.35m), Placing homeless residents in to better, longer-term private rented sector housing to reduce the use of Temporary Accommodation (£0.2m), A Facilities Management restructure (£0.2m), Consolidation of management and workforce and reduction in the use of agency staff (£0.1m), A Review of Senior Management and Business Support (£0.18m and other Savings (amounting to) (£0.08m).
- Temporary Growth of £1.24m for one year only included: Planning fees income (£0.7m) and Temporary accommodation cost avoidance payments (£0.94m, of which £0.4m will be met from additional specific grant)
- An overview of the risks as set out in Appendix 2
- An overview of the Fees and Charges as set out in Appendix 4

Councillor Helen Rowbottom asked officers to provide further details on the Design Review Panel (DRP) and specifically whether it included accessibility as one of the equality measures. In response, Danny Rochford explained that the Design Review Panel was a discretionary service which was used for the Council's larger planning schemes. The concept was to roll this out over a wider audience to generate further income for the Department (although in 2022, it was anticipated the DRP might only generate a further £20k).

Action: Danny Rochford to contact the Planning Department and provide Councillor Helen Rowbottom with further information on the commercial opportunities provided by the Design Review Panel.

Councillor Adronie Alford reiterated that the EHA PAC had not been provided with the Housing Revenue Account and expressed disappointment at this, as there was no other opportunity to scrutinise it publicly.

Councillor Adronie Alford asked about the Homelessness Budget and for further details to be provided about the differences between Temporary Accommodation and Private Sector Leasing and the risks associated. In response, Danny Rochford confirmed that the Authority was already part of a Pan London Agreement which was working with other London Boroughs to reduce the cost of temporary accommodation. Adding further details, Mark Meehan (Chief Housing Officer) confirmed that the Authority did participate in the Pan London scheme, called Capital Letters, which was proving beneficial to Hammersmith and Fulham. Mark Meehan explained that the number of private sector lettings had increased in the last 18 months, but the Authority also operated its own Temporary Accommodation Team. Mark highlighted that the numbers of residents in temporary accommodation had reduced slightly, which given the pandemic, was a remarkable achievement by officers.

Mark Meehan explained that when the Eviction Ban ends in February 2020, there was a possibility of an increased number of homelessness cases. And with the number of homelessness cases, came increased costs. The benefit of using the Private Rented Sector was this cost far less than Bed and Breakfast accommodation.

Action: That Mark Meehan provide Councillor Adronie Alford with the current performance statistics for Capital Letters.

Councillor Lisa Homan, Cabinet Member for Housing, explained the Capital Letters scheme had been successful as it had meant that different Boroughs were not competing in relation to the rates that tenants paid. Echoing Mark Meehan's remarks about driving down the use of temporary accommodation, she also underlined the risks, including the possible rise in the number of evictions and the unknown state of the housing landscape after the pandemic.

Councillor Lisa Homan highlighted the success of the Council's Rough Sleeping Strategy over the past year and formally thanked officers for their hard work in this area. Referencing a previous EHA PAC and the minor changes to the Housing Allocations Policy which were suggested at this meeting, Councillor Lisa Homan explained that as the Council was now discharging its duty into the private rented sector; but still allowing people to stay on the Housing Register; this incentivised the use of the private rented sector.

Councillor Adronie Alford asked about Housing Benefit and Universal Credit. In particular, how reliable officers thought Universal Credit was being with assessing and paying people the correct amount. The point being, that if people went into arrears during the pandemic then landlords would be inclined to evict tenants. In response, Danny Rochford explained that Universal Credit had remained a concern since its inception and the Council had anticipated it having a significant impact on income collection performance. However, since April 2018, Universal Credit had been replaced by Housing Benefit for new clients. Danny Rochford explained that income collection rates by Housing officers were exceptionally good and the Housing Team worked closely with Finance colleagues.

Councillor Lisa Homan commented that she was closely monitoring the prevalence of people entering rent arrears from the Council's housing stock.

She highlighted that there was plenty of support available if people did enter difficulties, as there was in the Private Rented Sector.

Councillor Rory Vaughan, Chair of EHA PAC acknowledged that the report clearly set out what the savings and growth items were. He was encouraged that a Government grant had been received to help reduce temporary accommodation costs.

Councillor Rory Vaughan stated it would be helpful to hear at either then next PAC or outside the meeting, the effect of changing the allocations policy to allow people to use the private rented sector without losing their place on the housing register (which was a disincentive to people before).

Councillor Rory Vaughan noted that the commercialisation of planning fees would raise another £350k and asked if a review had been conducted to see whether this was a realistic target. In addition, he asked for further details on the proposed management restructures and how these would lead to savings. In response, Danny Rochford explained that in terms of the commercialisation of planning fees, the Department had ensured it had a robust charging methodology to ensure it recovered its costs and conducted benchmarking with other Authorities. In response to the proposed restructures, Mark Meehan provided details of how several Housing posts were joint funded between the General Fund and HRA. He confirmed that a restructure had already taken place which had resulted in two senior management posts being deleted.

Action: That Mark Meehan liaise with Committee Services to ensure the HRA Budget information is circulated to all EHA PAC members.

As a final remark, Councillor Rory Vaughan thanked officers for their hard work on the budget. Closing the meeting, Councillor Bora Kwon thanked everyone for the change in arrangements for the meeting and confirmed that the usual PAC arrangements would resume with the next set of meetings.

RESOLVED

- That the joint Policy and Accountability Committee (PAC) considers the budget proposals and makes recommendations to Cabinet as appropriate.
- That the joint PAC considers the proposed changes to fees and charges and makes recommendations as appropriate.

	Meeting started: Meeting ended:	•
Chair		

Contact officer: Amrita Gill and Charles Francis

Committee Co-ordinator Governance and Scrutiny

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Agenda Item 5

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Report to: Community Safety and Environment Policy & Accountability Committee

(CSEPAC)

Date: 21/01/21

Subject: Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission recommendations

Report of: Bram Kainth, Chief Officer for Public Realm

Responsible Director: Sharon Lea, Strategic Director of Environment

Summary

This is a covering report accompanying the findings and recommendations of H&F's resident-led Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission (**appendix A**). The commission was appointed and launched in December 2019, and their recommendations follow a year of extensive research and engagement with internal and external stakeholders. The recommendations are intended to be submitted to cabinet following discussion at CSEPAC.

Recommendations

1. For the Committee to note and comment on the recommendations.

Wards Affected: All

H&F Values

Please state how the subject of the report relates to our values – delete those values which are not appropriate

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Priorities
Building shared prosperity	The recommendations propose how H&F's residents can benefit from the growing green economy, including through skills and promoting the circular economy. They pursue a broad view of prosperity encompassing economic, environmental, social and health aspects.
Creating a compassionate council	As well as ensuring a safe climate, the recommendations target poverty and inequality, and seek to improve health, public space and engagement for residents

	of all backgrounds.
 Doing things with local 	The recommendations have been produced
residents, not to them	by a resident-led commission, and map out
	how the council can extend its engagement
	and co-production with residents.
 Being ruthlessly financially 	The recommendations relate to the council's
efficient	commitment to a net zero borough by 2030.
	This will demand significant private and
	public investment; this report includes
	recommendations to maximise external
	funding.
 Taking pride in H&F 	The recommendations include deepening
	community engagement and environmental
	improvements to public space.
 Rising to the challenge of the 	The primary purpose of the
climate and ecological	recommendations is to help shape the
emergency	council's activity around this value.

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Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Background

- 1. In late 2018 the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assessed that the world has until 2030 to take radical action to keep global temperatures within 1.5°C of pre-industrial levels, beyond which catastrophic change is expected. In recognition of this, Hammersmith & Fulham council declared a climate and ecological emergency in July 2019, setting an ambitious target of 2030 for the borough to achieve net zero carbon. As part of its declaration, the council pledged to launch a resident-led climate and ecological emergency commission, to make recommendations for achieving this target.
- 2. In December 2019 the council appointed twelve local resident commissioners. Between January and December 2020 the commission conducted extensive

research and engagement, within the council and externally, to produce its findings. This has included:

- Surveying best practice and emerging innovations.
- Engagement with H&F officers.
- Engagement with H&F residents through a public event and an online consultation.
- Engagement with external experts including industry and leading public authorities.
- 3. The commission has worked closely with the council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Unit throughout this year. They have given enormous time and dedication, and have helped the council grow its network of contacts and resources on climate action. The Climate Unit is very grateful for their work and support.
- 4. In tandem with the commission's research, officers in the council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Unit have been working with officers from all council departments in cross-cutting working groups to develop the council's draft climate and ecology strategy and action plan. This has been shaped by the commission's emerging findings and regular discussion with officers throughout 2020, and the commission's completed findings will now be used to finalise a first draft of the council's strategy.

Findings

- 5. The climate and ecological emergency touches on all areas of economic and public life. These findings present recommendations for three overarching aspects of the council's role in achieving a net zero borough:
 - a. **Communication and engagement**, including public communication and engagement, education, and staff engagement.
 - b. Building knowledge at a local level, on:
 - Built infrastructure
 - Transport
 - Ecology
 - Energy
 - Waste
 - Finance
 - Food
 - Health
 - c. Leadership on the above areas.
- 6. The findings and recommendations are attached as Appendix A.

Next steps

7. CSEPAC is asked to note and comment on the findings. These will then be presented to Cabinet to consider the recommendations.

List of Appendices:

Appendix A: LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission: Summary of findings.

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

Summary of Findings



This report was prepared by members of the LBHF Resident-led Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission who dedicated their time on a voluntary basis to provide LBHF with support and guidance.

Members of the Commission include:

Sian Alexander
Artin Amjady
Paul Beaty-Pownall (Chair)
Morag Carmichael
Helen Dell
Stephen Farrant
Eleanor Harrington
Yvonne Insh
Scarlett Knowles
Holly Larrett
Cecilia Tacoli
Pat Tookey
Will Reynolds



LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

Acknowledgements

Delivering technical solutions to achieving net zero emissions requires bold and challenging policy decisions, including levels of regulation and how action should be funded. This report is the outcome of thorough discussion, agreement, disagreement and a diversity of thinking among the twelve commissioners. It does not represent a total consensus on each of the recommendations and illustrates the variation in views among residents.

The report is intended to recommend areas of action and this is where its focus lies. Commissioners nevertheless wished to acknowledge the positive action and direction taken by the council to date on this agenda. The recommendations also speak to wider economic, regulatory and social structures that require action at the national and societal level, as well as from the Council and borough.

The CEEC worked in partnership with a number of council officers during the preparation of this report and we would like to thank the following people who gave their time. We were very impressed by their level of commitment to the work of the Commission and the positive response we have received towards our ideas. We are delighted that the LBHF Climate Change Unit has now been established and is gaining respect across all council departments. The CEEC will continue to support the Climate Change Unit to assist them in embedding a culture of change that is focussed on reducing carbon emissions across the organisation and the Borough as a whole.

The following have given their time and provided CEEC with generous support in our work:

Jim Cunningham Bram Kainth Robert Kyle Hinesh Mehta Cat Priddey Peter Smith

We would also like to thank the Leader of the Council, **Clir Stephen Cowan**, and **Clir Wesley Harcourt** for their support and for setting up this commission.

Version 06 Issued February 2021



LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

Executive Summary

Finding headline

The Council needs to define a positive vision and embed a culture of change to helps us reach net zero by 2030, through strong and persistent leadership on Climate and Nature

The London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham (LBHF) declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency in July 2019, aiming for the whole Borough to reach net zero-carbon emissions by the end of 2030.

The Leader of the Council is personally committed to strongly driving the agenda for change to meet the Borough's carbon net zero objectives and he has embedded this commitment in the Cabinet and Senior Leadership Team. A cross-departmental Climate Change Unit has been set up within the Council to implement change, and the Unit is working on a Road Map to Net Zero. A commitment to responding to the Climate Emergency has become one of the Council's six core values

'Rising to the Challenge of the Climate and Ecological Emergency"

LBHF

The big picture

Tackling climate change will need changes in behaviour right across society and the economy – with a host of new incentives, laws, taxes, innovations, opportunities and above all robust communication about the changes that are needed. Models which embrace the green economy as an alternative to pursuing economic growth as a measure of success and which recognise the importance of local employment, sustainable investment, fairness and equality, including measures of personal well-being, access to healthy food, good housing and education are being actively explored, and embraced across the country.

It is also very important that we increase the strength of 'carbon sinks' in the borough (including green spaces, gardens, parks, green roofs), and there is an urgent need to protect and restore nature, wildlife and biodiversity.

The unprecedented and on-going experience of managing the COVID-19 pandemic has shown how difficult it is to prioritise longer-term goals for Climate Change and Nature, over immediate and pressing problems which require urgent attention.

Notwithstanding political cycles, the Council must work out and test for robustness, how it urgently embeds Climate and Nature in its long-term strategy and financial planning. A recent World Bank Report¹ makes it very clear that a continued focus on short- and medium-term targets would make achieving de-carbonization far more difficult.

The dilemma of National and Local Targets

The target date set of net zero by 2030 is an ambitious one and is ahead of national policy, which is geared to 2050. But based on IPCC analyses², if we are to avoid a temperature rise of more than 1.5 degrees above the pre-industrial average, then advanced nations will need to reduce our carbon emissions much more rapidly. The Council needs to consider what this means and examine the implications, costs and benefits for the Borough of "doing things early".

Limitations to funding

Tackling climate change is likely to require a big shift in current and investment spending. Sources of funding, ie where investment capital will come from to fund improvements to reach net zero, is an enormous issue, which is well understood nationally and at a local level. To meet the immensity of its funding challenges for the Borough, there is a critical need for the Council to creatively consider its options - to plan for the long term, and to analyse where investment capital can be sourced, including from the private sector, to fund necessary improvements.

The importance of a Strategy and Plan

It is vital that the Council has a clear plan and is able to measure and track timely progress on carbon emissions. The Climate Change Unit is developing a strategy to reach net zero through its **Road Map** which must set out what needs to be done and provide a means of measuring the carbon emissions of all its activities. This Road Map needs to become the "**Tool of Change**".

The Council recognises that it is a significant contributor to carbon emissions in the Borough; but it is not the biggest part of the problem

We know most of the problem of carbon emissions comes from the management of housing and commercial buildings, with transport being the third largest emitter. In addition, the amount we all consume, and what we waste, plays a significant part – we must consider the embodied carbon that is emitted in the manufacture and transportation of what we consume.

Reducing carbon emissions and decreasing one's own environmental footprint, should not be seen as "giving things up". The **Co-Benefits** of changing the way we live to a low-carbon lifestyle are now well understood, celebrated, measured and documented (Grantham Institute, Imperial College³), in terms of less inequality, more active life styles, improved health and well-being.

So how can the Council help map the road to Net Zero?

The Council's first priority must be to **communicate and engage** with the public with a positive vision for what 2030 would be like if the ambition to reduce carbon emissions to net zero was achieved. It should help us to <u>Imagine 2030</u>⁴ by articulating the amazing quality of life that could be achieved in a well-balanced community that would result from a zero-carbon, ecologically rich society.

Secondly, the Council must develop much greater knowledge and better understanding about carbon emissions, the effects of global warming, and how we must adapt to the changes that are now inevitable. **This knowledge must be built at a local level and shared with the public** to help and encourage us to change our behaviour. The Council should lead an extensive training programme in carbon literacy,

environmental management and the importance of biodiversity, and we should all take care to consider the carbon emissions associated with the choices we make.

Thirdly the Council needs to show **Leadership** and prepare a **Road Map to Net Zero** that demonstrates it has a way of **measuring and reducing carbon emissions** with a clear timeline for each area of activity across the whole Borough. The Road Map must be agreed at Cabinet and given the authority required to ensure that all departments must consult with the Climate Change Unit to gain their support. Progress on the Road Map should be reported to Cabinet on a regular and frequent basis, along with up-to-date data on current carbon emissions.

The Leader has also committed to **measuring the carbon impact of all the Council's policies and projects** to give carbon reduction the same priority as financial management, legal probity and equality measures. This must be agreed at Cabinet and a report on the carbon impact of all policies, projects or activities must be included in all future cabinet papers.

CEEC would also recommend that the Council launch a series of "**Demonstrator Projects**" in key areas as examples of positive changes that can deliver zero-carbon ways of living. These could range from retrofitting a Council Estate to create a zero-carbon living environment, to projects to reduce our dependency on private cars. The Council could also explore the development of a local circular economy with, for example, A Library of Things, Made in H&F, and other initiatives that eliminate waste.

Finally, the Council has committed to setting up a **Community Map** that will provide everyone with the opportunity to share information about the great things that are already happening in Hammersmith & Fulham. **Mapping Local Knowledge** will allow us to share ideas and build on each other's experiences to give us all confidence to make the extraordinary changes that are urgently required to prevent the further destruction of our environment and to improve the habitat that we need to maintain for our very survival.

References

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¹ http://sdq.iisd.org/news/world-bank-report-maps-strategic-directions-towards-decarbonization/

² https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/

³ https://www.imperial.ac.uk/media/imperial-college/grantham-institute/public/publications/briefing-papers/Cobenefits-of-climate-change-mitigation-in-the-UK.pdf

⁴ https://www.imagine2030.earth/

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

"Happily, the solutions exist. The only thing stopping us solving this problem is us"

Mike Berners-Lee, Author of There is No Planet B

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

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LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission



It is hard to reflect on the climate emergency whilst the coronavirus crisis is turning all our lives upside down. Hammersmith & Fulham's Resident-led Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission (CEEC) has none the less continued its work and has also been looking at how we can learn from the actions currently being taken to respond to the coronavirus emergency.

