



CABINET

Subject Heading:

Havering Climate Change Annual Report incorporating Carbon Emissions Data

Cabinet Member:

Cllr Darvill - Cabinet Member for Climate Change

SLT Lead:

Sandy Hamberger – Assistant Director of Policy, Performance and Community

Report Author and contact details:

Nicholas Kingham: Corporate Projects Manager Nick.Kingham@havering.gov.uk 01708 432896 Louise Warner: Insight Manager (acting) Louise.Warner@havering.gov.uk 01708 432402

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 finances to annually review the Havering Climate Change Action Plan will be contained in the existing corporate financial provision.

Is this a Key Decision?

This is not a key decision.

When should this matter be reviewed?

Activities to tackle climate change should be reviewed annually.

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

In the Havering Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP) November 2021, Havering Council set ambitious targets to reduce carbon emissions. The Council also declared a Climate Emergency on March 21st 2023. The priority for the Council now is to deliver against these targets. This shift in focus, from ambition to delivery, will be the rationale for the Monitoring Framework, which will track progress against milestones and how they contribute to delivering the Council's climate ambitions.

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.

Implementation of the Havering Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP), the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) and other associated plans has resulted in a number of actions and projects being developed to deliver the ambition set by the Council to be carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner. These are referenced in the report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This report recommends that:

1. Members note the contents of this report.

REPORT DETAIL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The UK is required by the Climate Change Act¹ to reach Net Zero emissions by 2050 and to meet a series of five-year carbon budgets² over this period. These are in addition to our Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement, which is a commitment of a 68% reduction in emissions by 2030, relative to 1990 levels.

¹ [Climate Change Act 2008 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://legislation.gov.uk)

² [UK Carbon Budgets - Climate Change Committee \(theccc.org.uk\)](https://theccc.org.uk)

1.2 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.

Borough Data

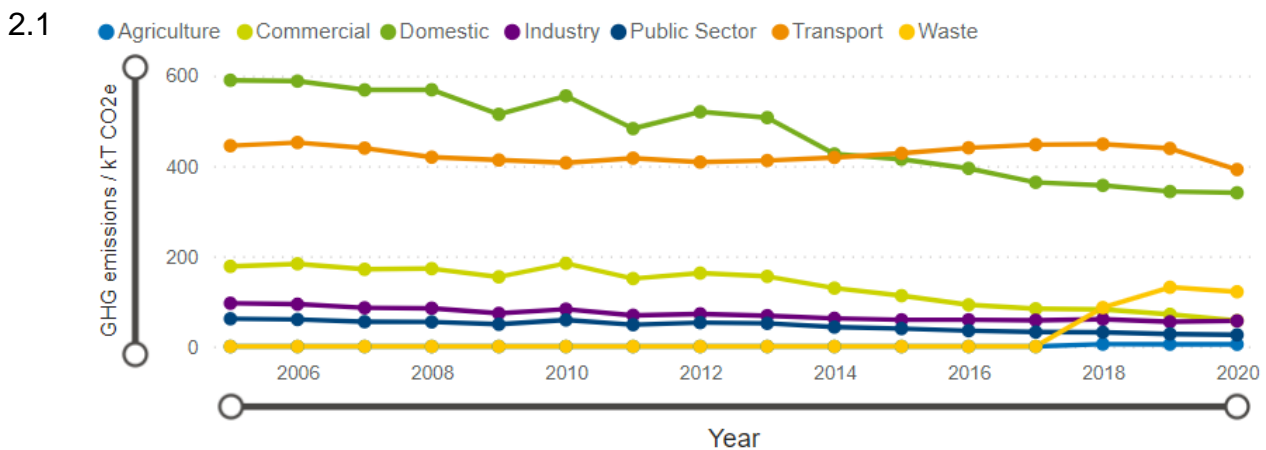


Figure 1 Total Greenhouse Gas emissions in Havering over time / kT_{CO2e}.
Source of data: BEIS³

2.2 Figure 1 shows how Greenhouse Gas emissions in Havering have changed over time. Greenhouse Gases included in the data are: Carbon Dioxide CO₂; Nitrous Oxide N₂O; Methane CH₄.

2.3 There has been a reduction in emissions from all sectors since 2018.⁴ 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.

