

# Climate Change and Ecology Policy and Accountability Committee

#### **Agenda**

**Tuesday 23 April 2024 at 7.00 pm** 

145 King Street (Ground Floor), Hammersmith, W6 9XY

Watch the meeting live: https://www.youtube.com/hammersmithandfulham

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Administration	Opposition
Councillor Nicole Trehy (Chair) Councillor Ross Melton Councillor Laura Janes Councillor Stala Antoniades	Councillor Jose Afonso

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Note: This meeting is open to members of the public. A loop system for hearing impairment is provided, along with disabled access to the building.

Date Issued: 10 April 2024

## Climate Change and Ecology Policy and Accountability Committee Agenda

23 April 2024

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

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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.

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 Standards Committee.

3. MINUTES 4 - 11

To approve the minutes of the previous meeting and note any outstanding actions.

#### 4. FLOOD RISK AND ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

12 - 40

This report outlines the current flood risk in Hammersmith and Fulham and the actions being taken by the council to help manage flood risk within the borough. This includes information on "Greening the Grey" and how this work not only supports the management of flood risk but mitigates the growing effects from climate change. Finally, the paper outlines several of the public realm greening projects planned this year.

#### 5. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

To note the dates of future meetings:

- 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024
- 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024
- 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025

• 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025

**London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham** 



# Climate Change and Ecology Policy and Accountability Committee Minutes

**Tuesday 6 February 2024** 

#### <u>PRESENT</u>

**Committee members:** Councillors Nicole Trehy (Chair), Stala Antoniades, Ross Melton, Laura Janes and Jose Afonso

Other Councillors: Councillors Wesley Harcourt (Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Ecology) and Rowan Ree (Cabinet Member for Finance and Reform)

#### Officers:

Kellie Gooch (Head of Finance Environment)
James Newman (Assistant Director of Finance)
Bram Kainth (Strategic Director of Environment)
Jim Cunningham (Climate Change Strategy and Policy Lead)
Jessica Bastock (Service Manager Healthy Streets)
Ian Hawthorn (Assistant Director Highways)
Mark Raisbeck (Director of Public Realm)
Amrita White (Committee Coordinator)

#### **External Guests:**

Michael Benke and Graeme Kasselman (Thames Water) Cara Marie Okeeffe and Francis Heil (Atkins Realis)

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

#### 2. <u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 5 Flood Risk and Adapting to Climate Change, as her basement kitchen was flooded in July 2021.

#### 3. MINUTES

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 were agreed as an accurate record.

#### 4. <u>2024 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS</u>

#### **Corporate Budget**

Councillor Rowan Ree (Cabinet Member for Finance and Reform) introduced the item that detailed the proposals for the 2024/25 revenue budget – including the risks, financial resilience, and impact of those proposals.

Councillor Rowan Ree noted that it had been a difficult time for local government, with central government grant reductions and high inflation, but despite the constraints, the Council had delivered a balanced budget that protected core services and continued funding for the areas that were unique to borough such as free home care, universal free school breakfasts, and the Law Enforcement Team. He said this had been achieved through ruthless financial efficiency and reforming how services were delivered. He thanked James Newman, and the finance team, officers across departments, and his Cabinet colleagues for making that possible.

James Newman (Assistant Director of Finance) gave a presentation on the corporate budget, highlighting the following:

- The challenges of the operating environment including inflation, pressures on household budgets, new legislative burdens, and uncertainty around local government funding.
- The key objectives of the financial plan were to protect statutory services, deliver services valued by residents, ensuring people's safety, and to be a modern and innovative Council with strong financial governance and resilience.
- That council tax would increase by 4.99%, but an estimated 93,000
  households in the borough would not pay the full amount due to discounts and
  exemptions.

#### **Departmental Budget**

Bram Kainth (Strategic Director of Environment) gave a presentation on the department's revenue budget 2024/25. This covered the recent achievements and budget implications relevant to this Committee. He also updated members on the future strategic budget issues. This included significant funding requirements for addressing the climate and ecological emergency.

Councillor Ross Melton thanked Councillor Rowan Ree and officers for a comprehensive report and update. He asked for further information to be provided on the timeline for the Council's green investment scheme, including any planned projects to be funded as part of the scheme. Councillor Rowan Ree noted that he was proud of the Council's green investment scheme which stood out as the largest of its kind. The Council was looking to raise up to £5 million to fund climate change projects across the borough. The first tranche of the investment had been distributed and the deadline for this was 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024. This scheme offered a low-risk

investment at 4.85% to residents and helped put measures in place to combat and mitigate climate change. This would include a range of issues such as renewable energy and measures to promote active transport.

The Chair enquired about the Council's success rate in securing grants for climate change related initiatives. In response Bram Kainth noted that officers were committed to pursuing all available grants and regularly sought new opportunities. He noted that additional feasibility work at risk could be carried out to enhance effectiveness.

Referring to the parking services review on page 17 of the agenda pack, Councillor Jose Afonso asked about the portion of the budget revenue derived from cleaner neighbourhood fines. Councillor Wesley Harcourt (Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Ecology) explained that any income for parking was designated for specific use and could not be included in the general fund. Bram Kainth noted that the parking account figures were published annually and would be shared with the Committee upon their release.

#### **Action: Bram Kainth**

#### **RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the Climate Change and Ecology Policy and Accountability Committee (PAC) considered the budget proposals and made recommendations to Cabinet as appropriate.
- 2. That the PAC considered the proposed changes to fees and charges and made recommendations as appropriate.

#### 5. FLOOD RISK AND ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Jim Cunningham (Climate Change Strategy and Policy Lead) introduced the item and noted that flooding, along with other extreme weather including heatwaves and droughts, was becoming more frequent and severe as the climate heats up. It was noted that a climate risk assessment was currently being undertaken to identify residents, services, buildings, and infrastructure that were most at risk. This would be followed by an adaptation strategy which would examine the business case for implementing adaptation measures and identify the priority areas to focus these.