On 17th July 2019, the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham (LBHF) unanimously agreed with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that there is a Climate and Ecological Emergency. In passing the Climate and Ecological Emergency Motion, the Council set a target for the whole of the borough of Hammersmith & Fulham to reduce carbon emissions to net zero by 2030.

That was the easy bit. We now need to work out how this can be achieved in an effective and meaningful way that delivers positive long-term outcomes.

"The UK can and should act as a leader in the global response to climate change – UK emissions contributed to causing it, and its leadership can have an international impact." UK Government, Committee on Climate Change⁵

It has become increasingly understood by all political parties, all faith groups and all parts of our community that urgent action is now needed to protect ourselves from the worst impacts of climate change. This shared understanding gives me hope that the action needed might also bring our divided society together and be an amazingly positive experience.

The IPCC and the global scientific community are unequivocal that society needs to de-carbonise at an unprecedented scale and pace over the coming decade if we are to avert the worst effects of climate breakdown. In conjunction, we face a crisis in our natural environment, with a 60% loss of wildlife populations over the last 50 years.

The role of the CEEC is to challenge and support the Council in delivering its net zero ambition by 2030, and help to bring about the recovery of nature and wildlife across the Borough, acting as a role model to other London Boroughs.

I believe that a zero-carbon, ecologically rich society is something to look forward to. By articulating the amazing quality of life that could be achieved in a well-balanced community that would result from a zero-carbon, ecologically rich society, we can build an exciting and positive vision for the future.

By defining a clean, fresh and healthy environment in which people care about each other and where success is measured by high levels of well-being, everyone – council officers, councillors, residents and people working in or visiting the Borough – will be encouraged to change their behaviour and help each other to work towards a prosperous future for all.

During the Commission's work, we have worked with the newly founded Climate Change Unit, engaged with LBHF officers, led a public survey and hosted an Engagement Event at the Lyric Theatre that helped us to learn from local residents about which areas of work we should focus on.



Paul Beaty-Pownall at the Lyric Engagement Event Feb 2020 - Hosted by CEEC in partnership with Lyric Theatre

We need to have an open and honest conversation about what LBHF can achieve and what needs to be done through regional and national policy initiatives. We need to be prepared to tell the truth and be brave enough to respond to the evidence with action that matches the existential threat that the climate and ecological emergency demands.

I hope that this report provides a useful starting point. There is a lot to do.

Paul Beaty-Pownall CEEC Chair

References

⁵ https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/CCC-Net-Zero-Infographic.pdf

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

Communication & Engagement

The first priority must be to engage with everyone who lives, works in or visits Hammersmith & Fulham to provide much more open and honest information about the seriousness of the threat we face due to the scale of carbon emissions and severe loss of biodiversity. LBHF must prepare a robust communications plan that provides guidance on the actions we need to take, and promote a positive vision for how the future might look if we succeed in reducing our carbon emissions.

The communication strategy should recognise that this is an emergency and lessons should be learned from the communications used during the COVID-19 crisis.

By engaging with local residents and council officers LBHF will help define a positive vision of a zero-carbon and ecologically rich society. All residents of Hammersmith & Fulham have a part to play and we must work together in order to ensure that the changes in behaviour we seek are effective.

1.1 Public Communication
1.2 LBHF Engagement
1.3 Public Engagement
1.4 Education



LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

1.1 Public Communication

Finding headline

We need to be better informed about the negative impact of our current carbon emission levels

Summary of proposed actions

Define a positive vision of what it would be like to live in a zero-carbon society, to encourage changes in behaviour that reduce carbon emissions.

Communicate the importance of biodiversity and supporting activities that enable nature to thrive.

Prepare robust communication plan – tell the truth about the effects of climate change and provide information about positive behaviours. This will include:

- The amount of carbon being emitted in the Borough
- The types of activities that cause carbon emissions
- Types of positive behaviour that do not cause carbon emissions
- The policies that are being promoted to reduce carbon emissions
- Actions that need to be taken to adapt to the effects of climate change
- Promote the positive aspects (co-benefits) of action to reduce carbon emissions and enable nature to thrive

"Talk about the climate emergency with residents. Start a clear and unambiguous communications strategy that tells residents about the dangers that lie ahead and help us to change our behaviour so that we can prepare and improve our chances of living in a healthy borough in the years ahead." Commonplace Consultation Oct 2020

Existing context

LBHF has a duty to protect people from harm and ensure that the environment in which we live is healthy and safe. The Council have a responsibility to communicate with the public in order to inform them about any activities that are being carried out that might cause harm to themselves or others.

Residents, visitors, council officers and people who come to work in Hammersmith & Fulham are not currently being informed about the amount of carbon that is being emitted as a result of our daily activities.

The negative impact of our emissions, and the scale of changes needed to make Hammersmith & Fulham a safer place to live, is not something which is widely acknowledged.

We believe that the Council has a duty to inform people of the risks associated with their activities and to encourage behaviours that radically reduce our carbon emissions.

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Observations on the current situation

LBHF has a sophisticated communications system that includes access to the following tools:

- LBHF website⁶
- Social media⁷
- Nextdoor⁸
- Street banners
- Commercial advertising hoardings

LBHF have demonstrated their ability to communicate with the public in response to the COVID-19 crisis. They established a clear method of communication using all the above tools to encourage rapid changes in behaviour to reduce the spread of the coronavirus. We would now like to see the Council making use of these tools and others to inform people living and working in the Borough about the climate and ecological crisis, and the need for changes in personal, public and corporate behaviour to reduce our carbon emissions.

What needs to change?

The public need to be better informed about the dangers associated with high levels of carbon in the atmosphere and the impact that their carbon emitting activities are having on themselves, other people and future generations.

LBHF must help people to change their behaviour both to reduce carbon emissions and to prepare for the consequences of a changing climate which are already occurring due to existing global heating. LBHF should help us to Imagine 2030 by articulating the amazing quality of life that could be achieved in a well-balanced community that would result from a zero-carbon, ecologically rich society

A communication plan needs to be established that informs the public about:

- The amount of carbon being emitted in the Borough
- The types of activities that cause carbon emissions
- Types of positive behaviour that do not cause carbon emissions
- The policies that are being promoted to reduce carbon emissions
- Actions that need to be taken to adapt to the effects of climate change
- The positive aspects (co-benefits) of action to reduce carbon emissions and enable nature to thrive

The plan should illustrate the changes in behaviour that are anticipated and how these will support the strategy to move towards net zero carbon by 2030.

References

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⁶ https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/

⁷ https://www.facebook.com/HammersmithandFulhamCouncil/

⁸ https://twitter.com/LBHF/

⁹ https://www.imagine2030.earth/

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

1.2 LBHF Engagement

Finding headline

LBHF officers must become carbon literate

Summary of proposed actions

- All council officers, staff, councillors and contractors need to be educated about the impact of carbon emissions locally: they need to become 'carbon literate'.
- A training scheme should be developed to support all LBHF staff
- Current carbon emissions must be measured and publicised to establish a baseline, against which the success of future policies can be measured.
- The Council should develop a Road Map to carbon zero, with annual reduction targets.

Existing context

The Commission has worked alongside the LBHF Climate Change Unit to build a good working relationship with the staff of Hammersmith & Fulham. We have met with a wide range of LBHF officers, councilors and agencies to talk to them about the climate emergency and to get a better understanding of the actions that the Council are taking in response to the emergency declaration.

A Climate Change Unit has been set up that reaches across all council departments. The LBHF Climate Change Unit arranged a Staff Climate Summit in June 2020 which gave the Commission the opportunity to give a presentation and discuss the climate emergency with over 130 officers.

There appears to be near unanimous agreement that the situation is very serious, and that urgent action needs to be taken to reduce our carbon emissions and mitigate against the worst effects of climate change.

There are a number of emerging positive policy initiatives that are beginning to gain momentum, including for example: making better use of the Social Value Act, more electric vehicle charging points, walls that are designed to absorb carbon, and greater support for cycling and walking to reduce the need to travel by car.

Individual officers frequently described how their individual ability to act and implement more radical policies are restricted by existing rules. Staff asked for more guidance from their managers to help them shift their focus. National regulations, budget constraints and legal frameworks limit their ability to make changes they feel are now needed.

There appears to be little existing knowledge amongst the staff about the true scale of the problem and the impact that very high levels of carbon in the atmosphere is having on the well-being of our community and our natural environment.

Observations on the current situation

The policy initiatives currently being proposed do not seem to reflect the scale of the problem. Several policy ideas are coming forward which might make a positive difference to carbon emissions, but they are not evaluated against the amount of carbon they will save, or measured against their impact on the central aim to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. Nor is there any measure for the existing level of biodiversity that is now required to determine if we are actually protecting nature and improving our biodiversity.

Financial considerations and legal requirements (including health and safety laws) currently take priority over environmental benefits. Ideas such as guaranteeing that the new Town Hall will be built to zero-carbon standards are rejected on the grounds that they are unaffordable, and yet there is no measure for the amount of damage that is being done to the environment by continuing to emit carbon into the atmosphere or the co-benefits of this investment.

It is great to see that as individuals all the officers and councilors that we met are supportive of taking radical action to reduce our carbon emissions. But the organisation as a whole does not reflect this energy. There is therefore a need to capture this enthusiasm and embed a culture of change that places reducing carbon emissions at the same level of priority given to financial and legal values.

There is a growing recognition that responding to the climate and ecological emergency is a shared responsibility that needs action from all departments and should not be assigned to the department for the environment. It is encouraging that Stephen Cowan as the Leader of the Council has accepted the role of Cabinet Member for the Climate and Ecological Emergency, placing this at the centre of cabinet decision making across all cabinet responsibilities.

What needs to change?

Training and educating all council staff, councillors, leaders and agents about carbon emissions is essential. The scale of the problem and the impact it is having on the health and well-being of Hammersmith & Fulham residents needs to be understood and a comprehensive programme of training should be delivered across all departments. Staff need to be better informed so that they become 'Carbon Literate' and learn to evaluate the carbon emissions that result from all activities.

The assessment of the existing carbon emissions and quality of our biodiversity needs to be measured to provide a base line against which the success of future policies can be measured. Other evaluation tools should also be considered that measure social and environmental impacts of our policies and actions and further ideas on this can be found in the Leadership section.

A Road Map needs to be developed that demonstrates how the Council can reduce its carbon emissions over a period of 10 years, across all departments. The base line measure of carbon emissions and biodiversity should be used within the Road Map to demonstrated yearly targets for emissions reductions.

Staff need support from the Senior Leadership Team and Cabinet to give them more confidence to be able to take action to radically reduce carbon emissions. The constitution, vision and values need to be reviewed in order to provide staff with the tools required to deliver change.

References

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¹⁰ https://carbonliteracv.com/

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

1.3 CEEC Engagement

Finding headline

CEEC is working with residents

Existing context

The CEEC is made up of 12 local residents who have given their time voluntarily to help the Council consider the future of our environment from the perspective of people of live and work in the Borough. The Council believes in 'Doing things with residents, not to them'. This philosophy is there to enhance civic life by empowering residents to change their own neighbourhoods for the better.

As part of our work the Commission is listening to residents and engaging with the public to get a better understanding of how aware people in the Borough are about the Climate and Ecological Emergency and what can be done about it.

In February 2020, we partnered with LBHF and Lyric Studios¹¹ to host an event at the Lyric Studios to engage with local residents and ask 'How the climate crisis affects me'. The event was used to build awareness of the nature of the emergency, and to start building an evidence base of residents' appetite for change. The event also provided an opportunity for the Commission to gather ideas for actions that residents feel the Council and the Commission should be considering in their work towards achieving net zero-carbon emissions by 2030.



Fehinti Balogun speaking at the Lyric Engagement Event Feb 2020 Hosted by CEEC in partnership with Lyric Theatre

We have also partnered with a number of local groups to set up #Imagine2030, a platform through which we can all get together to imagine what Hammersmith & Fulham would be like if we were living in a society that emitted net zero carbon. The Imagine 2030 website¹² started by providing links to a free showing of the film 2040¹³; and it will continue be built through dialogue with anyone who wants to take part and will be supported by social media of all kinds to reach out to as many people as possible.

We also called for evidence using Commonplace Tools to allow borough residents to submit answers to a series of questions to help the Commission understand what their main concerns are and where our priorities lie. The results of the survey, currently being analysed and written up, will help the Commission to direct the Council towards those areas of work that are most important to local residents.

Observations on the current situation

The CEEC Engagement Event at the Lyric in February 2020 provided more than 100 ideas and proposals that we can use to support our work. A full report on the outcomes of the event can be found here14 and shows the wide variety of concerns and how the climate emergency touches every part of our lives.

Using data from this event the Commission decided to structure our work across eight topic areas as it was clear that adapting to the effects of the climate emergency is not just an issue that belongs to the department for the environment alone.

In order to reduce our carbon emissions to zero we must examine how we have come to demand so much from our natural resources in order to produce the products that we consume, and then waste, without regard to the consequences of our actions. People came forward with an extraordinarily wide range of ideas from setting up a locally managed mutual bank to ensure that investment in our local community stays within the community, to setting up a community compost facility at the end of every street. Promoting walking and cycling to reduce dependency on cars, planting lots of trees, and making use of heat generated from the underground system to power our homes were a few of the other suggestions that would not only help reduce our carbon emissions, but also benefit the health and wellbeing of our community.

So far we have found that there is no shortage of ideas, and we must do much more to listen to residents, people who work in the Borough and visitors coming to enjoy just being here, to find out what needs to be done. But we have also found that not everyone is aware of the dangers that lie ahead with regard to the effects of global warming.

What needs to change?

Residents must be given greater opportunity to share ideas about how we can reduce our emissions and increase opportunities for nature to thrive. They must also be given more information about current carbon emissions and the impact this is having on our climate and on our health.

The local authority must start measuring the amount of carbon we emit from each of our activities and share this information so that people can be better informed and respond by taking actions that have the greatest benefits.

The CEEC believes #Imagine2030 gives us an amazing opportunity to provide people with information and some of the tools we all need to respond to the climate emergency. We will be seeking partnerships with LBHF, local BIDs (Business Improvement Districts), the LBHF Climate Alliance, Greenpeace, Extinction Rebellion, Friends of the Earth, Quakers and other groups that are committed to reducing our carbon emissions.

We would encourage LBHF to commit to establish a community map that shows what is happening across our Borough. We have already engaged with Mapping for Change which would provide a tool for local individuals and groups to add information about the good things that are already happening in the Borough and highlight areas that need attention. We would recommend that LBHF appoint

Mapping for Change or a similar community mapping tool to enable residents to take part in sharing information continuously so that we get a picture of what is happening in our community.

During the next phase of our work the CEEC would like to explore how residents can have a greater say in future policy making decisions. We will be considering new ideas such as setting up a Citizens Assembly so that recommendations can be made without being constrained by external interests and can provide long term solutions that go beyond political cycles.

We will also be working with LBHF to explore the potential to establish a local physical space where residents can support a Library of Things and/or a Think and Do space that would help anyone who wants to become more actively engaged in reducing our carbon emissions with opportunities for borrowing, sharing, re-using and repairing.

References

11

https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/sites/default/files/section attachments/ceec engagement event lyric report 200225.pdf 12 https://www.imagine2030.earth/

14

https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/sites/default/files/section attachments/ceec engagement event lyric report 200225.pdf

¹³ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-rTQ443akE

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

< 1.4 Education

Finding headline

Ensuring that our children and young people are at the heart of all H&F does in respect of addressing the climate emergency is vital: it is their future that will be most affected by decisions taken today

Summary of proposed actions

- Our children must receive age-appropriate education about the climate and ecological crisis, embedded across the entire curriculum rather than added in as an extra, discrete subject.
- Harness the influence and contribution of the youth sector; engage and consult with young
 people before making key decisions that will affect them. Inspired young people will be powerful
 advocates for change.
- The Borough should plan for local apprenticeships and opportunities for school leavers to help expand the green economy and contribute to local sustainable development.
- The Council needs to develop a fully worked up plan for retrofitting the school estate to achieve net zero by 2030.

Existing context

The Borough currently has 12 community primary schools, 14 voluntary aided primary schools, 13 primary academies and free schools, 7 special needs schools and 13 secondary schools (excludes private schools).

The Council has plans to set up a charity with the vision of: Toward a Zero-Carbon Community, Reduce What You Can, Offset What You Can't and three key themes: Reduce; Recycle; Restore and Offset.

The Council aims to raise the profile of its Climate Change Education at a global level. Examples include: delegation of headteachers participated at the "Dubai Climate Conference - "Climate defenders" (November 2019); invitation extended to Council Leader Stephen Cowan to COP25¹⁵ (Madrid November 2019); H&F schools to represent the UK education sector at rescheduled COP26 (tbc); H&F schools to represent the UK education sector at Dubai Expo 2021 (tbc); contribute papers to UNESCO Climate Conference 2021.

Miles Coverdale and Fulham Academy Trust each have two accredited 'UN eduCCate Global' teachers. Recently, all of the Borough's primary schools were given a briefing by eduCCate Global and it is hoped that more will sign up. Up to £5,000 per school is available for signatory schools.

There is some good practice going on within the Borough; for example, the Fulham College Trust has developed a cluster and attracted some funding from the British Council to work with schools in Uganda and share approaches to conservation and climate education. However, much remains to be done to engage schools more widely across the Borough.

