

SUTTON'S ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

2019–2025
& CLIMATE EMERGENCY
RESPONSE PLAN



 Sutton

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FOREWORD 2019



Councillor Manuel Abellan, Chair of Environment and Neighbourhood Committee

I am proud to present Sutton's environment strategy that will take us forward for the next five years. Sutton has a well earned reputation for its green credentials but we want to go further by being London's most sustainable borough. Everyone working, living and studying in Sutton has a part to play in protecting the environment in our borough.

We had a fantastic response to the consultation that we held over the summer of 2018, with over 800 people giving their views via our consultation survey or through activities that Community Action Sutton ran. We've made changes based on your comments.

It's heartening to hear the actions many people in Sutton are already taking to make us the most sustainable borough in London. Using the bus and leaving the car at home, taking reusable bags when shopping, growing your own food and saving water - small actions that, if we all do them, make a big difference.

People rightly reminded us in the consultation that Sutton is just one borough and we need to work with our neighbouring boroughs and others to bring changes that extend beyond London. We will continue to push for action from the UK government as well as governments internationally.

Our efforts have already made a great start with unanimous agreement from councillors to remove single use plastics from council operations and contracts. We'll be ambitious, innovative and involve everyone, helping people to live, work and study more sustainably. Each year we will report how the actions in this strategy are progressing.

FOREWORD 2020



Councillor Ben Andrew, Vice-Chair of Environment and Neighbourhood Committee and Chair of the Climate Emergency Task and Finish Group

Sutton has declared a climate emergency and committed to the borough reducing its carbon emissions to net zero. This is an enormous ambition but the right thing to do for our environment and the health and security of future generations.

The Council cannot do this alone. There is only so much the Council can influence and implement and we need you - citizens, businesses, schools, charities, community groups - to take action to reduce your environmental impact. We also need radical action from national government to change regulations, laws and provide new finance to fund the changes that need to happen.

Through public events and surveys held in February and March 2020, the Council has been able to prioritise what the people of Sutton want to see happen. Thank you for sharing your ideas and concerns, your challenge, priorities and pledges.

Since we declared a climate emergency, the world has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This has impacted some of our plans, and we've seen setbacks in the use of public transport and single use plastics. But we've also seen what a cleaner, greener world can look like; with less traffic and more people cycling and walking, and more people spending time locally. Climate change remains something we must all tackle, but we need to recognise that how we tackle it might be different for a while.

This plan is deliberately written to cover only the next few years. We need to act quickly and take decisions now that will set us well for the future. Technology is changing rapidly; so hopefully will support from national government and business. This means our plans will be refreshed annually as new options become available and regulations change. This also enables us to take into account the impact of COVID-19 and revise our plans accordingly.

