



# Havering

L O N D O N   B O R O U G H

## PLACE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDA

**7.00 pm**

**Tuesday  
26 March 2024**

**Appointment Centre  
Room 10 & 11, Town  
Hall, Romford**

Members 12: Quorum 5

### **COUNCILLORS:**

#### **Conservative Group (4)**

David Taylor (Chairman)  
Osman Dervish  
Ray Best  
Jason Frost

#### **Havering Residents' Group (5)**

Gerry O'Sullivan  
Natasha Summers  
Sue Ospreay  
John Wood  
Vacant

#### **Labour Group (2)**

Katharine Tumilty (Vice-Chair)  
Matthew Stanton

#### **East Havering Residents Group (1)**

Brian Eagling

**For information about the meeting please contact:**

**Taiwo Adeoye - 01708 433079  
taiwo.adeoye@onesource.co.uk**

***Under the Committee Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution the Chairman of the meeting may exercise the powers conferred upon the Mayor in relation to the conduct of full Council meetings. As such, should any member of the public interrupt proceedings, the Chairman will warn the person concerned. If they continue to interrupt, the Chairman will order their removal from the meeting room and may adjourn the meeting while this takes place.***

***Excessive noise and talking should also be kept to a minimum whilst the meeting is in progress in order that the scheduled business may proceed as planned.***

### **Protocol for members of the public wishing to report on meetings of the London Borough of Havering**

Members of the public are entitled to report on meetings of Council, Committees and Cabinet, except in circumstances where the public have been excluded as permitted by law.

Reporting means:-

- filming, photographing or making an audio recording of the proceedings of the meeting;
- using any other means for enabling persons not present to see or hear proceedings at a meeting as it takes place or later; or
- reporting or providing commentary on proceedings at a meeting, orally or in writing, so that the report or commentary is available as the meeting takes place or later if the person is not present.

Anyone present at a meeting as it takes place is not permitted to carry out an oral commentary or report. This is to prevent the business of the meeting being disrupted.

Anyone attending a meeting is asked to advise Democratic Services staff on 01708 433076 that they wish to report on the meeting and how they wish to do so. This is to enable employees to guide anyone choosing to report on proceedings to an appropriate place from which to be able to report effectively.

Members of the public are asked to remain seated throughout the meeting as standing up and walking around could distract from the business in hand.

## **What is Overview & Scrutiny?**

Each local authority is required by law to establish an overview and scrutiny function to support and scrutinise the Council's executive arrangements. Each overview and scrutiny sub-committee has its own remit as set out in the terms of reference but they each meet to consider issues of local importance.

The sub-committees have a number of key roles:

1. Providing a critical friend challenge to policy and decision makers.
2. Driving improvement in public services.
3. Holding key local partners to account.
4. Enabling the voice and concerns to the public.

The sub-committees consider issues by receiving information from, and questioning, Cabinet Members, officers and external partners to develop an understanding of proposals, policy and practices. They can then develop recommendations that they believe will improve performance, or as a response to public consultations. These are considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Board and if approved, submitted for a response to Council, Cabinet and other relevant bodies.

Sub-Committees will often establish Topic Groups to examine specific areas in much greater detail. These groups consist of a number of Members and the review period can last for anything from a few weeks to a year or more to allow the Members to comprehensively examine an issue through interviewing expert witnesses, conducting research or undertaking site visits. Once the topic group has finished its work it will send a report to the Sub-Committee that created it and will often suggest recommendations for the Overview and Scrutiny Board to pass to the Council's Executive.

## **Terms of Reference**

The areas scrutinised by the Committee are:

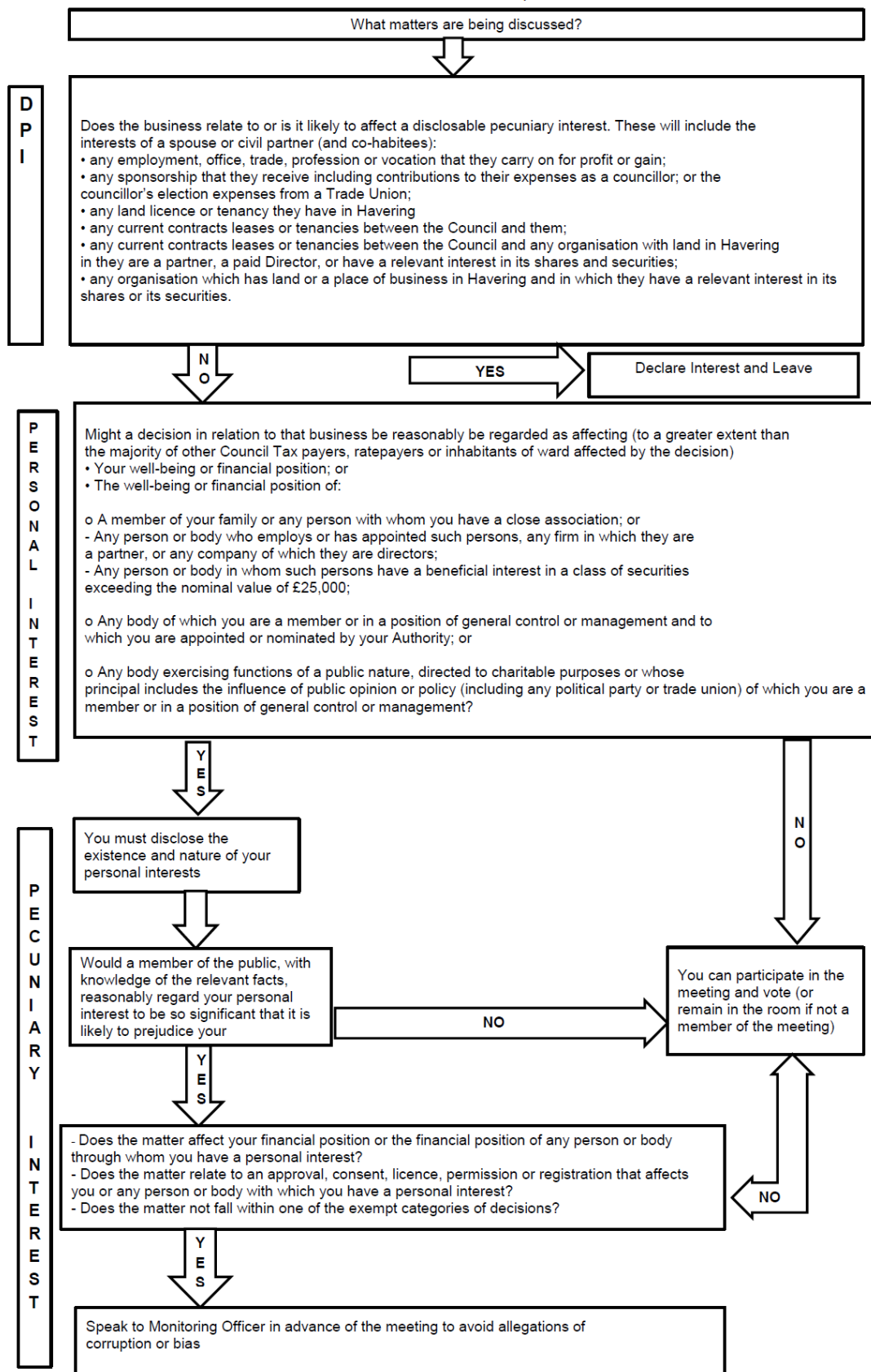
- Housing & Accommodation Services
- Land & Property Services
- Planning
- Building Control
- Business Services
- Inward Investment
- Asset Management
- Property Services
- Facilities Management
- Sports

## **Place Overview & Scrutiny Sub Committee, 26 March 2024**

- Leisure
- Arts
- Music
- Libraries
- Heritage
- Parks & Open Space
- Highways
- Parking & Traffic
- Waste & Recycling
- Climate Change
- Transport & Infrastructure
- Public Protection & Licensing
- Emergency Planning
- Technical Services



**DECLARING INTERESTS FLOWCHART – QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF**



## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

Receive (if any)

### **2 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Members are invited to disclose any interests in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting. Members may still declare an interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.

### **3 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman will announce details of the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building's evacuation.

### **4 MINUTES** (Pages 7 - 16)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 14 December 2023 and 23 January 2024 and authorise the Chairman to sign them.

### **5 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT REVIEW OF RESOURCES** (Pages 17 - 32)

Report attached.

### **6 CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY** (Pages 33 - 100)

This report is for consideration under pre-decision scrutiny arrangements.

**Zena Smith**  
**Head of Committee and**  
**Election Services**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
PLACE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE  
Council Chamber - Town Hall  
14 December 2023 (7.00 - 9.30 pm)**

**Present:**

**COUNCILLORS**

**Conservative Group**                      David Taylor (Chairman), Ray Best and Jason Frost

**Havering Residents' Group**                      Gerry O'Sullivan and Bryan Vincent

**Labour Group**                              Matthew Stanton and +Patricia Brown

+Councillor Tumilty was substituted by Councillor Pat Brown.

The Chairman reminded Members of the action to be taken in an emergency.

**37      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

Apologies were received for the absence of Councillors Brian Eagling, Natasha Summers and Katharine Tumilty.

**38      DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

There were no disclosures of interests.

**39      MINUTES**

The minutes of the sub-committee meeting held on 14 September 2023 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**40      TACKLING DAMP AND MOULD**

The Sub-Committee was presented with a report on the current issues relating to damp and mould including some of the measures that are currently being undertaken in relation to the issue.

It was stated that the damp and mould issues within Havering is a complex matter with many contributing factors including historic building deficiencies that create surfaces areas that are more prone to condensate.

The housing stock in Havering comprised of a large number of dwellings constructed in and around the 1960's. it was stated that dwellings constructed in the period were not subject to current building regulations and therefore lack the thermal values of modern construction.

The sub-committee was informed that the amount of condensation and mould can be increased by factors such as overcrowding and furniture, clothing, and bags being placed close to external walls as airflow is restricted and moisture containing air can settle more easily.

This can often result in resident's belongings becoming damp and spoiled and consequently complaints and frustration from resident.

The cost of living crisis is also adding additional pressure, whereby residents cannot afford to use there heating.

Many families within Havering are not legally overcrowded even though their living conditions may be very cramped. Larger families within smaller dwelling that have the building deficiencies highlighted in some of housing most common Archetypes will be at a far greater risk of condensation occurring.

The table in the presentation detailed how much moisture was created by daily tasks. It was explained that in supporting residents the service have improved processes to report a damp and mould concerns. It was stated that all residents who report damp and mould issues will be offered a surveyor's inspection within a target time of 3 weeks.

Officer explained that surveyor undertake a detailed property inspection identifying any building defects, raising works orders to remedy any defect identified. The service will look at measures designed to help, such as installing better mechanical ventilation where appropriate. Officers will fully explain the cause of the mould to the resident and offer advice on moisture reduction and management, explaining the underlying issue that makes the dwelling more prone to condensation and how adjustments to life style can dramatically improve conditions and reduce condensation and subsequently mould.

It was stated that the repairs and capital teams liaise with each other on a regular basis to identify any problem blocks and look at developing its future capital programmes to alleviate some of the current issues through the service retrofit agenda.

The service indicated that it was exploring further external grant funding options such as Wave Three Decarbonisation Funding, that is yet to be announced by the government. Officers explained that the service was

allocating £7million in 24/25 and £11million in 25/26 for energy efficiency measures on council properties which will help to address some of the current issues.

The sub-committee was informed that the damp and mould issues within Havering is a complex matter with many contributing factors including historic building deficiencies that create surfaces areas that are more prone to condensate. In response officers outlined the following responses:

- Continuation of survey and inspection of every property where damp and mould issues have been reported and take remedial actions where needed.
- Providing residents with detailed advice on how they can prevent mould growth in properties and offer advice on moisture reduction and management.
- Offering all resident assistance in the form of a Damp & Mould MOT that includes a regular monthly mould wash programme over a four month period during the colder winter months.
- Looking at measures such as improved extractor fans, draft excluders, window overhauls etc. where appropriate.
- Identifying any problem blocks and consider whether these issues can be rectified as part of future capital programmes.
- Exploring further external grant funding opportunities.

The Sub-Committee **noted** the report.

#### **41 HOUSING RESIDENT SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE PERFORMANCE**

The report provided an update to sub-committee of the position of Housing services resident safety and compliance programmes against its statutory and regulatory duties including duties under the Building Safety Act 2022.

As agreed by Cabinet the Place Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee will be provided with regular reports on the Housing compliance performance as part of the internal governance approach and performance is also scrutinised monthly by both the Compliance board and the Asset Management Sub Steering Group.

The report detailed the following compliance areas regarding resident safety:

- Gas Safety – all gas appliances should be inspected annually and a Landlord Gas Safety Record (LGSR) provided.

- Electrical Safety – all social rented properties must have an electrical inspection (EICR) every 10 years, although recent regulation changes require private landlords to have 5 year inspections and this is considered best practice in social rented properties and the approach we have adopted.
- Lift Safety – Monthly inspections and planned maintenance regimes and an annual certificate provided by our insurer.
- Water Safety – all relevant water systems must be checked for legionella risk, this is based on a risk based approach which could be a cyclical programme every 2 years. All actions flowing from the legionella inspection must be completed within prescribed timescales.
- Fire Safety – All relevant properties must have a valid Fire risk assessment (FRA) undertaken on a risk based approach which can be on a cyclical programme between 1 and 3 years. All actions flowing from the FRA must be completed within prescribed timescales.
- Asbestos – under the asbestos regulations all communal areas must have a valid management level asbestos survey which must be held on a relevant asbestos register. In addition, completing a survey programme of all domestic properties to ensure risk is managed, this is not however a statutory requirement under the asbestos regulations.
- Fire Door Checks – Carrying out flat entrance door checks in all tower blocks. Monitoring has been ongoing since June 2023 as part of the new requirements under the 2022 Building Safety Act. In addition, the service was completing fire door checks in all blocks with communal heating to ensure risk was appropriately managed. These additional checks are not a statutory requirement under the new Building Safety Act.

It was noted that all resident safety key performance indicators (KPIs) are set at 100% as shown in Appendix 1. After a significant programme of work the service has been able to complete most programmes and ensure the relevant evidence was in place to support this position.

It was to be noted that given the seriousness of resident safety all KPIs are set at 100% as shown in Appendix 1. After a significant programme of work LBH has been able to complete most programmes and ensure the relevant evidence was in place to support this position.

The sub-committee was informed that there were a number of EICRs to complete, these were hard to reach properties and work was being done to

resolve these. All action from the Building Safety Act are captured on the Action plan in appendix 2.

Officers highlighted some new legislation introduced which flowed from the Grenfell Enquiry, The Fire Safety Regulations 2022 to the sub-committee. It was stated that the service had introduced some additional monitoring regimes to ensure compliance such as communal doors checked every 3 months and flat front entrance doors checked every 12 months. These have now been included in the report.

The legislation also introduced some additional requirements around way finding signage requirements, floor plans, lifts and essential firefighting equipment which the service is working to ensure compliance.

The sub-committee was informed that in order to achieve this requirement the service was exploring a tool which has allowed for 3D model of each high rise building. Officers are now able to identify all relevant equipment, isolation of services and other relevant information. The service is still populating the tool and are now sharing some sections with the London Fire Board (LFB).

It was stated that there are plans to share relevant sections with residents as part of the service engagement strategy. This will also be the core methodology for providing information to the new Building Safety Regulator as part of the building safety case file.

The Sub-Committee **noted** the report.

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**Chairman**

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## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLACE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE Appointment Centre Rooms 10 & 11 24 January 2024 (7.00 - 9.40 pm)**

**Present:**

### **COUNCILLORS**

<b>Conservative Group</b>	David Taylor (Chairman), Osman Dervish, Ray Best and Jason Frost
<b>Havering Residents' Group</b>	Gerry O'Sullivan
<b>Labour Group</b>	Katharine Tumilty (Vice-Chair) and Matthew Stanton
<b>East Havering Residents Group</b>	Brian Eagling

Apologies were received for the absence of Councillors Natasha Summers and Bryan Vincent.

The Chairman reminded Members of the action to be taken in an emergency.

### **42 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman reminded members of the actions to be taken in case of an emergency.

### **43 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Natasha Summers and Councillor Bryan Vincent.

### **44 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

There were no disclosures of interests.

### **45 HRA BUSINESS PLAN**

At the request of the Sub-Committee the budget papers for the HRA Business Plan was presented under the pre-decision scrutiny arrangement.

The report falls under the auspices of the Sub-Committee and form part of the budget papers to be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 28 February.

Following presentation and debate the sub-committee made the following recommendations and comments that would be passed to the Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration for inclusion in the Board's overall comments on the budget papers.

1. That members note the advice from Savills, in 7.3, in which a question on the viability of the scheme was raised.
2. Recommended that the council revisit the infill scheme, regarding council garages, in order to reduce anti-social behaviour and provide new homes.
3. That members be mindful of the potential telecare costs, relating to the digital switch over.
4. Note the negative EQIA assessments, on all characteristics.
5. Recommended that the Section 151 Officer should explain the need to borrow from the general fund, as opposed to PWLB or other external sources, also commenting on the impact that this has on the General Fund and deficit.
6. That members be provided with an update on work taken to increase the number of bedrooms in homes, with a view to ensuring residents can remain in their home as opposed to being moved to a larger property.
7. That the sub-committee be provided with a breakdown on the charges relating to heat and water.

**46      BRIDGE CLOSE REGENERATION LLP - IN YEAR REVIEW OF 2024/25 BUSINESS PLAN**

At the request of the Sub-Committee the budget papers for the Bridge Close Regeneration LLP Business Plan Refresh 2024-25 was presented under the pre-decision scrutiny arrangement.

The report falls under the auspices of the Sub-Committee and form part of the budget papers to be considered to Cabinet at its meeting on 28 February.

Following presentation and debate the sub-committee made the following comments and recommendations that would be passed to the Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration for inclusion in the Board's overall comments on the budget papers.

1. That Officers suggest a frequency for regular reporting on the project to Places OSSC.

2. That a metric be identified to quantify savings to the General Fund, such as a reduction in pressure on the social care budget. It was recommended that an AMAT assessment is conducted.
3. Recommended that the term "affordable" is broken down to identify the products on offer.

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**Chairman**

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## PLACES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

**26 March 2024**

<b>Subject Heading:</b>	<b>Planning Enforcement Review of Resources</b>
<b>ELT Lead:</b>	Helen Oakerbee Director of Planning and Public Protection
<b>Report Author and contact details:</b>	Simon Thelwell Head of Strategic Development <a href="mailto:Simon.thelwell@havering.gov.uk">Simon.thelwell@havering.gov.uk</a>
<b>Policy context:</b>	Havering Local Plan

### SUMMARY

Following the recommendation of the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO), a review of resources for the Enforcement function within planning has been undertaken.

The review has been completed, setting out the current issues within Planning Enforcement and makes recommendations in relation to recruitment, enforcement plan, business support, interaction with planners and performance monitoring and performance.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That this report and appended review be noted.

### REPORT DETAIL

- 1.1 On 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023, a report from the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO) was issued in relation made against the Council that a planning condition requiring a landscaping scheme had not been enforced. The LGO conclusion found fault which caused an injustice and could happen again.

1.2 As part of the LGO findings, the Council agreed to the following action:

carry out a review of its planning enforcement service to determine whether it has the resources it needs to carry out its functions. The outcome of the review should be reported to the relevant scrutiny committee. This should happen within six months from the date of our final decision.

1.3 The review has been carried out by the Head of Strategic Development in the Planning Service. The conclusion reached is that the enforcement function is currently not adequately staffed and contributes to workload issues and ability to deal with investigations in a timely manner.

1.4 The Review:

- outlines the main functions of the service;
- analyses the current resources, workload and performance;
- assesses the main issues arising as a result of the analysis carried out;
- recommends an action plan to deal with the issues identified.

1.5 The Review is included as an Appendix to this report.

1.6 In accordance with the LGO decision, the review is being reported to this scrutiny sub-committee.

1.7 The Sub-committee is invited to note the content of the review and the actions recommended.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

**Financial implications and risks:** None. The Sub-committee is not a decision making body. The recommendations in the Enforcement Review may have implications should budget (e.g. salary budget) not exist, but any change to budgets would need to be agreed as part of Council's budget setting.