Observations on current situation

The Council is sending Climate Change Education Guide packs to all schools (November 2020). This is to be followed up by meetings with the schools to present the Guide and discuss ways they can integrate climate education within their curriculum planning.

<u>Urbanwise</u> London¹⁶ works with schools across West London, including in Hammersmith & Fulham where it is based, to provide education sessions based on the local area and linked with climate education and issues concerned with pollution and sustainability. One of their projects, the Mudlarks Project¹⁷, established in 2019, is being relaunched with a specific focus on the recovery of nature and the recovery of our school communities.

The Healthy Pupil Capital Fund (HPCF) offers approximately £4,000 per school to support them in adapting their learning environments to be eco-friendlier, and commits schools to rolling out the Climate Change Accreditation programme. Funding will enable schools to invest in capital assets to improve their infrastructures and schools' practices around climate change action. The project is due to run from September 2020 to May 2021 and participating schools will be asked to deliver local eco-projects focusing on five key areas. A toolkit is currently being developed and further activities will take place once extra funding has been secured via the Net Zero Innovation Programme (funded by LGA and UCL). The eduCCate Global¹⁸ programme, has been promoted amongst other options such as developing school gardens, buying a waste composter and recycling, developing Forest Schools and improving school grounds to promote outdoor learning. The Council will be co-ordinating a support group to monitor and share school activities.

The Council supported the Youth Climate Summit 2020¹⁹ which ran from 9-13 November, involving schools from across the UK in a virtual festival of themed discussions and activities focusing on protecting the planet and creating a more just and sustainable world.

Ashden²⁰ 'Less CO2' & 'Net Zero' programmes: Less CO2 is a programme helping schools reduce their carbon footprint and save money along the way. The Ashden campaigns have been included in the Climate Education Guide for all H&F primary schools, and there is an aspiration for a cluster to be formed.

Salix Finance²¹ provides Government funding to the public sector to improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions and lower energy bills. A number of H&F schools have been identified as meeting the stringent criteria and a draft paper has been written to support governance to accelerate the programme.

The Council has no ring-fenced funding for climate education but is applying for grants and hopes to attract future S106 funding to help co-ordinate climate education.

What needs to change

It is vital to educate and enthuse young people about climate action, and prepare them for the green economy. We need to see the Council's laudable aims translate into more action on the ground.

Introduce small-scale gardens in schools to enable children to learn about preparing fresh food and eating seasonally.

School meals should include meat-free days. Engage with schools to ensure meals are delivered in accordance with the official Eatwell Guide and the majority of options on menus are healthy and plant-based. Children must be taught about how to maintain healthy eating and lower carbon diets throughout their lives.

Schools should provide education on low carbon lifestyles more generally.

School land, open space, play space and green areas must not be lost. Green school roofs or installation of solar PV should be considered (roofs should not be used as places to relocate play space).

Encourage partnerships across different schools (eg primary/secondary, state/independent) to facilitate the sharing of good practice.

Harness the influence and contribution of the youth sector. The Council should increase engagement with young people, listen to their views and consult them before making key decisions that will affect them. Inspired young people will feed the message back to their families and be powerful advocates for change.

Ensure safe access and local routes to all schools and colleges, fostering opportunities for children to walk or cycle to school independently from an early age.

Review air quality at all school sites and take appropriate action to reduce pollution (eg via traffic management, planting).

Work in partnership with teachers' organization's (eg trade unions), governors, parents and childminders to support climate and ecological initiatives in all borough nurseries, schools, colleges and other children's services.

Broaden the focus from schools: education runs from childminders and nurseries through to schools to colleges (all regulated by OFSTED). In addition, developing apprenticeships and other opportunities²² for school leavers to help expand the green economy would help to contribute to local sustainable development.

The Council's communications must be improved; we are told that messages on climate change initiatives are not getting through to young people - even the most engaged ones.

Ensure proper incentives for teachers to get UN eduCCate Global²³ accreditation, such as making it part of CPD.

The Council needs to accelerate work to retrofit the school estate to achieve net zero by 2030. It is encouraging that a number of H&F schools have been identified as meeting the Salix Funding criteria; a fully worked up plan to implement and fund this important work stream as soon as possible is vital.

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LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

Suilding Knowledge at a Local Level

By building knowledge at a local level LBHF will help support all the residents of Hammersmith & Fulham to act on the climate and ecological emergency. Knowledge will provide the tools to help both residents and the Council to understand the changes that are going to be needed to build a new zero-carbon society that is full of nature.

In order to explore the wide variety of activities that emit carbon across the borough, we have divided our report into eight knowledge topics. We have provided details of our findings and give an indication of the actions that we think H&F Council will need to take under the following headings:

2.1 Built Infrastructure
2.2 Transport
2.3 Ecology
2.4 Energy
2.5 Waste
2.6 Finance
2.7 Food
2.8 Health

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

2.1 Built Infrastructure

Finding headline

All new and existing buildings must be zero carbon by 2030

Summary of proposed actions

- Update Local Plan to set a standard of zero carbon for all developments.
- Lobby Government to ensure Building Regulations require zero-carbon standards.
- Prioritise retention and re-use of existing buildings to protect their embodied carbon.
- Make sure that the purpose of development improves the wealth of the community.
- Use open land to enhance biodiversity and help us to adapt to climate change.
- Set new design standards for adaptation to mitigate for the effects of climate change.
- Invest in retrofitting and adapting all existing buildings to meet zero-carbon standards.

"Free up planning restrictions to convert commercial to residential properties. Build more social homes. Covid has taught us poor and insufficient housing is a real problem. This is the priority." Commonplace Consultation Oct 2020

Existing context

The LBHF Local Plan²⁴ published February 2018 is aligned with LBHF's Industrial Strategy 'Economic Growth for Everyone' July 2017²⁵ and highlights the Council's commitment to making Hammersmith & Fulham the greenest and most environmentally positive borough in the UK. The Local Plan Policy CC1 requires all major developments to implement energy conservation measures. The Local Plan also makes reference to moving towards transport that has low/zero-carbon emissions and encourages the use of low and zero-carbon technologies.

The Local Plan makes reference to the London Plan 2016²⁶ which sets out additional standards and directs LBHF to deliver 1031 additional dwellings per year every year to 2035. The London Plan 2016 also required that all residential buildings should be designed to zero-carbon standards from 2016 and that all non-domestic buildings should follow the Building Regulations.

LBHF is also obliged to comply with national construction standards as provided for in the UK Building Regulations. The current Part L of the Building Regulations (2013)²⁷ provides guidance on the energy performance of buildings and details a Target Emission Rate (TER) that generally achieves a 6% reduction in emissions. New Part L Building Regulations have been drafted by the government and are currently out for consultation and proposes a TER that would achieve a 31% reduction in operational carbon emissions.

There are approximately 85,000 dwellings, 60 schools, two main hospitals, three football stadiums, one prison, 12,000 businesses and a large variety of retail, leisure and entertainment venues²⁸. We have not identified any buildings that currently conform to zero-carbon standards (though the new Quaker Meeting House²⁹ meets Passive House standards). LBHF actively encourages investment in our built infrastructure through both directly funded projects and through incentives that are established by partnerships, grants and regulations that invite investment in the borough.

Observations on the current situation

The LBHF Local Plan does not currently include a requirement for all new or existing buildings to reduce their emissions to zero. Developers and investors will use the standards set out in the Local Plan, London Plan, Building Regulations and supporting reports to assess the viability of their proposals and they will be unlikely to want to improve on these standards if this leads to additional costs that will make their development uncompetitive.

The carbon emissions generated by all new developments including the new civic campus and the developments promoted by the industrial strategy will be determined by the standards set out in the Building Regulations and Local Plan and they will therefore not be built to zero-carbon standards. The embodied carbon used in the construction of these buildings will not have been taken into consideration. These buildings will still be in use by 2030 and in order for LBHF to reduce its carbon emissions to zero by then, they will need to be retrofitted almost immediately upon completion to improve their performance accordingly.

The proposed new Building Regulations 2020 currently under consultation are not sufficiently ambitious and will not support the LBHF target of net zero by 2030 as disclosed by the London Energy Transformation Initiative (LETI)³⁰. They do not require a reduction to zero emissions and rely heavily on the use of technology to provide carbon reduction solutions, without assessing the embodied carbon used in the production of these technologies. Furthermore, they will restrict LBHF's ability to independently impose higher standards on any future development within the Borough.

The current and draft regulations only focus on operational carbon and the value of the embodied carbon wasted in the demolition of existing buildings; construction of new buildings and the manufacture and transportation of new technologies is not currently regulated. The embodied carbon associated with the manufacture and supply of materials and equipment can be as much as 50% of the total emissions of a building over its lifetime³¹.

Other than responding to flood events, there is little mention in the policies and regulations of the need to adapt our built infrastructure to mitigate against the effects of climate change that are already inevitable. Heatwaves now occur regularly and are predictable. Dwellings that do not have solar shading or natural cooling can cause serious health problems for their residents. The existing building stock is responsible for over 40% of the Borough's carbon emissions and may not continue to be fit for purpose as the effects of climate change impact on their ability to keep us safe from the impacts of over-heating, flooding, heavy rain and other extreme weather events.

What needs to change?

The Council's aspiration to be the greenest borough in the UK needs to be updated to reflect the Council's commitment to reducing its carbon emissions to zero by 2030 across the whole Borough, and to increasing our biodiversity.

The Council must lobby Government during the consultation period to improve on the proposed new Part L of the Building Regulations so that they allow LBHF to act on their commitment.

The Local Plan should be updated to require that all new and existing buildings are built or retrofitted to zero-carbon standards so that all buildings still in use in 2030 do not emit any further carbon. Guidance on how this can be achieved is provided by the UK Green Building Council³².

Open land should be valued for the opportunities that it might provide to support our need to adapt to the effects of climate change and enhance biodiversity. Opportunities to allow nature to flourish, mitigate rainwater runoff or generate local carbon-free energy supplies for example, should be prioritised before open land is offered for new development and built on.

Developers should be required to measure the carbon emissions created as a result of a proposed

development, both during the construction process and as the future carbon that will be emitted by the building in use. Embodied carbon in all the materials and equipment used should also be accounted for, including the embodied carbon of any existing buildings demolished.

Priority should be given to retain and reuse existing buildings and structures rather than demolish and emit all the embodied carbon that was used in their construction. For example, existing redundant office space could be converted to residential or other uses to retain their embodied carbon instead of building new carbon intensive housing.

Establish a major investment programme to retrofit and adapt existing buildings to prepare them for climate change and to reduce their carbon emissions to zero. This programme of investment would also create opportunities to train young people and create employment for local residents (see 2.6 Finance).

The purpose of any development should be defined to make sure that it benefits the community, before any loss of open space or loss of embodied carbon is permitted. Developments should be profitable, but they should also improve the well-being and wealth of residents. Any investments in the Borough that extract wealth from our community should be rejected. Funding for developments that are sourced from the proceeds of fossil fuel extraction and other systems that do damage to our ecosystems should not be supported.

Opportunities to deliver carbon positive solutions through our built infrastructure should be identified and developed. Built infrastructure may be able to provide support to other sectors that are not able to reach net zero without the need for offsetting. Carbon positive developments may provide some of the carbon offsetting that will need to be achieved within our borough in order to reach net zero.

All buildings, and in particular housing, should be designed or adapted to prepare for the effects of climate change without the need for carbon emitting technology. For example, housing should be designed with the potential for natural cross ventilation and solar shading to help cool dwellings during a heat wave.

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LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

2.2 Transport

Finding headline

Re-imagining transport in Hammersmith & Fulham

Summary of proposed actions

Our vision is that residents and visitors to the Borough take pleasure in travelling by foot, bicycle and new generation public transport, along safe, healthy and green streets. The few remaining vehicles are clean and zero carbon, and residents make sustainable choices for travelling beyond the Borough. We want to see the Council do the following:

- Ensure that mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change is a priority in all transport-related council policies and decisions.
- Deliver a clear and consistent communications strategy for explaining the relationship between vehicle use, air quality, health and well-being, and why local measures to reduce local and through traffic are urgent and essential.
- Commit to investment in infrastructure which prioritises people who are walking or cycling, and those using public, community and green modes of transport.
- Substantially reduce the amount of land devoted to private vehicles, driving and parking in order to create green and accessible outdoor public spaces throughout the Borough to be enjoyed by all residents. Space released in this way can then be used for recreation, growing and gardening, to make space for nature, to provide shade and to reduce flooding
- Move rapidly to ensure the council and sub-contractor fleet is low or zero carbon, encourage
 active travel by council employees, and do everything possible to help local residents, businesses
 and institutions to do the same thing.

"It would be a terrible waste if people just put their bikes in the garage because they feel the roads have become unsafe again." Commonplace Consultation Oct 2020

Existing context

Transport (excluding aviation) is a major source of carbon emissions in the Borough (around 20%), while also being the major cause of urban air pollution. CO2 emissions, particulate matter and noise all have a detrimental effect on local residents and visitors, as well as wildlife populations.

For decades now, street space has generally been allocated in favour of cars and other traffic, to the detriment of walking and cycling. This becomes especially problematic when social distancing measures have to be upheld.

It is estimated that 85% of all road traffic in the Borough is simply through traffic, with the remaining 15% split between destination traffic (eg deliveries, visitors) and resident-generated traffic.

CEEC have been working with the Council to look at best practice from around the world and support LBHF in discussions on project feasibility. We anticipate that the solutions will include the use of new technologies to manage capacity and control access in certain situations.

Observations on the current situation

If we are to avoid the worst effects of climate change and the loss of nature, we will need to rethink how people move around and through the Borough. Specifically, we should be looking forward to behaviours that significantly reduce the number of vehicle trips on our roads.

There is huge opportunity to achieve the co-benefits of traffic reduction with improvements in health and well-being, for example through better air quality and healthier, more active life styles. We understand that Hammersmith & Fulham are currently developing borough-wide plans to address these issues.

As a temporary response to COVID-19 and the need to maintain social distancing, some new cycle ways have been set up; these need to be improved, extended, made permanent and supported by a clear communications strategy to encourage active travel. However, the lack of funding (made worse by the pandemic's drastic impact on TfL budgets) is a major constraint currently.

The pandemic has also had the effect of flattening the rush-hour peaks, which helps in terms of congestion and air quality.

We understand that plans for a number of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods across the Borough are advancing, to include more locally-based services which can be accessed by a short walk or cycle ride.

Further work is needed to understand whether neighbourhood-based schemes simply displace traffic to adjacent routes, and whether a more ambitious borough-wide or city-wide approach is therefore required. Early results however from a south Fulham / Wandsworth Bridge Road scheme are encouraging.

What needs to change?

A city that is designed first and foremost around the needs of pedestrians and cyclists is a quieter, cleaner and more liveable city, with a greatly reduced carbon footprint, fewer deaths resulting from urban air pollution, and the opportunity to encourage back larger populations of wildlife. Recent examples from Barcelona, Milan and Birmingham show the levels of ambition that are currently possible.

We would like to see the Council commit to transport initiatives which will combat climate change, encourage the re-establishment and protection of nature, and improve residents' health and well-being. One immediate and pressing example relates to the current closure of Hammersmith Bridge where LBHF has an important opportunity to signal a change in direction on transport infrastructure provision, consider how it could be repaired sustainably within 2030 net zero constraints, and most importantly re-imagine how the Bridge is used in the future. Other practical initiatives include the following:

- 1. Communicate to residents the link between traffic reduction on our streets to climate change, ecology and air quality.
- 2. Encourage a major shift to active travel by making cycling and walking easier, starting with a Council-led campaign to encourage residents and businesses to reduce vehicle usage.
- 3. Ensure low-carbon and affordable public transport reaches all residents.
- 4. Incentivise cleaner, shared-use vehicles.
- 5. Disincentivise private vehicle use and ownership.
- 6. Ensure highway infrastructure investment serves net zero objectives and increase allocation of space for walking, cycling and biodiversity.
- 7. Further develop and evaluate Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, ensuring a phased approach that retains local resident support.
- 8. Re-allocate space (including kerbside parking space) for active travel and nature (eg bike lanes and bike storage) and nature (encouraging biodiversity and creating carbon sinks) while also improving urban drainage and reducing flood risk.
- 9. To encourage the enhancement and promotion of nature with tree planting and community-managed green space.

- 10. Scale up the use of camera-enabled traffic management systems and air quality monitors.
- 11. Make EV charging points widely available and affordable (and integrate with energy management systems in homes / buildings).
- 12. Develop a network of freight hubs using cargo bikes for 'last mile' delivery.
- 13. Invest in green streetscapes / parklets / sitting areas to relieve pressure on local parks and improve air quality.
- 14. Reduce petrol and diesel car journeys to as close to zero as possible on all H&F controlled roads.
- 15. Electrify the Council's vehicle fleet and encourage active travel wherever possible.
- 16. Reduce the number of flights our residents and businesses take.
- 17. Review the system of parking permits (including emissions-based parking schemes).
- 18. Engage with schools to encourage active travel plans and educational support.
- 19. Encourage the development of a '20 minute Borough', where residents can access all the services they need within a twenty minute walk or cycle ride.
- 20. Work with neighbouring boroughs to harmonise local schemes for the wider community, wherever possible (eg ensuring that cycle lanes don't just stop on borough boundaries).

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LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

2.3 Ecology

Finding headline

Our vision is that Hammersmith & Fulham will be visibly greener, and people of all ages will appreciate and understand the need to nurture all forms of life.