Cara Marie O'Keeffe and Francis Heil (AtkinsRealis) provided a presentation which covered the climate risk assessment and adaptation strategy. They showed slides that outlined the following key points:

- Project overview of the two stages of implementation.
- Preliminary findings of January 2024
- Historical climate events in the London Borough of Hammersmith (LBHF)
- Current surface flood and heat risk mapping, including Council estate areas.
- Climate change projections for LBHF
- Preliminary findings for selected sectors
- The next steps:
  - Draft climate risk assessment for review in February 2024
  - O Draft adaptation strategy for review in April/May 2024

Concerning the impact of heat, the Chair highlighted that the Council's social housing sector appeared to be most at risk, implying a disproportionate effect on lower-income residents. She asked for clarification to be provided on why the Council's estates within the borough were particularly affected by heat and flood risks. In response Francis Heil outlined the contributing factors that made the estates more susceptible to heat impact. These included high rise buildings and properties that only had windows to one side of the buildings. It was noted that there was often a high proportion of older and disabled residents, residing in social housing, making them vulnerable due to health conditions that could be exacerbated during heatwaves.

The Chair asked if there were any plans to explore mitigating factors from places such as Europe, which have encountered similar challenges with heatwaves. Francies Heil explained that there was a lot to learn from other cities who had been dealing with issues relating to heat for a long period of time. It was noted that the UK Government Environmental Audit Committee recently published its review on heat resilience and some of the evidence from this would be integrated as part of the adaptation strategy.

Councillor Laura Janes enquired about the possibility of collaborating with public health to address some of the challenges related to sleep hygiene. Jim Cunningham noted that officers were closely working with public health colleagues on the climate risk assessment to identify residents who are more at risk across the borough. This included identifying opportunities for greater alignment with public health strategies and plans.

Councillor Stala Antoniades asked if there was a common theme among the flats in terms of susceptibility to flood risk. Francis Heil outlined the commonalities contributing to surface water flooding. These included areas lacking green space, which reduced the ability to absorb and facilitate the permeation of surface water. In addition, one of the main risk hot spots across the borough was identified within basement properties.

Councillor Ross Melton enquired whether as part of strategy planning, any assessment had been made of the costs associated with historic climate events that had been highlighted. Specifically, regarding the un forecasted use of Council services and reduced economic activity. Francis Heil explained that detailed assessments regarding the costs associated with previous events and their impact on Council services would be conducted and form a key part of the assessment.

Councillor Wesley Harcourt (Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Ecology) noted that the report on adaptation was particularly timely and felt that it's one of the most pressing issues needing consideration. He expressed confidence in the evidence suggesting that blue/green systems could help lower temperatures. Additionally, he emphasised the essential nature of the work being carried out by the Council.

A resident pointed out that evidence indicated that air pollution increased during heatwaves and enquired whether health impacts were included in the risk assessment. He followed up by asking if there were any strategies the Council could implement to reduce emissions sources during heatwaves. In response Francis Heil noted that Atkins, in their assessments across sectors, considered the impacts of heatwaves on health, including air quality effects. He suggested that this aspect could be reinforced in the plans and policies already in place by the Council.

Referring to the report, a resident observed that Fulham appeared to have higher heat density compared to the North of the borough. He expressed concern that Fulham was experiencing gradual deforestation on private residence based on anecdotal evidence. He asked if an approach could be established to address tree loss on private property. Jim Cunningham noted that the areas with high heat readings were typically those with less green space. He mentioned that recent research commissioned on private spaces revealed that almost half of the private gardens in the borough were completely paved. Addressing this was challenging as the Council had little control over activities on private land. However, the Council was encouraging residents to plant trees in their back gardens by providing free tree giveaways, aiming to incentivise people to plant in their own gardens.

Graeme Kasselman (Thames Water) provided a presentation which covered the following aspects:

- Understanding the cause and impact of flooding in 2021
- The sewer flooding resilience programme (including statistics for the Council)
- Strategy for alleviating flood risk in counter's creek catchment
- London surface water strategic group
- Approach taken for sustainable drainage systems.

The Chair thanked Thames Water for their presentation. She highlighted that the Thames Water annual report up to March 2022 indicated a revenue of £2 billion. She questioned why only £10 million was being allocated to the resilience programme. Michael Benke (Thames Water) clarified that the majority of the profit figures provided in the annual report was due to gearing, noting that the cash profit was at a slight loss. He explained that spending allocation was determined within 5-year business cycles with the current cycle spanning from 2020-2025. As the storms occurred in 2021, the additional costs resulting from them were not initially accounted for. Funds were being reallocated from other areas to accommodate the resilience programme.

The Chair highlighted that a report early 2023 from Ofwat indicated that Thames water were not in compliance with their regulatory guidance. She expressed concerns that Thames Water had not been following standard practices. Michael Benke explained that this stemmed from legacy issues with the previous owners and management at Thames Water. He acknowledged that Thames Water was currently meeting the expectations of its customers as a business. The new ownership took over in 2017 and since then, £500 million had been invested in the company, with an additional £750 million yet to be contributed. Additionally, a new CEO had recently joined the company earlier this year.

Referring to the fines issued by Ofwat as a result of sewage dumping in the Thames, the Chair asked what actions were being taken by Thames Water to address these concerns. In response Michael Benke noted that by 2024 a Thames tideway tunnel would be in place to mitigate the sewage challenges and cut pollution into the tidal

Thames by 95%. He acknowledged that sewage discharges were unacceptable but provided reassurances to the Committee that appropriate action was being taken to tackle these.

In relation to the July 2021 flooding which resulted in over 600 flooded properties, the Chair enquired why Thames Water had only installed 10 non-return valves across the borough. She expressed concern about the minimal action taken to mitigate future flooding risk. Michael Benke explained that the level of rainfall after the storms in 2021 was extreme, exceeding the capacity of London's drainage systems. He noted that most households that contacted Thames Water for a cleanup assistance received it. Additionally, he mentioned that the flooding was not limited to this borough, and additional non-return valves were installed in Camden and Westminster.

