

Sutton's Environment Strategy FAQ

Topic: Education

The council consulted on its Environment Strategy for eight weeks in August 2018. As well as answering the questions, participants were invited to provide comments. We received nearly 700 comments, all of which were reviewed and influenced the final draft of the strategy. A lot of the comments were very similar, and we have curated these comments into a comprehensive FAQ documents giving the answers for the public to view.



- 1. The strategy and vision should also include a commitment to engaging others to be sustainable, we all have a part to play. Not just residents, but businesses too.**

The vision has been updated following the consultation and now includes reference to the fact that everyone needs to play their part in reducing their impact on the environment.

- 2. The vision needs to state that the boroughs residents and businesses will become more engaged in the environmental improvements for Sutton to be London's most sustainable borough. This is crucial to the delivery of the strategy.**

We agree that this is crucial to the successful delivery of the environment strategy. The vision now refers to the role everyone has to play in delivering the strategy.

- 3. The council needs to be honest about the future and ensure that everyone knows what action is needed to protect the borough for future generations.**

Each chapter in the strategy includes information about the current situation. In the “Tackling climate change” chapter this includes the latest climate change projections for the UK. We know that we need to act now to minimise these impacts. The targets and action plans set out the action we need everyone to take to protect the borough.

- 4. More is needed to engage children and young people, possibly through competitions, teaching aids etc.**

Sutton is already working with children and young people to deliver action to protect the borough's biodiversity. For example, in 2017/18 over 6,000 children attended biodiversity events in the borough.

We recognise the role children and young people have in delivering the strategy and will continue to work with local schools or groups to engage young people to deliver environmental improvements.

- 5. The measures included in the strategy need to be taught at school, how do you plan to engage schools and children?**

We have already started engaging schools. In the past we have delivered competitions, lesson plans and events to engage children. We will look to do this again either ourselves or with partners.

- 6. What incentives do you plan to use to support and encourage people to make changes, particularly vulnerable groups?**

Where incentives are available we will promote them to our residents, businesses and community groups. In 2018 we took part in Solar Together London, a scheme aimed at supporting residents to install solar panels on their homes. This project enabled residents to receive a small income generation tariff for solar panels installed.

We are keen to work with partners to deliver actions which provide incentives to our vulnerable residents. For example, we will continue to seek funding to deliver projects to eliminate fuel poverty in the borough.

7. The strategy should include actions on tackling litter, making recycling easier, dog fouling and incentives for motorcyclists.

The Environment Strategy itself doesn't include actions on littering enforcement, however this together with making recycling easier will be looked at in more detail in the forthcoming waste strategy. Dog fouling is addressed by our environmental enforcement team. Motorcycles still contribute to poor air quality and so it is not the Mayor of London's policy to encourage a switch to motorcycles.