Summary of proposed actions

- All green areas in our borough will be managed to ensure that they contribute to minimising the impacts of climate change.
- Rooftop gardens help to reduce heat island impacts³³, as well as being valuable for greening, for bees and for food production; all commercial and public buildings with large flat roof areas will be reviewed for suitability for such gardens.
- Parks and gardens have obvious potential for adaptation: creating water reservoirs will help with surface drainage during extreme rainfall, and preserve water for periods of high temperatures and water scarcity.
- Every potentially green space will be used to support and encourage wildlife, creating green
 corridors and having more trees, green spaces and parklets. Reducing the amount of tarmac and
 paving helps to restore biodiversity, and we will see more birds and bats, bees, butterflies and
 other insects and invertebrates.

"Support all our green spaces, encourage greening of tarmacked and other hard surfaces, never reduce open space in its own Council projects, such as school rebuilding, or allow others to do so." Commonplace Consultation Oct 2020

Existing context

The impact of climate change is already apparent in our urban environment, with hotter summers and wetter winters becoming increasingly common. The natural environment provides one of the most important carbon sinks available to us and we must make the best use of the land we have to mitigate against the worst impacts of global warming.

Observations on the current situation

Several other Resident-led Commissions have worked on areas which overlap with the Climate and Ecological Emergency remit, particularly with regard to Ecology. The Biodiversity Commission (2018) and the Air Quality Commission (2016) made a number of recommendations, some of which have not yet been implemented, and should be. The Cycling and Walking Commission and the Parks Commission were both established in 2020 and it is likely that their recommendations will also cover relevant issues.

The introduction of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods is to be welcomed, and will provide opportunities for making our streets greener.

Nature-based solutions³⁴ to the challenges of our changing climate are already being implemented locally. For example, sustainable drainage measures (SuDS) have been installed in some parks/streets in the Borough, for flood mitigation and to provide green havens where previously there was tarmac; these are welcome and we would like to see more of them.

We have many parks and green spaces in the Borough, as well as Wormwood Scrubs, which are great assets and must be protected.

What needs to change

Inspiration and education

Appointment of an inspiring ecology officer who also helps co-ordinate volunteers. Set up an ecology centre. Reinstate annual Greenfest. More signage in public spaces to increase awareness of biodiversity. Encouraging people of all ages to plant fruit trees and vegetables and to volunteer with planting in public spaces will help prevent nature deficit disorder.

Protect existing trees and green spaces

Avoid removing healthy mature trees as this releases carbon back into the atmosphere. Protect all existing parks and green spaces, allotments, cemeteries, community gardens and wilder spaces such as Wormwood Scrubs. Discourage building in private gardens.

Create more green spaces

Low traffic neighbourhoods will involve closing roads and removing tarmac to allow more green spaces. More SUDS and roads closed outside schools. Remove unnecessary tarmac, eg on Eel Brook Common. Identify more spaces for planting, like bus stops, tube stations and railway bridges. Encourage the creation of roof gardens; every new public building should have a low-maintenance green roof. Aim to double the number of street trees. Find suitable spaces and plant up to ten "tiny forests" within the next 5 years.

Gardens – grey to green

Increased awareness through a Council campaign will lead to more people greening their gardens and providing more habitats for wildlife, which will help to provide green corridors. Ban the use of Astroturf to replace grass in private gardens.

Role of park workers

Liaise with the Parks Commission and ensure the new contract in 2022 provides for training local young people to enable them to become knowledgeable park workers who understand biodiversity and are invested in the local area. Split the parks and open spaces contract into small local contracts or bring them in-house to help build wealth within our community by retaining the benefits of the investment in our Borough.

Planting for pollinators

Bearing in mind that bees and other pollinators are vital to our food supply, encourage more areas of long grass, nectar-rich flowers and fruit trees everywhere, including in school grounds, and housing estates, providing explanatory signage for the public. The Council should launch a campaign each Spring to encourage planting in gardens with bees and other pollinators in mind.

Plant native

Because our native insects and invertebrates are adapted to native species, this must be the guiding principle for planting trees, shrubs, hedges, and wildflowers; it should also be stressed when encouraging people to green gardens and support local wildlife and ecology.

Adaptation to climate change

Nature-based solutions to current and imminent challenges are needed, and need to be scaled up and joined up. More green spaces and SUDS will help to prevent flooding. In view of the increasing trend of hot dry summers, rainwater butts should be installed in parks and housing estates and assistance provided with installing them in private gardens. Encourage residents to take care of their local green spaces and trees when hot and dry. Roof gardens and many more trees will help to prevent the heat island effect.

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LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

2.4 Energy

Finding headline

Energy efficiency must be increased by *powering-down* demand, while simultaneously *powering-up* renewable generation to ensure all energy needs are met by renewable sources.

Summary of proposed actions

The council must mastermind an energy transition across the Borough:

- Reduce energy waste through a borough-wide retrofit programme, eliminating leaky buildings.
- Ditch fossil fuels, switching to highly efficient heat pumps and solar thermal water heating.
- Develop highly efficient district heat schemes.
- Grow a skilled local retrofit workforce.
- Increase local renewable electricity generation, through rooftop solar PV.

H&F's ambitious 2030 target is considerably earlier than the national timeline to 2050; creativity, ingenuity and leadership will be required to work around and alongside this.

The majority of this will need to be accomplished using levers of influence rather than direct control:

- Resident engagement & communication.
- Planning regulation.
- Business & Council tax relief for pro-environmental measures.
- Lobby government for increased ambition in national regulation and increased local control.

"Fund and initiate mass retrofit/renovation of existing buildings to near zero carbon standards, starting with social housing and schools." Commonplace Consultation Oct 2020

Existing context

Residential and commercial energy use each account for approximately 40% of greenhouse gas emissions in LBHF (<u>LEGGI</u>). Data from <u>BEIS</u> shows that approximately 30% of these emissions from homes are from electricity consumption (eg lighting, appliances) and 70% from gas (predominantly heating and hot water). For the commercial sector this is roughly reversed, with approximately 60% of emissions from electricity (lighting, telecoms & computing, air conditioning) and 40% from gas & oil (again predominantly heating).

In 2017 LBHF used 2,500 GWh equivalent of energy from the National Grid (950 GWh of electricity, 1500 GWh equivalent of Gas; BEIS).

Almost all of the electric energy used in LBHF is supplied by the National Grid - there are currently only about 200 active renewable generating sites in the Borough (all small-scale solar PV), with a combined total capacity of just 0.7MW (BEIS).

LBHF is a densely populated borough (population 185,000), home to a wide variety of businesses of all sizes. Housing is predominantly privately owned, privately rented or publicly owned. Commercial property is primarily office and retail space.

Observations on the current situation

Energy from the National Grid is not carbon-free, with just one third of National Grid Electricity generated from renewable sources. This is increasing as coal is phased out, but the grid is not expected to reach net zero grid until well after 2030 (BEIS, 2018). Technologies for generating renewable electricity locally are well established and cost-effective, but are currently hardly utilised in LBHF.

The timeframe for decarbonising National Grid Gas is even more uncertain, but is far less ambitious than LBHF's 2030 target for decarbonisation. National-level schemes to develop bio-gas and green hydrogen are embryonic, and unlikely to have any significant impact on local emissions in the required time frame.

Large amounts of energy are wasted heating poorly insulated buildings and running inefficient appliances. BEIS have shown that average fuel costs for heating the least efficient domestic properties are three times higher than costs for the most efficient properties. Over half of buildings in LBHF have an EPC rating below C (BBC data), with only 42 properties currently rated at the highest grade A. This demonstrates that improving the energy efficiency of buildings across the Borough would hugely decrease total energy demand and therefore reduce emissions.

Wasting energy benefits no one in LBHF, but disproportionately disadvantages the fuel-poor. Reducing wasted energy reduces the cost to consumers, and therefore presents an unmissable opportunity to benefit everyone. Improved energy efficiency means improved energy resiliency across the borough, and simultaneously tackles fuel poverty and improves public health.

LBHF's strategies for energy supply systems, energy use and energy efficiency are laid out in the Local Plan. However, these local policies are generally determined by national regulations as set out by building regulations. For example, LBHF's Local Plan makes reference to minimising energy use, energy conservation and efficiency, but improvements to energy efficiency in private sector housing will be mainly through government legislation (2.27 LBHF Local Plan).

With a wide variety of domestic and commercial building types in the Borough many different technologies, methods and finance models will be required to enact the massive retrofit programme needed to reduce wasted energy and switch away from fossil fuel based heating. Buildings within the Council's direct control form a small proportion of the Boroughs' building stock, and so it must be recognised that the Council must use its influence to encourage others to make change.

The main tool at the Council's disposal is its role in the planning process. The majority of planning law is controlled nationally, and so achieving the 2030 target will require pushing against national legislation, which lags behind the ambition we have in H&F. Ingenuity and bravery will be needed to overcome such obstacles, as well a concerted effort to lobby for more ambitious supportive national legislation.

What needs to change?

It is clear that we cannot rely on the decarbonisation of nationally supplied energy to achieve our target in LBHF so significant local action will be required. While local renewable electricity generation is vital to achieving the local net zero target, decarbonising heating presents the bigger, and perhaps more pressing, challenge, and in the end energy use will most effectively be decarbonised locally through a combination of increasing efficiency to reduce demand and increasing the use of renewable energy technologies.

Achieving the net zero target will require coordinated effort in all departments, and so it is important we highlight here the interdependence of energy policy in LBHF with planning policy and the Industrial Strategy.

The LBHF Local Plan talks about making use of low/zero-carbon technologies, but contains no suggestion that carbon emissions from energy use should be reduced to zero. The Plan's 'Spatial Vision' sets a target of 2035 for new buildings to be 'energy *and* resource efficient' (p28 Local Plan) and there is mention of decentralised energy networks throughout, but the Local Plan does not provide measurable targets in the reduction in carbon emissions from energy use. This plan will need to be updated to reflect the net zero target, and provide clarity to developers.

LBHF's current Industrial Strategy sets out a strategy to increase economic growth, but the net zero target means that such growth ambitions must now be carefully considered, and no longer be pursued *at all costs*. In fact, growth in some areas is incompatible with meaningful reductions to carbon emissions (see also pages from the Transport and Finance working groups for example). Until all energy use is 100% renewable we must strive to reduce our usage and as energy is vital for economic activity, growth *at all costs* is no longer a viable option – the benefits must *always* be weighed up against the net zero target.

Improve efficiency/use less energy35

- There are many types of building in H&F, and many approaches will need to be taken. The
 Council must indirectly encourage and facilitate investment in the retrofitting of improved energy
 efficiencies in residential and commercial buildings on an unprecedented scale.
- It is encouraging to see a national energy efficiency retrofit support scheme rolled out in late 2020, and we hope to see the Council enthusiastically signpost residents towards this scheme as well as developing bespoke local approaches. The first step the Council must take is to commission energy-efficiency surveys of their own properties, and to urgently start the required retrofit work to bring them up to a high efficiency standard. We would like to see all council-controlled buildings brought up to near net zero energy use in operation.
- Cooling will become increasingly important as the climate warms (as we have seen during the
 recent heatwave in summer 2020). Insulation retrofit schemes must be designed to keep
 buildings cool in the summer as well as warm in the winter, removing the need for energy
 intensive air conditioning.
- Areas with particularly high-density heat demand such as high-rise buildings, Charing Cross
 Hospital and large estates could utilise highly efficient District Heat Networks (DHN), and we
 expect to see demonstrator projects started as soon as possible, with borough-wide feasibility
 studies and a requirement for all new large developments to include or connect to a zero-carbon
 DHN.
- For more details on energy efficiency, insulation and the retrofit schemes required please see 2.1 Built Infrastructure. The London Energy Transformation Initiative (LETI) also provides useful guidance on how to ensure that all buildings operate at net zero by 2030.

All energy must be zero carbon

- Domestic and commercial tariffs for 100% renewable electricity are readily available at competitive rates, and the Council has set a good example by switching to such a tariff. We look forward to them following up on this lead by signposting and encouraging local residents and businesses to do the same.
- Rooftop Solar PV is barely used in the Borough, and we would like to see the Council encourage
 and facilitate a massive expansion of this-well proven, cost-effective technology. Incorporating
 battery storage into solar PV installations ensures maximum local benefit is achieved. Support for
 a borough-wide survey of suitable sites as well as signposting for domestic customers and larger
 scale demonstrator projects on council-owned buildings would all provide significant support with
 good returns on investment.

- Community-owned renewable energy schemes provide both a significant boost to local renewable generation and massive public engagement, while ensuring that financial benefits are kept local. Of particular interest is the possibility for such schemes to return investment to areas of high need, for instance in financing energy efficiency initiatives for those in fuel poverty. We would like to see the Council become a vocal supporter of such schemes, and would hope to see the development of the first local scheme as soon as possible.
- Driving down the use of gas in the Borough will come from moving to more efficient methods of heating both buildings and water. Solar thermal water heating is an established technology already in some use locally, and we expect to see considerably more installed as quickly as possible. Heat pumps³⁶ are vastly more efficient than gas central heating, and can be coupled with a renewable electricity supply for zero-carbon heating. Heat pumps are still a relatively uncommon sight in LBHF, although common in other countries. Significant council encouragement will help take-up we would like to see prominent, clear signposting for SMEs as well as homeowners and private landlords, as well as demonstrator projects with appropriate council property and social housing.
- We have mentioned several specific technologies here, and while choices must be left to individuals and business commissioning private installations the Council can provide significant support to promising technologies in a number of important ways:
 - Undertaking and publishing local surveys and feasibility studies, highlighting suitable technologies for real locations and likely return on investment.
 - Developing an easy to navigate online resource hub for private homeowners and landlords as well as local SMEs to highlight benefits of energy efficiency retrofits and potential financing models, signposting the likely impact and suitability of different technologies and interventions as well as local sources of knowledge and suppliers.
 - Using the planning and landlord-licencing systems to encourage and enforce low-leakage, highly-efficient, low-carbon buildings.
 - Leading by example, with high-profile demonstrator projects showing the co-benefits to local people and businesses and building the local demand for expertise and a skilled workforce.
- Some specific technologies³⁷ we would like to see investigated for their local suitability (including potential impacts on local biodiversity) include:
 - Electricity generation with solar PV and small-scale wind (where appropriate for an urban environment).
 - Rooftop solar thermal water heating.
 - Zero-carbon heating using Air Source Heat Pumps for smaller buildings and private homes and Ground Source Heat Pumps for larger buildings and major new developments.
 - District Heating Networks, supplied by low-carbon sources (innovative examples include using tube tunnels, sewers and parks as heat sources).

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LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

2.5 Waste and the Circular Economy

Finding headline

Prioritise and support the transition to a circular economy: reduce, reuse, recycle

Summary of proposed actions

- REDUCE: massive reduction in overall waste across the Borough.
- REUSE: make material and product reuse and repair mainstream.
- RECYCLE: adopt at least the CCC target38 of 70% domestic waste recycled by 2025.

Council's levers of change and points of influence:

- Using the Council's procurement processes to focus on waste, reuse and the circular economy at all levels of the Council's activity.
- Leading by demonstrating best practice.
- Initiating local award schemes to promote local examples of best practice.
- Explore points of contact and ways of influencing local businesses.
- Conduct a rigorous examination of existing regulations and smart use of enforcement to meet waste minimisation objectives.
- Engagement campaign to discourage excessive consumerism.

"Provide a communal sealed compost container per street which is replaced every month." Commonplace Consultation Oct 2020

Existing context

Waste from Hammersmith & Fulham as well as three other Boroughs (Kensington & Chelsea, Lambeth, Wandsworth) arrives at Western Riverside Waste Authority (WRWA) plant (operated by Cory Riverside Energy). WRMA receives 380,000 tonnes per annum of waste and recyclables from a population of approximately 986,000 people living in 407,000 households. In addition, WRWA receives 172,000 tonnes of local trade and commercial waste per annum.

Refuse waste (black bin bag waste) is incinerated at Cory's 'Energy from Waste' (EfW) facility at Belvedere, in the London Borough of Bexley. It is transported by river barge, saving approximately 100,000 heavy vehicle movements a year compared to road transport. The EfW plant is the second largest in the UK. It generates 80MW of power (6MW is used on site and the remaining 74MW is exported to the National Grid).

The leftover Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) produced at the EfW plant is taken back on Cory's barges to a processing facility at Tilbury Docks. 170,000 tonnes a year of IBA is processed for recovering metals and other construction projects.³⁹

The WRWA processes 84,000 tonnes of mixed recycled waste through the constituent councils' 'sack and bank' schemes. Once sorted they are transported to various facilities in the UK and abroad. The percentage of recycled waste has not materially increased. For example, 21.1% in 2013/14 of waste was recycled and reached 22.2% by 2018/19. Over the same period, the volume of total waste only decreased by about 3%.

Food waste is not collected currently, but a pilot scheme is now underway.

Garden waste can be dropped off at the WRWA facility. It is then transported to a number of composting facilities within or just outside the London area.

Observations on the current situation

H&F ranked the 6th best council in the country in 2018/19 for the lowest volume of annual collected waste per person at 253.7kg, but was close to the bottom of the league for the percentage (23.8%) of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting.

The most effective way to reduce emissions from waste will be to reduce the amount of waste generated. Yet there currently appear to be no policies to encourage or incentivise people to reduce the waste they generate. On the contrary, advertising encourages people to buy more new products and we are told by national and local governments that it is important to go shopping to support the retail sector and grow the economy. Products are wrapped in over-sized packaging to make them appear attractive. Food is given use-by dates that discourage people from storing food.