Councillor Jose Afonso enquired when the survey programme for the 384 properties across the borough was due to be completed. Graeme Kasselman noted that he didn't have this information to hand, however the implementation for the survey programme was due to be carried out within this calendar year. A second round of surveys would be completed for the less vulnerable properties. An accurate timeline would be circulated for the entire programme.

**Action: Thames Water** 

Councillor Stala Antoniades asked for further clarification to be provided on the completion date for the Thames tideway infrastructure. In response Graeme Kasselman noted that the tideway tunnel would be delivered by a third-party organisation, with the deadline to start commissioning work set for October 2024. Full commissioning of the tunnel would occur in 2025 with the possibility of extending to 2026 depending on rainfall.

Councillor Laura Janes noted that Thames Water acknowledged that dumping sewage in the Thames was not acceptable and questioned if this practice would be stopped. Michael Benke provided an overview of the longer-term approach, highlighting that it was a national requirement to significantly reduce the amount of sewage being dumped in the Thames by 2050. In response to a follow-on question, Graeme Kasselman noted that the short-term plan to reduce sewage within the borough was to introduce the full commissioning of the tideway tunnel which was expected to be 2025.

Councillor Laura Janes enquired about Thames Water's plans to allocate additional funding for the 2025-2030 funding cycle to cover emergency costs and fallout from the 2021 floods. In response Graeme Kasselman noted that within their submission to Ofwat Thames Water had factored in sufficient funding to extend the resilience programme to cover mitigation measures on all the properties that had reported flooding in July 2021. In addition, it was noted that currently there were no short-term plans in place to cover future proofing.

Councillor Laura Janes requested for additional clarification regarding Thames Water's communication plans for disseminating the survey to residents. Michael Benke noted that when the resilience programme launched Thames Water had

written to every property that had formally reported flooding. In addition, local social media groups were contacted to reach out to residents. The Chair expressed concerns around Thames Water's communication strategy and urged for further improvements to be made to effectively engage with residents. She requested that an enhanced action plan be circulated to the Committee outlining how Thames Water intended to reach out to resident for the survey.

**Action: Thames Water** 

In response to a question asked by the Committee, Michael Benke outlined Thames Water's contingency plans for addressing call centre enquiries in the event of a recurrence of the 2021 floods. He mentioned that an internal review had been conducted to identify areas of improvement in handling similar situations in the future to enhance its response to emergencies.

Councillor Ross Melton asked for further clarification on Thame's Water's process for forecasting adverse weather events, such as large storms and flooding and how this aligned with their investment programme. Graeme Kasselman explained that the process was defined in the drainage and wastewater management plan. He outlined how this tool was utilised to assess the potential impacts of climate change on wastewater services and to implement measures aimed at mitigating future risks.

In response to a question asked by the Committee, Michael Benke noted that a written response would be circulated to the Committee regarding Thames Water's stance on the restrictions imposed by the regulator when implementing actions, including the change in regulatory funding allocation.

**Action: Thames Water** 

A resident, directly affected by the 2021 floods, expressed dissatisfaction with Thames Water's inadequate response to the flooding. She made a series of comments. These included concerns about the company's ability to achieve its expected funding spend by 2050, noting that more emphasis needed to be placed on future proofing properties. She also mentioned the importance of Thame's Water collaborating with the Council on the adaptation strategy to address community concerns effectively. In response Graeme Kasselman outlined the proposed solutions for the sewer systems within the borough, emphasising the various methods being explored including source control to mitigate the impact of future flooding events.

A resident requested further clarification on Thames Water's policy aspirations. In response Graeme Kasselman noted that Thames Water had included their aspirations in a document called "2050 Vision". He highlighted the challenges faced by water companies, particularly the regulatory constraints on funding allocation. Additionally, an overview was provided on Thames Water's pathway document, detailing how they intended to achieve their objectives by 2050. A copy of the pathway document would be circulated to the Committee.

**Action: Thames Water** 

A resident raised concerns about the serious issues of wet wipes and was pleased to hear of Thames Water's support for proposals to ban them. He enquired about the plans Thames Water had in place to mitigate issues caused by wet wipes once they passed through the sewage system and accumulated in the Thames. Graeme Kasselman acknowledged concern regarding wet wipes, highlighting that Thames Water were working closely with Thames21 to address the raised issues. He mentioned that survey work had been conducted, partly funded by Thames Water and depth monitors had been installed to pinpoint blockage locations. Assurances were provided that Thames Water remained committed to ongoing efforts to tackle this issue effectively.

Closing the item, the Chair thanked Thames Water for attending the meeting and summarised the following key points. She emphasised the necessity for Thames Water to allocate further funding to accommodate the resilience programme and tackle the issues raised effectively. Furthermore, she urged Thames Water further to offer further clarity on their plans regrading communication with residents and meeting regulatory requirements set by Ofwat.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the Committee noted and commented on the paper and presentations.

#### 6. <u>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</u>

The next meeting will take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024. The Chair noted that at the next meeting an update would be provided on the Council's sustainable drainage systems.