**Legal implications and risks:** None. The report is for noting.

**Human Resources implications and risks:** None. The report is for noting. Currently any recruitment needs are assessed and approved through the Council's recruitment panel.

**Equalities implications and risks:** Havering has a diverse community made up of many different groups and individuals. The Council values diversity and believes it

essential to understand and include the different contributions, perspectives and experience that people from different backgrounds bring.

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- I. the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- II. the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- III. the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

**Environmental and Climate Change implications and risk: None**

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>
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- 1. Enforcement Report – See Appendix 1
- 2. LGO Decision – See Appendix 2

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **London Borough of Havering**

#### **Review of Planning Enforcement Resourcing**

##### **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 Following an investigation into a failure to deal with a planning enforcement matter, the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO) has recommended, and the Council agreed, to undertake a review of Planning Enforcement to determine whether it has the resources it needs to carry out its functions.

##### **2.0 LGO Investigation**

- 2.1 The matter investigated by the LGO involved the failure of a developer to correctly implement a landscaping scheme that was required as a condition of planning permission for additional flats at roof level to a block in Romford town centre. The landscaping condition was one of a number of conditions that were not complied with. Compliance with other conditions was achieved through negotiation with the developer, but the landscaping condition was still outstanding leading to the service of a Breach of Condition Notice. However, despite this, compliance with the condition was not achieved and landscaping in accordance with the approved details was still not provided. The LGO considered that the failure to ensure timely enforcement of the condition was at fault.

##### **3.0 The Planning Enforcement Function and Powers**

- 3.1 Planning Enforcement undertake the following main functions:
- Investigation of planning breaches including negotiation
  - Taking enforcement action
  - Prosecutions
  - Direct action
  - Defending planning appeals
- 3.2 The powers for Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to take enforcement action is mainly contained in the Town and County Planning Act 1990 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (the Acts) and subsequent secondary legislation. Under the Acts, LPAs have powers to serve notices requiring certain actions to be taken to remedy any breaches identified. There is no requirement under the Acts that LPAs need to serve notices whenever there is a breach, rather the requirement to serve notices is “if they consider it expedient to do so”. In that sense, the taking of



formal enforcement action is discretionary. However, the investigation of planning breaches is part of the statutory planning function and an inability to investigate or take action against breaches where permission would likely be refused would impact on the whole Planning Service, rendering the whole service ineffective. Public confidence in the planning process would be undermined by a failure to take appropriate enforcement action when required.

- 3.3 As confirmed by the LGO investigation and findings, there is an expectation that the planning enforcement investigation and, where required, remedy of breaches should be dealt with in a timely and effective manner.

#### **4.0 The Planning Enforcement Team Staffing and Workloads**

- 4.1 The Planning Enforcement Team is part of the Planning Service within the Planning and Public Protection Directorate within Place. The Planning Enforcement Team consists of the following structure:

- Planning Enforcement Team Leader x 1
- Planning Enforcement Deputy Team Leader x 1
- Senior / Planning Enforcement Officers x 5

- 4.2 Recruitment to the vacant posts last took place in 2019/2020, with one planning officer post and one deputy team leader post being successfully recruited to. Recruitment to 4 of the enforcement officer posts was not successful. From April 2023, following benchmarking against salaries for equivalent posts in London, the deputy team leader and enforcement officer posts have been subject to market supplements (team leader post has had market supplement since 2020).

- 4.3 The Planning Enforcement Team Leader reports to the Head of Development Management – this post is currently vacant so management escalation is to the Head of Strategic Development and Director of Planning and Public Protection.

- 4.4 In terms of officers in post, the current position is as follows:

- Planning Enforcement Team Leader (Permanent) x 1
- Planning Enforcement Deputy Team Leader Permanent) x 1
- Planning Enforcement Officer (Permanent) x 1
- Planning Enforcement Officer (Agency) x 2

Therefore, in terms of officers in post against establishment, there is currently a shortfall of 2 officers.

- 4.5 Prior to September 2022, the service was more than fully staffed with 5 additional agency staff covering 4 vacant posts, plus a funded, extra to establishment post. However, due to the high costs of agency staff compared with permanent staff and financial pressures within the Planning

Service, the number of agency staff was reduced. The team contracted by 5 officers in October and November 2022.

- 4.6 In terms of workload, the following tables sets out some indication of the work of the team.

**Cases Received/Closed**

Period	Cases Received	Cases Closed
Apr 23 - Feb 24	414	453
Apr 22 - Mar 23	469	731
Apr 21 - Mar 22	675	602
Apr 20 - Mar 21	601	555

**Current Cases on Hand**

Post	Number of Cases
TL	61
DTL	132
Enf Off 1	101
Enf Off 2	154
Enf Off 3	126
Others (Traveller Pitches Allocated in Local Plan)*	30
Total	604

\* sites allocated in the Local Plan awaiting planning applications or decisions so no active investigation taking place.

**Enforcement Notices Served**

Period	Notices Served
Apr 23 – Feb 24	34
Apr 22 – Mar 23	63
Apr 21 – Mar 22	80
Apr 20 – Mar 21	61

- 4.7 From the above, the following main issues can be identified:

- **There is a significant backlog of cases:** Historically, case levels have been very high, but there has been successful effort over recent years (particularly when fully staffed) to reduce the number of cases on hand. Despite this, the current number of cases on hand (604) exceeds the number of cases received in each of the last two years (469 22/23 and 414 23/Feb 24). This means that there is a “backlog” of cases that are at least a year old. It would be expected that some cases will take a while to resolve, particularly where formal notices are served which often result in an appeal (currently 10 notices at appeal, appeals can take a year or more to determine) and further negotiation before prosecution, which itself is a protracted process. However, at present there are over 300

cases which are over a year old, which is a significant number of the total caseload.

- **The number of cases per officer is very high:** The number of cases per officer makes it difficult for officers to manage cases in order to respond in a timely manner to new cases received and ultimately to resolve cases (the problem identified by the LGO). Furthermore, the longer the case is open, the more likely it is that there will be repeated contacts from residents and/or Members seeking updates which itself contributes to the officer workload. The consequences of high officer workloads contributes to the backlog of cases.
- **Notices Served reflects staffing levels:** A high number of notices served is not necessarily an indication of a good or efficient service albeit it is currently the only planning enforcement 'performance' indicator that central government monitors. In most cases where planning breaches are identified, it would be appropriate either to request remedy within a certain period or allow for the submission of a planning application to regularise the position. However, there are cases where the harm is such that it is expedient to serve a notice. The ability to serve a notice at the appropriate time would be related to the workload of the officer. Based on previous statistics, it is considered about 60 notices a year would be expected to be served and that a manageable workload per officer would be in the order of 80.

#### 4.8 Other Issues:

**Enforcement Plan:** The current planning enforcement policy has not been updated since 2012 and does not fully reflect current practice, nor set out policy for dealing with issues such as vexatious complaints (for instance neighbour disputes rather than any planning breach that would warrant investigation). The National Planning Policy Framework states that LPAs "should consider publishing a local enforcement plan to manage enforcement proactively, in a way that is appropriate to their area. This should set out how they will monitor the implementation of planning permissions, investigate alleged cases of unauthorised development and take action where appropriate."

**Monitoring of Planning Permissions:** Currently, planning enforcement is a reactionary service, responding to reports of breaches received and with no proactive monitoring of applications being implemented.

**Business Support:** There is little dedicated business support for the planning enforcement service other than in relation to appeals, because of insufficient capacity within the Neighbourhoods Business Support Team. Officers are consequently involved in a significant amount of administrative work, including registering of new cases and monitoring generic email in-

boxes. This adds to workload and the ability to deal effectively with high caseloads.

**Performance Monitoring:** The Team Leader is responsible for monitoring the performance of the team. Performance monitoring is most effective when there are standards in place set out in the enforcement plan (see above) and the planning database system can produce data for useful analysis. Regular 1-1s and full case conferences are held, with areas of prioritisation identified. Monitoring data has been recently improved through Power BI reporting, but the limitations of the current database means that only a few performance measures can be accurately monitored.

**Issues where Planning Applications Requested/Submitted:** Where breaches are identified that do not cause obvious significant harm, it would be appropriate to invite a planning application. Where planning applications are received, the standard of submission tends to be poor, which in turn results in additional work for the planning officers dealing with planning applications. This creates a “vicious circle” where the enforcement case remains open and unresolved while the planning application remains undetermined. A further issue is in relation to inviting applications where there is little prospect of permission being granted, resulting in delays to formal action and additional workload for planning officers dealing with planning applications.

## **5.0 Actions Recommended**

- 5.1 In relation to the specific reasons why the LGO sought a review of the service, it is agreed that at present the planning enforcement team in the planning service does not have the resources to carry out its functions. An Action Plan is therefore set out below in order to address this issue:

**Recruitment to Vacant Establishment Posts:** Successful recruitment would enable reduction in officer workloads and allow more timely resolution of complaints or the taking of formal action. Anecdotally, there are problems nationwide in recruiting enforcement officers, but as no recruitment has taken place for a number of years and more competitive salaries achieved through market supplements, it is considered that recruitment should take place. Recruitment would be dependent on agreement of the Recruitment Panel and ensuring that sufficient budget is available. Timescale: To begin progress from April 2024

**Adoption of Enforcement Plan:** An updated enforcement plan has been drafted and will form part of an overall Enforcement Policy for the Planning and Public Protection Directorate for approval this year. Timescale: Policy adopted by December 2024

**Explore Additional Business Support:** Explore scope of support available, particularly around administrative tasks of new case registering and handling initial contacts. This can only be explored as part of the wider look at business support needs across Place, which the Planning and Public Protection Directorate forms part of. Timescale: Ongoing as part of review

**Greater Interaction between Enforcement and Planning Officers:** Better interaction would result in increased learning and development for officers; prioritisation of retrospective planning applications and making better informed decisions as to whether to invite planning applications to regularise any breach. Timescale: From April 2024

**Expand Reporting on Performance to Lead Member and Planning Committees:** Currently, only numbers of cases received and closed and notices served is reported to the committees each quarter. It is recommended that in addition, current case load, including number of open cases per officer be included in any reporting so issues of backlog and output can be more easily identified and reported on. Timescale: From April 2024

**Review Undertaken By:** Simon Thelwell, Head of Strategic Development

**Date of Review:** February 2024

**APPENDIX 2**

## **The Ombudsman's final decision**

Summary: X complained about the Council's failure to enforce a planning condition that required a landscaping scheme. We found fault which caused an injustice and could happen again. We recommended a remedy which the Council has agreed to carry out.

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## **The complaint**

1. The person that complained to us will be referred to as X.
2. X lives in an apartment, for which the Council approved planning permission.
3. X complained that the Council failed to ensure a developer complied with a landscaping scheme approved under a planning condition.
4. X said that much of the land around the apartment building, which should be planted with shrubs and plants, is instead covered with self-seeded grass and weeds. X said that some trees that were planted at the front of the site, died and were not replaced.

## **The Ombudsman's role and powers**

5. We investigate complaints from people about 'maladministration' and 'service failure'. In this statement, I have used the word fault to refer to these. We must also consider whether any fault has had an adverse impact on the person making the complaint. I refer to this as 'injustice'. If there has been fault which has caused significant injustice, or that could cause injustice to others in the future we may suggest a remedy. (Local Government Act 1974, sections 26(1) and 26A(1), as amended)
6. If we are satisfied with an organisation's actions or proposed actions, we can complete our investigation and issue a decision statement to the Council and the person who complained. (Local Government Act 1974, section 30(1B) and 34H(i), as amended)

## **How I considered this complaint**

7. I read the complaint and discussed it with X. I read the Council's response to the complaint and considered documents from its planning files, including the plans and the case officer's report. The Council also provided photos and details of site visits. I interviewed a tree officer, a planning enforcement officer and a planning officer.

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8. I gave the Council and X an opportunity to comment on a draft of this decision and took account of the comments I received.

## **What I found**

### **Planning law and guidance**

9. Councils should approve planning applications that accord with policies in the local development plan, unless other material planning considerations indicate they should not.
10. Planning considerations include things like:
- access to the highway;
  - protection of ecological and heritage assets; and
  - the impact on neighbouring amenity.
11. Planning considerations do not include things like:
- views over another's land;
  - the impact of development on property value; and
  - private rights and interests in land.
12. Councils may impose planning conditions to make development acceptable in planning terms. Conditions should be necessary, relevant to the development, enforceable, precise and reasonable in all other regards.
13. Planning enforcement is discretionary and formal action should happen only when it would be a proportionate response to the breach. When deciding whether to enforce, councils should consider the likely impact of harm to the public and whether they might grant approval if they were to receive an application for the development or use.

### **What happened**

14. The Council approved a planning application for the development of additional apartments in the building where X now lives. It imposed a planning condition requiring a soft landscaping scheme, including existing trees and shrubs and those to be planted. The condition said that planting, seeding and turfing should be carried out in the first planting season following completion of the development, and any trees or plants which die, are removed, damaged or diseased in the next five years, should be replaced in the next planting season.
15. About a year after permission was granted, the developer submitted a landscape and planting scheme. The Council discharged the condition. The scheme includes six trees to be planted at the front of the site, near the main road. At the sides and rear the plan shows different types of plants in different areas of the shared garden/parking area.
16. X moved into their apartment about four years ago. They said that soon after they began complaining about the lack of planting. In April last year X got responses from the Council, which were late and failed to address all the issues raised. In particular, the Council failed to comment on the lack of shrubs and plants at the rear of the building. The Council's responses to X's complaints only referred to trees.



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17. I checked the extent of delays between two main complaints and the Council's responses. The stage one response took a month to send, which is about two weeks late. The stage two response took three months to send, which is about two months late. The Council apologised for the delays.
18. I read the Council's responses to X's complaints, and they do only refer to trees, not the shrubs and plants that were also included in the landscaping scheme.
19. During my investigation, I asked X to take photos to show me the current state of the site and I interviewed a tree officer about the site.
20. The tree officer looked at the photos and visited the site to view it from the street. They also looked at aerial photos of the site taken over a number of years.
21. The tree officer said:
- that there were only three trees planted at the front of the building, not the six shown in the condition discharge plans;
  - that the photos did not show shrubs were planted, but that it looked like the ground once laid to lawn had been taken over by weeds;
  - there was one bed with one flower, which could have been planted, but the area looked to be dominated by weeds and had lacked aftercare;
  - they had not been consulted on this issue and was not an expert on shrubs or plants. The officer went on to say that they did not think the Council employed its own landscape officer but relied on external advisors as necessary.
22. The planning enforcement officer I interviewed told me:
- the Council had served a breach of condition notice more than three years ago requiring the landscaping scheme to be implemented, and the case was later closed. However, there is no evidence to show that the shrubs required under the scheme were ever planted;
  - that there was still a breach of the landscape planning condition, because the shrubs had not been planted and some of the trees that died had not been replaced.
  - the Council can still enforce the condition and the case was re-opened recently. The records show an enforcement officer was in the process of negotiating improvements with the managing agent to enforce the terms of the condition;
  - the planning enforcement service was struggling to carry out its work because of lack of staff. Caseloads were very high, staff turnover high, reliance on agency staff for short periods was common, there was no administrative support and officer wages were lower than are offered by other authorities. Because of this, it was difficult to recruit and retain staff and it was impossible for officers to give the attention they would want to their cases. It also leads to difficult decisions being made about priorities.
23. The planning officer I interviewed told me:
- the landscaping condition was probably included in the decision notice, because a landscaping scheme had been offered by the applicant as part of the proposal. However, as the application was for additional apartments, and there were already trees and landscaping around the site, it would be difficult to say it was necessary to require a landscaping scheme;

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- if an intention to landscape the grounds had not been included, it was doubtful a planting scheme would have been required;
  - if the developer had submitted an application to vary or remove the landscaping condition, it could be difficult to refuse. The questions a planning officer has to ask in these circumstances are, does the condition go to the heart of the permission, and is it necessary for the proposal?
24. X told me that the managing agent does appear willing to help. X said there are site management charges to leaseholder for landscaping and a budget is available for planting. X said the agent wants to improve the site but is waiting to be told what they need to do to comply with the landscaping scheme.

### **My findings**

25. It is now several years since X first started complaining to the Council, and some trees that have died have not been replaced and I have seen no evidence to show that any shrubs identified in the planting scheme were ever planted.
26. The failure to enforce the requirements of a planning condition is fault. Plants can die if not properly maintained, and several planting seasons have passed, which are missed opportunities for plants to be established.
27. The failure to enforce caused X frustration, disappointment and avoidable time and trouble.
28. The planning enforcement officer explained the difficult circumstances faced by officers working in planning enforcement. Although it is difficult to know exactly why the faults I have found happened, it is likely that high caseloads, low officer numbers and poor staff retention played a significant role.
29. I recommended a remedy to recognise the injustice, and which could avoid recurrence of similar faults happening again.
30. The Council accepted my recommendations but asked for more time to carry it out. The Council also pointed out that, due to budgetary constraints, there is currently a moratorium on advertising to recruit. Because of this, if the review concludes that staffing levels need to be increased, this may not be possible.

### **Agreed action**

31. To remedy the fault I have found and to avoid recurrence in future, the Council agreed to:
- a) apologise to X and pay them £150 for the frustration, disappointment and avoidable time and trouble. This should happen within four weeks of the date of my final decision.
  - b) carry out a review of its planning enforcement service to determine whether it has the resources it needs to carry out its functions. The outcome of the review should be reported to the relevant scrutiny committee. This should happen within six months from the date of our final decision.
32. The Council should provide us with evidence it has complied with the above actions within the time limits required.

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## **Final decision**

33. I found fault causing injustice that might happen again. I completed my investigation because the Council agreed to my recommendations.

## **Investigator's decision on behalf of the Ombudsman**

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# Places Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee

26 March 2024

**Subject Heading:**

Revised Havering Climate Change Action  
Plan (HCCAP) 2024-27

**ELT Lead:**

Kathy Freeman, Strategic Director of  
Resources

**Report Author and contact details:**

Anthony Clements Principal Committee  
Officer  
anthony.clements@onesource.co.uk

**Policy context:**

The report deals with a statutory  
process.

**Financial summary:**

There is no significant financial impact  
from the statutory processes as these  
requirements are being met by existing  
budgets.

**The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives**

People - Things that matter for residents X

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy X

Resources - A well run Council that delivers for People and Place X

## SUMMARY

At the request of Members. Officers will present the revised Havering Climate Change Action Plan to the sub-committee under the pre-decision scrutiny arrangements.

## RECOMMENDATION

That the Sub-Committee scrutinises the report and agrees any recommendations/comments that it would like to be considered by Cabinet on the papers.

## REPORT DETAIL

- 1.1 The Places Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee has requested to scrutinise the report that will be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 10 April 2024. The report builds on the actions introduced in the HCCAP in 2021 and provides a framework for the Council's actions to deliver on its target of becoming carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner.
- 1.2 As the report falls under the auspices of the Places Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee, any recommendations or comments on the report made by the Sub-Committee will need to be passed to Cabinet for consideration for inclusion in the action plan.

**Financial implications and risks:** None of this covering report.

**Legal implications and risks:** None of this covering report.

**Human Resources implications and risks:** None of this covering report.

**Equalities implications and risks:** None of this covering report.

**Environmental and Climate Change Implications and Risks:** None of this covering report.



## CABINET

**Subject Heading:**

Revised Havering Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP) 2024-27

**Cabinet Member:**

Councillor Keith Darvill: Cabinet Member for Climate Change

**ELT Lead:**

Kathy Freeman: Strategic Director of Resources

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**Policy context:**

The impacts and causes of climate change have been recognised by Havering Council. The Council has developed strategies and goals to address these impacts and mitigate the effects of climate change.

**Financial summary:**

The costs of annually reviewing the Havering Climate Change Action Plan will be contained in the existing corporate financial provision.

**Is this a Key Decision?**

This is a Key Decision.  
(a) Expenditure or saving (including anticipated income) of £500,000 or more.  
(c) Significant effect on two or more Wards.

**When should this matter be reviewed?**

April 2025

**Reviewing OSC:**

Places OSC

**The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives**

People - Things that matter for residents **X**

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy **X**

Resources - A well run Council that delivers for People and Place **X**

## **SUMMARY**

This report presents the revised Havering Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP) 2024-27 which is attached as Appendix 1. It builds on the actions introduced in the HCCAP in 2021 and provides a framework for the Council's actions to deliver on its target of becoming carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner.