While the EfW facility is a modern plant it is not entirely accurate to say it generates 'green electricity'. Even the cleanest incinerator releases greenhouse gases and dangerous particulates into the air.

This is significantly preferable, however, to waste going to landfill. The waste management sector accounted for 5% of UK greenhouse gas emissions in 2018, with methane being the most prominent gas (92% of those emissions), and the vast majority is down to landfill sites.⁴¹ The capacity of landfills accepting London's waste is moreover expected to run out by 2026.⁴²

The best alternative would be to reduce, reuse and recycle our waste as consumers and producers, transitioning towards a circular economy. WRWA are currently in the process of procuring a carbon metric expert to devise a SMART carbon measurement for their operation, and to see how much greenhouse gases are produced by the constituent Councils of the WRWA. This will include plotting progress made over the last ten years. This is a positive step that will allow the Council to measure its progress.

Increasing the levels of recycling is essential but a number of structural challenges exist in the Borough. Collecting mixed recycling in clear sacks results in 14% contamination, however, separated recycling collection can be difficult to achieve efficiently. LBHF is densely populated (6th highest in the country) with 73% of residents living in flats. Collection vehicles would take longer on narrow roads to collect individual kerbside waste. London, and Hammersmith & Fulham specifically, also have a sizeable mobile population and diverse housing types and cultures (14.5% of LBHF households contain no-one who calls English their first language), which makes it difficult to educate residents about what can and cannot be recycled.

An important support in the transition to a circular economy is to standardise waste collection across the constituent Boroughs that send waste to WRWA and across London (and maybe the country). This can both save money and reduce waste by standardising the messaging on recycling. The Council have taken a step towards this by extending their procurement contract with Serco for waste collection by a year, to coincide with the end of Kensington & Chelsea's waste contract to allow for possible future joint procurement.

LBHF has started a pilot to collect food waste from 6,000 properties in late 2020, with plans to include the remaining kerbside properties by mid-2021 and estates by late 2021. Composting food waste is essential

to achieving the transition to a circular economy and reducing our waste and emissions. 30% of the contents of black bin bags is food waste which is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions.

The Council is in the early stages of procuring a contract for a Green Fleet of refuse collection vehicles. This is a positive step which the Commission supports.

It is encouraging to see a focus on repair and reuse of unwanted items through the WRWA facility. A Rework workshop exists on site where repaired and refurbished items, such as white goods, are resold. Rework in turn provides training and jobs for local people. WRWA also works with experts in reuse such as London Community Resource Network (LCRN), an umbrella body representing London charities that collect and redistribute reusable items for resale. The reuse projects help with changing residents' behaviour by providing a tangible system that will prolong the life of goods and help residents see the potential value in things they would usually throw away. This makes up however a vanishingly small percentage of the overall waste collected, and is not widely publicised. In our experience few residents know much if anything about this scheme.

The Council should be promoting and advertising these initiatives to residents. For example, currently the council encourages residents to book a reuse collection service for items in good condition, rather than booking a Council Waste collection service for disposal. It also directs residents to various charities and initiatives, like the British Heart Foundation or Salvation Army, to send items good quality recyclable waste. Overall, however, the Council does not have any policies or a communications strategy to promote and encourage these and other initiatives to increase the amount we recycle, for example share and repair cafes, or a Library of Things initiative such as the one in West Norwood. What emerges therefore are various individual but disjointed efforts. The Council should work on coordinating these initiatives into an integrated policy and communications strategy to achieve the transition to a circular economy.

What needs to change?

By 2030 we will need to have moved away from the linear system of extract-consume-dispose we are so used to in 2020 in favour of a truly circular economy. Hammersmith & Fulham has a responsibility to ensure a just transition where those most affected by this change and by the coronavirus pandemic can find employment in the transition to a circular economy.

The sharing economy will be mainstream, and the majority of our possessions will be reusable either by ourselves or, after simple local redistribution, by others. Raw materials will hold their value, so those items which are not reused will be efficiently collected for recycling. This can also create an industry for reused materials and a circular economy business. By encouraging producers to use recycled materials a business incentive is created to recycle more.

There is an opportunity to create a community spirit by connecting people together to make the most of consumer goods not often used, like for example the OLIO sharing app.⁴⁴ We want to see the Council promote the greater use of share and repair cafes and a Library of Things; in effect, an extension of the farmers' market concept. As part of creating a community hub the Council could celebrate those individuals who are particularly active in promoting waste reduction and recycling.

By 2030 we expect waste to have been significantly reduced in Hammersmith & Fulham – recycling will be increased, with valuable raw materials reclaimed for new manufacturing, and economic value and embodied carbon reclaimed through composting.

WRWA could recycle more if it had greater resources. But what is essential to achieving a circular economy is to move away from single use items, for example single use plastic packaging. The Council needs to encourage this among producers. We need to incinerate less and recycle more.

We want the Council to use their points of contact with local businesses through, for example, food hygiene inspections and premises licensing, to influence a shift towards more sustainable business practices. The Council should also review and seek out regulatory levers to enforce a shift towards lower

carbon and waste reduction by local businesses through interpretation and use of current legislation, as well as the possibility of new local legislation.

The Council needs to prioritise and support this transition to a circular economy. To achieve this, it needs to communicate an effective strategy to encourage and promote greater recycling opportunities among residents and businesses to reduce waste. It needs to coordinate the various initiatives in the Borough to raise the profile of reducing, reusing and recycling.

An essential part of this strategy is to embed circular thinking at all levels of the Council. The Council's industrial strategy needs to integrate the transition to a circular economy as one of its main priorities. In practical terms this could be through a Council procurement strategy document to promote reuse as part of the other Council's key documents or alongside them. The Council could also hire a Reuse officer to encourage reuse in the Borough, set up business initiatives and so on. Council waste contracts should include the commitment to setting up and promoting reuse initiatives.

Remember – recycling is not a solution for over-consumption.

Tackling climate change needs action right across the waste collection and disposal business to encourage reductions in consumption. We would encourage the Council to talk to the collection and disposal companies to actively engage in the Council's net zero 2030 target and help them work towards it. They need to be encouraged to recognise they have a responsibility to encourage waste reduction, reuse and recycling and act as a strong partner in community engagement, for example, advertising on collection vehicles, participation in community hubs and pop-up stores across the Borough.

To achieve net zero emissions by 2030 the Council needs to set itself a target of recycling rates it should meet. At a minimum it should aim for the national target of 70% recycling by 2030 (as recommended by the CCC in their 2019 report to Parliament). This equates to a tripling of the current recycling rate in LBHF and a Borough wide collection of food waste.

Advertising has an enormous influence over residents' consumption habits, and we would like to see the Council acknowledge this and support a move away from extractive consumerism by banning adverts for at least fossil fuel companies, the most polluting vehicles (such as diesel SUVs) and air travel from billboards it controls. We recognise that the Council has no control over many advertising sites in the Borough, but some fall under its direct control and it has considerable influence over some others, via TFL.

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LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

2.6 Finance

Finding headline

There is unavoidable tension between consumption and finite resources. The Holy Grail is a perfect circular economy where product lives are extended, more recycled materials used, and we all learn to consume less as part of a low carbon lifestyle.

Summary of proposed actions

The Council's levers of change:

- Long term financial planning is required to support the Council's plan to reach net zero by 2030.
- Reset and rewrite the Industrial Strategy to encapsulate the green economy/green recovery and broader measures of growth: well-being; financial co-benefits; sustainable growth; employ and buy local.
- Gear financial instruments (in the Council's control) to environmental/net zero objectives, for example business rates and parking charges.
- Maximise the power the Council has in its procurement to go beyond the requirements of the Social Value Act and develop a net zero based procurement strategy.

"Rethink the business model of a local authority as a largest corporate in the borough with over 180,000 stakeholders and 17,000 structural assets and use this strength to become the gateway for London to become greener by setting high standards for all movement in and out of the borough." Commonplace Consultation Oct 2020

Existing context

Hammersmith & Fulham's current economic policy is driven by its Industrial strategy document⁴⁵, which places huge emphasis on 'growth', yet barely mentions the environment: the word 'growth' appears in the document 42 times, whereas there is only one reference to the environment and green space. It should be noted that LBHF has the third lowest Council Tax in the country.

Levels of economic activity are closely correlated with emissions. Opinions are divided about the extent to which economic growth without any negative impact on the environment (decoupling) might be possible.

Decoupling is said to be relative when the growth rate of the environmentally relevant variable is positive, but less than the growth rate of the economic variable. In an ideal world, we would achieve absolute decoupling (when the environmentally relevant variable is stable or decreasing while the economic driving force is growing).

Observations on the current situation

In order to meet the Council's 2030 net zero target, huge investment will be required, new sources of funding will be required.

The benefits of investment in green solutions deliver over longer timescales than current financial models usually accept.

Alternative measures of economic wellbeing, such as The Wellbeing Economy Alliance⁴⁶, or the Doughnut Economics Model⁴⁷ aim to create an economy that delivers for people and the planet. This is a more holistic way of evaluating the success of an economy whereas GDP only captures a single issue.

Even David Attenborough now asserts that 'extractive capitalism' is unsustainable; the planet has limited resources and humanity must learn to live within those boundaries. This will require us all to rethink our attitudes to consumption.

The Council has huge power via its procurement contracts. There is currently an overwhelming focus on near-term cost when awarding contracts and the purpose of this investment is not fully understood. It is vital to take a long-term view and appreciate that investing now to save later will almost always pay off longer term.

Public land and assets are often sold off to raise funds in the short term, which is an irreversible event that undervalues the benefits the land or asset can provide to the community in the long term.

There is a huge opportunity - post COVID-19 - to re-localise supply chains, which would keep more wealth in the Borough and result in better local economic resilience.

Hammersmith and Fulham BIDs state that ensuring Hammersmith & Fulham 'is a cleaner, greener place to work, live and visit is of the upmost importance to the BID'. The BID has some excellent initiatives, such as Parcels not Pollution and Made in H&F, but they are not well publicised or utilised.

The Council has put out some messaging about buying local, but the environmental benefit to supporting local suppliers is not made explicit.

There is scope to raise council tax given the current low level.

What needs to change?

The Council needs to regard the environment as equally important as finance, legal and justice measures in its strategic decision making. All proposed policies, projects and activities must provide an assessment of the carbon emitted as a result of the proposal and demonstrate how this carbon can be eliminated.

Notwithstanding political cycles, the Council must take a long-term view when addressing the climate emergency in its finance planning, budgeting and expenditure plans: as The World Bank notes in a recent report, a continued focus on short- and medium-term targets would make achieving decarbonisation far more difficult.

The Council should adopt a "whole-of-economy" approach to decarbonisation which is broader than GDP measures and includes measures of wellbeing in the community and planetary boundaries. Look at The Wellbeing Economy Alliance or the Doughnut Economics Action Lab.

The Council's Industrial Strategy document needs to be re-written with environmental concerns at its heart - as well as a broader understanding of economic success.

The Council must identify and implement a programme of substantial 'green/sustainable growth' investment: for example, retrofitting existing housing stock would provide significant returns through lower heating costs, local employment and training, and reduced impact on the environment.

Take fully into account the Co-Benefits of a low carbon economy (such as long-term financial returns, improvements in public health, reduced NHS costs, growth in the low-carbon jobs market, reduction in poverty and inequality, closer knit community). See the work of the Grantham Institute on Co-Benefits⁴⁸.

The Council's messaging needs to become clearer and stronger on the climate emergency and how people can play their part: for example, providing more information to enable consumers to live low carbon lifestyles.

Find a way of celebrating businesses that are demonstrating environmental best practice - perhaps develop a local ranking or star system.

The Council should consider what opportunities it has to place controls and restrictions on the advertising of environmentally damaging products, label them clearly as such, and set advertising standards to prevent the promotion of carbon intensive products.

Champion and coordinate a repair and reuse culture to move away from wasteful consumption patterns. An example of innovative good practice that we have come across is a fashion app based in East London which enables people to sign up and borrow clothes from others who live locally: a creative example of a way of harnessing media and technology to change consumer behaviour and reduce the purchase of new clothes.

There needs to be a focus on Community Wealth Building⁴⁹ to ensure more local consumption of goods and services: smaller, local firms generally offer more value to the local community. Money needs to be made more 'circular' by offering more local employment opportunities and improving the well-being of residents so that wealth does not leak out of the local area.

The Council must ensure it makes the most of its procurement policies. Local/greener schemes must take priority. Fiscal savings and economic flow-through need to be factored into the picture when evaluating total procurement cost. It is vital to see the 'true cost' of goods and services, factoring in negative externalities and remembering that it will become more expensive when organisations are obliged to pay penalties for their own waste. Bottom line: sometimes 'greener' options cost more upfront, but are far more cost effective in the long-term.

LBHF Pension Fund should continue to divest from all fossil fuel companies and transition into a proactive strategy based on sustainability and impact investing.

Finding smart and environmentally targeted methods of raising funds through charging for Council services – for example emissions based parking charges, monitoring and imposing charges for idling vehicles, flexing business rates according to environmental and ecological credentials of businesses, introducing a 'green rating' element to annual licensing inspections (like hygiene ratings).

LBHF should be prominent in lobbying for changes outside local control at a national level – for example on built-in obsolescence, and supporting the CEE Bill.

Create and publish a 'green audit' of all Council services to give weight to environmental and sustainability impacts – alongside crude cost and value for money, to track improvements and success in moving towards its zero-carbon target.

Alternative sources of finance should be found by, for example, engaging local residents to invest in projects that enhance sustainability, environmental quality, green technology etc. Abundance helped Warrington Borough Council⁵⁰ do this over the summer. The project gains the dual benefits of raising funds from the community to implement it, and fosters wider engagement and awareness on environmental issues amongst local residents.

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LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission



Finding headline

Healthy diets are good for people and the planet

Summary of proposed actions

Our vision is that all residents have access to delicious, affordable and healthy food that reflects the vibrant diversity of the borough, supports local farmers, producers and retailers, reduces waste and promotes better diets. It must be produced, supplied, distributed and prepared in ways which help to reduce carbon emissions locally, nationally and internationally.

- The Council, in consultation and collaboration with private and public sector providers, community
 organisations and residents must develop and implement a sustainable borough-wide food policy.
- The Council must support local food production and markets, encourage retailers to provide seasonal produce, and implement policies which reduce food miles.
- Public procurement and community initiatives, should promote a substantial reduction in the
 consumption of meat and 'fast food', ensuring everyone living in the borough has access to
 cooking facilities and healthy foods.
- All public and commercial establishments in the Borough should be 'breast feeding friendly'.
- Food waste and packaging should be minimised, and all residents and businesses should have easy access to food waste collection and composting.

"Create a food forest in a public green space run for and by the homeless, with support from the community. With the chance to sell their surplus and of course access to a kitchen for them to cook. It's not housing but at least it's a common Space for them to give them some stability and security in their lives." Commonplace Consultation Oct 2020

Existing context

Food is central to healthy lives and to achieving zero carbon. Because of its multiple dimensions including production, distribution, consumption and waste, there is a need for a borough-wide food strategy that brings together all stakeholders: Council and other public services, community and commercial ventures, supplying food of all kinds; and not least the consumer – everyone living in, working in and visiting the Borough.

Observations on the current situation

The existing food supply chain has huge negative impacts on the climate and environment, relies on industrial agriculture that is killing our soils, destroying carbon sinks and habitats all over the world, and generates huge amounts of waste. Increased reliance on cheap, processed and animal-based food affects people's health and fosters child obesity and diabetes; it also makes people more vulnerable to a whole range of illnesses including COVID-19. Large-scale adoption of a mainly plant-based diet would make a significant contribution to reducing carbon emissions.

Public procurement of food (for example in schools, hospitals, care homes, prisons) can play a major role in promoting plant-based diets. Community gardens and other existing initiatives can help to ensure that

financial constraints do not force people to make unhealthy dietary choices. Lockdown has forced many of us to revisit our cooking skills, and community kitchens can promote healthier diets while showcasing the fantastic diversity of culinary cultures in the borough. H&F Foodbank is the busiest in London (2018 data), and during lockdown received increased support from the Council and the local community, moved to a home-delivery model, and substantially increased its reach⁵¹.

How we feed our children has a life-long impact on their health and habits. Breast milk is the most environmentally friendly food for babies, with no waste, and a zero water and carbon footprint. Six months of breast feeding saves an estimated 95-154kg co2 per baby⁵². Powdered formula milk requires water heated to 70c, an energy equivalent of charging 200 million smartphones annually, and results in enormous amounts of metal and paper packaging waste. There are many reasons why individual women might choose not to breast feed, but lack of opportunity, privacy or support should never be a factor.

What needs to change?

Changing diets requires attention to affordability, cultural and personal preferences and the influence of marketing, especially for younger consumers. Supporting changes to healthier diets that are also good for the planet entails multi-pronged initiatives that include information and education as well as creating an enabling environment that supports better choices.