		Meeting started: Meeting ended:	•
Chair			
Contact officer:	Amrita White Committee Co-ordinator Governance and Scrutiny		

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#### Agenda Item 4

#### LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

Report to: Climate Change and Ecology Policy and Accountability Committee

**Date:** 23/04/2024

**Subject:** Flood risk and adapting to climate change

**Report author:** Jessica Bastock, Service Manager (Healthy Streets)

Responsible Director: Mark Raisbeck, Director of Public Realm

#### **SUMMARY**

This report outlines the current flood risk in Hammersmith and Fulham and the actions being taken by the council to help manage flood risk within the borough. This includes information on "Greening the Grey" and how this work not only supports the management of flood risk but mitigates the growing effects from climate change. Finally, the paper outlines several of the public realm greening projects planned this year.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. For the Committee to note and comment on the paper and attached presentation

Wards Affected: All

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values						
Building shared prosperity	Flooding has a negative impact on residents, communities, and businesses. Through identifying those most at risk, management of flood risk can be prioritised.						
	The proposed actions and mitigations seek to manage the disruption from flooding, aiming to educate and protect communities from flooding.						
Creating a compassionate council	Flooding impacts all but affects the most disadvantaged groups the most,						

	therefore any measures to better manage the impact are important for protecting the most disadvantaged from the impact that flooding causes to lives and homes.  Access to green space is important for health and wellbeing, increasing more green infrastructure that is fully accessible is not only beneficial for nature and mitigates the impacts of climate change, but also for the wellbeing of residents.
Doing things with local residents, not to them	All schemes will be developed, designed, and delivered with residents in mind. Residents are key to any successful flood risk scheme being implemented. The council is currently consulting local residents and organisations to feed into a climate risk assessment and adaptation strategy for the borough.
Being ruthlessly financially efficient	Whilst reducing the impact of flooding and increasing the amount of green infrastructure will require significant financial investment, through the identification of external funding and methods of cost saving strategies the investment will remain financially efficient.
	Working in partnership with external partners such as other risk management authorities to deliver flood mitigation and to green the grey projects will reduce the cost.
Taking pride in H&F	These projects will act to transform streets and neighbourhoods, through methods such as increasing green infrastructure. The process will allow residents to take an active part in shaping these plans, working with the Council to manage their space, fostering pride and shared equity in their borough.
Rising to the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency	Risk of flooding from adverse weather is increasing due to the impacts of climate change. Through better identification of those communities at risk and delivery

#### **Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report**

#### **DETAILED ANALYSIS**

#### Background on flood risk in H&F

- 1. Hammersmith and Fulham council (H&F) are the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for the borough. The duties include but are not limited to managing surface water, ordinary watercourses, and ground water within the borough.
- 2. Other risk management authorities who manage flood risk within Hammersmith and Fulham are the Environment Agency who manage the River Thames (major rivers), and Thames Water Utilities Limited (TWUL) who are the sewerage undertaker managing the sewer network.
- 3. The geography and land use within the borough shapes the flood risk of the borough. Bordering the river Thames means a large portion of Hammersmith and Fulham is within a flood risk zone with respect to fluvial (river) and tidal flooding, however because of protection along the river Thames and its tributaries, the risk of tidal and fluvial flooding within the borough is low.
- 4. The highest risk from flooding in Hammersmith and Fulham is from surface water flooding, which occurs during heavy rainfall where water overwhelms the drainage and sewer network.
- 5. Factors that affect the risk from surface water flooding are urbanisation which has reduced the opportunity for natural drainage, an aging sewer system which was not originally constructed to operate for the large volumes of water we now experience, and the impacts of climate change which increases the occurrence of large storm events.
- 6. The council has acted to better manage flood risk. These include fostering relationships with other risk management authorities to increase collaborative working and knowledge sharing, increasing awareness of flood risk and mitigation within the council through an internal Climate Adaptation Steering

Group, increasing communication and awareness of flooding within the community, examples being the living with rainwater document and the basement flooding leaflet, the development and ongoing delivery of the Local Plan policies CC3 and CC4 and through the delivery of flood mitigation projects, such as Sustainable urban Drainage Scheme (SuDS).

- 7. Following the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 Lead Local Flood Authorities were tasked with producing documents to better understand local flood risk in their respective areas and recommend actions to manage flood risk. The action plans from these documents have been compiled into a flood risk.
- 8. Actions are grouped by themes, which are statutory duties, communication, collaboration, training, funding, emergency planning and projects.
- 9. Actions include reducing hard surfaces through greening the grey, increasing the amount of area in the borough that is sustainably drained, collaborating closer with internal departments on flood mitigation, and ensuring new development meets our drainage and flood risk policies as set out in the Local Plan.

#### **Greening the grey**

- 10. The aim of greening the grey is to reduce the amount of grey infrastructure such as paved space and increase the amount of green infrastructure.
- 11. In urban areas such as H&F, the amount of paved and hard surfaces has increased over time. The reduction in green space and increase in hard spaces has had a detrimental effect upon how the borough responds to climate change. This is seen through increased temperatures in hard standing areas (urban heat island effect), decrease in biodiversity and increased risk of surface water flooding.
- 12. With the challenge of not having enough land to create large new green spaces such as parks, there is an opportunity to create new small green spaces and adapt existing infrastructure such as buildings and roads to become greener and more resilient.
- 13. An example of greening the grey are green verges. Usually installed along roads, these can create ecological corridors and depending on planting used, they can create green barriers, helping to mitigate the effects of poor air quality and create more attractive streets that encourage more active transport modes such as walking or cycling.
- 14. Green SuDS features have also been widely used in H&F for greening the grey such as rain gardens and swales. These have the additional benefit of managing surface water in a sustainable way.