This is an evolving framework, and the Council will continue to update the approach over time; as targets change, new data becomes available, and following major Government decarbonisation strategies. Havering Council has a solid data base and a robust intelligence hub which leads the coordination and development of applied data.

The HCCAP is primarily focussed on actions to reduce greenhouse gases, but interlinks closely with a range of other Council strategies such as:

- Local Plan.
- Parks and Open Spaces Strategy.
- Health & Wellbeing Strategy.
- Cycling and Walking Strategy.
- Air Quality Action Plan.
- Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy.
- Reduction & Recycling Plan.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Approve and adopt the revised HCCAP 2024-27 in Appendix 1.

## **REPORT DETAIL**

The Climate Change Act 2008 places national targets on the reduction of emissions by 2050. In 2019, the UK became the first major economy in the world to legislate binding targets to reach net zero emissions by 2050 and two further interim targets were created in 2021. The momentum for climate change continues to gain pace.

Havering Council established the HCCAP in November 2021 with a target of becoming carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner and full Council overwhelmingly declared a Climate Emergency on 21 March 2023.

The HCCAP 2021 was reviewed in a Report to Cabinet on 14 June 2023 (see Background Papers). A further summary document was produced to highlight to residents the excellent work that has been carried out so far and what the Council has achieved (Appendix 2).



## **Cabinet, 10 April 2024**

The HCCAP 2024-27 has been refreshed and revised by service manager specialists who attend the Climate Change Action Board. The group is comprised of Work-Stream Leads from across the Council.

In addition, the Green Forum, chaired by the Lead Member for Climate Change, and the Climate Change Staff Forum, have played a role in developing and informing the HCCAP.

The revised HCCAP 2024-27 (Appendix 1) is set out under nine work streams each with a number of activities and actions. Some of these are long-term actions that have carried over from the previous HCCAP, and some are brand new actions.

The plan also outlines in detail why tackling climate change is important, the priorities requiring attention, the outcomes the Council wants to achieve and the wider benefits on offer.

The Climate Change Action Board will continue to meet monthly as per the Project Board Terms of Reference. The HCCAP will continue to be updated through regular reporting at this Project Board and to the Lead Member for Climate Change. This means that the HCCAP will be a living document.

From the ongoing engagement and the delivery of the existing Havering Climate Change Action Plan themes have emerged which can be summarised as follows:

- Connecting with people to encourage, influence and enable informed decision making and behaviour change.
- Responding to the effects of climate change on Havering residents and businesses by efficient planning of mitigation.
- Celebrating the actions and efforts of the Council in responding to the climate crisis.
- Producing credible data including a road map to carbon neutrality.
- Working with the voluntary sector to unlock the power of community action.
- Managing Council services and organisation to address climate change in an efficient and cost-effective way.
- Ensuring that the local skills provision will enable residents and businesses to take advantage of the employment and business opportunities emerging in the green jobs market.

Ongoing actions within the HCCAP will continue to progress towards the Council's carbon neutral target and will incorporate these themes.

## **REASONS AND OPTIONS**

### **Reasons for the decision:**

In September 2023, London Councils carried out a study to build on our understanding of the level of public awareness around, and attitudes to, the issues arising from climate change in London. 84 per cent of Londoners said they are concerned about climate change and 68 per cent of Londoners said their level of concern has increased over the past 12 months.

The revised HCCAP 2024-27 will support the delivery of the Council's existing actions, refresh existing activities, and deliver new ones. It will ensure that environmental impacts are given due consideration in the delivery of Council services, decision making and, where possible, will ensure that the Council maximises the opportunity to deliver benefits, especially for residents. It will seek to encourage council suppliers, partners and stakeholders to adopt the same set of principles and support them to deliver their own climate change actions. It will encourage all stakeholders including local businesses, community groups and voluntary sector organisations to work together to deliver a shared outcome, making Havering a cleaner, greener, healthier and more sustainable environment for all. It will facilitate the delivery of specific actions in response to the ambition for its services and activities to become carbon neutral by 2040 and risks not taking effective action to address the future risks that climate change presents.

The revised HCCAP 2024-27 deals with the approach to delivering the Council's aim of managing the response to climate change and the challenges it presents as depicted in the new Corporate Plan 2024-27. The Corporate Plan states the Council will report back on progress towards delivery of the HCCAP 2024-27, including how we are reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from Council activity.

The recommendations proposed within the report, if approved, will facilitate the Council's ambition to become carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner and contribute to delivering emerging strategies such as the Healthy Weight Strategy and the Poverty Reduction Strategy. By implementing the HCCAP, the Council will be in a stronger position to deliver these commitments and the priorities associated with them.

**Other options considered:**

That Cabinet does not adopt and approve the revised HCCAP 2024-27 as set out in Appendix 1. This is not recommended as it would be contrary to the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency on 21 March 2023 and the adopted climate ambitions.

<b>IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS</b>
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**Financial implications and risks:**

The work already undertaken, as described in the Report to Cabinet on 14 June 2023 (see Background Papers), to reduce the Council's carbon footprint has either been funded by successful grant bids or from existing resources. At present there are no financial pressures relating directly to climate change built into the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

It is possible however that future climate change initiatives may require either match funding for grants or either capital or revenue funding to move forward. When these projects are identified the appropriate financial approval will be sought before they are agreed. There is a risk that the costs associated with delivering this plan will be unaffordable in the context of the current financial challenges which the Council faces, however, this risk is mitigated to some extent by the timeframe which the Council has set (i.e. to be carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner).

## **Cabinet, 10 April 2024**

It is probable that the Government or the GLA (Greater London Authority) will introduce new legislation which the Council will be required to adopt in relation to climate change. It is expected that external funding will be provided for any such requirement but there is a risk that the Council may have to fund initiatives in the future. Having a current Action Plan strengthens the Council's submissions for external grant funding.

### **Legal implications and risks:**

There are no immediate legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report. The Council has an obligation under The Climate Change Act 2008 (as amended) to contribute to the net zero reduction of carbon emissions in the discharge of its functions and to comply with the national targets on the reduction of emissions by 2050.

Local authorities, in keeping with policy objectives implemented by the Greater London Authority and Central Government, must also comply with the requirement to meet the air quality objectives under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 and London Local Air Quality Management Framework and to mitigate the impact of climate change in the development of their local plans under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

The Council has general powers of competence under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. This enables the Council to do anything which an individual can do, subject to any statutory constraints and this therefore includes taking steps to reduce Council emissions, which may be supported by the Council entering into funding agreements.

Where additional funding is to be sought from external sources, any grant funding arrangements and agreements will duly need to be assessed for implications and risks. Further, where relevant any procurement should be conducted in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules set out in Part 4.4 of the Constitution.

### **Human Resources implications and risks:**

A number of the actions contained within the Action Plan at Appendix 1 have implications for the Council's workforce and on the HR&OD service that supports the Council. These implications range from additional training, learning and development, to designing a Council wide culture change programme which covers climate change issues. Human Resources capacity to support the delivery of the Climate Action Plan will duly need to be consulted and assessed with the Assistant Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development.

Implementation of the Action Plan will deliver a reduction in carbon emissions and improve the borough's air quality, leading to improvements for staff and their working environment.

### **Equalities implications and risks:**

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- i. the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- ii. the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;

- iii. foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are: age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment/identity.

The Council is committed to all the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants and this is taken into consideration within the climate agenda.

An EIA has been completed for the revised Havering Climate Change Action Plan 2024-27 to identify any potential areas of concern. This includes potential impacts on those residents who are at a greater risk of fuel poverty which will be exacerbated by requirements to fit electric boilers and heat pumps which may increase household bills (socio-economic) as well as those residents whose first language is not English (ethnicity). Reasonable adjustments have been identified and included in the revised HCCAP 2024-27.

### **Health and Wellbeing implications and Risks**

Public and individual health is at the heart of everything the Council does. Tackling climate change and improving the environment is core to protecting and improving the health and wellbeing of all people who live, work, visit and play in the Borough.

According to the World Health Organization, climate change is the greatest threat to global health in the 21st century<sup>1</sup>. Climate change impacts health directly through weather extremes (heatwaves and floods) and indirectly through disruption to natural systems, such as changing patterns of disease that impact on both human and animal health, and social systems. Equally, protecting and improving the biodiversity of the Borough plays an important role in improving the health and wellbeing of residents.

In the UK, extreme weather events already have a significant impact on public health, resulting in increased deaths and ill health. Climate change is described as having the most impact on those who are socioeconomically disadvantaged and is anticipated to widen health inequalities.

Extreme high temperatures contribute to deaths from cardiovascular and respiratory disease, especially in older people. High temperatures affect air quality by raising the levels of ozone and other pollutants in the air that exacerbate cardiovascular and respiratory disease. Pollen and other aeroallergen levels are also higher in extreme heat, which can trigger conditions such as asthma.

According to the UK Health Security Agency, "20% of homes are currently overheating in today's climate, and 90% of hospital wards are of a type prone to overheating"<sup>2</sup>. These influences on health have far-reaching impacts; from interrupting children's education as a consequence of absences from school through sickness, through to greater demands on NHS and social care services, with the elderly, those with underlying conditions, and those

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.thelancet.com/countdown-health-climate>

<sup>2</sup> <https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2018/11/26/the-climate-change-act-10-years-on/>

## **Cabinet, 10 April 2024**

living in accommodation not designed or adapted to deal with climate change being among those most affected. This is of particular concern to the Council as the population of Havering is relatively old in comparison with the rest of London, with the number of people aged 85 and above predicted to increase by 31% from 7,600 in 2018 to 9,900 in 2030.

Heatwaves may lead to water shortages which can impact across all areas of society including agriculture, in turn leading to food shortages and unstable food prices. Climate change has been observed to influence the ecology, the impacts of which can affect human and animal health.

In 2013-14 the UK suffered the wettest winter for 250 years and 11,000 homes were flooded. There have been more recent episodes of flooding, including in 2021 when heavy rainfall led to flooding across the borough including in Gidea Park and Rainham, affecting homes and businesses for many months.

Floods contaminate freshwater supplies, cause drownings and physical injuries, damage homes, overload sewerage systems, disrupt medical and health services, and interrupt critical supplies of utilities such as electricity. Experience of flooding can also have profound effects on people's mental health and wellbeing that may continue over extended periods of time.

In terms of risk, both extreme cold and warm temperatures have the greatest effect on older people. A study in *The Lancet*<sup>3</sup> and reported on by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine<sup>4</sup> show for people over 85, the relative risk of mortality is highest at both extreme hot and cold temperatures.

For people below aged 85 the relative risk is higher at extreme cold temperatures than extreme hot. At all ages the risk increases sharply at extremely hot temperatures, whereas the risk increases more gradually as temperatures approach extreme cold.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

There are no specific implications or risks as a result of this report.

The Climate Change Act 2008, as amended, is the basis for the UK's approach to tackling and responding to climate change. The Climate Change Act commits the UK government, by law, to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 100% of the 1990 levels (net zero) by 2050.

Havering Council resolved to ensure that Havering leads the way on environmental protection and climate change and, in doing so, established the Havering Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP) on 10th November 2021. In this Action Plan the Council agreed to monitor carbon emissions in the borough and committed Havering Council, as an organisation, to become carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner.

This report fulfils the requirement to report on emissions and the actions taken in respect of the HCCAP.

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanplh/article/PIIS2542-5196\(22\)00138-3/fulltext#seccesstitle130](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanplh/article/PIIS2542-5196(22)00138-3/fulltext#seccesstitle130)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/newsevents/news/2022/both-heat-and-cold-increase-risk-death-england-and-wales-rates-vary-across>

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Havering Climate Change Action Plan (Working Document) 2024-2027 (Appendix 1)

Havering Climate Change Action Plan Review Summary 2021 (Appendix 2)

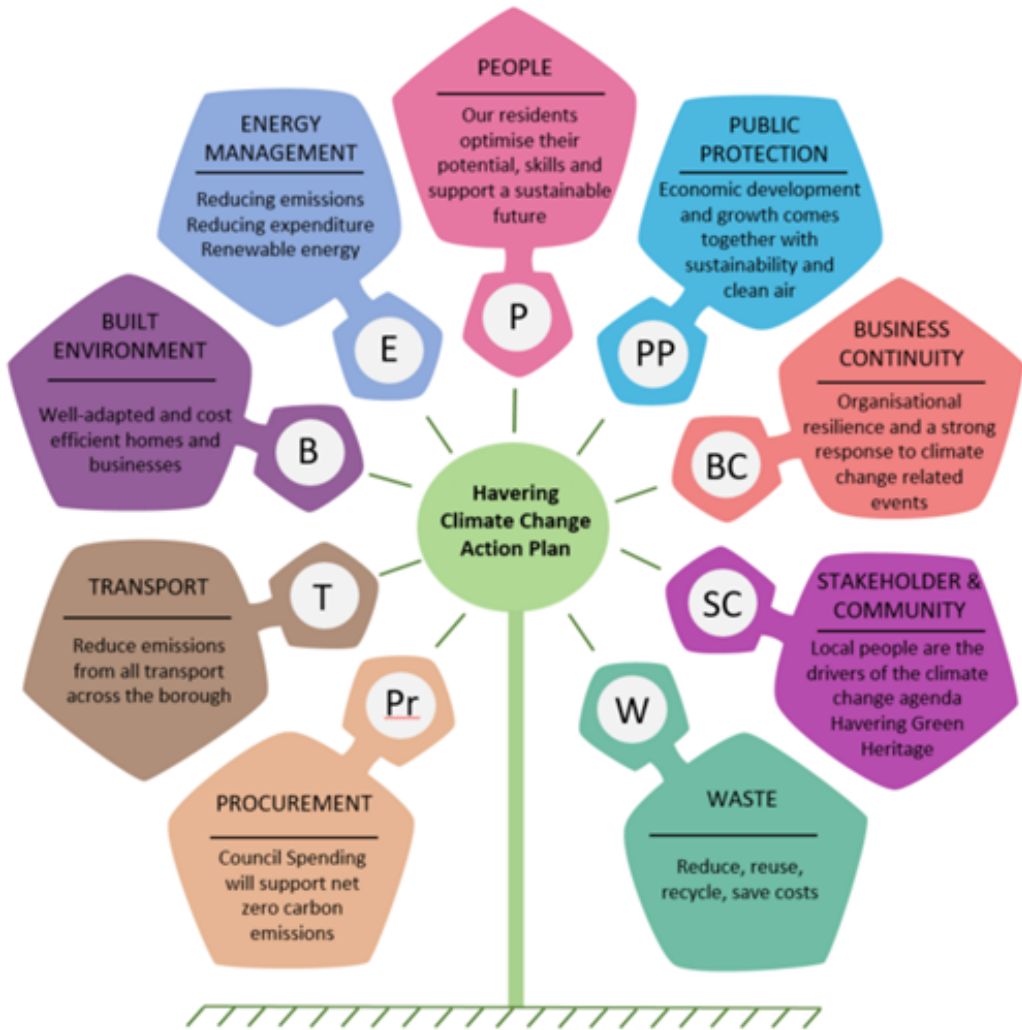
Equality & Health Impact Assessment (EqHIA) (Appendix 3)

[Havering Climate Change Action Plan 2021 and 2023 Update | London Borough of Havering](#)

[Climate Change Act 2008 | legislation.gov.uk](#)

# HAVERING CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN 2024-2027

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[www.havering.gov.uk/climatechange](http://www.havering.gov.uk/climatechange)





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# FOREWORD

Every day we see and hear the impact climate change is having on the world around us and on our personal lives. We see this with extreme weather events and have already suffered the effects of climate change in our borough. 2023 was recorded as the warmest year since 1850, according to figures released by the Met Office and the University of East Anglia. 2023 was also the tenth year in succession that the global temperature equalled or exceeded 1.0°C above the pre-industrial period (1850-1900).

It is clear that we need to do more to reduce carbon emissions. To show our commitment, Havering Council declared a climate emergency in March 2023 and has an ambition to become carbon neutral by 2040.

This revised Havering Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP) is a fundamental tool in tackling climate change and builds on the foundations of the previous action plan which is structured around nine work-streams. The plan continues to be dynamic and innovative, and will be reviewed annually to ensure emerging strategies are captured, work-streams, related projects and actions remain up to date, and performance is optimised.

It is important that we show leadership in the borough by working with, and challenging our partners, businesses and residents to ensure the wider borough reduces emissions in line with the UK national commitments.

Let's make sure we make a better future for those who come after us, by doing all we can now.

Councillor Keith Darvill  
Lead Member for Climate Change



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The HCCAP sets out a framework for collective action on climate change to achieve our target of becoming carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner.

In doing so, it seeks to harness the significant benefits of climate action to the health and wellbeing of our communities, economy and natural environment. The action plan aims to accelerate carbon emission reductions across the borough through a comprehensive set of actions.

The work streams and proposed actions reflect views we have gathered from our engagement with residents, community representatives, local businesses, the voluntary sector and other stakeholders.

The action plan seeks to respond ambitiously to the climate emergency in a manner that is inclusive, holistic, credible and innovative. We don't have all the solutions yet. As such, this is intended to be a living document that will need to evolve rapidly as we broaden our engagement, learn from early implementation, and improve our evidence on how to reduce emissions most effectively in partnership with stakeholders across the borough.

Meeting our carbon neutral target is a challenge we must rise to, not only because we must fulfil our statutory duties, but because we have a responsibility to future generations for leaving the environment in a better way than when we inherited it.

# INTRODUCTION

This is the second update of the Havering Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP) since it was adopted in 2021. The key aim of this plan is to be carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner.

This is an evolving framework, and the Council will continue to update the approach over time; as targets change, new data becomes available, and following major Government decarbonisation strategies. Havering has a solid data base and a robust intelligence hub which leads the coordination and development of applied data.

The United Nations describes climate change as the defining issue of our time. Action to limit future global greenhouse gas emissions will help restrict future changes in the climate system. Impacts from climate change are already being felt today and will continue to increase in the future.

Our approach to tackling the climate emergency commitments, both for our council operations and borough-wide emissions, will be focused in nine work streams:

- 1. Built Environment
- 2. Business Continuity
- 3. Energy
- 4. People
- 5. Procurement
- 6. Public Protection
- 7. Transport
- 8. Stakeholder & Community
- 9. Waste

This plan will not only reduce carbon emissions, it will also achieve financial savings, make us more energy efficient, and produce improvements to our homes, businesses, parks and green spaces.

## Why we need to act

We now know that the levels of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere are higher than at any point in recent history, and that this increase is directly linked to human activity, mainly the burning of fossil fuels.

Human-induced climate change is already affecting every region of the world – and its effects, including extreme heat and more frequent, intense storms, have been felt here in Havering. Delivering the rapid cuts in greenhouse gases needed to avoid more severe impacts of climate change will be the biggest challenge of our generation.

## We need your help

This is a council action plan, and we are committed to doing all we can to tackle the climate emergency. However, we cannot do this alone.

Success in achieving our aspirations, particularly of a carbon neutral borough by 2040, is dependent on the support and action of others in the borough.

The United Nations describes climate change as the defining issue of our time. Action to limit future global greenhouse gas emissions will help restrict future changes in the climate system. Impacts from climate change are already being felt today and will continue to increase in the future.

# CLIMATE TARGETS AND POLICIES/CLIMATE DRIVERS

The HCCAP encompasses a range of interrelated council and government policies that collectively drive environmental improvements across Havering.

Driver	Summary
Climate Change Act 2008	Commitment for the UK to be Net Zero by 2050 and at least 100% lower than the 1990 baseline.
Paris Agreement 2015	Legally binding international treaty on climate change to limit global warming to well below 2°C. preferably to 1.5°C, compared to pre-industrial levels.
United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	17 interconnected global goals aimed at ensuring a sustainable future for all. Intended to be achieved by 2030.
Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution 2020	Support green jobs and accelerate the path to net zero.
Environment Act 2021	Aims to improve air and water quality, reduce waste/increase recycling, improve biodiversity (referred to as Bio Net Gain (BNG)) and tackle waste crime.
Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener 2021	Sets out policies and proposals for decarbonising all sectors of the UK economy to meet the net zero target by 2050.
The London Plan	Policy framework coordinating London’s evolution and development over a 20-25 year period.
Taking Charge: The Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy 2022	Vision and action plan for the roll-out of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the UK.
London Local Nature Recovery Strategy	A statement of London’s strategic biodiversity priorities required by law under the Environment Act 2021.