The Council should develop and implement a borough-wide food policy in consultation and collaboration with private sector operators (eg wholesale suppliers, distributors, supermarkets, independent shops, farmers markets, market traders and their associations, restaurants, cafes, pubs, fast food and takeaway outlets); community organisations (eg food banks, community kitchens, allotment holders); and the public sector (eg hospitals, schools, prison, care homes); around the following key dimensions:

Food production and distribution

- 1. Support local production by preserving and expanding allotments; actively encourage rooftop and urban gardening in commercial and, where possible, residential and public buildings.
- 2. Reduce emissions from local food distribution by encouraging the use of small electric vans, cargo bikes, and other sustainable low-emission transport modes.
- 3. Encourage supermarkets and local independent retailers to provide seasonal produce, sourced as locally as possible and embodying fewer food miles.
- 4. Protect and encourage local markets and stall holders, including Shepherds Bush and North End Road Markets and other weekly and/or seasonal farmers markets.

Food provision and consumption

- 1. Use public procurement to support a substantial reduction in the consumption of meat and ultraprocessed foods.
- 2. Encourage and facilitate growing of fruit and vegetables, and food preparation and cooking, in local schools and other educational and community settings.
- 3. Support local community initiatives, including food banks, communal kitchens and other projects that pre-date or have emerged in response to COVID-19, through information, communication and shared learning.
- 4. Ensure that everyone living in hostels and temporary accommodation in the Borough has access to adequate food storage and cooking facilities.
- 5. While acknowledging that non-chain outlets are an important employer, and that fast food is sometimes seen as the most convenient and affordable food for low-income residents, the Borough must address the overwhelming availability of fast-food outlets locally, supporting those providing healthier meals and minimising packaging and other waste.

Breastfeeding

- Educate and support the community to increase breastfeeding rates using voluntary peer support
 projects, welcome schemes in local private and public establishments, and liaising with local NHS
 initiatives.
- Encourage and monitor compliance with the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes adopted by the UK Government, thus helping to eliminate misleading aggressive formula marketing.

3. Encourage all employers to provide suitable on-site arrangements for breastfeeding, pumping and storage of breastmilk, and safe facilities for the preparation of breastmilk substitutes.

Food waste

- 1. Reduce food waste from retailers by supporting local initiatives ensuring that still-safe healthy food approaching its sell-by/use-by date reaches those who need it.
- 2. Educate and inform residents on the best ways to reduce household food waste.
- 3. Establish and promote initiatives throughout the Borough, including on council and private estates, and for residents in houses of multi-occupancy, to compost and recycle inedible food waste
- 4. Support and encourage the reduction of plastic wrapping and other non-recyclable materials in food packaging.

References

⁵¹ https://hammersmithfulham.foodbank.org.uk/

⁵² https://www.imperial.ac.uk/news/193226/environmental-cost-formula-milk-needs-global/

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

2.8 Health

Finding headline

Investing in high quality health and care services which contribute to green recovery and are resilient to the impacts of climate change is essential to the well-being of all LBHF residents

Summary of proposed actions

- A green recovery plan to help to build climate resilience into our local health and social care services.
- Engage public health expertise in all areas of Council policy.

Existing context

Everywhere in the world, including right here in our own Borough, health outcomes are strongly associated with levels of deprivation and inequality of resources and opportunities. People living with chronic conditions or disabilities, as well as the very young and the very old, those living in cramped or unsuitable housing or who are financially or socially insecure, are the most vulnerable to both the immediate and longer-term impacts of climate change (London Assembly Environment Committee, 2020)⁵³.

Health is intimately related to all the other areas of life explored in this report. From making it easy for women to breastfeed their babies, to enabling children to cycle or walk to school, and breathe clean air; from ensuring homes, schools, hospitals and workplaces are safe, cool in summer and warm in winter, to nurturing our green and wild places; from reducing the carbon emitted by cars and heating systems, to safeguarding our water supplies. All these require a committed and engaged Council, a strong local public health focus, a thriving local green economy and recovery, and the enthusiastic involvement of local residents, workers and businesses.

Observations on the current situation

The Lancet's Countdown Report on Health and Climate Change (2019)⁵⁴ contrasted two pathways – one that continues with the business-as-usual response and one that limits the global average temperature rise to "well below 2°C". With the business-as-usual response it predicted that "climate change [will impact] human health from infancy and adolescence to adulthood and old age," and warned of impacts ranging from increasing food insecurity, disease transmission, air pollution and extreme weather events, to the "difficult to quantify [downstream risks] such as migration, poverty exacerbation, violent conflict, and mental illness, affect[ing] people of all ages and all nationalities." More positively, the "alternate pathway could result in cleaner air, safer cities, and more nutritious food, coupled with renewed investment in health systems and vital infrastructure. This ... would transform the health of a child born today for the better, right the way through their life."

In the UK, summers are rapidly becoming hotter and drier, and winters warmer and wetter. Key health-related findings from a Review of Climate Change Risks in London (April 2019)⁵⁵, reporting to the London Assembly, included the following:

- Two thirds of London flats could experience overheating (temp over 28°C) by 2030s
- For every 1°C increase over 20°C ambulance call outs increase by 1 per cent
- In the most vulnerable districts in London, the odds of dying from cardiorespiratory causes increased by more than 10 percent for every 1°C increase in temperature, compared with virtually no effect in the most resilient districts

It is widely acknowledged that the climate crisis and associated loss of wildlife habitats, bringing animals and humans into ever closer proximity with each other, makes it increasingly likely that new diseases will develop with the potential for pandemic spread in our super-connected world (Guardian 2020)⁵⁶.

COVID-19 has dominated our lives over the last year. Our local and national health and care services are a precious resource, with dedicated staff. This crisis has shown how dependent we are on these services, but also how fragile and under-resourced they are. The commercialisation and fragmentation of our health systems, our dependence on international supply chains for food, pharmaceuticals and medical equipment, the twin threats of antibiotic resistance and newly emerging pandemic diseases, all present substantial challenges. A strong, forward-looking public health service is absolutely fundamental in the context of forward planning for climate change, making progress toward a low carbon society, controlling the spread of infectious diseases, and adapting health and care services.

Summary of proposed actions

Commission members were reluctant to impose further demands over the past months on local public health and other health and social care professionals, officers and staff, all of whom have been on the front line of the borough's COVID-19 response. Consequently, we have not yet engaged actively with them about longer-term policies relating to the climate and ecological emergency, although we very much want to do this in the next year. We are sure that the local experience of managing the COVID-19 emergency has been invaluable, and we cannot overstate the importance of supporting a green recovery to build resilience into our health and care services for the future.

References

⁵³ https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/london_assembly_environment_committee_climate_emergency_report_final.pdf

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⁵⁴ https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)32596-6

⁵⁵ https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/climate_change_risks_for_london_-

a review of evidence under 1.5degc and different warming scenarios.pdf

⁵⁶ https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/27/halt-destruction-nature-worse-pandemics-top-scientists

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission



LBHF must embed a culture of action against carbon emissions within the Cabinet and Senior Leadership Team that is enforced across all council activities. They must provide a vision and build a new governance framework against which LBHF can determine if future policies will support our communities transition to a zero-carbon and ecologically rich society.

3.1 Leadership

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

3.1 Leadership

Finding headline

Embed a culture of urgent action across the organisation

Summary of proposed actions

- Provide a vision that helps us change to a zero-carbon society.
 By articulating the amazing quality of life that could be achieved by living in a zero-carbon, ecologically rich society, we can build an exciting and positive vision for the future that encourages positive changes in behaviour.
- 2. Measure our carbon emissions and make a plan for how to reduce them.

 The measurement of carbon emissions of any project, policy or action, must become just as important as the assessment of financial viability, legality and equality.
- 3. <u>Build knowledge at a local level so that we understand what needs to be done.</u>

 Training, education and research is urgently needed to improve our carbon literacy and our understanding of the impact that our decisions have on our environment.
- 4. Communicate this knowledge and tell the truth about the dangers that lie ahead.

 Sharing this knowledge with staff, public and visitors in an open and honest way is needed to encourage the changes in behaviour that are now required.
- 5. Build wealth within our community so that investment benefits local people.

 Direct the investment that is now needed towards our own community so that everyone is provided with the support they need to enjoy living in a zero-carbon society using Community Wealth Building⁵⁷ principles.
- Define a new framework for success 'improved well-being for everyone'.
 Establish a new framework to measure success that ensures all decisions are both ecologically safe and socially just using tools such as the Doughnut Economic Action Lab⁵⁸.
- Regenerate our natural environment so that nature's true value can be understood.
 From now on, our land must be used to help regenerate nature and enhance biodiversity as a priority. The total area of our green spaces should be increased by 50% over the next 10 years.
- 8. <u>Lead by example demonstrate what needs to be done by doing it, so that others can follow.</u> Establish a series of demonstrator projects that show by example how we can reduce our carbon emissions to zero and learn to live in a zero-carbon society.

"Encourage people to maintain 'local lives' - maintaining community spirit amongst neighbours, supporting local shops/cafes when working from home, using their local parks, working from home more." Commonplace Consultation Oct 2020

Existing context

We have found that LBHF show consistent support for robust action to reduce our carbon emissions and enhance biodiversity. The leader of the Council has demonstrated his personal commitment by confirming his central role in driving an agenda for change. This has been communicated to the Cabinet, and the Senior Leadership Team are going out of their way to respond accordingly.

LBHF are determined to become the greenest borough in the country and since declaring a Climate and Ecological Emergency we are pleased to see that the H&F Vision⁵⁹ now includes 'Rising to the Challenge of the Climate and Ecological Emergency' as it's 6th Priority.

The Climate Change Unit has been established and shows that LBHF understands that responding to the climate emergency requires actions across all departments and is not the responsibility of a single directorate within the department for the environment.

Observations on the current situation

The actions that are now required for LBHF to become the greenest borough in the country and to respond to the climate and ecological emergency represent a significant change in the way we currently do things. A number of suggested solutions have never been done before and will require a pioneering spirit of experimentation and invention before we get them right.

The implementation of new policies and projects are currently controlled by the rules set out in the constitution, which have been established to ensure consistency and fairness in decision making. The constitution also establishes a strong culture that prioritises value for money over social and environmental benefits. The Social Value Act (SVA) has recently been adopted by LBHF that allows 10% of any contract to be evaluated on SVA principles, but this is still a very small proportion of the overall investment.

The Industrial Strategy⁶⁰ calls for Economic Growth for Everyone and takes a social value approach to procurement to create opportunities for local firms. Care needs to be taken to ensure that the investment delivers on its local ambition and provides benefits to local people without damaging the environment.

The Climate Change Unit provides the structure by which action can be agreed across all departments in a co-ordinated strategy, but this must be given senior leadership level authority and the leader of the Climate Change Unit must sit at the top table with the other directors, in order to ensure that carbon reduction is given the same level of priority as financial, legal and principles of equality.

What needs to change?

LBHF needs to define a strong, positive vision for what Hammersmith & Fulham would be like if we succeeded in our ambition to reduce our emissions to zero by 2030 and made space for nature to thrive. For the scale and pace of change now required to be acceptable, a robust communications plan must be prepared that shares this vision with confidence and tells the truth about the dangers that lie ahead, whilst supporting residents with ideas and solutions that encourages positive changes in behaviour.

A period of training, research and gathering of knowledge is needed to make best use of a growing body of ideas that is emerging across the country. And this knowledge should be shared through an effective engagement strategy that helps everyone to understand why change is necessary.

We must learn how to measure our carbon emissions and understand the impact the choices we make have on our environment. The success of any policy, project or action should then be measured against its ability to reduce carbon emissions to zero within a planned timeframe. A new framework for defining success should be established using tools such as Kate Rayworth's Doughnut Economics Action Lab⁶¹ taking into account a wider range of parameters than just economic growth, to define if policies, projects and actions are actually improving the well-being of our communities.

We should aim to reduce the extraction of wealth, by making wealth more generative and environmentally nourishing, where our communities are put first and people are provided with opportunity, dignity and respect to help them to make positive choices. New procurement rules should be designed to ensure that funding is used to train and employ local young people wherever possible, and that the core purpose of any investment or project is being carried out to improve our well-being.

The value of our ecological systems must be better understood. Open space is now in very short supply and we must increase the total area of green open space by at least 50% over the next 10 years, in order to allow nature to regenerate. Trees, plants, insects and wildlife are essential for our well-being and our very survival. For example, a strategic approach that reduces the area of land used by roads and parking and increases land for plants and green space can begin to address the balance between hard surface and biodiversity.

To demonstrate their commitment to reducing our carbon emissions and regenerating nature LBHF should immediately invest in a series of demonstrator projects that would test ideas and lead by showing what a zero-carbon society might look like. Demonstrator Projects might include:

Zero-Carbon Living

Look at a council owned estate, for example the White City Estate and provide systems and services that enable the residents to live a zero-carbon lifestyle. For example; retro the fit existing housing stock, identify local energy source, establish district heating system, enhanced biodiversity, provide free public transport, provide easy access to social support, good food supplies, support for health services all within 15min of their front door.

Zero-Carbon Working

Identify a commercial environment and demonstrate how it could be built or re-furbished to provide zero-carbon working environment. For Example, the Civic Campus offices could be used as a n example that measures the embodied carbon in all new build elements, provides support and systems for 15min walk or cycle to work, zero-carbon energy source, super-fast broadband connection to home working environments etc.

Community Map that Builds Local Knowledge

Build a map of the local communities' environmental success stories. Set up an on-line community map that allows everyone to contribute with their own examples of all the good things that are already going on and links to ideas and solutions that help everyone to change their behaviour.

Zero-Carbon Commerce - Library of Things

Provide a space for the community to build a library of things or a place where stuff can be shared or repaired to demonstrate how our desire for shopping can be accommodated by providing a place where we can re-use and repair, rather than buy new things that soon get thrown away.

References

https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/sites/default/files/section_attachments/260_59_hf_vision_a4_booklet_rev8.pdf

60 LBHF Industrial Strategy https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/sites/default/files/article_attachments/economic-growth-for-everyone-web-rev1.pdf

⁵⁷ CLES https://cles.org.uk/the-community-wealth-building-centre-of-excellence/

⁵⁸ Doughnut Economics Action Lab https://doughnuteconomics.org/

⁵⁹ LBHF Vision

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission



By developing a mapping tool that captures both the good things and bad things across LBHF, we can gain knowledge directly from our community and engage with the residents of Hammersmith & Fulham.

By providing residents with easy access to knowledge through a mapping tool, residents will be empowered to change behaviour and strengthen the well-being of our community.

1.1 Community Mapping

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

4.1 Community Mapping

Finding headline

Consolidate currently fragmented knowledge of risks and assets within the Borough into maps that include community initiatives and perceptions and form the basis for co-produced actions

Summary of proposed actions

There is a wealth of knowledge on existing and future local climate and ecological risks and of local assets that can help mitigate and adapt to such risks. This knowledge is essential to formulate ground-breaking policies and to secure widespread public support, but to achieve this, two actions are needed:

- · first, consolidate existing knowledge and show what the Council is already doing; and
- second, through participatory mapping connect with existing local initiatives and engage
 residents, especially youth and minorities, in deciding on priorities for co-produced actions
 (whereby the Council provides an enabling environment and support to community-led activities).

Council Interdependencies: all departments: the maps are a key tool to foster cross-departmental collaboration.

Carbon reduction & biodiversity: maps and participatory mapping exercises will help identify priorities for action (eg identification of green spaces to support biodiversity, food production, floods and heat island reduction; cycling and walking routes; waste collection systems), their location within the borough and existing initiatives that can be engaged in co-production of solutions.

Envisioning a better world: a borough that recognizes and values the knowledge of all residents in achieving just transitions to net zero carbon and where policies and initiatives are developed through bottom-up processes that involve wide consultations and collaboration.

Observations on the current situation

The climate/environmental crisis affects everyone and everything. But its impacts are highly diverse across the Borough's space and for different groups of residents. Understanding this diversity is important to inform actions that help mitigate risks and reduce carbon emissions.

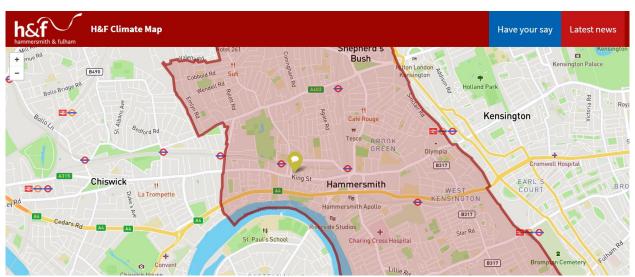
Let's take flooding, for example, one of the key impacts of climate and environmental change. We tend to think of areas along the river as the most exposed to flooding and it is true that there is a high risk there; however, flooding is just as likely to come from concentrated rainfall or 'rain bombs' (when the amount of rain usually falling over a period of months just falls within a few days or even hours). This is happening more and more frequently and affects locations far from the river but with surface drainage that is inadequate to absorb such vast amounts of water, including few green spaces. And let's look at heat waves, another key impact of climate and environmental change. While this, at least apparently, should be spread more evenly across the Borough that is not the case. Due to the heat island effect, heavily built-up areas are always much hotter compared to parts of the borough with more green spaces and wider roads.

This spatial diversity in exposure to risks is reflected in residents' ability to cope with them. Access to a private garden (or a public green space close to home) can help reduce temperatures and absorb floods more rapidly and with less damage while benefiting both physical and mental health – as seen with the COVID-19 lockdown(s). Even having access to enough financial resources to buy electric fans can make a difference. Pinpointing the locations where risks are higher and where residents are more likely to be vulnerable to their impacts is of great help to guide effective interventions. The current call by local governments and city mayors for more granular local data during the COVID-19 crisis reflects this.