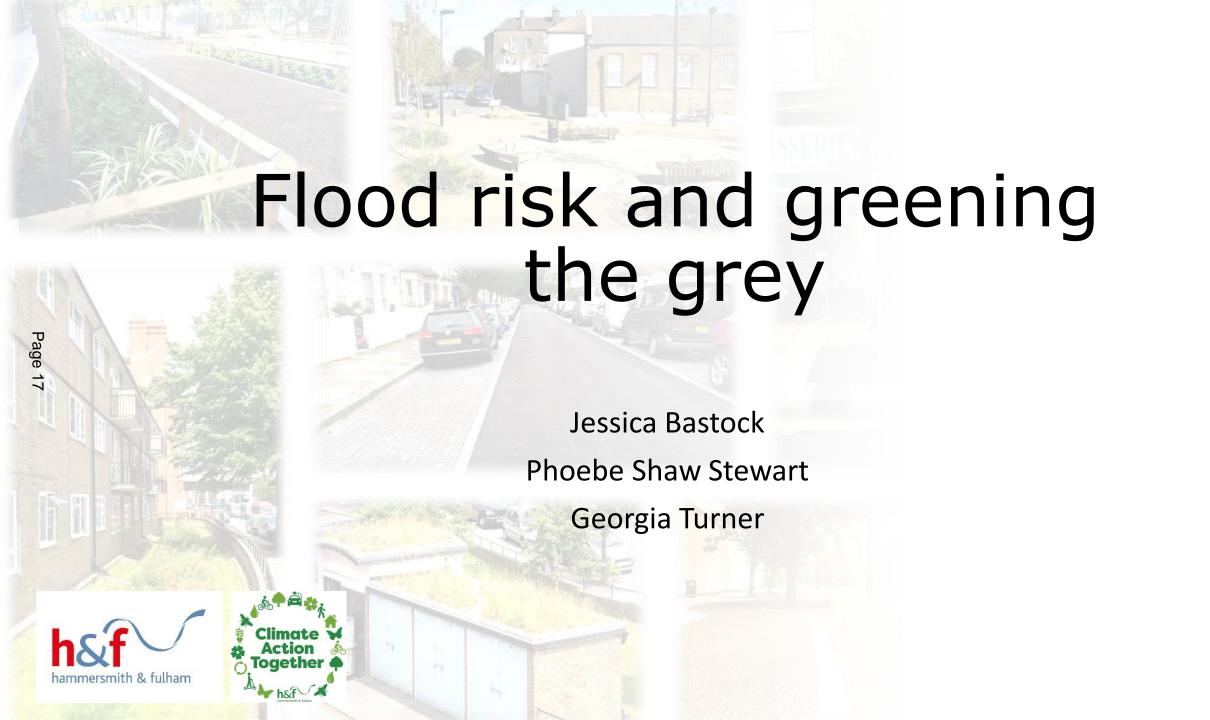
- 15. Where space is available tree planting is undertaken to help green, grey spaces. H&F's first tree strategy is being developed. Part of the tree strategy focuses on increasing canopy cover and ensuring we protect our urban forest and have an urban forest that is resilient to changing climatic conditions.
- 16. Whilst greening the grey may focus more on paved surfaces, existing building can also be adapted to provide an increase in green infrastructure. Green roofs and green walls are common on new buildings, but they are now being increasingly used on existing buildings, retrofitted. These building can be midrise residential buildings or single storey garages and pram sheds. Green roofs can vary from a basic sedum roof to a green roof which is also able to harvest rainwater and provide a deeper substrate for larger planting.
- 17. In addition to greening public space there are wider opportunities for greening the grey in residences and privately owned land. H&F is working with residents to encourage more greening on private land, through events and groups but also by enabling additional planting by hosting tree, bulb, and seed giveaways to residents.

#### Current greening the grey projects within the public realm

- 18. Across the public highway, work is being undertaken to map opportunities for greening the grey and for the inclusion of SuDS. This opportunity mapping when complete will be used internally to create a catalogue of potential projects that can be delivered. This will enable H&F to be better prepared when applying for external funding and will allow project engineers to assess the opportunity for greening when delivering new works and planned maintenance works. The work will also be shared with utility companies to encourage collaborative working where utilities have planned excavation work.
- 19. The current programme of works to be delivered in 2024/25 that will increase the amount of green infrastructure and in most cases include SuDS features such as rain gardens and engineered tree pits on the public highway are planned for Westville Road, King Street, Addison Gardens, Edith Road, New Kings Road, Marinefield Road, Grove Mews and Blythe Road. As the year progresses this list may include further projects.
- 20. Of these schemes two schemes will involve working with local schools. These are Greenside Primary School on Westville Road and Langford Primary School on Marinefield Road.

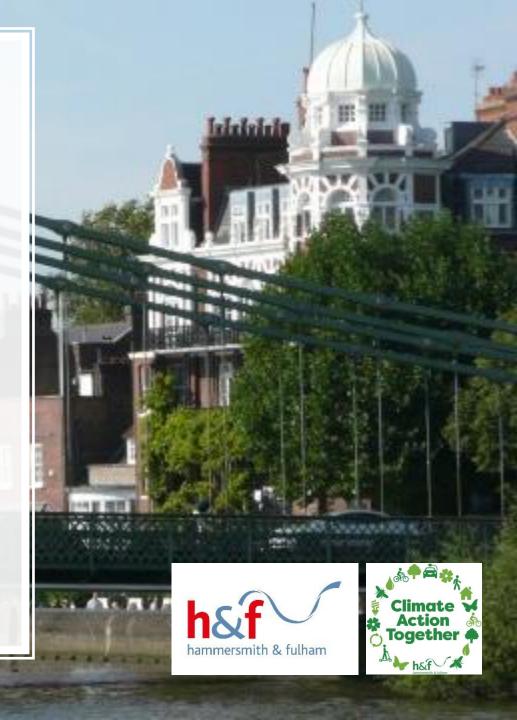
#### LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Flood risk and greening the grey presentation.