# CLIMATE TARGETS AND POLICIES/CLIMATE DRIVERS

Other related policies, plans and strategies:

Document	Document
Capital Strategy	Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme
Energy Plan (Corporate Estate)	Corporate Asset Management Plan
Local Implementation Plan (LIP)	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA)	Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP)
East London Joint Waste and Resources Strategy	Reduction and Recycling Plan (GLA)
Romford Master Plan	Corporate Plan
Council 2040 Vision	Parks Strategy
Community Cohesion Strategy	Voluntary Sector Strategy
Together with Communities Strategy	Sport and Physical Ability Strategy
Arts Strategy	Tree Strategy
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)	Health and Wellbeing Strategy
Inclusive Growth Strategy	Social Investment Strategy
Havering CCG Havering Primary Care Infrastructure	Local Plan
Opportunities Area Planning Frameworks (OAPFs) / Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)	Infrastructure Delivery Plan
Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Action Plan	Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP)
Commissioning Plan for Education Provision	Emergency Planning & Business Continuity Action Plan
Reduction & Recycling Plan	Healthy Weight Strategy



# HAVERING COUNCIL EMISSIONS - BOROUGH DATA

Officers have developed the Council monitoring framework with an aim of identifying as early as possible where changes are needed to stay on track to meet the Havering Council and the United Kingdom's emissions targets.

Many aspects of the transition are inherently uncertain. It is recognised that progress may be faster in some sectors, and slower in others. This is acceptable, so long as the overall targets are met.

There are two elements to the data monitoring: the first relates to the Council's emissions from the operation of its services which are broadly controllable, subject to financial constraints and Government support.

The second aspect of the data collection relates to Borough emissions where the Council only has an influencing and/or leadership role.

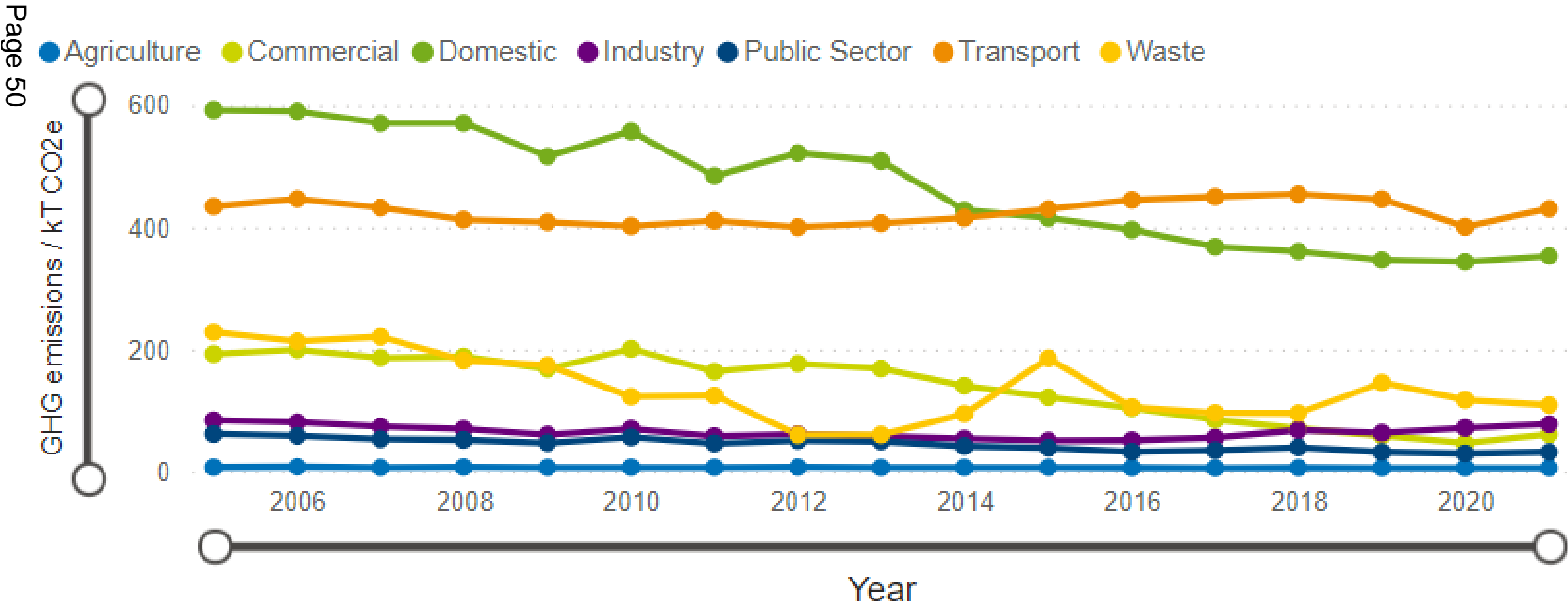


Figure 1 shows how Greenhouse Gas emissions in Havering have changed over time. Greenhouse Gases included in the data are: Carbon Dioxide CCO<sub>2</sub>; Nitrous Oxide N<sub>2</sub>O; Methane CH<sub>4</sub>.

There has been a reduction in emissions from all sectors since 2018. Up to and including 2014, the biggest greenhouse gas emissions came from the Domestic Sector, but this has now been overtaken by the Transport Sector which has not seen the steady decrease in emissions shown in the Domestic Sector. It is likely that the small decrease in transport emissions in 2020 was influenced by the national COVID-19 lockdown and the increase in home working.

Figure 1 Total Greenhouse Gas emissions in Havering over time / kTCO<sub>2</sub>e.  
Source of data: BEIS

# HAVERING COUNCIL EMISSIONS - BOROUGH DATA

Figure 2 shows that the Transport and Domestic Sectors were by far the biggest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions in 2020. The Waste Sector is also a significant contributor, and as this is a relatively new category compared to the other sectors, (only being introduced in 2018 alongside the Agriculture Sector), emission trends will be carefully monitored in future years.

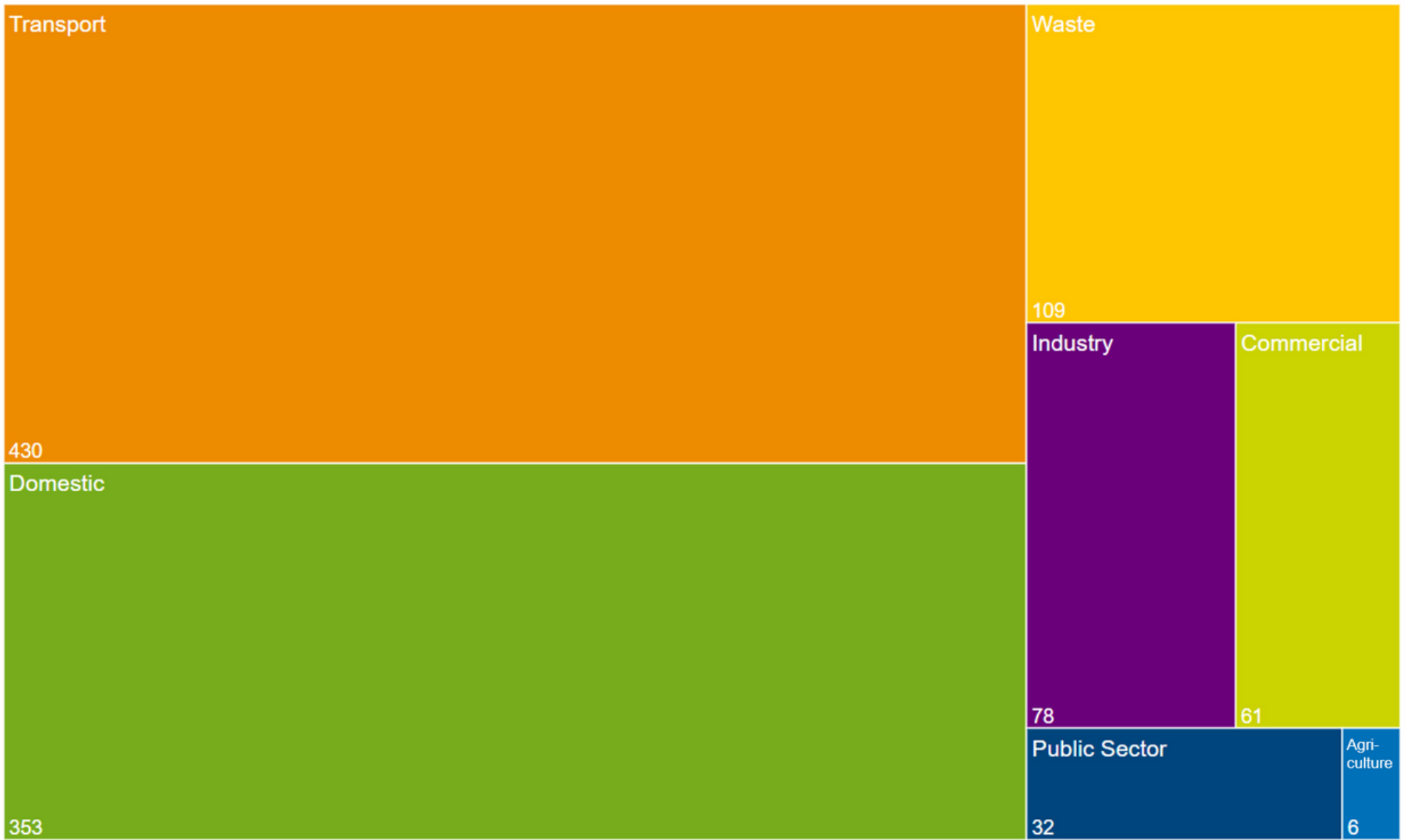


Figure 2 Total Greenhouse Gas emissions in Havering 2020, by Sector, kTCO<sub>2</sub>e  
Source of data: BEIS

# HAVERING COUNCIL EMISSIONS - COUNCIL DATA

Figure 3 shows the main sources of Scope 1 and 2 emissions from Havering Council operations from April 2020 to March 2023, as recorded in the LGA Greenhouse Gas Accounting Tool. At the time of writing, Scope 3 emissions (Indirect) are not included in the total. Energy consumption data provided by Asset Management (buildings gas and electricity) and mileage data provided by Fleet Services have been converted to estimated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions using the most recent carbon conversion factors.

The biggest contribution to Havering Council’s CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is the use of gas heating in the corporate estate. Gas consumption is expected to decrease through asset rationalisation over time, and further reductions will be achieved through improvements in building energy efficiency. The second biggest contribution to emissions is street lighting which used more energy and contributed more emissions than the electricity used to power the entire corporate estate – despite being over 99% LED.

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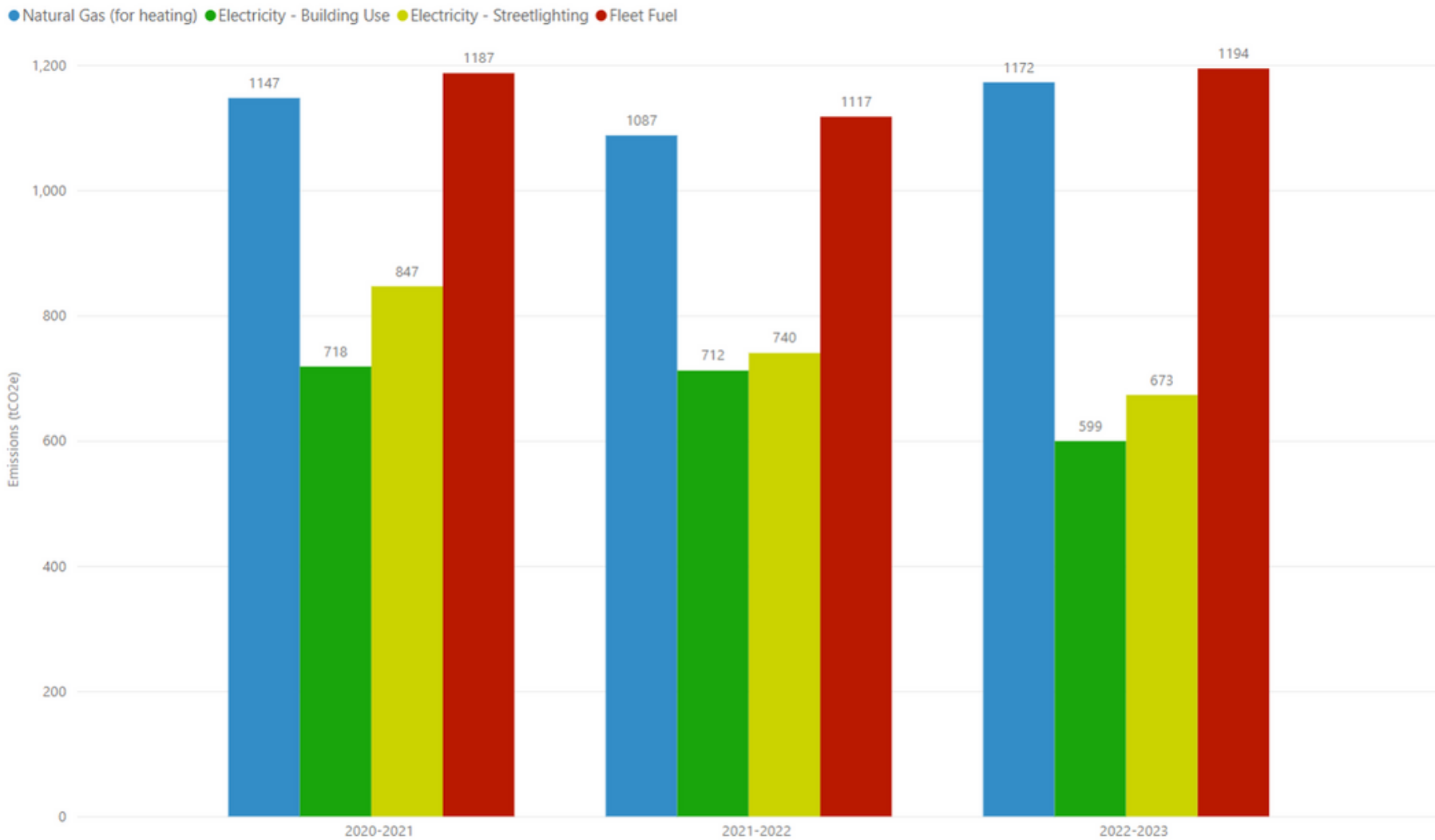


Figure 3 Total GHG emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) by Havering Council 2020-21 to 2022-23  
Source of data: Asset Management and Transport Services



# BECOMING CARBON NEUTRAL



Residents can expect value-for-money from our invest-to-save approach. Business can rely on us to pave the way through research and development partnerships that unlock new opportunities. Everyone can expect us to achieve real carbon emissions reductions: offsetting will only be used where all other options have been explored first, in line with the principles of the carbon management hierarchy.



The council's vision and values recognise the importance of climate action to our local prosperity and wellbeing. We are embedding the skills, tools and culture so that:

- All our staff have the tools to play their role.
- Our decisions consider carbon impacts.
- Directors and managers have a low-carbon vision for their services.
- All staff act as ambassadors for climate action with our partners.



# BECOMING CARBON NEUTRAL

## Funding

Since the declaration of a climate emergency last year, it was recognised that in order to deliver the actions of the HCCAP, a significant level of funding would be required. Initially project have been supported, where possible, with existing budgets or government funding. However, due to the level of expenditure required (especially on some of the more comprehensive infrastructure projects), the HCCAP needs to be aligned and integrated with the Council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy. To support this, other potential funding sources will also be explored. These include:

- Government Grants (PSDS, SHDF, LAD).
- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).
- Funding from businesses.
- Biodiversity Net Gain.
- Section 106 Agreement.

## Adaptation

Planning for climate mitigation and adaptation is not only necessary on the wider scale, but also at a local level. Extreme weather conditions have the ability to impact directly on the services provided by the Council. Increased risk of grass fires, heat exposure, and flooding are all issues which will undoubtedly need to be included in service planning in the future.

To build service resilience, a number of emerging strategies will inform the direction on how the Council will adapt its services and facilities to account for the impacts of climate change.

## Decisions

As part of our response to climate change, the Council includes an environmental and climate change implications section in all committee reports. This will identify:

- What affect Council activities have on the climate and what will be implemented to mitigate these.
- What impacts a changing climate may have on Council services and functions and what actions will be taken to adapt to this and to improve Council climate resilience.

Including a climate change consideration into all Council committee reports:

- Encourages officers to consider climate change impacts when writing and researching reports and policies.
- Improves visibility in the decision making process and enables Members and residents to see and understand the impact that climate change has on decisions.



# OUR NINE WORK STREAMS

We have identified key outcome priorities and goals based on an assessment of the borough's emissions sources, stakeholder feedback, available funding and the opportunities for delivering the greatest levels of emissions savings. We will:

- **Connect with people** to encourage, influence and enable informed decision making and behaviour change.
- **Respond to the effects of climate change** on Havering residents and businesses by efficient planning of mitigation.
- **Celebrate** the actions and efforts of the Council in responding to the climate crisis.
- **Produce credible data** including a road map to carbon neutrality.
- **Work with the voluntary sector** to unlock the power of community action.
- Manage Council services and organisation to address climate change in an **efficient and cost-effective way**.
- Ensure that the local skills provision will enable local residents and business to **take advantage of the employment and business opportunities emerging in the green jobs market**.

This action plan sets out how we will mobilise to tackle this challenge and reduce our emissions through our nine work streams.





# 1. BUILT ENVIRONMENT



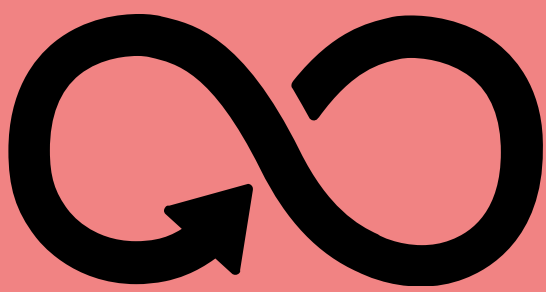
Our vision is that all residents in the borough live in comfortable, affordably heated, well-adapted and resilient homes that are cost efficient and have zero carbon impact.

All business and organisational buildings are powered sustainably and have zero carbon impact.

Our heat and power are supplied from renewable energy and, where possible, by local sources that efficiently meet demand.

Ref	Goal	Action	Measure	Responsible Officer	Timeframe (Short term = by 31/03/25; Medium term = by 31/03/26; Long term - by 31/03/27)	Cost (£ = Low; ££ = Medium; £££ = High)	Status
B7b	New developments achieve best practice standards to minimise their whole life carbon and air quality impact.	Explore options for and draft a Climate Change Checklist for developers to submit with major planning applications.	Draft checklists created	Planning Officer	Medium term	£	Ongoing
B7c		Embed zero-carbon negations in the Pre-App process (applying Policy S1 2 of the London Plan) including sustainability focused meetings for referable schemes.	80% of new strategic applications to include sustainably focused pre-app meeting	Planning Officer	Long term	£	Ongoing
B14		Review Major planning applications with LBH Energy and Sustainability consultant to ensure zero carbon policies set out in the London Plan and LBH Local Plan are enforced and exceeded where feasible.	80% of major planning applications reviewed	Planning Officer	Medium term	£	New
B15		Develop, seek funding and evaluate the feasibility of introducing a local heat network within Havering.	Feasibility study carried out	Head of Inclusive Growth	Long term	£	New
B7f		Consider feasibility of including a Net Zero Carbon policy in the next Local Plan.	New Local Plan published	Planning Officer	Long term	£	Ongoing
B8c	The Council takes clear and ambitious action to reduce the carbon emissions associated with their buildings and activities.	Greening of the Borough to be promoted through relevant projects including tree planting to Romford Ring Road and Rom Valley Way, and greening of central Romford.	2 projects completed. Feasibility and funding strategy developed for Rom Valley Way and Rainham Gateway.	Planning Officer	Medium term	£	Ongoing
B9a		Lobby to improve funding and resourcing for Local Planning Authorities to fully verify developer adherence to sustainability, energy efficiency, urban greening factor, SUDS and biodiversity net gain commitments in planning applications.	Lobbying undertaken	Director of Planning & Public Protection	Short term	£	Ongoing
B16		Explore potential and review funding options for a River Strategy.	Options paper produced	TBC	Short term	£	New
B17		Develop a plan to record and monitor EPC ratings for licensable properties, such as HMOs.	Plan in place	Public Protection Manager	Long term	£	New
B18		Implement actions in Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP).	75% of actions completed	Senior Engineer	Long term	££	New
B19		Establish Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) approval body and carry out responsibilities.	Governance in place	Senior Engineer	Long term	£	New

## 2. BUSINESS CONTINUITY



We are seeing an increase in extreme weather events and how we respond and take learnings from each event must build our resilience continuously. Resilience building runs through the way we conduct business planning, respond to emergencies and assess risk.