³ [UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

⁴ Note: Monitoring of Agriculture and Waste emissions did not commence until 2018

2.4

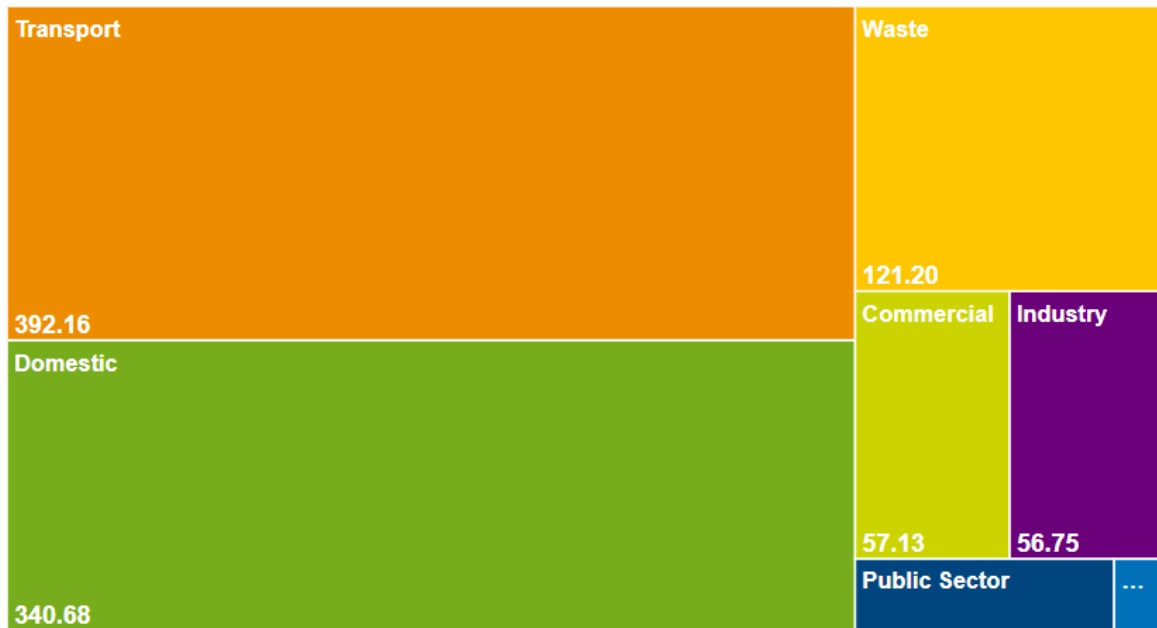


Figure 2 Total Greenhouse Gas emissions in Havering 2020, by Sector, kTCO₂e
Source of data: BEIS⁵

2.5 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.

Havering Council Data

3.1 Figure 3 shows the main sources of Scope 1 and 2 emissions from Havering Council operations in 2021-22, as recorded in the LGA Greenhouse Gas Accounting Tool⁶. At the time of writing, Scope 3 emissions⁷ (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 CO₂ emissions using the most recent carbon conversion factors⁸.

⁵ [UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-greenhouse-gas-emissions-national-statistics)

⁶ <https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/climate-change-hub/climate-action-data-and-digital>

⁷ [Briefing: What are Scope 3 emissions? | The Carbon Trust](https://www.carbontrust.com/resources/briefing-what-are-scope-3-emissions)

⁸ [Government conversion factors for company reporting of greenhouse gas emissions - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting-of-greenhouse-gas-emissions)