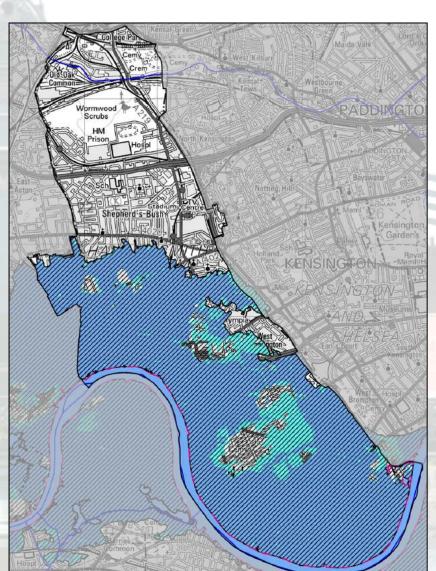


## Who manages flood risk

- Hammersmith and Fulham Council are the Lead Local Flood Authority and have a duty
  - manage surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses
- The Environment Agency manages major watercourses, such as The River Thames
- Water Companies manage the sewer network

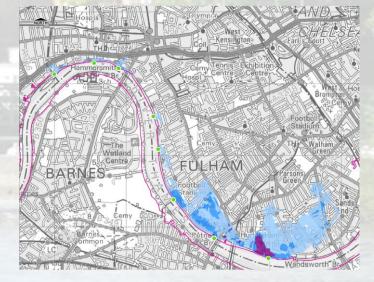


## Fluvial/Tidal Flood Risk





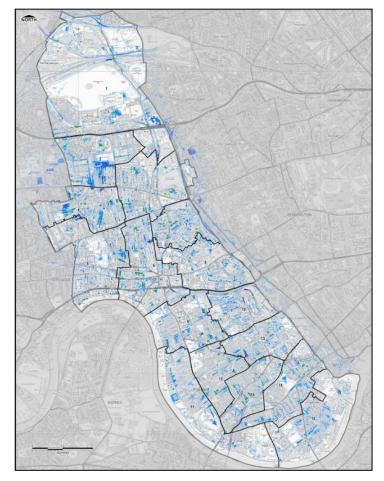






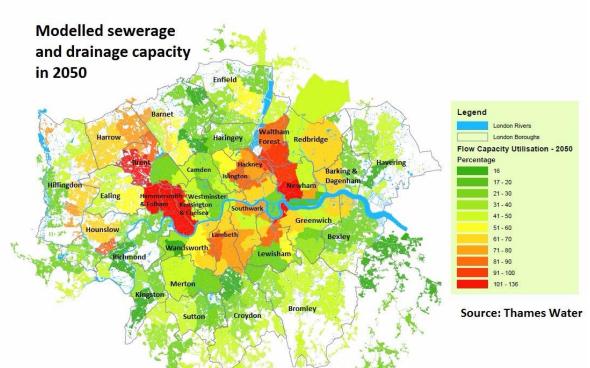


## Surface Water Flood Risk









## What are we doing

- Working with other LBHF departments (joint Climate Adaptation Steering Group)
- Working with other Risk Management Authorities (other boroughs, EA, TW)
- Ensuring new developments adhere to Local Plan policy on flood risk and drainage
- Enhance highway gully cleansing programme
- Community projects and flood action group
- Information Rainwater guide
- SuDS projects







### Flood risk and action

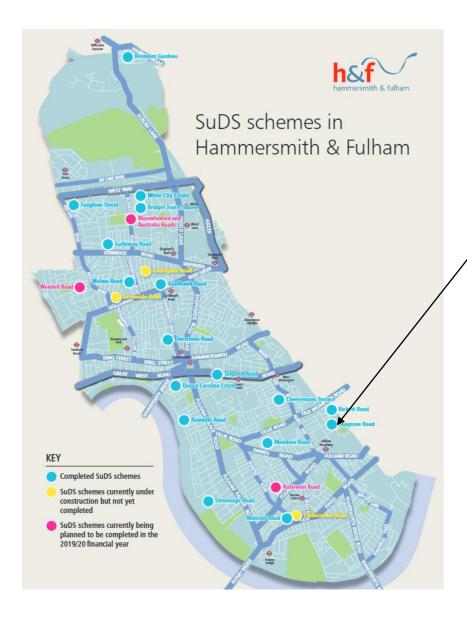
- Action plan comprises actions from the Surface Water Management Plan and the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
- Key themes for actions include statutory duties, collaboration, communication, maintenance and emergency planning.



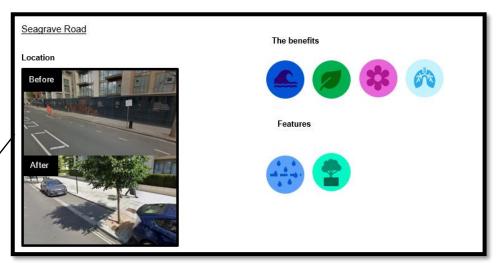


	IĎ v	ID • Action •		▼ Timing ▼			٠,	Responsibility			▼ Review ▼					
Theme		What?	How?	Where?	Priority Ranking	Timefra me	Start Date	Approx. Duratio n	Action Type	Lead Organisa tion		LLFA Dept.	Primary Support	Other Stakeholder s	Frequ	Next Revie W Date
LLFA duty	LBHF1	a standardised Asset	Implement a standardised asset register structure as per the suggested template provided by Defra. Educate departments involved in filling in the register, need to ensure evergone involved understands the register, its purpose and the methodology. Populate Asset Register with Council-owned Surface Vater / Drainage Assets	Borough Wide	High	Short	Highways	6 months	Flood and Water Management Act / Flood Risk Regulations	LBHF		Spatial Planning	GIS Team & Transport / Highways Team	EA, TfL, Network Rail, TWUL, London Underground, Energy Operators + others as appropriate	annual	Sep-24
LLFA duty	LBHF2	Revise & improve Asset Register	Revise the Asset Register as required to incorporate more information, i.e. survey details and develop a GIS/web based- compatible database to create a spatial representation of the surface water assets.	Borough Wide	Low	Medium	Highways	Ongoing	Flood and Water Management Act / Flood Risk Regulations	LBHF		Spatial Planning	GIS Team & Transport / Highways Team		annual	Mar-25
LLFA duty	LBHF3	Implement a standardised Flood Incident Log to record and investigate future	Inplement a standardised flood incident log to record flood events. Educate departments involved in filling in the spreadsheet to ensure everyone involved understands the log and the methodology. It is recommended that the source of flooding be recorded, e.g. gully surcharging, to inform maintenance priorities.	Borough Wide	High	Short	Emergency Planning	6 months to Implement the log - this could be done immediatel y. The training of staff may take more time to formulate and action but it	Flood and Water Management Act / Flood Risk Regulations	LBHF		Spatial Planning			ongoing	