Opportunities are also spatially located, although often difficult to identify unless we can tap on local knowledge; for example, vacant plots that can be used for micro-forests or community food gardens. The social benefits of specific places can also be difficult to pick up by external eyes: locations that seem almost abandoned can be important places for exchanges and meetings for local residents (the Amsterdam Circular Strategy recommends creating an inventory of such places to avoid unwittingly destroying them). The critical issue is thus how to make this knowledge visible.

Participatory GIS (geographic information system) mapping represents local people's spatial knowledge, highlighting the physical and social dimensions of risks, assets and opportunities. The kind of maps we need should be shared, accessible and aiming to encourage networking and communications whilst showing existing local initiatives (including those by the Council). Creating and managing them can support skills creation, for example involving universities and innovative small-scale businesses in training young school leavers.

COVID-19 has shown how important community organisations are to respond to crises – but also, in less dramatic times, to ensure residents' wellbeing and represent those who have less voice in influencing policy, who in most cases are the same groups more vulnerable to the impacts of the climate and environmental crisis. Community organisations have a wealth of local knowledge – physical and social – that should be the foundation of participatory mapping whilst ensuring that this is not a one-off but an ongoing activity that combines knowledge creation and local engagement.



Commonplace Community Map - Everyone can engage and show the great things that are happening in our borough

What needs to change?

Rather than being a one-off activity, mapping should be a long-term process combining knowledge creation and engagement around the climate and environmental emergency. It can also be a useful tool to bring together different parts of the Council as well as different communities within the borough. Hence an emphasis on capacity building, both:

- a. within the council (what maps exist, who makes them, what are they used for/what data is there, how can they be expanded to become a more open platform collecting existing and new knowledge, as well as tracking change and monitoring action), and
- b. among communities, especially the least represented/with less voice.

a) can probably use more traditional approaches to GIS mapping, while b) can be a series of participatory mapping exercises where focus areas and topics are determined by the communities themselves and are likely to include both 'facts' and perceptions.

When undertaking mapping with communities, it is probably best to start with a pilot involving community champions and other grassroots organisations within the Borough. Outputs from these exercises can be either standalone maps or (preferably) sub-folders or layers of the borough-wide map.

Management of the information collected on the maps is an important issue and essential for monitoring progress towards net zero and the action plan. Preferably this should be shared between the Council and communities. How to do this should be explored later.

We are delighted that LBHF have committed to establishing a community map, making use of the Commonplace⁶² platform and we would encourage everyone to participate.

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⁶² https://hfclimatemap.commonplace.is/

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

Biographies

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

CEEC Biographies

Sian Alexander

Sian is Executive Director of the Lyric Hammersmith and has previously worked as a senior management consultant in the arts working with organisations such as the Nuffield in Southampton, Creative Industry Finance, Tricycle Theatre and the World Stages Consortium among others. From 2012 to 2014 she was Executive Director of the Bush Theatre and prior to that was Associate Director of Julie's Bicycle from 2010 to 2013 and Head of Theatre in London at Arts Council England for 10 years until 2010. She is Chair of Trustees for Frantic Assembly as well as being on the Boards of Julie's Bicycle, the Gate Theatre and London Theatre Consortium and was previously on the advisory board of non zero one. Sian became a Clore Fellow in 2006 and in 2019 she was appointed Chair of Hammersmith & Fulham's Women's Equality Commission.

Artin Amjady

Artin is a local resident born and raised in the Borough. He is in education doing his PhD on political theory at King's College London. Artin is passionate about the climate crisis and doing something practical to see changes in our community and society to achieve a sustainable, green future we would all like to live in.

Paul Beaty-Pownall (Chair)

Paul has lived in Fulham for 30 years and has enjoyed the benefits of living close to the west end, whilst enjoying the open spaces and views that come with living on the edge of the city and near the River Thames. A father of 3 children who are growing up fast and will soon be faced with the challenges of finding work in a post COVID-19 economy. Paul is an architect and director of a Putney based firm, where he is also author of a number of design guides that look at the future of railway station design and how stations should be designed to serve their local community. Paul believes that a zero-carbon future is something to look forward to and that it is now time for us all to work together to design a community that measures success through high levels of well-being for everyone. It has become increasingly understood by all parts of our society that urgent action is now needed to protect ourselves from the worst impacts of climate change. This shared understanding gives Paul hope that the action needed might also bring our divided society together and be a truly positive experience.

Morag Carmichael

Morag has been interested in nature and involved with Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace for many years and has been co-ordinating the local Friends of the Earth group for about 5 years. She chaired the Hammersmith & Fulham Biodiversity Commission in 2017 and has had hands-on experience with Trees for Life in Scotland and local volunteer groups working to enhance the environment for wildlife to thrive. Ever since seeing the film Age of Stupid back in 2009 she has been highly motivated to act on the climate crisis and she is a member of the local Extinction Rebellion group.

Helen Dell

Helen has worked for over 25 years in infrastructure development. Her career started as transport and environmental economist working on project feasibility in the UK and overseas, and then she moved to public sector infrastructure procurement at HM Treasury's Treasury Taskforce (TTF) and Partnerships UK (PUK). Over what was a ten-year period of working in central government, her roles covered the development and procurement of projects and programmes for the public sector, in transport, flood

defence, waste management delivery, the health sector and commercial initiatives in science and technology. Since 2008 Helen has focused on family life, whilst working part time for a period as a Non-Executive Director with a firm of architects and urban designers. More recently Helen has undertaken a number of volunteer roles in the local community and is a committee member of her local residents' association.

Stephen Farrant

Stephen is a responsible business consultant, non-executive director and strategic advisor. Through his own sustainability consultancy, he helps organisations (from sectors including travel, renewables, retail and not-for-profits) to re-think and re-purpose their strategy for the 2020s. With some 15 years of experience enabling businesses to work on climate, sustainability and innovation, he started his career in the early 1990s at British Airways. Most recently he was Director of Sustainability and Innovation at Business in the Community (one of the Prince of Wales' leading charities) where among other things he established the Circular Economy Taskforce, the Purpose Toolkit, the Responsible Business Tracker, and BITC's work on responsible innovation in the digital age. From 2009-2015, he led the International Tourism Partnership (recently re-branded as the Sustainable Hospitality Alliance), on whose Board he now serves.

Eleanor Harrington

Eleanor is Co-Director of Bubble & Squeak as well as being the Community Involvement Officer at Old Oak Community Centre in East Acton. Bubble & Squeak is the kids run social enterprise tackling food waste. Since 2017 it has been running its pay-as-you-feel surplus food stall, after school clubs and community events, led by an inspirational group of local children who use nutritious surplus food to bring together the local community. Eleanor has an interest in building the wealth of energy, knowledge and ideas that exist in our communities to bring about grassroots change and to grow community-led ideas.

Yvonne Insh

Yvonne has been resident in Fulham since 1977. She is a mother of three, grandmother of eight and a great-grandmother of two. She is a registered nurse and registered midwife and is now retired from the NHS after 47 years' service. She is International Board Certified Lactation Consultant UK IBLCE country coordinator. Yvonne's last posting was as a senior midwife, supervisor of midwives and infant feeding coordinator at Chelsea and Westminster NHS Trust. Since retirement in 2010 she has hosted a local voluntary breastfeeding support group. She has been dedicated to the promotion and protection of breastfeeding and safe use and marketing of breast milk substitutes through work with local and national organisations such as Westminster/K&C/H&F infant feeding operational group, Lactation Consultants of Great Britain, and Unicef Baby Friendly Initiative UK and WHO.

Scarlett Knowles

Scarlett lives in Hammersmith and is in Year 12 at Latymer Upper School. She is the Youth Mayor of Hammersmith & Fulham and has prioritised the environment in her manifesto for the year. Young people are seriously invested in committing to improving the climate crisis. She wants to help change the education system to teach children about the climate crisis and the solutions that will help implement positive change. Scarlett is passionate that now is the time for change to help benefit future generations as decisions that are made now will impact the generations after.

Holly Larrett

Holly spent over twenty years in the City providing investment advice on Japanese equities to institutional investors, latterly focusing on ethical and sustainable investment in Asia. In 2016 Holly achieved an MSc in Corporate Governance & Business Ethics from the University of London, Birkbeck College, and has a practical understanding of how sustainability and business ethics relate to commercial success and the wider role of corporate, public and charitable sectors. Holly is a skilled linguist with fluent Japanese. Holly currently holds non-executive positions across the arts, education and the criminal justice sectors. Currently Trustee at Rambert School, sits on Management Committee of Camden Primary Pupil Referral Unit, and is an Independent Monitoring Board Member at HMP Wandsworth. She has lived in Hammersmith & Fulham for 16 years and has two teenage children.

Cecilia Tacoli

Cecilia has lived in Shepherds Bush for 30 years. She has worked in international development since the mid-1980s and for the past 25 years at the International Institute for Environment and Development, an independent policy research organisation. Her main work focus and personal interest is bringing the voices of marginalised and vulnerable people to the table where decisions are made, through a combination of participatory approaches and tools, and advocacy with local and national governments and international agencies. Cecilia has researched the interface between urban and rural areas, people and enterprises, the changing nature of urban poverty, and emerging food insecurity in cities of the Global South in the context of climate change. She has served as contributing author to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report.

Pat Tookey

Pat worked at University College London's Institute of Child Health as an epidemiologist and public health researcher, and has over 30 years' experience in teaching, surveillance and research. Her main focus was on women and children's health, particularly infections in pregnancy and childhood, antenatal screening and immunisation. She has lived in Shepherds Bush for 45 years, brought both her children up here, and has been active locally in various capacities including as a school governor. She is a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health, a life-long cyclist, and has been involved in Hammersmith & Fulham's local Extinction Rebellion Group since it was established early in 2019.

Will Reynolds

Will holds an engineering Masters degree, and now works in the arts as a theatre set and lighting designer. He has lived in Hammersmith & Fulham for 14 years, where he founded and runs Metta Theatre, an internationally renowned touring theatre charity. He has two children at primary school in the Borough. Will is Carbon Literacy Project trained and, as an Arts Council England Creative Climate Leader is working with major UK theatres to help green the theatrical touring sector through the Accelerator Programme.

LBHF Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission

Thank you

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Report to: Community Safety & Environment Policy & Accountability Committee

Date: 16/03/2021

Subject: Prototype Containerisation and Food Waste Collection Service

Report of: Richard Shwe – Assistant Director Environment – Recovery

Annie Baker – Assistant Director Street Environmental Services

Responsible Director: Strategic Director of Environment

Summary

The report outlines the engagement and communication that has taken place and is planned relating to the council's prototype wheeled bin and food waste collection service in the borough. Engagement is ongoing throughout the prototype period.

Recommendations

1. For the Committee to note and comment on the report.

Wards Affected: College Park & Old Oak, Askew, Addison, Ravenscourt Park,

Fulham Reach, Parsons Green & Walham

H&F Values

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Priorities
Doing things with residents, not to them	Rather than using available legislative powers (s46 Environmental Protection Act 1990) to carry out a blanket imposition of containers on residents, we are carrying out a prototype service and working with residents to identify the bins that best suit their property type and waste requirements, and to allow residents to experience and comment on how the new service operates.
Being ruthlessly financially efficient	The prototype scheme reduces the council's waste disposal costs, allowing more money to be made available for other public services
Taking pride in H&F	The prototype scheme collects household waste and recycling in containers rather than bags, reducing litter spillage and keeping our streets cleaner.
Rising to the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency	The prototype scheme takes an element of the waste stream previous incinerated for anaerobic digestion, turning it instead into clean energy. The scheme increases the proportion of household waste that is recycled.

The scheme contributes towards easing of environmental pressures by moving more towards a circular economy (reduce, reuse, recycle) and away from a linear economy (make, use, dispose)

Contact Officer(s):

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Position: Assistant Director Environment – Recovery

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Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None

DETAILED ANALYSIS

- 1. The prototype collection service for food waste and wheeled bin household waste and recycling commenced on 9th November 2020. It had been scheduled to start in September 2020 but was postponed due to Covid issues. The report sets out how the scheme areas were arrived at, the communications with residents and stakeholders prior to collections commencing, the consultation that has been ongoing throughout the roll out of the service, and the planned consultation that will take place to gauge residents' experience of the scheme.
- 2. The proposal to carry out a prototype service was bought forward within a report to Cabinet regarding the extension of the waste, street cleansing and recycling contract. The report was approved by Cabinet on 7th October 2019.
- 3. Proposals for resident engagement were noted in that report. These included a proposal for extensive door to door engagement with residents, which is far beyond standard local authority practice for such a project. However, the measures put in place nationally from March 2020 as a result of the impacts of Covid 19 severely curtailed officers' ability to engage face to face with residents. As a result, communication prior to the prototype commencing was carried out more remotely, either online or by post. A timetable of communications with residents and elected members is detailed in Table 1 in this report.
- 4. Officers were able to carry out much greater face to face engagement at the delivery phase of the prototype, and as noted below had approximately 1000 contacts with individual households when it was appropriate and safe to do so.

5. It should be noted that the prototype service is in and of itself a consultation exercise. It would be impossible to meaningfully engage with residents on the modifications to the waste collection service without anyone having had the experience of using the new container and food waste service. Officers would also have no meaningful local data with which to demonstrate the efficacy of the scheme until a prototype service was trialled.

Prototype property selection

- 6. Keep Britain Tidy were commissioned by Resource London on behalf of Hammersmith & Fulham Council to carry out a street level survey of properties across the borough to assess their suitability for the prototype scheme. This was completed in December 2019. Officers completed the analysis of the data from this survey by March 2020, identifying streets that had a high number of eligible properties for the collection service.
- 7. The survey outcomes identified a scheme area of approximately 5800 properties. All of these were assessed as suitable for food waste collection. Approximately 4600 of those properties were also assessed as suitable for the prototype wheeled bin collection service, in large part as the properties had been assessed as having sufficient outside space to store the wheeled bins.

Communications prior to service commencement

8. Table 1 details the communications conducted with residents and councillors from September 2020. With the background of a global pandemic our first priority was to keep residents and staff safe, so initially face to face contacts had to be limited for safety reasons, hence the reliance on leaflets and electronic information. However, socially distanced interaction took place extensively when safe to do so. Logistically, rolling out the service within a pandemic was extremely challenging for staff who had to introduce socially distanced working practices at all stages of the operation. However, the service is an important contributor to meeting the challenges of climate emergency. Therefore, officers were keen to manage the implications in the best way possible and not further postpone the prototype service.

Table 1

9 th September	Officers from street environment services meet with colleagues in the co- production team to ensure appropriate co-production values reflected in the scheme.	
10 th September	 1st Ward Councillor Briefing Note on the prototype roll out. This included: Details of the streets in the prototype area within their ward The introductory leaflet that would be sent to residents (attached as appendix 1) 	

	A FAQ document (attached as appendix 2)
30 th September	2 nd Ward Councillor Briefing Note on the prototype roll out, updating the implementation timetable for the scheme.
1 st October	 5800 residents in the prototype area begin to receive the introductory leaflet by post. The leaflet includes: Direction to dedicated mailbox Direction to dedicated webpage where responses to FAQs are detailed A contact number for the Cleaner Greener contact centre for any queries
1 st October	Resident engagement through dedicated mailbox (newbins@lbhf.gov.uk) commences. 1200 e mails dealt with in the first 10 weeks of the scheme.
1 st October	New webpage www.LBHF.gov.uk/newbins , goes live. Webpage includes detailed FAQ section included, which is constantly updated throughout the delivery and commencement phases of the project
16 th October 2020	3 rd Ward Councillor Briefing Note. Attached to the note is the instruction leaflet being sent to residents (attached as appendix 3). This detailed how the collection service will operate, the timetable for the delivery of the containers and offers an additional free service for the removal and recycling or disposal of old unwanted bins. All councillors in affected wards are offered the opportunity for a more detailed briefing.
19 th October 2020	The instructional leaflet is sent to 5,800 residents in the prototype area. This is delivered alongside the food waste collection containers.
w/c 26 th October	Wheeled bins start being delivered to eligible properties in prototype area.
28 th October 2020	4 th Ward Councillor Briefing Note. The note details the number of enquiries received through various communication channels and the engagement work that will be carried out face to face with residents (for example to reassess property suitability for inclusion in the scheme).
w/c 2 nd November	Face to face engagement with residents to address individual household needs and requirements commences. This includes offering alternative container sizes, bin sharing and wheeled bin suitability reassessments. Approximately 1000 interactions take place with households in the first 6 weeks of the service.
w/c 9 th November	New Prototype Container Collection Service commences
Throughout	The council's communications team interact with residents via Social Media (Twitter, Next Door) and through press releases on the council's

	website.
9 th Nov to 25 th February 2021	 Currently on our residents in the prototype area are: Recycling 30,000 tonnes of food waste a month Recycling 90,000 tonnes of dry recyclate a month Achieving an average recycling rates of over 40% (compared to a borough average of approximately 26%)

- 9. As with any prototype service of this size, officers were conscious that some properties that were assessed as suitable for inclusion may need to be reassessed. A standard bin configuration of 1 x 140 litre refuse bin and 1 x 240 litre recycling bin was deemed appropriate based on estimates of household waste capacity across the 4,600 properties.
- 10. Once bins were delivered officers undertook visits to individual properties (adhering to Covid-19 guidelines) where residents raised concerns to reassess properties, and in the appropriate circumstances offer a smaller or larger capacity recycling bin. On the rare occasions where it was evident that a property was wholly unsuitable for the prototype service the bins were removed.