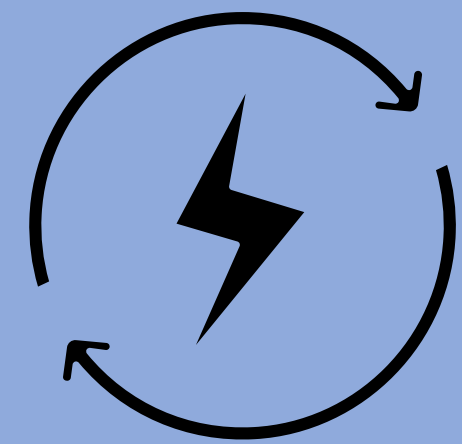
Community resilience is dependent on collaborative rapid response and recovery support locally.

We will signpost and engage with residents on what support is available, what they should do for themselves and how they can help others.

Ref	Goal	Action	Measure	Responsible Officer	Timeframe (Short term = by 31/03/25; Medium term = by 31/03/26; Long term - by 31/03/27)	Cost (£ = Low; ££ = Medium; £££ = High)	Status
BC2	Accelerate adaptive capacity to respond to climate change related events.	Explore how the Private Sector Housing licensing process can help promote energy efficiency measures in rental properties by signposting advice and guidance to landlords.	Awareness campaign	Public Protection Manager	Long term	£	Ongoing
BC3		Ensure climate change related incidences and extreme climatic conditions are recognised in Borough Risk Register.	Incorporated climate change consideration in the regular review of Borough Risk Register	Senior Emergency Planning Officer	Short term	£	Ongoing
BC1	Accelerate organisational resilience to climate change related events.	Develop a Community Resilience Hub which includes resilience volunteers who are trained to respond and be aware of the impact of extreme weather.	Community Resilience Hub completed Resilience volunteers trained	Senior Emergency Planning Officer	Medium term	£	Ongoing
BC14		Develop corporate risks management plan with the Council's insurers. Use funding from insurers for training and development of actions to manage the Council's exposure to climate events.	£30,000 funding secured	Insurance Manager	Short term	£	New
BC15		Implement Cold Weather Plan and develop a Warm Weather Plan to address impacts of warmer summers.	Cold Weather Plan activated in winter Warm Weather Plan produced	Senior Emergency Planning Officer	Short term	£	New



### 3. ENERGY



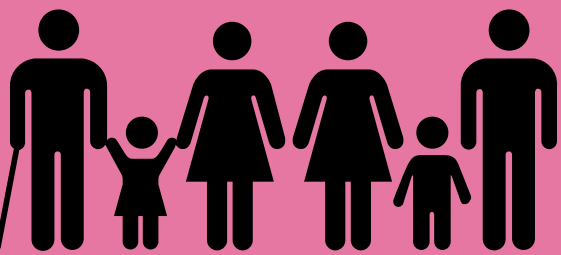
We envision all businesses and Council-owned buildings will be powered sustainably, be cost efficient and have zero carbon impact. Our heat and power will be supplied by renewable energy and, where possible, by local sources that meet their demands.

Decisions will be made with the aim of reducing the use of energy, leading to reduced carbon emissions and budget savings.

Our progress and ambitions will be shared with local businesses and developers in order to share best practice, acquire funding and to improve and design out energy wastage.

Ref	Goal	Action	Measure	Responsible Officer	Timeframe (Short term = by 31/03/25; Medium term = by 31/03/26; Long term – by 31/03/27)	Cost (£ = Low; ££ = Medium; £££ = High)	Status
E1	Harness opportunities for the corporate estate to use energy from low and zero carbon sources.	Review contract with energy supplier.	Supplier confirmed	Energy Strategy Manager	Short term	£££	Ongoing
E3		Develop Energy Management Plan for Corporate Estate.	Energy Management Plan published	Energy Strategy Manager	Medium term	£	Ongoing
E4		Improve energy efficiency of corporate estate.	10% reduction in gas and electric consumption	Energy Strategy Manager	Long term	£££	Ongoing
E5		Measure and report annual carbon emissions for the borough and for the Corporate Estate.	Emissions published annually	Data Insight Manager	Short term	£	Ongoing
E8		Reduce energy use by IT.	Moving to virtual servers hosted in the public cloud to see a 90% reduction in carbon emission over our on-site data centre's current physical server estate	Director of Technology and Innovation	Long term	£££	Ongoing
E9		Install Smart meters in corporate buildings managed by the Council to provide better monitoring of energy consumption.	60% of buildings with Smart meters installed	Energy Strategy Manager	Long term	£££	Ongoing
E10		Conduct water, electric and gas meter audits and reviews with the aim of reducing water, gas and electricity usage and consolidating and reducing bills in the corporate estate.	Audit carried out at 100% of larger sites	Energy Strategy Manager	Long term	£	Ongoing
E11		Review criteria for constructions standards applicable to Council developments to increase environmental standards beyond those required by Building Regulations.	Construction standards updated	Design & Surveying Group Manager	Medium term	£	Ongoing
E13		Install web portal to monitor energy consumption in the Corporate Estate.	Web portal in place in 60% of corporate buildings	Energy Strategy Manager	Medium term	£	Ongoing
E14		Promote energy efficiency within schools new sletter.	Climate change feature in 100% of new sletters	Design & Surveying Group Manager	Short term	£	Ongoing
E17		Produce a Green Energy Plan for all new developments.	90% of new developments have a Green Energy Plan	Director of Planning & Public Protection	Long term	£	Ongoing
E19		Publish a reduced IT carbon and ecological footprint, based on the services consumed, on the corporate estate and with suppliers, encompassing embodied/ embedded carbon.	Emissions published annually	Director of Technology and Innovation and Data Insight Manager	Long term	£	New
E29		Dim street lights on main roads from midnight to 5am	90% street lights dimmed on main roads from midnight to 5am	Senior Engineer	Short term	£	New
E20	Harness opportunities for Housing to use energy from low and zero carbon sources.	Develop a programme to upgrade communal lighting in Community Housing to LED lighting.	20% of communal lighting upgraded to LEDs	Major Works & Direct Delivery Manager	Long term	£££	New
E21		Develop a programme to upgrade communal lighting in Community Housing to LED lighting.	All properties within Project to reach EPC C	Major Works & Direct Delivery Manager	Long term	£££	New
E22		To continue with fabric lead retrofit project work to bring properties upto an EPC C rating working on a self delivery approach with no government funding.	Numbers TBC subject to budget	Major Works & Direct Delivery Manager	Long term	£££	New
E23		Install a heat pump as the primary source of heating and hot water in the new Family Welcome Centre in Harold Hill, plus in two new supported accommodation schemes for Social Services at Mawney Close and Mowbrays Close	3 heat pumps installed	Major Works & Direct Delivery Manager	Medium term	£	New
E24		Development of a zero carbon visitor centre at Raphaels Park Lodge. Engage with the Havering Volunteer Centre to develop the capacity to manage the facility.	Demonstrator centre open to the public	Climate Officers and Technical Services	Short term	££	New
E25	Harness opportunities for residents to use energy from low and zero carbon sources.	To publish the impacts of the Energy Doctors Programme on matters pertaining to climate change.	90 homes visited	Head of Housing Strategy & Service Development	Short term	£	New
E26		Use the HUG2 grant to tackle fuel poverty in 30 low-income households and improve the energy efficiency of their homes and out energy costs.	30 homes receiving grant award	Climate Change Officers	Short term	£	New
E27	Harness opportunities for Partners and local businesses to use energy from low and zero carbon sources.	Monitor Phase 2 (capital) of the Swimming Pool Support Fund Reduce carbon emissions and make swimming pools more energy	Solar panels installed at 100% of leisure centres	Head of Leisure & Culture	Medium term	£££	New
E28		Submit bid to Carbon Offset Fund to support community halls with implementing energy efficiency measures.	Funding awarded	Community Development & Resilience Officer	Short term	£	New

# 4. PEOPLE



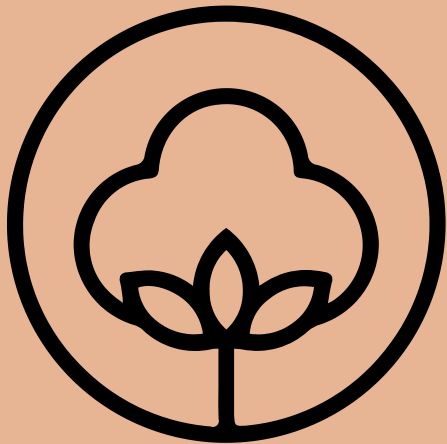
We want to achieve sustained and transformative change in Havering to support the delivery of the climate change mission.

We will help support businesses to transition to sustainable modes of operation and enable residents to access and support a sustainable future by delivering green skills and training. We will ensure that residents and the wider community are able to take full advantage of the opportunities presented.

Ref	Goal	Action	Measure	Responsible Officer	Timeframe (Short term = by 31/03/25; Medium term = by 31/03/26; Long term - by 31/03/27)	Cost (£ = Low; ££ = Medium; £££ = High)	Status
P4	Prepare businesses for skills needed in a net zero economy and borough.	Create a 'Business' page on the website – a “Trusted site”	Webpage published	Head of Inclusive Growth	Medium term	£	Ongoing
P12		Identify high-tech environmental companies who might wish to establish a presence within Havering.	Companies identified	Head of Inclusive Growth	Long term	£	Ongoing
P20		Use UKSPF Skills Funding to provide training for local business in fundamentals of sustainability with the objective of the businesses adopting greener processes within their ways of working.	Training delivered to 160 businesses/ 320 staff	Employment & Skills Manager	Short term	£	New
P21		Establish a Green Business Award.	Award part of Havering Business Awards	Head of Inclusive Growth	Short term	£	New
P23		Create a Directory of Green Services - providing businesses with a resource from which they can identify services to support their business to implement tackling climate change activities.	Directory published on Council website	Climate Insight Programme Management Officer	Short term	£	New
P8	Prepare residents for skills needed in a net zero economy and borough.	Explore the feasibility of setting up a Local Housing skills centre to deliver practical green actions within the borough.	Feasibility study completed	Assistant Director of Housing, Property & Assets	Long term	£	Ongoing
P11		Undertake research to identify skills gaps of local residents. Identify opportunities to redress skills gap.	3 sectors engaged with	Employment & Skills Manager	Long term	£	Ongoing
P13		Joint Ventures with the local colleges on research and development of green strategies.	Connecting people across the borough	Employment & Skills Manager	Long term	£	Ongoing
P14	Prepare workforce for skills needed in a climate active council and net zero economy.	Design and develop a culture change programme to include climate issues for officers and review of all HR policies.	90% of policies include climate considerations	Director of HR & Organisational Development	Long term	£	Ongoing
P24		Work with London Councils to develop and integrate regional learning into the everyday practice of the Council and brief Members on the outcomes.	2 workshops	Climate Insight Programme Management Officer	Long term	£	New
P25		Hold a Member Workshop on climate change issues to establish consensus around the climate change agenda.	1 workshop 1 All Member Briefing	Climate Insight Programme Management Officer	Short term	£	New
P26		Incorporate climate change PDR actions into the top three tiers of Council management and analyse their effectiveness.	Mandatory PDR objective in library	Director of HR & Organisational Development	Short term	£	New
P27		Incorporate an optional climate change PDR action for all staff and analyse the take up and effectiveness. Consider making this mandatory for all staff in the new PDR cycle.	Optional PDR objective in library	Director of HR & Organisational Development	Short term	£	New
P28		Introduce a climate action toolkit to provide practical guidance on considerations for reducing the Council's carbon footprint across all decisions and projects.	Toolkit available on intranet	Climate Insight Programme Management Officer	Short term	£	New
P29		Secure, access and make available climate change training for all staff and categorise courses by awareness raising and/or professional skills development	Climate change courses part of learning catalogue. Council's climate ambitions part of induction process. Let's Talk session with CE.	Director of HR & Organisational Development	Medium term	£	New



5.PROCUREMENT



Council spending will support carbon neutral emissions as well as other climate change and social value priorities.

Innovative financing and transparent environmental decision making will encourage public and private investment in helping achieve the UK climate change and environmental commitments.

Ref	Goal	Action	Measure	Responsible Officer	Timeframe (Short term = by 31/03/25; Medium term = by 31/03/26; Long term - by 31/03/27)	Cost (£ = Low; ££ = Medium; £££ = High)	Status
PR2	Adopt sustainable purchasing practices and products.	Agree a vision statement for sustainable procurement that aligns with national and Havering targets.	Vision statement agreed	Head of Procurement	Short term	£	Ongoing
PR3		Establish a framework to identify current spending against associated carbon emissions and agree a target for reduction. Investigate opportunities for divesting from fossil fuel.	Framework published on intranet	Head of Procurement	Long term	£	Ongoing
PR4		Include sections in revised Contract Standing Orders to ensure sustainability issues are incorporated into the procurement of goods, services and works.	Contract Standing Orders template updated	Head of Procurement	Medium term	£	Ongoing
PR6		Identify and prioritise local supply chains and work with them to ensure they understand, disclose and cut carbon emissions.	10% reporting their carbon emissions	Head of Procurement & Head of Inclusive Growth	Long term	££	Ongoing
PR7		Reduce pensions investment in environmentally unsustainable companies.	40% of assets invested in environmentally sustainable companies	Head of Pensions & Treasury	Long term	£££	Ongoing
PR8		Evaluate funding strategy for tackling climate change, including green bonds and grant availability.	Strategy evaluated	Head of Finance	Long term	£	Ongoing
PR9		Develop a bespoke framework for IT to evaluate the impact of IT developments and purchases on the environment and measure carbon emissions.	Part of Gateway Review and PIF	Head of Procurement and Director of Technology and Innovation	Medium term	£	Ongoing
PR14		Only procure with IT suppliers who have committed to, or are in the process of, setting science-based targets that match the Council's sustainability aims.	50% of IT suppliers are aligned with Council's sustainability aims	Director of Technology and Innovation	Long term	£	New
PR15		Write a Procurement Plan/ Strategy to include a climate change and procurement 'road map' that actively encourages our suppliers to operate and provide goods and services that offers maximum social, environmental and health benefits to Havering residents and community (e.g. eliminate, substitute and reduce emissions, measuring and monitoring, reporting emissions).	Plan published	Head of Procurement	Short term	£	New
PR16		Monitor the delivery of measures against grant schemes and record outcomes	75% of grant funding tracked	Head of Finance	Long term	£	New
PR5	Prepare workforce for skills needed in a climate active council and net zero economy.	Deliver staff training on sustainability procurement to ensure that Havering has a low carbon procurement framework, so that staff can advise and support companies with whom they do business.	100% of Procurement Team trained	Head of Procurement	Medium term	£	Ongoing
PR17		Contract managers are trained to evaluate and act on the environmental provisions made as part of the contract process.	75% of contract managers trained	Head of Procurement	Medium term	££	New



# 6. PUBLIC PROTECTION



Havering Council is striving for a future where all residents in the borough live in comfortable, affordably heated and well-adapted homes that are cost-efficient with low or zero greenhouse gas emissions and that everyone in Havering has abundant and clean potable water.

In the future that we envision, all the pollution hotspots are adequately targeted and mitigated. It is vital for us to make sure that economic development and growth comes together with clean air and sustainability.

Ref	Goal	Action	Measure	Responsible Officer	Timeframe (Short term = by 31/03/25; Medium term = by 31/03/26; Long term - by 31/03/27)	Cost (£ = Low; ££ = Medium; £££ = High)	Status
PP5	Residents live in comfortable, affordably heated and well-adapted homes that are cost-efficient with low or zero greenhouse gas emissions	Promote energy efficiency schemes to landlords.	Attended landlord forum	Public Protection Manager	Short term	£	Ongoing
PP7		Identify new premises for Pollution Prevention and Control Permitting.	3 premises identified	Senior Public Protection Officer	Long term	£	Ongoing
PP10		Harness value in working with Registered Social Landlords to tackle climate change and promote partnerships.	Information shared	Assistant Director of Housing Operations	Short term	£	Ongoing
PP3	Protect and improve the environmental health of the borough	Update Air Quality Action Plan.	Updated plan published	Senior Public Protection Officer	Short term	£	Ongoing
PP11		Explore how food and trading standards inspections can help promote climate change activity in the business sector and leave advice and guidance for the business owner.	Awareness campaign	Public Protection Manager	Medium term	£	New
PP12		Investigate options to increase public access to drinking water to reduce single use plastic bottles.	Refill stations publicised on Council website and in Living	Public Health	Medium term	£	New

# 8.STAKEHOLDER & COMMUNITY

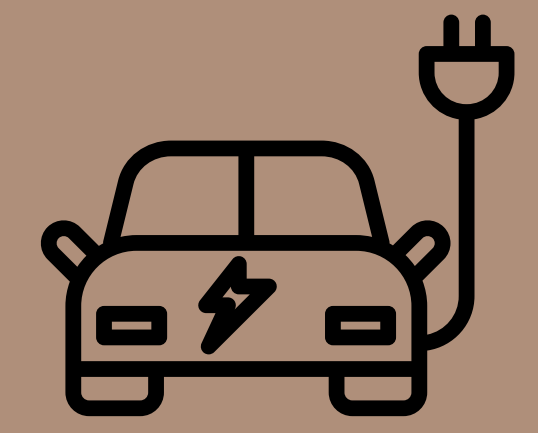


Local people are the drivers of the Council’s climate change agenda and Havering’s Green Heritage.

Partnering with local stakeholders, voluntary and community groups, businesses and social enterprises will increase the Council’s capacity to adapt to climate change.

Ref	Goal	Action	Measure	Responsible Officer	Timeframe (Short term = by 31/03/25; Medium term = by 31/03/26; Long term - by 31/03/27)	Cost (£ = Low; ££ = Medium; £££ = High)	Status
SC8	Continue to develop initiatives to protect Havering's green heritage and natural environment.	Publish new Parks Strategy	Strategy published	Parks Development Manager	Short term	£	Ongoing
SC12		Produce an updated Havering Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Plan following production of GLA's Local Nature Recovery Plan	Plan published	Parks Development Manager and	Long term	£	Ongoing
SC13		Management of nature conservation areas within Council owned land and encouragement of private land owners to manage biodiversity	Evaluation of land management to encourage biodiversity along with a balance of other amenity usage	Parks Development Manager and Operations Manager	Long term	£££	New
SC14		Re-design planting schemes to include drought tolerant species.	Lanscaping carried out to include more sustainable planting	Parks Development Manager and Operations Manager	Medium term	££	New
SC15		Adopt deer management plan to improve biodiversity in parks.	Plan adopted	Parks Development Manager	Long term	£££	New
SC16		Create more sustainable town centre planting solutions.	2,235m2 green space improved	Planning Officer	Short term	£££	New
SC17		Review the use of herbicides across all Council services, including those containing glyphosate.	100% compliance with use of herbicides only where neccessary and as per legislation	Parks Development Manager and Operations Manager	Medium term	£	New
SC18		Create a walking trail for ancient and veteran trees across the north of the borough.	1 walking trail published on website	Climate Insight Programme Management Officer and Senior Arboricultural Officer	Medium term	£	New
SC19	Foster effective partnerships with community groups and the voluntary sector to raise community awareness about the role everyone has to play in tackling climate change.	Develop programme for Climate Change Champions and continue to seek funding to maintain the scheme.	10 more Climate Change Champions recruited	Community Development & Resilience Officer	Long term	£	New
SC20		Meet and engage with the Faith sector to agree a set of actions to spread the message of climate action within their communities. This will include establishing measures of impact of the activities, new faith material communications and inter-faith activities.	Meeting and action plan	Head of Communities	Medium term	£	New
SC21		Explore possibility of establishing a community fridge/s.	Decision made	Community Development & Resilience Officer	Long term	£	New
SC22		Identify, secure and promote grant funding opportunities.	4 grant awards secured	Head of Communities	Long term	£	New
SC23	Increase engagement and communications about sustainability with residents, schools, businesses, visitors and other stakeholders	Work with 2 schools to establish a model for addressing Climate Change – Cllr Darvill.	2 schools engaged with	Assistant Director of Education	Medium term	£	New
SC11		Continue Healthy Schools programme as a mode of engaging with schools.	60% of schools engaged with	Senior Public Health Specialist	Long term	££	Ongoing
SC24		Develop and implement a two year programme of media activity in respect of climate change. Seek sponsorship to spread the message. Ensure alignment with communications from partner agencies.	Communications Plan produced	Head of Communications	Medium term	££	New
SC25		Redesign webpages so that the climate offer is prominent and distinct on the Havering Council website.	All climate change webpages updated	Climate Insight Programme Management Officer	Short term	£	New
SC26		Utilise smart technology to provide help and advise on climate activities.	QR codes available on website and letters to customers	Climate Insight Programme Management Officer	Medium term	£	New
SC27		Create a knowledge hub on the website on transport, housing, circular economy for staff and public so that ideas can be shared.	Knowledge Hub webpage produced	Climate Insight Programme Management Officer	Long term	£	New
SC28		Create an environmental dashboard to share headline information about environmental change and track their progress towards sustainability goals.	Reports available on Havering Council Data Intelligence Hub	Climate Insight Programme Management Officer	Medium term	£	New

# 7. TRANSPORT



We will support the reduction of transport emissions across the borough to become carbon neutral.