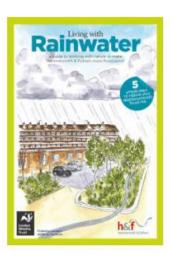
## Guidance



- SuDS map of borough
- Currently updating website and make interactive



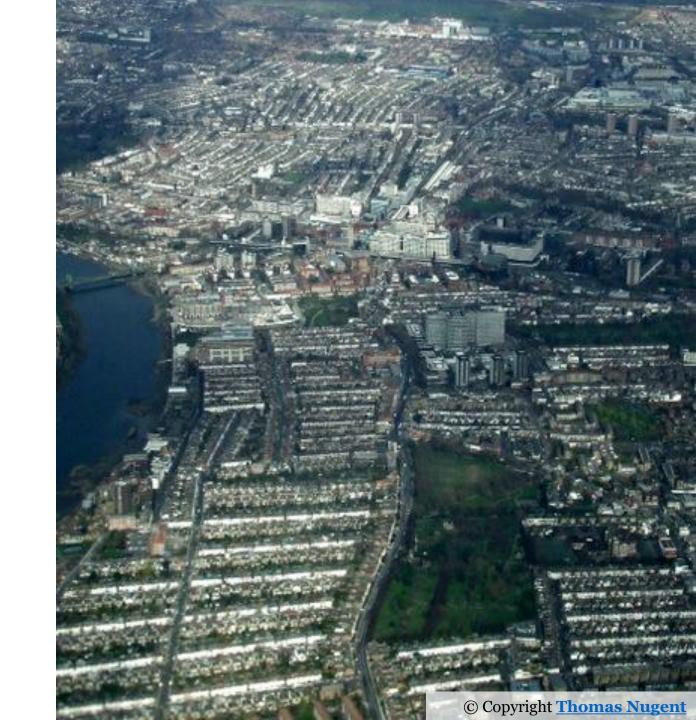
 Link to current guides such as the H&F living with rainwater guide



## Greening the Grey







## What?

- Reduce and adapt grey infrastructure
  - Rail & roads
  - Pipes and cables
- Increase green infrastructure
  - Parks, green spaces & gardens
  - Woodlands, rivers & wetlands
  - Street trees & planters
  - Green roofs & walls







## Why?

- More than just improving the look of places
- Green infrastructure can clean air, reduce flood risk and create cool spaces
  - Create a resilient city that can accommodate a growing population
- Adapt to effects of changing climate
- Creative solutions required as land pressure increases





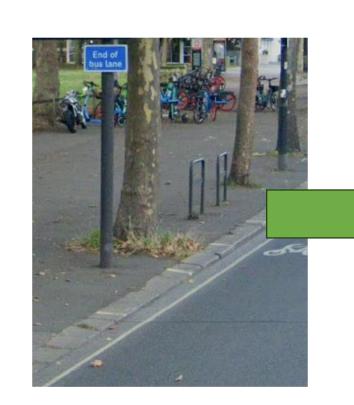


## Green Verges

- Multiple examples throughout the borough including New Kings Road and Bentworth Road
- Contributes to creating ecological corridors and forms a green barrier
- Permeable surface











## SuDS

- Opportunities throughout the borough
- Numerous successful examples of completed projects
  - Godolphin Road
  - Australia Road
  - Starch Green
- Provide multiple benefits incl tackling surface water flooding, improving biodiversity and engaging the community







## SuDS features

- Permeable and porous surfaces
- Swales/ponds
- Rainwater harvesting
- Green roofs
- Engineered tree pits
- Raingardens







## Trees and tree pits

- Tree strategy in final stages
- Increase canopy cover from 14% to 16.5% by 2030 (23% by 2050)
- >27,000 trees in parks, housing, cemeteries, schools and highways
- >45,000 privately owned trees
- Multiple benefits







## Green Roofs

- Opportunity to increase green cover, improve biodiversity and adapt to climate change
- Can be rolled out on private and council buildings
- Can be combined with PV panels to create biosolar roofs





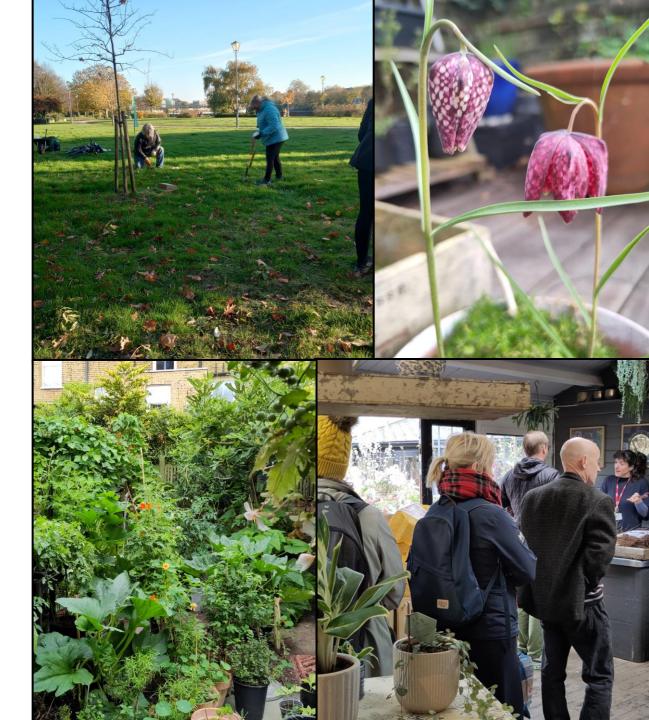


## Resident involvement

- >40% of private gardens are paved over
- Opportunities on balconies and small spaces
- Involving residents also benefits wellbeing
- Free tree/bulb/seed giveaways
- Events and groups