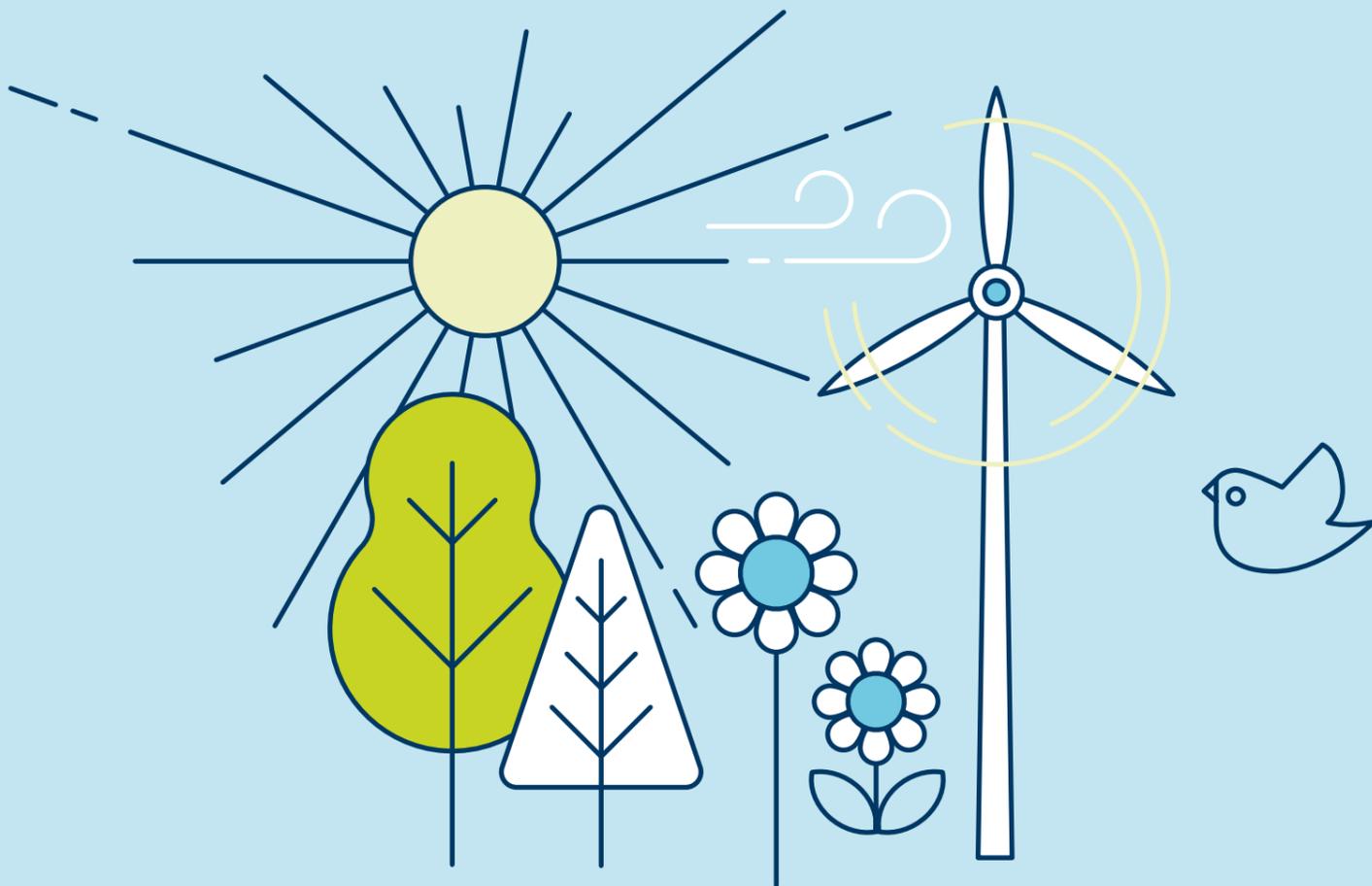
I hope you will be part of the action tackling climate change.

THE VISION

SUTTON WILL BE LONDON'S MOST SUSTAINABLE BOROUGH

Our zero carbon future means cleaner air, and more journeys taken by bike, public transport or on foot. We'll have more green spaces, connected to each other, protecting and enhancing nature and biodiversity. Our energy will be renewable and our homes will be warm in winter, cool in summer, and well insulated.

We will reduce waste and create a circular economy, with options to reuse, repair or re-manufacture the things we buy. We will be able to withstand heat waves, droughts and flooding caused by climate change. Everyone will know and play their role in reducing their impact on the environment.



CLEANER AIR

By March 2022, **48%** of journeys in Sutton will be made by walking, cycling or public transport, rising to **63%** by 2041.

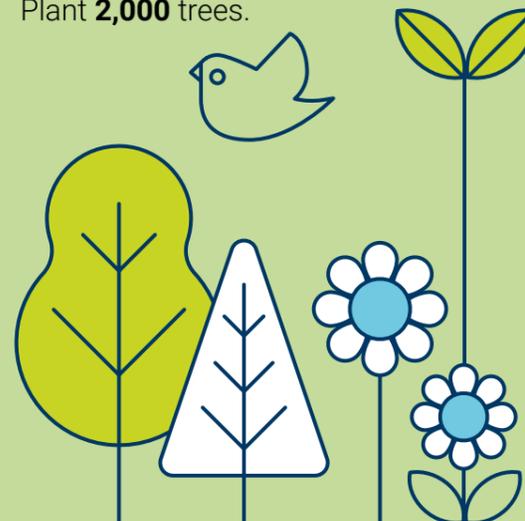
Meet the air quality standards as soon as possible.