We will take actions to promote sustainable travel choices that improve public health, reduce congestion, stimulate low carbon sectors of the local economy and improve the quality and longevity of life for Havering residents.

Ref	Goal	Action	Measure	Responsible Officer	Timeframe (Short term = by 31/03/25; Medium term = by 31/03/26; Long term = by 31/03/27)	Cost (£ = Low; ££ = Medium;	Status
T2	Accelerate the transition to electric vehicles across the borough.	Replacement of pool cars with electric vehicles and associated infrastructure	75% pool cars electric	Head of Transport Services	Long term	£££	Ongoing
T13		Deliver an Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy	Strategy published	Team Leader (Transport Planning)	Short term	£	Ongoing
T16		Delivery of 68 electric vehicle charging points in 9 Council owned car parks, and up to 80 on street charging points connected to lamp columns across the borough.	100 charging points installed	Team Leader (Transport Planning)	Long term	£££	New
T31		Trial of GTL (Gas to Liquid)/HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil) 50/50 mix to reduce CO <sub>2</sub> across the fleet.	GTL mixed with HVO reduces CO <sub>2</sub> emissions by 45 - 50% aim to have in place in March/April 2024	Head of Transport Services	Long term	£££	New
T32		Replacement of 17 Diesel Parks vehicles with Battery Electric Vehicles.	17 vehicles ordered	Head of Transport Services	Long term	£££	New
T33		Switch from petrol to electric mowing equipment.	100% of mowers electric	Head of Transport Services	Short term	£££	New
T6	Cut 'dirty' fuel vehicle trips and increase sustainable and active travel.	Work with schools in the borough to set travel plans which deliver modal shift away from single occupancy car use	Single occupancy car use down to 15%	Team Leader (Transport Planning)	Long term	£	Ongoing
T8		Awareness campaign to promote sustainable travel to our staff and contractors.	Campaign delivered	Head of Communications	Short term	£	Ongoing
T10		Deliver a Cycling and Walking Strategy for Havering.	Strategy published	Team Leader (Transport Planning)	Medium term	£	Ongoing
T14		Produce a feasibility assessment and produce a paper to Cabinet on a Last Mile Delivery proposal	Feasibility study completed	Team Leader (Transport Planning)	Long term	£	Ongoing
T17		Review feasibility study and develop next steps for a new north south public transport link providing a link between Rainham and Beam Park and the Romford housing zone with a further connection to Collier Row.	Study reviewed	Team Leader (Transport Planning)	Long term	£	New
T18		Delivery of Walking Zone maps in two schools (locations to be decided) across the borough. The model will be one which can be used as a template for other schools	2 walking zone maps created	Team Leader (Transport Planning)	Medium term	£	New
T19	Reduce vehicle emissions across the borough.	Promote and lead an active travel conference for schools. Each school to develop an active travel plan.	Conference took place	Team Leader (Transport Planning) and Assistant Director of Education	Medium term	££	New
T20		London Riverside Bid - public transport access as none currently/pedestrian crossings	1 bus stop installed	Team Leader (Transport Planning)	Long term	£££	New
T21		Integrate need to reduce car use in Local Plan through restrictive car parking, extensive walking and cycling routes etc	Reduction in car use included in Local Plan	Planning Officer	Long term	£	New
T22		Work with and advise the Local NHS partners on their Active Travel Plans and monitor and report effectiveness	4 meetings attended	Director of Environment	Medium term	£	New
T23		Continue to work with National Highways to secure mitigation measures for Havering and its residents to reduce the impact of the Lower Thames Crossing project.	4 meetings attended	Team Leader (Transport Planning)	Long term	£	New
T25		Upcoming transport procurement, e.g. Highways to review carbon benefits such as recycling targets, sustainable materials etc. options through procurement process	Contract awarded	Director of Environment	Long term	£££	New
T27		Bring together the transport actions into a strategic high level action statement which shows what is being progressed, what is aspirational and what the Council would like to do when funding becomes available. The purpose is to coordinate actions, measure progress and publicly explain what is being achieved.	Action statement published	Director of Environment	Long term	£	New
T28		Monitor and manage carbon emissions from transport across the borough which will model the impacts of actions taken	Emissions published annually	Insight Manager	Short term	£	New
T29		Prepare a regular report on car anti-idling activity to evidence action, improvement and enforcement of the Council Policy	Include in Balanced Scorecard	Team Leader (Transport Planning)	Long term	£	New
T30	Adopt responsible and social values measures into large scale contracts.	Work with the highways contractor, Marlborough, to explore how their social value offer can benefit the residents of Havering by addressing climate issues.	Engagement with Marlborough	Head of Highways	Long term	£	New



# 9. WASTE



The Council will play a key role in supporting recycling, reusing and reducing the amount of waste we throw away across the borough and produced by Council buildings and operations.

We will measure and reduce carbon emissions associated with contracted activities and fleet operations, and comply with local and national legislation around waste and emissions.

Ref	Goal	Action	Measure	Responsible Officer	Timeframe (Short term = by 31/03/25; Medium term = by 31/03/26; Long term - by 31/03/27)	Cost (£ = Low; ££ = Medium; £££ = High)	Status
W2	Drive reductions in waste across the corporate estate and accelerate a step change in rates of recycling.	Continue to develop ways to reduce waste. Investigate impact of changes to cleaning regime on waste & recycling in Council facilities.	Review undertaken	Campus Manager (Romford)	Long term	££	Ongoing
W3		Continue to develop ways to reduce electronic waste and promote what has been done so far.	75% traceability of e-waste at end of life	Director of Technology and Innovation	Long term	££	Ongoing
W4		Set standards to minimise waste during office decomissioning.	Standards approved	Campus Manager (Romford)	Long term	£	Ongoing
W5		Continue to improve office waste recycling, including food waste.	Food waste recycling points installed in corporate buildings	Waste & External Contracts Manager	Long term	££	Ongoing
W6		Develop waste plan for non corporate buildings.	Plan approved	Waste & External Contracts Manager	Medium term	£	Ongoing
W8		Awareness campaign to reduce use of plastic across all Council activities.	Campaign carried out	Head of Communications	Medium term	£	Ongoing
W7	Drive reductions in waste across the borough and accelerate a step change in rates of recycling.	Contractors to report annually on CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from vehicle-based waste collection operations.	Stats reported	Waste & External Contracts Manager	Short term	£	Ongoing
W9		Engage with ELWA to understand opportunities for how we can recycle more bulky waste (targets to be identified with new waste contractor once awarded).	TBC once contract awarded	Director of Environment	Long term	£	New
W10		Undertake a full service redesign for how we collect waste and reduce overall waste, e.g. frequency, containerisation, food waste.	Service review carried out	Director of Environment	Long term	£££	New
W11		Recycling of street cleansing waste.	80% of street cleansing waste recycled	Director of Environment	Long term	£££	New
W12		Produce new Waste Minimisation Plan for the borough.	Plan produced	Director of Environment	Medium term	£	New
W13		Install water butts in council owned or run locations such as cemeteries. Work with partners to offer a subsidised water butt scheme to encourage use of rainwater rather than tap water in gardens.	3 water butts installed	Waste Minimisation	Short term	£	New
W14		To explore the use of the Ridan composter in Havering and monitor its effectiveness.	Ridan composter installed at Zero Carbon Demonstrator Home	Waste & External Contracts Manager	Short term	£	New
W15		New waste contract - switching to 14 electric vehicles.	14 waste vehicles powered by electric	Director of Environment	Long term	£££	New
W16	Adopt responsible and social values measures into large scale contracts.	New waste contract - creating a more sustainable depot solution.	10% reduction in gas and electric consumption at depot	Director of Environment	Long term	£££	New
W17		New waste contract - offsetting schemes including £10,000 per annum for environmental projects, planting of 25 trees per year (see Transport) and £40,000 per annum for community projects.	3 offsetting schemes implemented	Director of Environment	Long term	£££	New

# MONITORING & REPORTING

We will continually monitor and evaluate the progress of this action plan against the intended outcomes, and review and refine it based on lessons learnt.

The plan is intended to be a live document, and will develop as we continue to increase our understanding of emission sources and the most effective ways to reduce them.

The action plan will continue to be updated throughout each year and progress on the work streams will be reported to the Lead Member for Climate Change on a monthly basis.

Performance monitoring on the action plan will take place each year to track progress against agreed actions and performance, and it will be made publicly available to ensure transparency.

The action plan will be fully reviewed after three years.

We will monitor and publish CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from Council activity once a year.

**THROUGH OUR ACTIONS AND CHOICES, EACH ONE OF US  
CAN TAKE STEPS TO LEAVE SMALLER FOOTPRINTS AND  
HELP TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE**

For more information on how Havering Council is tackling climate change go to [www.havering.gov.uk/climatechange](http://www.havering.gov.uk/climatechange).

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# HAVERING CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN REVIEW 2021

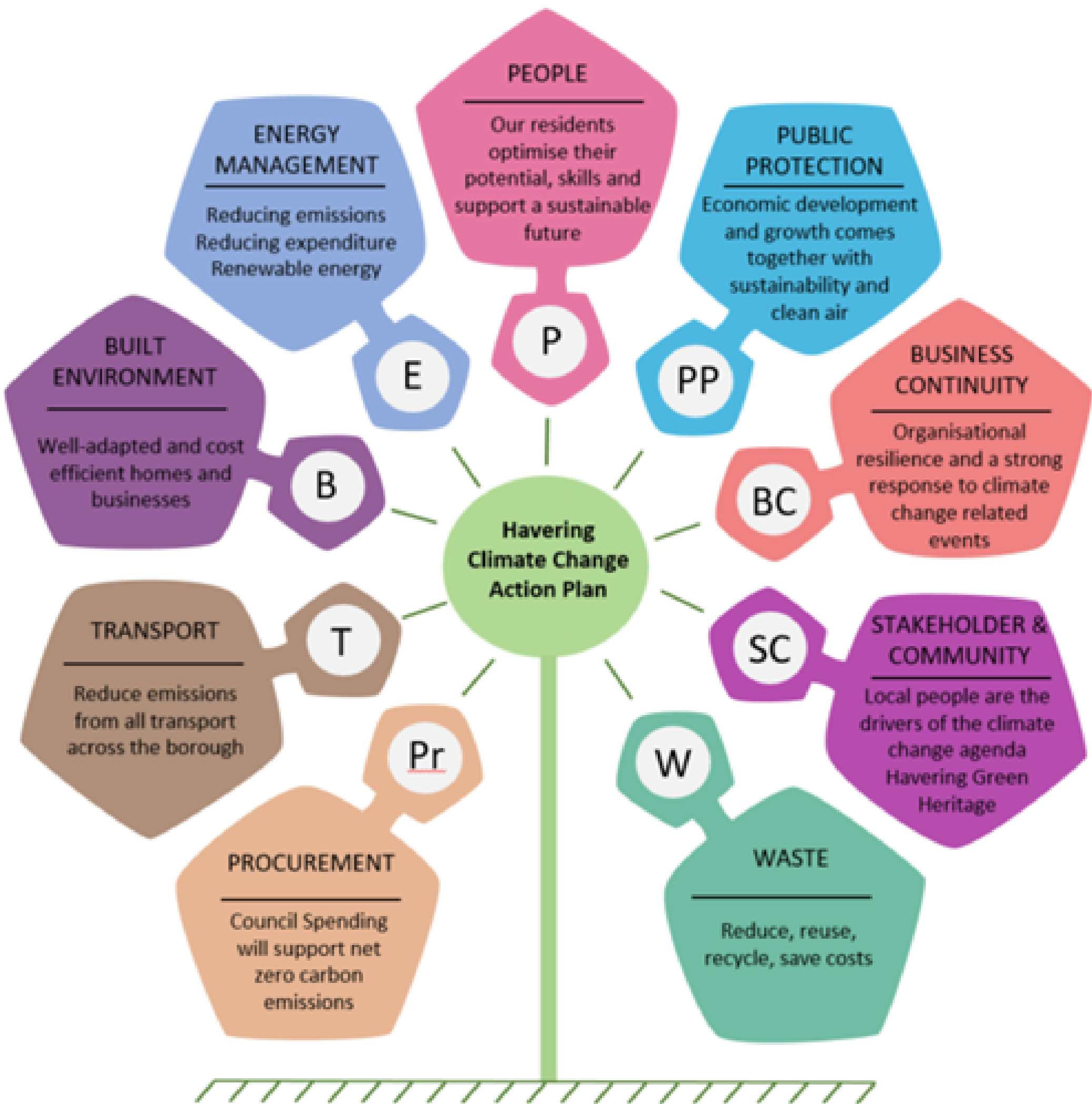
THE URGENT CALL TO ACTION · THE URGENT CALL TO ACTION · THE URGENT CALL TO ACTION

[www.havering.gov.uk/climatechange](http://www.havering.gov.uk/climatechange)



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- Foreword
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- Business Continuity
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- People
- Procurement
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- Next Steps





# FOREWORD

We know that Havering is a great place to live and work but we also know that the borough faces challenges, none more so than the needs to respond to the impacts of climate change and work together to tackle the causes of climate change.

In 2021, the Havering Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP) was published. In this plan the Council announced its ambition to be carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner and committed to measure and report greenhouse gas emissions on a regular basis. To demonstrate this commitment, and to emphasise both the seriousness and urgency of our climate change work, the Council went a step further and declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency on 21 March 2023.

As a borough we need to continue to take action to reduce direct and indirect carbon emissions to net zero and this involves a radical examination of how we live, work and invest in the borough .

This review of the HCCAP sets out some of the work that has already been undertaken to tackle climate change and outlines the on-going and new actions the Council will be taking over the next four years to meet our ambitious target. As Havering's Lead Member for Climate Change, I am proud to lead this transition for the borough.

We recognise that achieving our vision will not be easy. We will need to show strong leadership to create opportunities for all to participate in the benefits of change and ensure that the costs of doing so are affordable.

This is an exciting opportunity to address the challenges of climate change whilst also delivering positive outcomes for the people of Havering such as new homes, better energy efficiency for existing homes, cleaner air, reducing inequalities, generating new jobs, career and study opportunities and ensuring that the Borough's green infrastructure is valued and protected.

We know that no single organisation or individual can deliver the scale and pace of change needed. Therefore, this is a call to action. We ask you, as people who live, work, visit and invest in Havering, to join with us on this exciting journey of transformation to ensure that we leave a sustainable legacy for our children and grandchildren.

Councillor Keith Darvill  
Lead Member for Climate Change



7 BUILT ENVIRONMENT



Secured investment in the Council’s housing stock through the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund: Wave 1 Programme - £1.27 million.

Actively supported the Sustainable Warmth Programme to assist and promote the BEIS Energy Grant programme which, at the time of writing this report, had made energy improvement measures in 52 Havering owner occupied homes to the value of £949,449.

8,000 whips have been planted in woodland restoration projects in our open spaces. The planting of trees in these areas helps to capture more carbon as well as providing valuable habitat for a range of flora and fauna within the borough.

Over 350 standard trees have been planted in streets. These will help to offset vehicle emissions and improve air quality.

Supported the GLA Warmer Homes and Core Funding Programmes which delivered energy saving measures to 14 Havering owner occupied properties.



Action Progress

Status of action	Total actions	% actions
Achieved	10	77
Ongoing	3	23
Stuck/Not started	0	0
Total	13	100

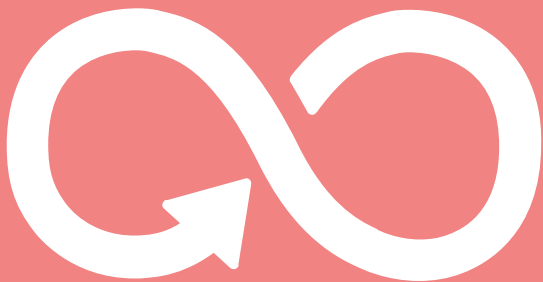


The Council’s Emergency Planning Framework, which incorporates addressing and mitigating climate change, was enacted during the Wennington fire tragedy and proved to be fit for purpose. Lessons from the statutory body reports will be incorporated into the Council’s future emergency plans.

## Action Progress

Status of action	Total actions	% actions
Achieved	7	54
Ongoing	6	46
Stuck/Not started	0	0
Total	13	100

### 3 BUSINESS CONTINUITY



The Council has an annual programme for cleaning out gullies in the borough. In the last 2 years the Council has cleaned out the majority of its 25,000 gullies in order to manage flood risk and resilience.

The Council’s new Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) has been published by the Environment Agency. These are strategic plans that set out how to manage flood risk in nationally identified flood risk areas (FRAs) for the period 2021-2027. Please refer to the DEFRA Flood Plan explorer for further information.





99% of traditional street lighting has been replaced with LED lighting.

The corporate estate has been rationalised and the second most energy consuming building was decanted prior to disposal.

Action Progress

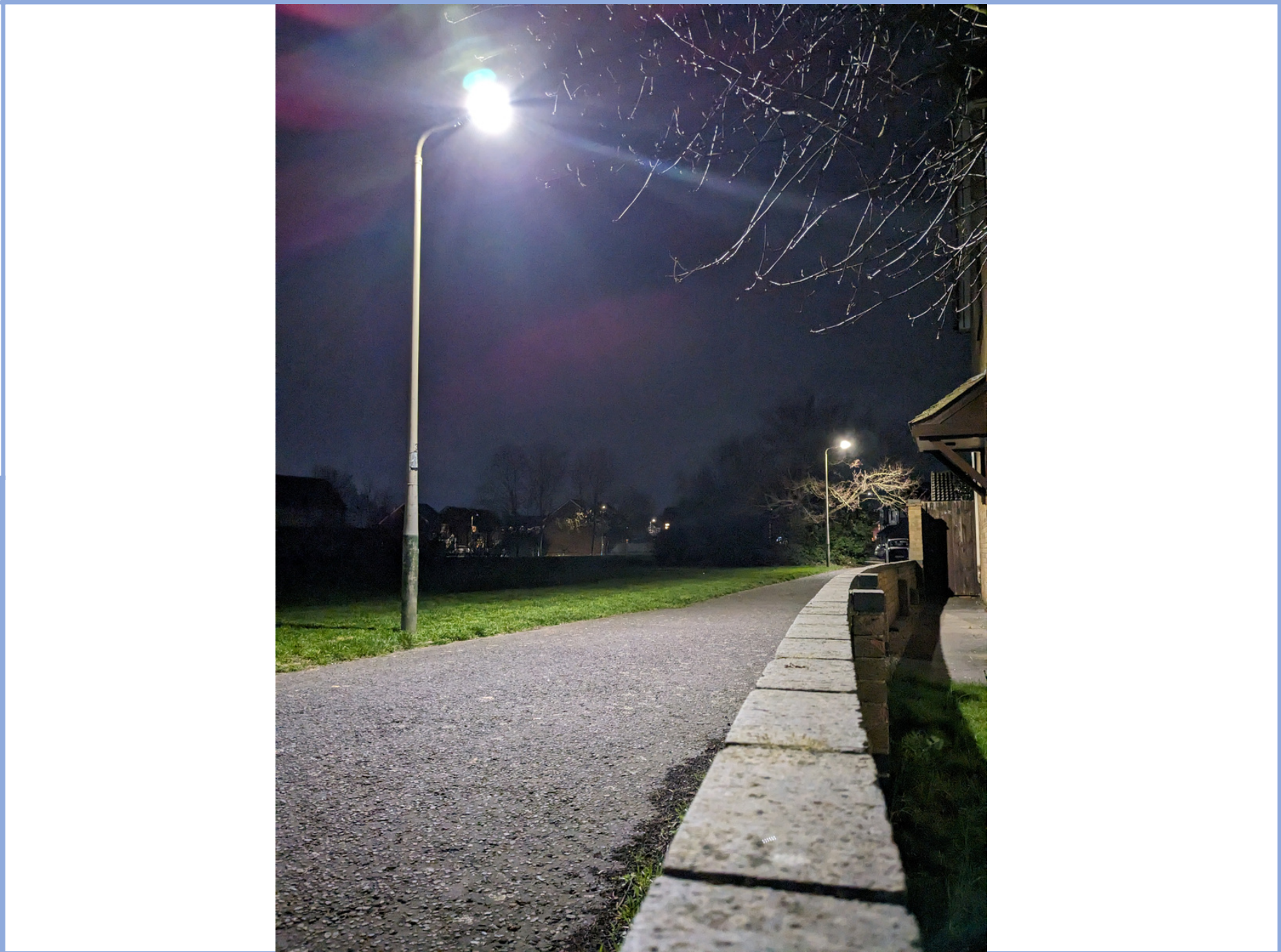
Status of action	Total actions	% actions
Achieved	5	29
Ongoing	12	71
Stuck/Not started	0	0
Total	17	100

A data warehouse has been developed which:  
Provides information on returns on investments;  
Allows for data gaps to be identified by service directors;  
Provides an ‘at-a-glance’ view of key data;  
Provides key data in a visual format for public consumption;  
Enables officers to routinely consider climate change actions;  
Provides information to allow Members to make evidence-based decisions.