3.2

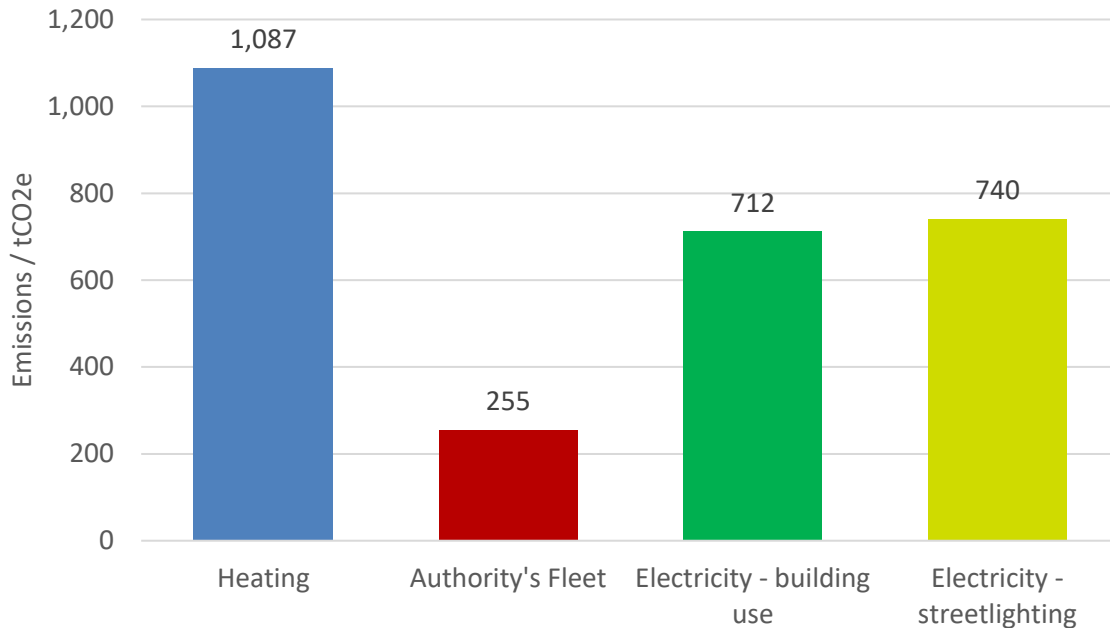


Figure 3 Total emissions by Havering Council 2021-22 / tonnes CO₂
Source of data: Asset Management

3.3 The biggest contribution to Havering Council’s CO₂ 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, in 2021-22, used more energy and contributed more emissions than the electricity used to power the entire corporate estate – despite being over 99% LED.

Pathway to Net Zero by 2040 or sooner – key successes and strategies so far

- 4.1 Implementation of the Havering Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP) has resulted in a range of actions. The HCCAP is currently being refreshed and will be presented for consideration to Cabinet in July 2023.
- 4.2 The original HCCAP was constructed as a plan to establish a shared endeavour to tackle the causes of climate change and mitigate the effects. The targets were established and designed as levers not only to coordinate the efforts of the Council but also to influence the wider community. As such, a number of the actions will show as underway. As originally intended, new actions were developed and will continue to be developed as the shared understanding of the commitment to tackle climate change becomes more widely understood.

4.3

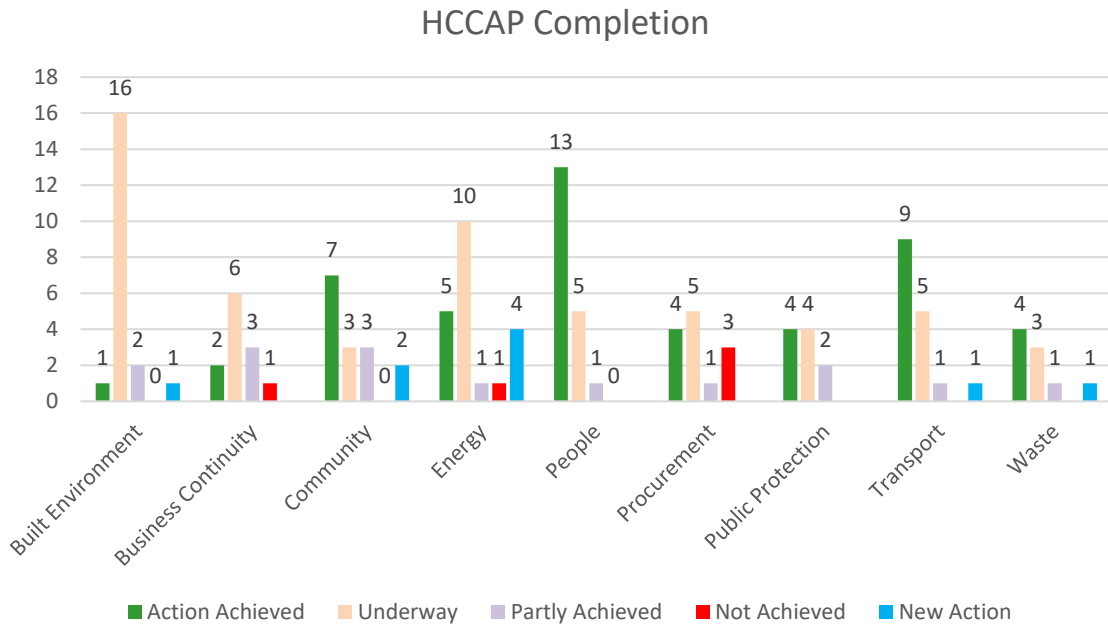


Figure 4 Havering Climate Change Action Plan – Annual Review – status update

4.4

Status of action	Total actions	% actions
Action Achieved	49	36%
Underway	57	42%
Partly Achieved	15	11%
Not Achieved	5	4%
New Actions	9	7%
Total	135	100%

Figure 5 Summary of progress

4.5 A programme of this scale and scope will be a blend of strategic plans and detailed actions flowing from the direction set by the Council. Over the last year, since the original plan was produced, each Work-Stream has implemented the following actions and strategies:

4.6 **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.