Ongoing consultation and engagement from prototype commencement

- 11. Throughout the prototype period officers have been working with the council's corporate communications team to engage with residents via social media.
- 12. The dedicated mailbox has remained live throughout. Over 1200 e-mails were transacted in the first 10 weeks of the prototype scheme. The vast majority of these were service clarification requests and requests for the removal of old bins, an additional free service offered to residents within the scheme area.
- 13. Officers conducted approximately 1000 face to face interactions with householders from 2nd November to 7th December 2020. These included property reassessments, container exchanges and assessments for assisted collections
- 14. Colleagues from the Contact Centre have attended the weekly project board meetings with council and contractor staff in order that are sufficiently informed to answer resident enquiries at the first point of contact.
- 15. The dedicated webpage remains live and the FAQ section is regularly updated as required.

Feedback from residents

- 16. Based on the prototype scheme area, officers estimate that complaints (as opposed to service or reassessment requests) have been received from approximately 3% of households in the scheme area. In comparison, in other London boroughs and other areas the UK the level of complaints would be expected to be in the region of 10-15%.
- 17. Where officers have reassessed properties, the majority have been assessed as suitable for the standard container designation. Where they have not been suitable, the majority of these have been resolved through exchanging the recycling container for a smaller capacity bin, or through neighbours agreeing to share a standard, or in some case larger, sized container.
- 18. Inevitably with a prototype covering this number of households, a small minority of residents have objected to the wheeled bins, either on aesthetic grounds or on grounds of perceived convenience, even where they have sufficient space to store the containers. Rather than a blanket imposition of the council's powers granted under s46 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990¹, officers have attempted to engage positively with these residents to encourage them to trial the new service and hopefully be convinced by the positive outcomes arising from it.
- 19. Where queries have been raised regarding the new containers and their impacts on conservation areas, officers have consulted with colleagues in Planning and provided feedback to residents on the specific queries raised.

20. Planning advise:

"Notwithstanding the environmental benefits of the new refuse/recycling collection scheme in increasing take-up of recycling in the Borough, the revised refuse/recycling scheme is not considered to detract from the character and appearance of our Conservation Areas overall. The provision by the Council of refuse bins/recycling containers as part of the scheme may also assist in resolving a number of untidy land issues which can occur within these areas and reduce incidents involving the spillage of waste from split refuse bags."

Initial Outcomes from the prototype service

21. Whilst this report has concentrated on the communications and consultation aspects of the prototype scheme, it would be remiss not to note the early successes of the scheme, the positive impacts it is having on recycling rates,

¹ S46 Receptacles for household waste.

⁽¹⁾Where a waste collection authority has a duty by virtue of section 45(1)(a) above to arrange for the collection of household waste from any premises, the authority may, by notice served on him, require the occupier to place the waste for collection in receptacles of a kind and number specified.

- and how it contributes towards meeting the council's climate emergency objectives.
- 22. Wheeled bin refuse and recycling collections are commonplace across most of London and the rest of the country. There are several advantages to collecting household waste in this way, as opposed to collection of waste in sacks. These include:
 - The ability to have a separate food waste collection. Approximately one third of residual household waste is food waste that currently goes for incineration and adds to harmful emissions. By separating it we are able to take it for anaerobic digestion treatment to convert that into renewable energy, as well as increasing our recycling rate.
 - Having containers for residual waste and recycling, especially in cases where the latter is larger, and in concert with improved communication and education around what can be recycled, will minimise residual waste and increase recycling.
 - Containerised collections, as opposed to our current recycling collection methods, will significantly reduce the requirement for collection via single use plastic bags.
 - Containerised collection will reduce refuse and recycling bags being split open by foxes, birds or other animals, and reduce waste detritus on our streets.
 - Container collections will result in positive health and safety outcomes for collection crews. Wheeling bins to an automated lifting mechanism rather than carrying and physically throwing the bags onto the vehicle will reduce musculoskeletal injuries. Collecting in containers rather than bags will reduce the risk of injuries caused by glass or other sharp materials.
- 23. The service is collecting up to ten tonnes of food waste each week in the prototype area. This is now taken for anaerobic digestion treatment and turned into clean energy, rather than being disposed of as residual waste and causing more harmful emissions. There is also a considerable saving in disposal costs (approx. £136 per tonne), which, should the levels of food waste recycling be maintained, can be extrapolated to a disposal cost saving of approximately £70,000 per annum in the prototype area alone.
- 24. The average household recycling rate across the borough is approximately 26%, which is regrettably among the bottom quartile in London. Data from the prototype area indicates that the recycling rate is over 40% within the scheme area. This reduces waste disposal costs and helps us towards our ambition to be a greener borough and supports tackling the climate emergency.

Planned future consultation

- 25. Officers from street environmental services have met with colleagues from the council's Business Intelligence team to develop an online survey via Citizen Space for residents within the scheme area to gauge their experience of the prototype service. Officers are also working to ensure that residents who do not have access to the online survey can have their views heard.
- 26. In addition, as part of developing the prototype service delivery and in keeping with the H&F Vision, officers will be carrying out other methods of consultation, including face to face surveys where appropriate, dip sampling surveys of properties within the scheme area and consultation with other stakeholders including the council's co-production team, ward councillors and the contractor.
- 27. Since the launch of the new service, the complaints received about the service are minimal and the cleanliness of the streets within the prototype area has improved which has been highlighted by residents who have received this new service.

Future developments

- 28. Prior to officers considering making any recommendations to continue or extend the scheme, they will consider the outcomes of the prototype scheme in terms of food waste collected and recycling rates, take into account resident and councillor feedback, and consider the eligibility of other areas of the borough for inclusion in such a scheme.
- 29. As part of the H&F Vision, the views of elected members, senior officers, residents, and colleagues in planning and co-production will form part of any recommendations put forward for any future extension of the scheme as well as considerations relating to the specification for our new waste management contract from 2023.

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Introductory leaflet



H&F Teaser Leaflet Food Waste and Cont

Appendix 2 – FAQ document



FAQ Container Prototype Scheme.do

Appendix 3 – Instructional leaflet





Around the home

You can now recycle lots of items from around the home, such as shampoo bottles and toilet roll inner tubes from the bathroom, or tissue boxes from the bedroom.



Excess/bulky rubbish and furniture

If you have any excess rubbish, furniture or large items, you can request a collection by calling **020 8753 1100.**



Clothes and electrical items

You can book a free collection by calling our charity partner TRAID on **020 8733 2595**.

Collections are made on Saturdays and you can recycle up to three bags of clothes and small electrical items.

All profits from the scheme will go towards projects fighting global poverty overseas and providing environmental education in the UK.



Garden waste and home composting

Did you know that up to 30 per cent of our household waste could be composted?

We have teamed up with Getcomposting to offer residents a variety of home composting bins at a subsidised price.

You can find out more at **getcomposting.com** or by calling **0844 571 4444**.





FROM October 2020

For further information contact: www.lbhf.gov.uk/newbins

 ${\bf Cleaner. Greener@lbhf.gov.uk}$

Tel: **020 8753 1100**



serco





www.lbhf.gov.uk/newbins



SER1081 H&F Recycling Leaflet.indd 1-2 14/08/2020 16:23

WHAT is my new service?

To increase recycling and reduce waste, Hammersmith & Fulham Council is introducing weekly food waste collections and wheeled bins to collect recycling and rubbish in a trial area from October 2020.



Recycling will be collected every week



Food waste will be collected every week SERVICE



Rubbish will be collected every week



Y a new service?

Climate emergency

Hammersmith & Fulham Hammersmith & Fulham Council is rising to the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency - but we need your help to minimise household waste.

Increase recycling

residents recycle more than 25% of their waste, yet every year we need to improve. Recycling saves energy and costs less.

Cleaner streets

These new bins will help protect food waste and rubbish from animals and birds, making our streets even cleaner.

Look out for more information

We will start delivering bins from two weeks before the service changes. You will also receive an information pack with your food caddies. This will provide you with everything you need to know about your new bins, including when you can start to use your new service. Not all properties will be suitable for bins, but everyone will receive food caddies. If you do not receive bins please continue to use H&F clear sacks for your collections.

Please note your bins and food caddies may be delivered separately.

Your questions answered



Can I use my own bin?

Unfortunately not. Your new bins have been manufactured to specific standards. Other types of bin may not fit onto the lifting gear on our lorries.

If you don't have space to keep your old bins, we will explain how we can collect them for you in your information pack.



Will my collection still be on the same day?

Yes. We will not be making any changes to your collection day and your collections will remain weekly.



Won't my food waste caddy smell?

No. Your food caddy has no vents which means that no odour is emitted.

We will also provide you with two free rolls of compostable caddy liners to make collecting your food waste easier.

Are there additional services?

We provide a variety of additional services to help people if needed.

These include:

Assisted collection service

Bulky waste collections

Bookable clothes and electrical items collection

Recycling advice and support



For more information on any of these services and recycling visit www.lbhf.gov.uk/recycling

SER1081 H&F Recycling Leaflet.indd 3-4 14/08/2020 16:23 Dear Councillor,

Re. Food Waste Recycling and Domestic Waste Container Prototype

Please find below information about the new food waste recycling and waste containerisation prototype scheme due to launch in the borough in October 2020.

What are we doing?

The council is introducing a prototype scheme in the borough to recycle food waste and start containerised collections (as opposed to waste sack collections) from domestic street level properties.

The prototype scheme will cover approximately 5600 properties.

Where are we doing it?

We have attached a map showing which streets are going to be part of the prototype scheme. We are contacting you as a councillor for a ward with streets that fall within the prototype scheme area.

When are we doing it?

The collections are scheduled to commence on 19th October.

Publicity for the scheme will begin being delivered door to door from 14th September 2020.

New bins and containers and the second round of publicity will be delivered to eligible households in early October prior to collections starting.

Why are we doing it?

Hammersmith & Fulham are committed to be the greenest borough in the country. Minimising household waste will help us meet the council's climate challenge targets. We have a target to increase the recycling level in the borough to 30% of all collected waste by 2023.

By collecting household waste and recycling in containers we will reduce the levels of residual litter that can arise from collecting waste in sacks.

How are we doing it?

Please see the FAQs below.

How can I find out more?

Officers from Street Environmental Services will conduct an online briefing with you individually, or with your fellow ward councillors, to discuss the prototype scheme in more detail as you require

Officers will also be pleased to meet with councillors on their ward for a walkabout for a practical discussion about how the scheme will operate.

Should you wish to discuss any specific aspect of the scheme, or to arrange an online briefing or ward walkabout, please contact David.goodship@lbhf.gov.uk

Frequently Asked Questions

Will waste collection days or frequency change?

No. The streets that have been chosen for the prototype in part reflect the current collection schedule so as to minimise any inconvenience for residents. All the streets in the prototype will continue to receive their scheduled weekly refuse collection.

Will all properties in the prototype streets receive new bins?

No. Whilst many of the streets have the high levels of "eligible properties" in them, unfortunately not all properties are suitable for domestic waste and recycling container bins, due to issues such as storage space and the absence of step free access

All the properties within the prototype area have been visited and assessed for suitability by officers from our Waste & Recycling Team.

Where properties are unsuitable for the new bins, they will have their waste and recycling collected as they do now. However, all street-based properties in the prototype area will receive the new food waste recycling collection.

What bins will eligible properties receive?

All properties will receive a 7-litre food waste caddy (for indoor use), with a larger 23 litre container within which to present it for collection.

The standard bin designation for eligible properties will be one 140 litre refuse bin and one 240 litre recycling bin.

Where some properties may find they require a larger or smaller bin as the prototype develops, we will look to accommodate those residents' needs subject to eligibility criteria.

What can residents do with garden waste?

Garden waste can be put out for collection with normal waste although we would encourage residents to compost at home wherever possible. We don't anticipate there being significant quantities of garden waste at this stage of the new service, given the time of year. We will be reviewing this as part of our work on the news scheme to look at potential future garden waste options. Garden waste can also be taken to Smugglers Way and Cringle Dock Reuse and Recycling Centres (the tips). More information on the centres and home composting can be found here:

https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish/reduce-and-reuse/garden-waste-and-home-composting

Can residents use their existing bins for the new service?

Unfortunately not. The bins need to be standardised in order that they can be safely collected using the lift mechanism on the contractor's vehicle.

What should residents do with their old bins?

We would encourage residents to find an alternate use for their bin if possible. Otherwise they can take it to the council recycling facility, or they can contact us, and we will make arrangements to collect their old bins and recycle them as far as possible.

What if residents find it difficult to physically manage and manoeuvre their new bins?

Where we identify that residents may physically experience problems that make it difficult for them to adapt to the new service, we will offer them an assisted collection service.

What arrangements have been made for residents to contact the council about the new services?

We understand the importance of communicating with residents in order that we can work with them to ensure the prototype is successful. In addition to two sets of written communications being delivered door to door prior to the scheme commencing, the council will provide all necessary information on a dedicated page on the council website.

When the containers are being delivered to households prior to the collections commencing, council officers and contractor staff will be following the delivery crews in order to engage with residents and discuss the new scheme with them.

We have been working closely with the contact centre in order that we have a robust process in place to manage any telephone resident feedback as the scheme rolls out and will have a dedicated e-mail address/online form so that we can respond to resident enquiries quickly and effectively.

Why is this a prototype scheme rather than a borough wide roll out?

Modernising the way waste and recycling is collected and starting an entirely new separate food waste recycling scheme is a large undertaking.

Starting off the roll out in a prototype area will allow us to carefully monitor how the amendment to the collections affects our overall waste collection service, will allow us to more effectively communicate the information about the service to a targeted number of residents, and will enable us to respond to any issues residents have with the new service and quickly resolve these.

How will we know if the prototype scheme has been successful?

The key indicators of success will be an increase in recycling levels, a reduction in on street litter and detritus as a result of the new collection methods, and of course resident satisfaction.

Officers will closely monitor the impacts on the prototype on our waste and recycling rates. We will be consulting residents as the prototype develops in order to gauge their experiences of and satisfaction with the scheme and ensure that we use this feedback to inform any further roll out of the services to elsewhere in the borough.

Welcome to your NEW RUBBISH AND FOOD WASTE BINS









WELCOME to your new service

The new service starts on **9 November**. Until then, please leave your rubbish and recycling out for collection in sacks as normal.



Recycling will be collected every week



Food waste will be collected every week



Rubbish will be collected every week



Are there additional services?

We provide a variety of additional services to help people if needed.



Assisted collection service

Bulky waste collections

Bookable clothes and electrical items collection



Recycling advice and support

For more information on any of these services and recycling visit www.lbhf.gov.uk/recycling

RECYCLING

Use for GLASS, PLASTIC, PAPER and CARD, CANS and CARTONS

Empty and **rinse** all containers before putting them into the bin.

Plastic bottles squash and put lids back on.

Remove lids from glass bottles and jars.

Do not use a sack. Please put your recycling in the green bin loose.



YES PLEASE



NO THANKS





Plastic bottles, tubs, trays and containers



Food waste



Glass bottles and jars



Garden waste



Aluminium and steel tins and cans



Clothes and shoes



Clean, dry paper and card



Nappies



Food and drink cartons



All plastic film and bags



Page 103

If in doubt, leave it out of the recycling bin

FOOD WASTE

Use for FOOD SCRAPS and unwanted LEFTOVERS

Line your indoor food caddy with a compostable liner or wrap food in newspaper.

When you need to empty your caddy, **tie the top of the liner** and put it in the outdoor food container.

Ensure your outdoor food container is **locked** to protect food waste from animals and birds.

Indoor food caddy



Outdoor food container



YES PLEASE



NO THANKS





Fish, meat and bones



Packaging of any kind



Leftovers and plate scrapings



Liquids such as milk or oil



Bread, rice and pasta



All plastic bags and film



Fruit and vegetable peelings



Garden waste



Teabags and coffee grounds



Pet waste

RUBBISH

ONLY use for what CAN'T be recycled

If you recycle all you can and use the food waste service you will have enough space in your bin.

Did you know that **70%** of what you throw away can be recycled?

For tips on how to recycle more, visit: www.lbhf.gov.uk/recycling

Nappies



Construction waste

YES PLEASE ✓ NO THANKS Was and baby wipes All plastic film and bags Crisp packets Crisp packets Polystyrene NO THANKS Recycling Clothes and shoes Electrical items

USING your bins

Collection time

By **6am** on your day of collection leave your bin clearly visible at the **edge of your property**, close to the pavement (but not on it). We will not be able to collect bins from your garden.

Wheeled bins

We will **only** collect rubbish and recycling from the **H&F Council provided bins**.

Collection day

There will be **no changes** to your
collection day. Food
waste collections will
also take place on the **same day**.

Excess rubbish

All rubbish must be placed inside the black bin and the lid closed for collection to take place. Extra rubbish put on top or next to the black bin will not be collected.

If you are recycling **all that you can** and still have too much rubbish please get in touch.

Caddy liners

We will **initially** be providing you with **two free rolls** of compostable caddy liners to get you started. If you would like to find out how to get more caddy liners please visit **www.lbhf.gov.uk/newbins**

Extra help

If there is no one in your household who can move your bins, **please get in touch** with us, using the details below, to discuss help with your collection.

Extra recycling

Recycling must be placed loose in the **green bin**. However, we will take extra recycling placed in a cardboard box and left next to your green bin.

My old bins

For more information about disposing of your unwanted old bins please visit www.lbhf. qov.uk/newbins

For further information contact: www.lbhf.gov.uk/newbins

cleaner.greener@lbhf.gov.uk

Tel: 020 8753 1100