Energy Doctors Programme established – working with Age UK’s trained Energy Doctors and the Havering Volunteer Centre to provide free advice on how to save energy and reduce costs and tips on how to reduce waste, recycle more and buy less.

Zero Carbon Demonstrator Home and Visitor Centre – secured UK Shared Prosperity Funding to build, with the voluntary sector, a net zero carbon demonstration/visitor centre to raise awareness of energy saving measures in residential accommodation.

6 ENERGY





# Action Progress

Status of action	Total actions	% actions
Achieved	13	65
Ongoing	3	15
Stuck/Not started	4	20
Total	20	100

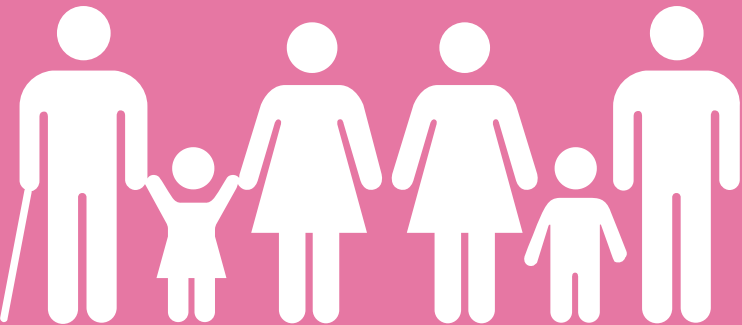
Held a joint business event for all Havering businesses to promote the HCCAP, identify measures to help employees and hear from companies about the steps they have taken, are taking, to tackle climate change.

Factored climate considerations into all the Council decision making processes including requiring all reports to include a climate impact assessment.



Staff forum established in 2022. There is a significant staff group which meets monthly. The group has been active in considering and suggesting approaches on climate change. Members of the group come from a wide range of Council departments

2 PEOPLE



Member Briefings continue. All Members highly supportive of climate change action. Level of ambition elevated. Councillors Williamson, Morgon and Darvill visted Copenhagen to review best practice in district heating, CHP, heat storage and waste heat recovery at datacentres

# Action Progress

Status of action	Total actions	% actions
Achieved	4	31
Ongoing	8	62
Stuck/Not started	1	8
Total	13	100

Agreed to invest 5% of its passive equity investments in the LCIV Passive Equity Progressive Aligned (PEPPA) Fund.

Agreed to invest 10% of the Fund’s assets into the Legal and General Investment Management (LGIM) Future World, which is an equity allocation with a climate-tilted focus.

Agreed to switch assets (15%) from the LCIV Global Alpha Fund to the LCIV Global Alpha Paris Aligned Variant.

Pensions: agreed to invest 2.5% in a London Collective Investment Vehicle (LCIV) – a renewable energy infrastructure fund.

## 8 PROCUREMENT





# Action Progress

Status of action	Total actions	% actions
Achieved	4	40
Ongoing	5	50
Stuck/Not started	1	10
Total	10	100

Regular checks undertaken for grants related to the decarbonisation of private sector housing.



Reports from smoke and unlicensed burning are investigated when they come into the Council.

Continue to work with water authorities and water companies to ensure that people in Havering have access to safe and clean drinking water.

## 5 PUBLIC PROTECTION





The Communities Team and the Waste Minimisation Team secured a National Lottery ‘Tackling the Planet’ grant to design and create a Climate Change Community Champions Programme. To date 44 volunteer Community Climate Change Champions have been trained. The programme works with the voluntary sector and business partners to promote awareness and provide information on recycling, upcycling, waste composting and other ways of making the local environment cleaner and greener.

61 community events have been held with the Community Climate Change Champions between May 2022 and February 2023 including: clothes swaps (300 items swapped, 70 items upcycled and 65 kilos of unsuitable clothing sold for recycling); 16 community clean ups and numerous litter picks; composting workshops; 13 events held during the Great Big Green Week.

# Action Progress

Status of action	Total actions	% actions
Achieved	9	69
Ongoing	4	31
Stuck/Not started	0	0
Total	13	100

Established a Green Forum with local stakeholders to consider key environmental matters. Chaired by the Lead Member for Climate Change, the Forum invites guest speakers and provides an opportunity for the Council to consider the views of all parties.

Planted over 1000 trees as part of a Memorial Garden for those affected during the Covid pandemic.



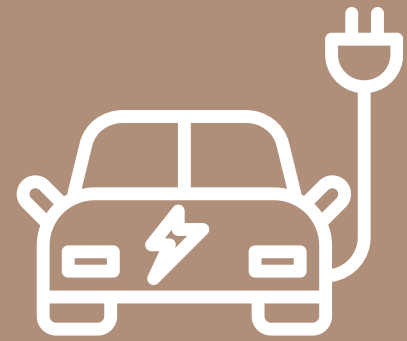
A policy on the mass release of sky lanterns and helium balloons and the unauthorised use of fireworks on Council owned or managed land has been introduced following a consultation exercise in which 512 responses were received with overwhelming support for the initiative.

## 9 STAKEHOLDER & COMMUNITY





# 1 TRANSPORT



New fuel management software has been implemented that provides a breakdown of carbon emissions for the fleet.

## Action Progress

Status of action	Total actions	% actions
Achieved	8	53
Ongoing	4	27
Stuck/Not started	3	20
Total	15	100

Working with two thirds of the schools in the borough and single occupancy car use is now down to approximately 19% from 2009.

Cycle and Scooter parking is being delivered across 13 schools in the borough through the Local Implementation Plan programme. The Council has invested £20k of Local Implementation Plan funding in “Try Before You Bike”. This scheme gives residents the opportunity to rent a bicycle for a small fee from a company called ‘Peddle My Wheels’. Residents rent the bicycle for a month or more and have the opportunity to purchase the bicycle at a discounted rate at the end of the rental period.

The Mayoral car has been switched from an internal combustion engine to a battery electric vehicle.

Anti-Idling workshops have been delivered to schools. These involved engaging with pupils and parents outside the school gates to raise awareness about the consequences to the local environment of leaving vehicle engines running when parked.



Photo credit: Mr Paul Weston



New printers and photocopiers (MFDs) purchased which use less electricity and reduce toner requirements. Reduction in the number of MFDs from 117 to 28.

Paper reduction from 250 reams per week to 250 reams every 6 weeks.



The new waste collection and street cleansing contract with Urbaser went live in October 22 2023. The contract includes a number of electric vehicles and other sustainable equipment, as well as funding for small scale environmental projects in the borough.

Action Progress

Status of action	Total actions	% actions
Achieved	1	13
Ongoing	6	75
Stuck/Not started	1	13
Total	8	100

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Improved waste and recycling facilities within the newly refurbished Town Hall.

The Waste Minimisation Team have held a number of events including: 4 composting workshops; 7 Love Food Hate Waste workshops; 3 Repair Café sessions; 2 stalls at shopping centres promoting waste minimisation.



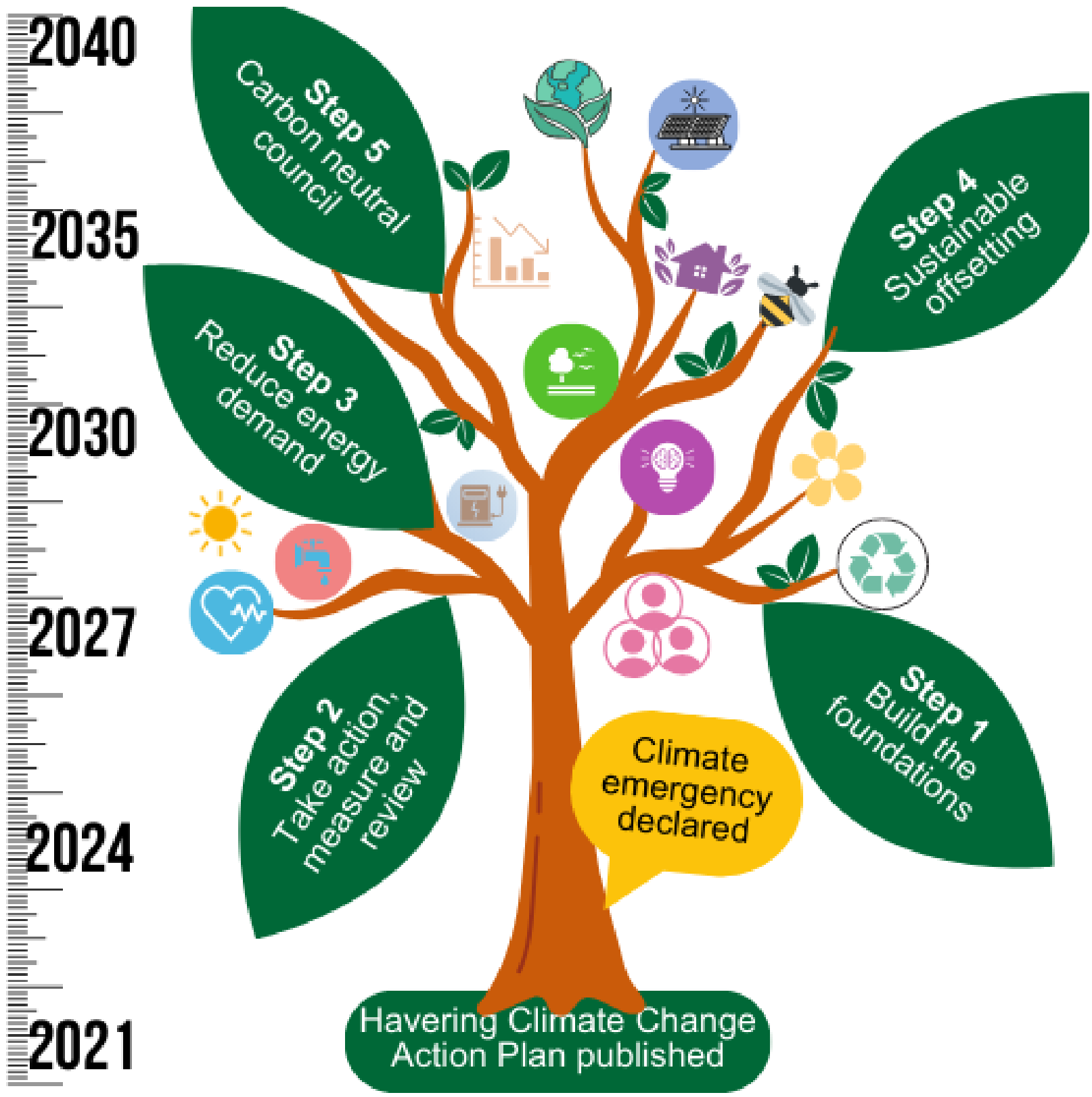
# OUR STEPS TOWARDS BECOMING CARBON NEUTRAL

While the progress the Council has made since the Havering Climate Change Action Plan 2021 is significant, we recognise that there is much more to do.

The HCCAP sets out how Havering Council will achieve it's carbon neutral emissions target and build resilience to extreme weather resulting from climate change.

Havering Council is firmly committed as an organisation to become carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner. A revised Climate Change Action Plan will be published in the Spring of 2024.

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**THROUGH OUR ACTIONS AND CHOICES, EACH ONE OF US CAN TAKE STEPS TO LEAVE SMALLER FOOTPRINTS AND HELP TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE**

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# Equality & Health Impact Assessment (EqHIA)

## Document control

<b>Title of activity:</b>	Revised Havering Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP) 2024-27
<b>Lead officer:</b>	Michelle Giordmaina Climate Insight Programme Management Officer Insight, Policy & Strategy, Resources
<b>Approved by:</b>	Sandy Hamberger Assistant Director of Insight, Policy & Strategy Resources
<b>Version Number</b>	V0.1
<b>Date and Key Changes Made</b>	12 February 2024
<b>Scheduled date for next review:</b>	01 April 2025

<b>Did you seek advice from the Corporate Policy &amp; Diversity team?</b>	Yes
<b>Did you seek advice from the Public Health team?</b>	Yes
<b>Does the EqHIA contain any confidential or exempt information that would prevent you publishing it on the Council's website? See Publishing Checklist.</b>	No

**Please submit the completed form via e-mail to [READI@haverling.gov.uk](mailto:READI@haverling.gov.uk) thank you.**

# 1. Equality & Health Impact Assessment Checklist

Please complete the following checklist to determine whether or not you will need to complete an EqHIA and ensure you keep this section for your audit trail. If you have any questions, please contact [READI@havering.gov.uk](mailto:READI@havering.gov.uk) for advice from either the Corporate Diversity or Public Health teams. Please refer to [this Guidance](#) on how to complete this form.

## About your activity

1	Title of activity	Revised Havering Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP) 2024-27		
2	Type of activity	Revised action plan		
3	Scope of activity	In response to the Havering Council climate emergency declaration in 2023, the Climate Change Team has revised the HCCAP which sets out the intent to deliver the ambitious target of becoming carbon neutral by 2040.		
4a	Are you changing, introducing a new, or removing a service, policy, strategy or function?	Yes	<p>If the answer to <u>either</u> of these questions is 'YES', please continue to question 5.</p> <p>If the answer to <u>all</u> of the questions (4a, 4b &amp; 4c) is 'NO', please go to question 6.</p>	
4b	Does this activity have the potential to impact (either positively or negatively) upon people from different backgrounds?	Yes		
4c	Does the activity have the potential to impact (either positively or negatively) upon any factors which determine people's health and wellbeing?	Yes		
5	If you answered YES:	Please complete the EqHIA in Section 2 of this document. Please see Appendix 1 for Guidance.		
6	If you answered NO:	N/A		

Completed by:	Michelle Giordmaina Climate Insight Programme Management Officer Insight, Policy & Strategy, Resources
Date:	12/02/2024

## The EqHIA – How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service impact on people?

### Background/context:

Climate change is already having an impact across the world, and there is overwhelming evidence that human activity is continuing to drive planetary warming which threatens all who inhabit the Earth. This threat is not evenly distributed, and it is the poorest and most vulnerable who are most threatened. The effects can already be seen in Havering with more extreme weather, greater flood risk and an impact on the health of our residents.

All carbon emissions – wherever they are produced in the world – are contributing to this crisis, and so every part of the world needs to play its part.

That is why Havering Council declared a climate emergency in 2023 and committed to do everything it can to make the borough carbon neutral by 2040. Our 2021 climate change plan set out our actions for tackling the climate emergency.

However, too much damage has already been done. Even if the world stops producing carbon and other greenhouse gases tomorrow, the increased carbon already in the atmosphere means the planet will continue to warm and it will take many thousands of years to return to pre-industrial temperatures.

While we need to redouble our efforts to reduce carbon and move to a net zero future, we also need to adapt for a warmer world and ensure we are resilient to the changes that are already happening. We also expect those changes to continue to intensify in the coming years.

With this in mind, we have revised the HCCAP to formalises our approach through a list of clear, defined and measureable actions that will focus on how we best prepare the borough and its residents for a changing climate. It builds on work already taking place to adapt the borough in the face of a changing climate, through work on flooding, overheating, biodiversity and many other areas.

### Who will be affected by the activity?

The revised HCCAP will be used across the Council to inform its approach in reducing climate risk and to make the borough more resilient to the impacts of climate change. It is expected to lead to policy changes in wide-ranging areas including transport, buildings and public spaces. The HCCAP recognises that the impacts of climate change are already felt in the borough, and more will need to be done to protect the most vulnerable.

It will affect service users, the wider community, the workforce, Elected Members, voluntary sector, all residents, visitors and businesses.



Protected Characteristic - Age: Consider the full range of age groups																																						
Please tick (✓) the relevant box:		<b>Overall impact:</b> <b>Very Young and Elderly:</b> The effects of extreme heat and extreme cold are more likely have a detrimental impact on their health and wellbeing. Their ability to adapt and react to extreme weather events (including displacement) may be affected.  <b>Young People:</b> Climate change is expected to get more extreme with time, if unaddressed it will have a greater impact on young people throughout their lifetime.  <b>Older People:</b> While literature examining the importance of access to natural environments and health is well-publicised, the impact this can have for an aging population cannot be underestimated. Accessible green infrastructure results in a range of positive health-outcomes for lower income, older populations in urban neighbourhoods.  Tackling climate change through reducing emissions has the potential to benefit groups vulnerable to heat and air pollution.																																				
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Neutral																																						
Negative																																						
<b>Evidence:</b>  The number of children aged 0-17(under 18 population) in Havering is 58,550. The number of people aged under 18 has increased by 15.2%.  Havering still has one of the highest proportions of older people aged 65+ in London.  The combined impact of having both a large older population and now a large (and growing) young population is that Havering now has the lowest proportion of working-age adults in London.																																						
<table><tr><td>All usual residents</td><td>262,057</td><td>100.0</td></tr><tr><td>Aged 4 years and under</td><td>16,491</td><td>6.3</td></tr><tr><td>Aged 5 to 9 years</td><td>16,862</td><td>6.4</td></tr><tr><td>Aged 10 to 15 years</td><td>18,971</td><td>7.2</td></tr><tr><td>Aged 16 to 19 years</td><td>11,363</td><td>4.3</td></tr><tr><td>Aged 20 to 24 years</td><td>14,106</td><td>5.4</td></tr><tr><td>Aged 25 to 34 years</td><td>36,233</td><td>13.8</td></tr><tr><td>Aged 35 to 49 years</td><td>52,844</td><td>20.2</td></tr><tr><td>Aged 50 to 64 years</td><td>49,081</td><td>18.7</td></tr><tr><td>Aged 65 to 74 years</td><td>23,993</td><td>9.2</td></tr><tr><td>Aged 75 to 84 years</td><td>15,142</td><td>5.8</td></tr><tr><td>Aged 85 years and over</td><td>6,971</td><td>2.7</td></tr></table>			All usual residents	262,057	100.0	Aged 4 years and under	16,491	6.3	Aged 5 to 9 years	16,862	6.4	Aged 10 to 15 years	18,971	7.2	Aged 16 to 19 years	11,363	4.3	Aged 20 to 24 years	14,106	5.4	Aged 25 to 34 years	36,233	13.8	Aged 35 to 49 years	52,844	20.2	Aged 50 to 64 years	49,081	18.7	Aged 65 to 74 years	23,993	9.2	Aged 75 to 84 years	15,142	5.8	Aged 85 years and over	6,971	2.7
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Source: ONS - 2021 Census (TS007)																																						

**Sources used:**

Census 2021 Briefing #2

[https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census\\_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section\\_10](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section_10)

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/climate-change/impact-climate-change-rights-older-persons>

**Protected Characteristic - Disability:** Consider the full range of disabilities; including physical, mental, sensory, progressive conditions and learning difficulties. Also consider neurodivergent conditions e.g. dyslexia and autism.