- Supported the GLA Warmer Homes and Core Funding Programmes which delivered energy saving measures to 14 Havering owner occupied properties.
- 8000 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.

4.7 Business Continuity

- 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.
- 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 explorer⁹ for further information.
- 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.

4.8 Energy

- 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.
- 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.
- Developed and provided sustainability advice for designers engaged in the management and maintenance of the corporate estate.
- Eco Demonstrator and Visitor Centre – secured UK Shared Prosperity Funding to build, with the voluntary sector, a net zero carbon demonstration /

⁹ [Find out about flood risk management plans – Flood Plan Explorer \(data.gov.uk\)](https://data.gov.uk)

visitor centre to raise awareness of energy saving measures in residential accommodation.

- 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.
- SLM, the Council’s leisure centre operator, carried out an energy audit to identify utility usage of leisure centres in order to understand energy consumption. An action plan is being produced linked to reducing carbon and energy usage at each centre through new or more efficient ways to power the leisure centres facilities.

4.9 People

- Established a Staff Climate Change Programme which includes a Climate Change Staff Forum, held monthly. Participated in awareness raising at a Corporate All Staff Forum event
- Three officers sponsored and accredited in the Carbon Trust Climate Literacy Qualification.
- Engaged with Trades Unions to develop a common understanding of climate change and the importance of working jointly to improve the Havering response.
- Factored climate considerations into all the Council decision making processes including requiring all reports to include a climate impact assessment.
- Commissioned Eunomia to produce a Business Directory that identified and analysed sectors in Havering with the highest greenhouse gas emissions and provided sector specific information and information on business support programmes to support the decarbonisation of key emitting business sectors.
- The Planning Policy Team has arranged for a member of staff to undertake a short course at London South Bank University on Leadership and Management for Net Zero Buildings. The learning from this will be cascaded to other members of the team.
- 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 and are taking to tackle climate change.

4.10 Procurement

- Pensions: agreed to invest 2.5% in a London Collective Investment Vehicle (LCIV) – a renewable energy infrastructure fund.
- Agreed to switch assets (15%) from the LCIV Global Alpha Fund to the LCIV Global Alpha Paris Aligned Variant.
- 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.

Cabinet, dd mmmm yyyy

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

4.11 Stakeholder

- 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.
- 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.
- Organised business events, hosted by the voluntary sector.
- Planted over 1000 trees as part of a Memorial Garden for those affected during the Covid pandemic.
- As part of the Local Authority Treescapes Fund, 356 trees were funded to improve landscape connectivity outside woodland. A further 1047 whips have been donated by Marlborough, Havering's highways contractor.
- 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.
- Warm Places - Partnership working with the Housing Resident Engagement Team to support the Cost of Living Roadshows. The Champions provide energy efficiency tips, food waste reduction information and promote the free Repair Cafés etc. Partnership working with Havering Association for the Disabled (HAD) to develop their Friendship Cafés across the Borough, which host a Climate Change themed session each month. These Cafes also double up as Warm Places for people to go to.