A GREENER BOROUGH

No overall reduction in green space in the borough.

Maintain and enhance biodiversity.

Plant **2,000** trees.



ACHIEVING NET ZERO CARBON

All of the borough's energy needs will be met from renewable, community and local sources of energy, helping to deliver boroughwide zero carbon emissions.

Take action to tackle fuel poverty.



CREATING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Reduce waste and increase reuse and recycling from **50%** year on year.

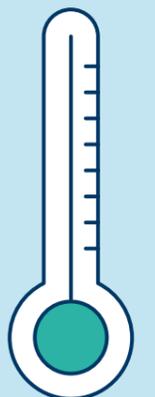
Embed sustainable procurement into the Council's buying and contracts.



TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

Retain Sustainable Food City status each year.

Raise awareness of the climate emergency and the impacts of climate change on Sutton.



BE PART OF THIS!

We all need to take action to reduce our environmental impact. That's every person, household, school, business, charity, public sector organisation and community groups.

The suggestions on the next page are from the people of Sutton.

More ideas? Want to be part of this?

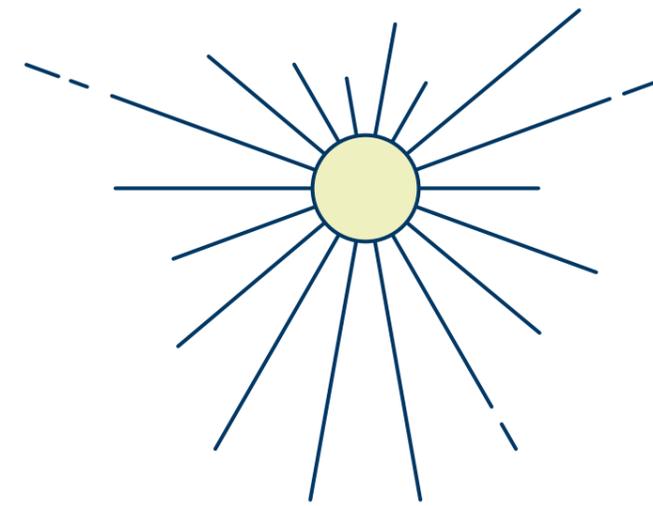
Let us know at sustainability@sutton.gov.uk



- ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO CAR SHARE WHERE POSSIBLE WHEN PUBLIC TRANSPORT IS NOT SUITABLE
- SAVE RAIN WATER IN WATER BUTTS
- USE A REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLE
- I'VE GONE DIGITAL TO REDUCE MY PAPER USE EG REQUESTING ELECTRONIC BILLING NOT PAPER
- I OFTEN PICK UP RUBBISH FROM THE LOCAL STREETS
- TRY WHENEVER I CAN TO BUY LOCALLY
- USE HARD SOAP, BUY IN BULK AND REFILL WHERE POSSIBLE, USE BAR SHAMPOO TO CUT DOWN ON PLASTIC BOTTLES
- MEAT FREE DAYS
- USE LESS WATER FOR SHOWERS
- REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF PLASTIC PACKAGING I USE
- INVEST MY MONEY ETHICALLY
- DO ENVIRONMENTAL WORK AS A VOLUNTEER
- VOLUNTEER TO CLEAN UP PARKS
- COLLECT COLD WATER FROM TAP IN A BUCKET WHILE WAITING FOR IT TO RUN HOT. USE THAT FOR NEXT LAVATORY FLUSH
- DONATE CLOTHES RATHER THAN BINNING THEM
- TRY TO BUY VEG AND FRUIT LOOSE, NOT IN PLASTIC BAGS, AND PUT THEM LOOSE INTO MY SHOPPING BAGS
- RECYCLE EVERYTHING WE CAN, IE CARD, PAPER, PLASTICS, TINS, CARTONS, GLASS ETC
- GOING TO TAKE OWN CONTAINERS TO BUY MEAT, CHEESE AND FISH
- OWN AN ALLOTMENT
- USE SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT INCLUDING TRAM, TRAIN AND BUS
- WEAR WARM CLOTHES AT HOME TO USE LESS HEATING
- BUY BOOKS AND CLOTHES FROM CHARITY SHOPS
- SWAPPED TO A TOTALLY SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PROVIDER
- WALK MORE
- USE OLIO APP, AND VOLUNTEER AS A FOOD WASTE HERO
- USE A BAG FOR LIFE. AVOID SINGLE USE PLASTICS

Suggestions made by Sutton residents during the 2019 Environment Strategy consultation.