Please tick (✓) the relevant box:

**Positive**

X

**Neutral**

**Negative**

**Overall impact:**

Havering has a small number of residents who are classed as disabled under the Equality Act. Climate change poses more of a risk to some people with disabilities because the effects of extreme temperatures and weather impact on displacement risks. Some people with disabilities are likely to have additional needs in reacting to extreme weather events.

Tackling climate change through reducing emissions has the potential to benefit groups vulnerable to heat and air pollution.

**Evidence:**

All usual residents	262,052	100.0
Disabled under the Equality Act: Day-to-day activities limited a lot	16,609	6.3
Disabled under the Equality Act: Day-to-day activities limited a little	21,840	8.3
Not disabled under the Equality Act: Has long term physical or mental health condition but day-to-day activities are not limited	14,935	5.7
Not disabled under the Equality Act: No long term physical or mental health conditions	208,668	79.6

Source: ONS - 2021 Census (TS038)

**Sources used:**

Census 2021 -

[https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census\\_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section\\_10](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section_10)

<https://www.unhcr.org/uk/media/disability-displacement-and-climate-change#:~:text=Climate%20change%20may%20lead%20to,risks%20and%20barriers%20to%20inclusion>

Protected Characteristic – Sex / gender: Consider both men and women																
Please tick (✓) the relevant box:		<b>Overall impact:</b>  Havering has a very similar split of males and females.  Green spaces have clear benefits to our health and wellbeing. If a protected group is reticent to utilise green space due to perception of safety/fear, then it is important to address this through the new action plan.														
Positive																
Neutral	X															
Negative																
<b>Evidence:</b> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>All usual residents</td> <td>262,052</td> <td>100.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>135,668</td> <td>51.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>126,384</td> <td>48.2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			All usual residents	262,052	100.0	Female	135,668	51.8	Male	126,384	48.2					
All usual residents	262,052	100.0														
Female	135,668	51.8														
Male	126,384	48.2														
Source: ONS - 2021 Census (TS008) <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Gender identity the same as sex registered at birth</td> <td>196462</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gender identity different from sex registered at birth but no specific identity given</td> <td>528</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Trans woman</td> <td>228</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Trans man</td> <td>212</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non-binary</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All other gender identities</td> <td>39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not answered</td> <td>12201</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Gender identity the same as sex registered at birth	196462	Gender identity different from sex registered at birth but no specific identity given	528	Trans woman	228	Trans man	212	Non-binary	60	All other gender identities	39	Not answered	12201
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Non-binary	60															
All other gender identities	39															
Not answered	12201															
Source: ONS Census 2021 estimates that classify usual residents aged 16 years and over in England and Wales by gender identity.																
<b>Sources used:</b>  Census 2021 - <a href="https://www.ons.gov.uk/datasets/TS070/editions/2021/versions/1">https://www.ons.gov.uk/datasets/TS070/editions/2021/versions/1</a>  <a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section_10">https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section_10</a>																

**Protected Characteristic – Ethnicity / race / nationalities:** Consider the impact on different minority ethnic groups and nationalities

Please tick (✓) the relevant box:

**Positive**

**Neutral**

**Negative**

X

**Overall impact:**

Havering has a diverse population, with lots of different cultures and backgrounds.

Minority ethnic communities disproportionately suffer from a lack of access to nature/the environment, and are more likely to live in areas with high air pollution. As such, elements of increasing inclusion within the Parks Strategy, and future work as part of the Air Quality Action Plan, will benefit this group. Further detail to be found within the associated strategy document.

Minority ethnic communities are among those who will be hit the hardest by climate impacts. Poorer Londoners are more likely to live in housing that is not well adapted to high temperatures, meaning they are more vulnerable to heat, and more likely to live in areas vulnerable to flooding and less likely to have flood insurance.

By acting on climate change, this plan aims to have overall positive impacts by indicating the Council's part in reducing climate change. Actions within the plan are likely to have positive benefits for different minority ethnic groups by improving factors such as air quality as well as by creating opportunities for people to be involved in acting on climate change.

**Evidence:**

After England, the most common countries of birth recorded for Havering residents are Romania (increased from 459 to 5,393), India (increased from 2,301 to 4,603) and other non-EU European countries (increased from 864 to 4,233).

Seven of the top ten wards in London where diversity increased the most were in Havering.

White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	259
White: Roma	433
Other ethnic group: Arab	809
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black African	1535
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Chinese	2011
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Asian	2344
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: Other Black	2597
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: Other Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	2644
White: Irish	2894
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black Caribbean	3224
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Other Asian	4390

Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group	4465
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Bangladeshi	4774
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: Caribbean	4832
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Pakistani	5683
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Indian	11292
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: African	14138
White: Other White	19496
White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	174232

Source ONS: Census 2021 estimates that classify usual residents in England and Wales by ethnic group.

#### Sources used:

Census 2021 – Briefing #2

ONS CENSUS 2021 estimates by ethnic group

[https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census\\_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section\\_10](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section_10)

**Protected Characteristic – Religion / faith:** Consider people from different religions or beliefs, including those with no religion or belief

Please tick (✓) the relevant box:

**Positive**

**Neutral**

**Negative**

X

#### Overall impact:

Havering has a high proportion of Christian, residents with no religion or non-stated religion according to the Census 2021 results. Havering does have a high proportion of Muslim residents and a significant number of Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist and Jewish residents also.

There are no known specific impacts related to this protected group as relates to this action plan.

#### Evidence:

Christian	136765
Buddhist	1092
Hindu	6454
Jewish	1305
Muslim	16135
Sikh	4498
Other religion: Alevi	55
No religion: Agnostic	87
No religion: Atheist	35
No religion: Free Thinker	0
No religion: Humanist	23
No religion: No religion	80090
No religion: Realist	0

Other religion: Animism	3
Other religion: Baha'l	23
Other religion: Believe in God	4
Other religion: Brahma Kumari	1
Other religion: Chinese Religion	1
Other religion: Church of All Religion	0
Other religion: Confucianist	0
Other religion: Deist	2
Other religion: Druid	3
Other religion: Druze	0
Other religion: Eckankar	0
Other religion: Heathen	8
Other religion: Jain	105
Other religion: Mixed Religion	56
Other religion: Mysticism	0
Other religion: Native American Church	1
Other religion: New Age	0
Other religion: Occult	1
Other religion: Other religions	251
Other religion: Own Belief System	4
Other religion: Pagan	179
Other religion: Pantheism	6
Other religion: Rastafarian	14
Other religion: Ravidassia	33
Other religion: Reconstructionist	8
Other religion: Satanism	21
Other religion: Scientology	1
Other religion: Shamanism	22
Other religion: Shintoism	3
Other religion: Spiritual	83
Other religion: Spiritualist	96
Other religion: Taoist	8
Other religion: Theism	1
Other religion: Thelemite	2
Other religion: Traditional African Religion	6
Other religion: Unification Church	0
Other religion: Universalist	1
Other religion: Valmiki	2
Other religion: Vodun	0
Other religion: Wicca	37
Other religion: Witchcraft	1
Other religion: Yazidi	0
Other religion: Zoroastrian	14
Religion not stated	14512

Source: ONS Census 2021 estimates that classify usual residents in England and Wales by religion

**Sources used:**

Census 2021 - <https://www.ons.gov.uk/datasets/TS031/editions/2021/versions/1>  
[https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census\\_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section\\_10](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section_10)

**Protected Characteristic - Sexual orientation:** Consider people who are heterosexual, lesbian, gay or bisexual

*Please tick (✓) the relevant box:*

**Positive**

**Neutral**

**Negative**

X

**Overall impact:**

There are approximately 4,000 people in Havering identifying as either gay, lesbian or bisexual. This a significant number but proportionately less than the London and England averages.

There are no known specific impacts related to this protected group as relates to this action plan.

**Evidence:**

Straight or Heterosexual	191007
Gay or Lesbian	1993
Bisexual	1540
Pansexual	436
Asexual	56
Queer	21
All other sexual orientations	46
Not answered	14631

Source: ONS Census 2021 estimates that classify usual residents aged 16 years and over in England and Wales by sexual orientation.

**Sources used:**

Census 2021 - <https://www.ons.gov.uk/datasets/TS079/editions/2021/versions/1>  
[https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census\\_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section\\_10](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section_10)



**Protected Characteristic - Gender reassignment:** Consider people who are seeking, undergoing or have received gender reassignment surgery, as well as people whose gender identity is different from their gender at birth

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		<b>Overall impact:</b>  Although there is only a small number of residents in Havering who identify differently from the sex registered at birth, there is also a number of trans women, Trans men and non-binary residents living in Havering.  There are no known specific impacts related to this protected group as relates to this action plan.
<b>Positive</b>		
<b>Neutral</b>	X	
<b>Negative</b>		

**Evidence:**

Gender identity the same as sex registered at birth	196462
Gender identity different from sex registered at birth but no specific identity given	528
Trans woman	228
Trans man	212
Non-binary	60
All other gender identities	39
Not answered	12201

Source: ONS Census 2021 estimates that classify usual residents aged 16 years and over in England and Wales by gender identity.

**Sources used:**

Census 2021 - <https://www.ons.gov.uk/datasets/TS070/editions/2021/versions/1>  
[https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census\\_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section\\_10](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section_10)

**Protected Characteristic – Marriage / civil partnership:** Consider people in a marriage or civil partnership

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		<b>Overall impact:</b>  There are no known specific impacts related to this protected group as relates to this action plan.
<b>Positive</b>		
<b>Neutral</b>	X	
<b>Negative</b>		

<b>Evidence:</b>		
All usual residents aged 16 and over	209,730	100.0
Never married and never registered a civil partnership	77,340	36.9
Married or in a registered civil partnership	98,547	47.0
Married	98,296	46.9
In a registered civil partnership	251	0.1
Separated, but still legally married or still legally in a civil partnership	4,018	1.9
Divorced or civil partnership dissolved	16,411	7.8
Widowed or surviving civil partnership partner	13,414	6.4
Source: ONS - 2021 Census (TS002)		
<b>Sources used:</b>		
<a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section_10">https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section_10</a>		

<b>Protected Characteristic - Pregnancy, maternity and paternity:</b> Consider those who are pregnant and those who are taking maternity or paternity leave		
<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		<b>Overall impact:</b>  UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has said pregnant women are a key group at risk from hot weather.  By acting on climate change, this plan aims to have overall positive impacts by indicating the Council's part in reducing climate change. Actions within the plan are likely to have positive benefits for pregnant women by improving factors such as air quality as well as by creating opportunities for people to be involved in acting on climate change.
<b>Positive</b>	X	
<b>Neutral</b>		
<b>Negative</b>		
<b>Evidence:</b>		
<b>Sources used:</b>		
Adverse Weather and Health Plan: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adverse-weather-and-health-plan">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adverse-weather-and-health-plan</a>		

**Socio-economic status:** Consider those who are from low income or financially excluded backgrounds

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		<b>Overall impact:</b>
<b>Positive</b>		<p>Generally communities considered to be socio-economically disadvantaged are more likely to be impacted by the effects of climate change and less likely to be able to adapt to climate change. Low income households are at a greater risk of fuel poverty which will be exacerbated by requirements to fit electric boilers and heat pumps which may increase household bills. Lower income households will not be able to afford the measures needed to comply with the targets in the delivery plan and will need support e.g. Home Upgrade Grant funding.</p> <p>The impacts of climate change will exacerbate year on year. It is increasingly accepted that delaying action on climate change will have additional costs in the long term. It is likely that efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change will increase in the coming years as the climate starts to change and the pace of change in national policy, society and the economy continues to progress.</p> <p>By acting on climate change, this plan aims to have overall positive impacts by indicating the Council's part in reducing climate change. Actions within the plan are likely to have positive benefits for low income households by improving factors such as air quality as well as by creating opportunities for people to be involved in acting on climate change.</p>
<b>Neutral</b>		
<b>Negative</b>	X	

**Evidence:**

The proportion of households in Havering experiencing at least one dimension of deprivation has increased by 4%(1250 households), however the proportion of households experiencing multiple dimensions of deprivation has decreased.

According to the Census, compared to the London (51.9%) and England (51.6%) average Havering has a marginally higher proportion of households living in deprivation (52.7%).

**Sources used:**

Census 2021 – Briefing #2

[https://www.un.org/esa/desa/papers/2017/wp152\\_2017.pdf](https://www.un.org/esa/desa/papers/2017/wp152_2017.pdf)

**Health & Wellbeing Impact:**

Consider both short and long-term impacts of the activity on a person's physical and mental health, particularly for disadvantaged, vulnerable or at-risk groups. Can health and wellbeing be positively promoted through this activity?

<i>Please tick (✓) all the relevant boxes that apply:</i>		<b>Overall impact:</b>
<b>Positive</b>	X	Havering has a small number of residents with Fair, Bad or

<b>Neutral</b>		very bad health.
<b>Negative</b>		<p>Tackling climate change through reducing emissions has the potential to benefit groups vulnerable to heat and air pollution.</p> <p><b>Do you consider that a more in-depth HIA is required as a result of this brief assessment?</b> Please tick (✓) the relevant box</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> </p>

**Evidence:**

All usual residents	262,052	100.0
Very good health	130,764	49.9
Good health	89,013	34.0
Fair health	30,642	11.7
Bad health	8,941	3.4
Very bad health	2,692	1.0

Source: ONS - 2021 Census (TS037)

**Sources used:**

Census 2021  
[https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census\\_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section\\_10](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021/report?compare=E09000016#section_10)

### 3. Health & Wellbeing Screening Tool

Will the activity / service / policy / procedure affect any of the following characteristics? Please tick/check the boxes below

The following are a range of considerations that might help you to complete the assessment.

Lifestyle YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Personal circumstances YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Access to services/facilities/amenities YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exercise and physical activity <input type="checkbox"/> Smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Exposure to passive smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol intake <input type="checkbox"/> Dependency on prescription drugs <input type="checkbox"/> Illicit drug and substance use <input type="checkbox"/> Risky Sexual behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Other health-related behaviours, such as tooth-brushing, bathing, and wound care	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure and cohesion of family unit <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting <input type="checkbox"/> Childhood development <input type="checkbox"/> Life skills <input type="checkbox"/> Personal safety <input type="checkbox"/> Employment status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Working conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Level of income, including benefits <input type="checkbox"/> Level of disposable income <input type="checkbox"/> Housing tenure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Educational attainment <input type="checkbox"/> Skills levels including literacy and numeracy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> to Employment opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> to Workplaces <input type="checkbox"/> to Housing <input type="checkbox"/> to Shops (to supply basic needs) <input type="checkbox"/> to Community facilities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> to Public transport <input type="checkbox"/> to Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> to Training and skills development <input type="checkbox"/> to Healthcare <input type="checkbox"/> to Social services <input type="checkbox"/> to Childcare <input type="checkbox"/> to Respite care <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> to Leisure and recreation services and facilities
Social Factors YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Economic Factors YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Factors YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Social contact <input type="checkbox"/> Social support <input type="checkbox"/> Neighbourliness <input type="checkbox"/> Participation in the community <input type="checkbox"/> Membership of community groups <input type="checkbox"/> Reputation of community/area <input type="checkbox"/> Participation in public affairs <input type="checkbox"/> Level of crime and disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Fear of crime and disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Level of antisocial behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Fear of antisocial behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Discrimination <input type="checkbox"/> Fear of discrimination <input type="checkbox"/> Public safety measures <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road safety measures	<input type="checkbox"/> Creation of wealth <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution of wealth <input type="checkbox"/> Retention of wealth in local area/economy <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution of income <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Job creation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Availability of employment opportunities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality of employment opportunities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Availability of education opportunities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality of education opportunities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Availability of training and skills development opportunities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality of training and skills development opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Technological development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amount of traffic congestion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air quality <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water quality <input type="checkbox"/> Soil quality/Level of contamination/Odour <input type="checkbox"/> Noise levels <input type="checkbox"/> Vibration <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards <input type="checkbox"/> Land use <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural habitats <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape, including green and open spaces <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Townscape, including civic areas and public realm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use/consumption of natural resources <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy use: CO2/other greenhouse gas emissions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solid waste management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public transport infrastructure

## 4. Outcome of the Assessment

The EqHIA assessment is intended to be used as an improvement tool to make sure the activity maximises the positive impacts and eliminates or minimises the negative impacts. The possible outcomes of the assessment are listed below and what the next steps to take are:

Please tick (✓) what the overall outcome of your assessment was:

	<p>1. The initial screening exercise showed a strong indication that there will be no impacts on people and need to carry out an EqHIA.</p> <p>2. The EqHIA identified <u>no significant concerns</u> OR the identified <u>negative concerns</u> have already been <u>addressed</u></p>	➔	<p><b>Proceed with implementation</b> of your activity</p>
✓	<p>3. The EqHIA identified some <u>negative impact</u> which still needs <u>to be addressed</u></p>	➔	<p><b>COMPLETE SECTION 5:</b> <b>Complete action plan</b> with measures to mitigate the risks and finalise the EqHIA</p>
	<p>4. The EqHIA identified some <u>major concerns</u> and showed that it is <u>impossible to diminish negative impacts</u> from the activity to an acceptable or even lawful level</p>	➔	<p><b>Stop and remove</b> the activity or <b>revise</b> the activity <b>thoroughly</b>. <b>Complete an EqHIA on the revised proposal.</b></p>



## 5. Action Plan

The real value of completing an EqHIA comes from identifying the actions that can be taken to eliminate/minimise **negative** impacts and enhance/optimize positive impacts. In this section you should list the specific actions that set out how you will mitigate or reduce any **negative** equality and/or health & wellbeing impacts, identified in this assessment. Please ensure that your action plan is: more than just a list of proposals and good intentions; if required, will amend the scope and direction of the change; sets ambitious yet achievable outcomes and timescales; and is clear about resource implications.

Protected characteristic / health & wellbeing impact	Identified Negative or Positive impact	Recommended actions to mitigate Negative impact* or further promote Positive impact	Outcomes and monitoring**	Timescale	Lead officer
Age	Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further integration of climate change into the Council's decision-making process, with a focus on services for protected characteristics – those on low incomes, young people, vulnerable people especially the young and the elderly, and people with additional learning, physical and mental needs.</li> <li>More effective community engagement resulting in ownership and a close working relationship with communities that are most impacted by climate change.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better collection of feedback and consultation at events through capturing equalities data in surveys.</li> <li>Individual projects and programmes will conduct equality impact assessments.</li> <li>Grant funding details passed on to residents as they become available.</li> <li>The HCCAP is reviewed</li> </ul>	By 01/04/25	
Disability	Positive			By 01/04/25	
Ethnicity	Positive			By 01/04/25	
Socio-economic Status	Negative			By 01/04/25	

Health & Wellbeing	Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Champion improved outcomes for all protected characteristics through the work of the Green Forum.</li> <li>• Environmental information needs to be accessible and terminology used needs to encourage and not disincentivise people to take action.</li> <li>• Actions related to increased opportunities for walking and cycling have additional benefits of tackling obesity and encouraging healthy living.</li> <li>• Ensuring the most vulnerable benefit from adaptation should be a guiding principle. Adaptation action will help all residents prepare for, and recover from, climate events, such as flooding or extreme heat.</li> </ul>	<p>annually and an EqHIA will be reviewed alongside the action plan to ensure it is updated where required.</p>	By 01/04/25	
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**Add further rows as necessary**

\* You should include details of any future consultations and any actions to be undertaken to mitigate negative impacts.

\*\* Monitoring: You should state how the impact (positive or negative) will be monitored; what outcome measures will be used; the known (or likely) data source for outcome measurements; how regularly it will be monitored; and who will be monitoring it (if this is different from the lead officer).

## 6. Review

In this section you should identify how frequently the EqHIA will be reviewed; the date for next review; and who will be reviewing it.

**Review:**

The EqHIA will be reviewed yearly, alongside the yearly reviewed of the HCCAP.

**Scheduled date of review:** 01 April 2025

**Lead Officer conducting the review:** Michelle Giordmaina

**Please submit the completed form via e-mail to [READI@havering.gov.uk](mailto:READI@havering.gov.uk) thank you.**

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