# Greening the Grey projects in Public Realm





## 2024 / 2025 Projects

- Eelbrook Common
- Westville Road
- King Street
- Addison Gardens
- Edith Road
- New Kings Road

- Marinefield Road
- Grove Mews
- Blythe Road





## Eelbrook Common

- Grant from Mayor of London
- Supplemented by S106 and Green Investment Fund
- Removed concrete and hardstanding from ~1700sqm area
- Community planting day 17 April
- Improve look and feel of area
- Benefits biodiversity
- Permeable surface





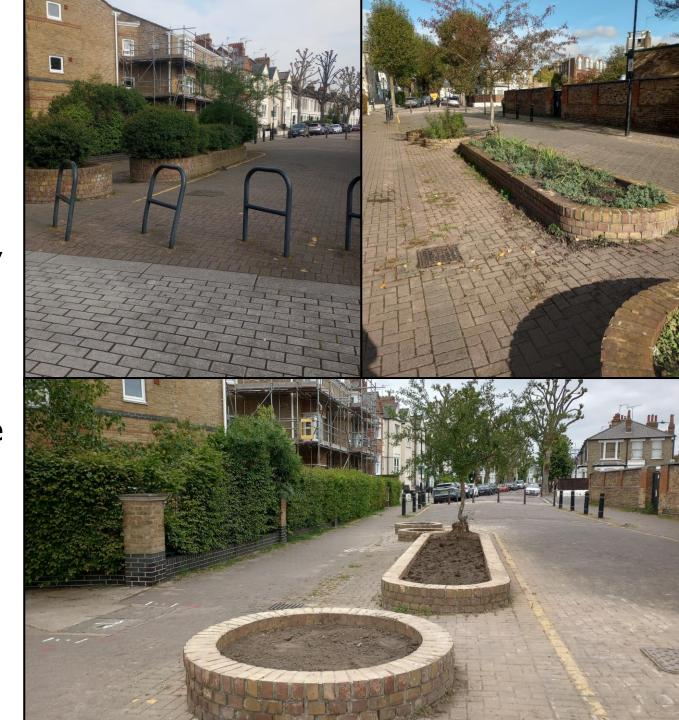


## Westville Road

- SuDS
- Green Investment Fund
- Co-designing with adjacent primary school
- Removing hardstanding material in pedestrianised space
- Providing a green community space
- Working with the Police by tackling anti-social behaviour







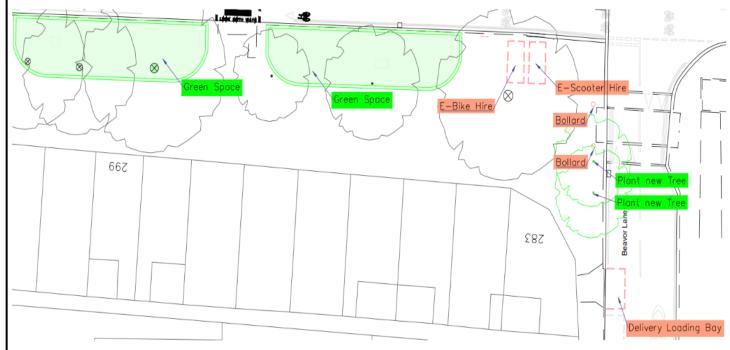
## King Street

- SuDS
- S106 Funding and UK Shared Prosperity Funding
- Depave outside the parade of shops
- Providing the space for business deliveries
- Improving pedestrian safety
- Micro mobility hub







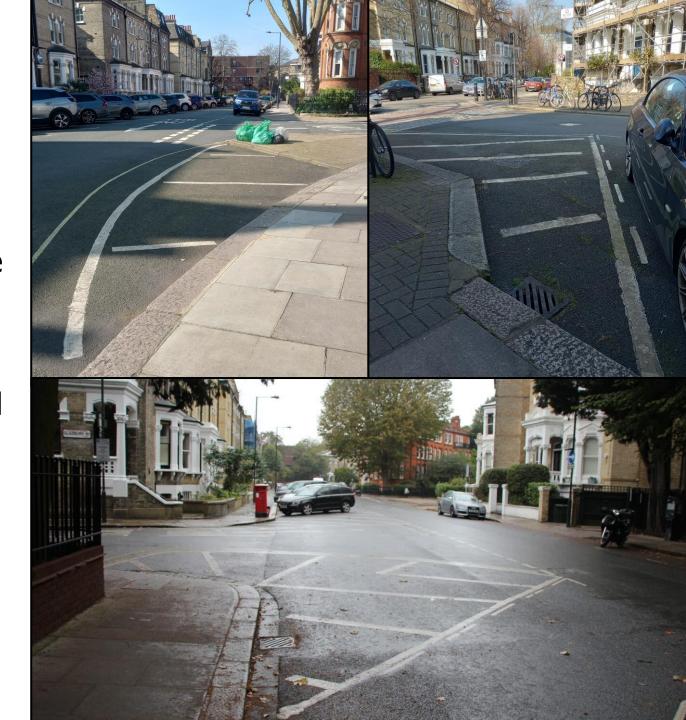


## **Edith Road**

- SuDS
- Green Investment Fund
- Utilising hatching space along the street to create raingardens
- Influencing driving behaviour
- Improve look and feel of the road
- Benefits biodiversity







## Blythe Road

- Trees & SuDS
- Green Investment Fund
- Phase 1 of works
- Removing hardstanding material
  - Increasing the number of trees by putting them in the road as buildouts











### Further work

- SuDS opportunity mapping
- Applying for external funding for new projects
- Working with Planned
   Maintenance team and our
   Capital Projects team to
   maximise greening in all
   schemes