4.12 Transport

- Decarbonisation of the Council's transport fleet through the use of alternative and greener fuels (switched from low sulphur B7 diesel to a synthetic green fuel).
- Established a rolling programme of Driver CPC courses for vocational drivers.
- Optimised routes via vehicle scheduling, thereby reducing the number of miles travelled and amount of carbon emitted.
- Introduced large Euro 6 buses.
- The Mayoral car has been switched from an internal combustion engine to a battery electric vehicle.
- Cycle Confident, provider of cycle training, has trained 214 children from eight schools and 268 adults. In addition, the London Borough of Havering has recently been granted £56k from the Local Implementation Plan. This will enable Cycle Confident to deliver training to twice as many riders during the remainder of this financial year.
- Implemented Phase 2 of the Havering School Streets Scheme. This saw a further 8 Schools Streets implemented around 10 schools as part of a wider initiative to reduce vehicle traffic and improve air quality around schools. Consultation is currently taking place on Phase 3 of the School Streets programme.
- Developed and adopted a policy on vehicle anti-idling and participated in events with schools and students to raise awareness of the issue.
- 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.
- Successfully bid for Air Quality Grant DEFRA Funding. Over £100k has been allocated to Havering across the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years which will see Walking Zone Maps, Anti-Idling Campaigns, Air Quality theatre productions and Walking Buses, delivered in collaboration with schools across the borough.
- Cycle Storage facilities are being delivered across the borough. 64 secure cycle storage facilities areas are being delivered across 7 residential estates.
- The Council has supported the Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospital NHS Trust Travel Plan and is partly funding cycle parking facilities for Queens Hospital.
- 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.

4.13 Waste

- 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.
- Items from Mercury House sold or re-used elsewhere.
- Improved waste and recycling facilities within the newly refurbished Town Hall.
- Production of draft Reduction and Recycling Plan for the GLA, which will illustrate activities contributing towards household waste reduction, potential future service changes, and emissions produced through council waste collection and treatment.
- The new waste collection and street cleansing contract with Urbaser will go live on October 22nd 2023. The contract will include a number of electric vehicles and other sustainable equipment, as well as funding for small scale environmental projects in the borough.
- 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.
- South Essex Crematorium - All floral tribute waste is taken to the local refuse centre where it is sorted and reused. This includes green waste which can be composted and plastic waste which can be recycled.

Summary

- 5.1 It is apparent, from the activities listed above, that the Council is treating climate change as a priority and that these activities are already seeing benefits in terms of reducing the Council's and the Borough's emissions. In addition, many of the activities undertaken have significantly raised the profile of climate change work with all stakeholders across and beyond the Borough.
- 5.2 It is recognised however that there is still much work to do, especially following the IPCC synthesis report¹⁰ which was published in March 2023.
- 5.3 As shown above, statistics show that the Council's and the Borough's emissions are continuing to reduce. It is recognised that the Council only has control over a small amount of emissions and that it will need to continue to work with the wider community to enable them to play their part in achieving the Council's and the national ambitions. This will require working locally and regionally to attract external funding in order to make the necessary changes, particularly to the transport and residential accommodation infrastructure.
- 5.4 Officers from all Directorates, in conjunction with Members, are currently in the process of evaluating their original actions in the Havering Climate

¹⁰ [AR6 Synthesis Report: Climate Change 2023 — IPCC](#)

Change Action Plan (HCCAP) and proposing further actions for the next two years. The emphasis will now be on:

- Communications
- Improving the data
- Securing grant funding
- Continuing to embed climate change into the DNA of the organisation and ensuring that the new Target Operating Model is aligned to the climate ambitions.

5.5 The revised HCCAP will be presented to Members in July 2023.

REASONS AND OPTIONS

Reasons for the decision:

Not applicable

Other options considered:

Not applicable

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

The work already undertaken described in this report to reduce the Council's carbon footprint has either been funded by successful grant bids or from within 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 indeed either Capital or revenue funding to move forward. When these projects are identified the appropriate financial approval will be sought before they are agreed.

It is also possible that the Government or the GLA will introduce new legislation which the Council will be required to adopt in relation to climate change. It is hoped

and 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

Legal implications and risks:

There are no implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There does not appear to be any HR implications or risks arising directly as a result of this report which is for information only.

Equalities implications and risks:

The initiatives outlined implemented above are designed not to have a detrimental effect on any of the protected characteristic groups as defined by the Equalities Act 2010.

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, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex/gender, and sexual orientation.

The Council is committed to all of 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.

Health and Wellbeing implications and Risks

Changing climate is cited as one of the most challenging threats to health, in both the long and short term.

Long term impacts of extreme weather include indirect harms, such as those that result from economic harm, as well as direct harms to health, such as a projected

increase in heat related deaths; expected to triple by 2050. Implementing the Havering Climate Change Action Plan mitigates these risks and has associated health benefits for the residents of the Borough.

The shorter term impacts of extreme weather include those that arise as a result of flooding, including on mental health.

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.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

In addition to the papers referenced throughout this report the following papers are relevant:

[Climate Change Action Plan | The London Borough Of Havering](#)

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