I PLEDGE TO...



- BUY FOOD WITH LESS PACKAGING ESPECIALLY PLASTIC
- BUY REUSABLE ITEMS
- BUY SUSTAINABLE CLOTHES, AVOIDING 'FAST FASHION'
- CHANGE MY ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER
- CHANGE THE MINDSETS OF THOSE AROUND ME
- CONTINUE TO RIDE MY BIKE AND WALK WHERE POSSIBLE
- CREATE MOSS WALLS IN AREAS OF HIGH TRAFFIC
- PLANT FOR WILDLIFE - ENCOURAGE THE BEES!
- CYCLE MORE AND USE LESS PACKAGING
- DRIVE LESS AND WALK MORE
- EAT LESS MEAT
- EAT MORE SUSTAINABLE FOOD
- ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO RECYCLE ITEMS AS MUCH AS THEY CAN!
- FIND OUT MORE ABOUT RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CHANGE HOW MUCH I USE
- GARDEN TO IMPROVE BIODIVERSITY
- GET RID OF OUR CAR AND USE ACTIVE TRAVEL INSTEAD
- HELP PLANTS GROW
- INFORM RESIDENTS THAT NEW DRIVEWAYS MUST BE CREATED WITH POROUS BRICKS (NOT CONCRETE)
- INFORM WORK COLLEAGUES ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE
- INTRODUCE A LIBRARY OF THINGS
- MOVE FURTHER TOWARDS A PLANT-BASED DIET
- NOT BUY ANY CLOTHES FOR A YEAR
- PLANT A HEDGE OR TREE
- PLANT A TREE IN A SUTTON PARK
- WASH PLASTIC CONTAINERS
- PROMOTE SUTTON COMMUNITY FARM AND WALK MORE
- RECYCLE MORE AND REMEMBER MY BAG FOR LIFE
- REDUCE MY FOOD WASTE
- REDUCE PURCHASES OF READY MADE MEALS
- REGULAR LITTER PICKS
- REMEMBER TO SWITCH THE REMOTE OFF
- USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT WHEN IT'S THE MORE AFFORDABLE OPTION
- WALK, CYCLE OR GET THE BUS TO WORK
- SPREAD THE WORD AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY
- STOP BUYING TAKEAWAYS
- STOP USING PLASTIC
- SWITCH MY PC AND MONITOR OFF
- SWITCH TO A RENEWABLE ENERGY SUPPLIER
- SWITCH TO HYBRID OR EV WHEN I CHANGE MY CAR
- USE THE GOSUTTON BUS
- WATER USE REDUCTION CAMPAIGN
- SAVE WATER
- WORK FROM HOME
- TIME MY SHOWERS TO SAVE WATER
- TURN THE TAP OFF AFTER BRUSHING MY TEETH
- USE A TIMER ON MY CENTRAL HEATING
- TAKE OUT MY PLUG SOCKETS AT HOME
- USE CLOTH NAPPIES INSTEAD OF DISPOSABLE
- USE MORE PUBLIC TRANSPORT
- USE MY CAR LESS AND NO FLYING THIS YEAR
- VOLUNTEER WITH CONSERVATION ORGANISATION

Pledges made by Sutton residents at the "pop-up" events in 2020.

CLEANER AIR

THE VISION

Sutton's air will be clean and safe.



THE CURRENT SITUATION.

Improving air quality is a priority and it's one of the top three issues residents want the Council to tackle.¹ Throughout the borough there are two key local air pollutants of concern. These are nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter. The dominant source of both pollutants is road traffic, but other significant sources include industrial and domestic heat and power generation, construction, and domestic biomass burning.

The London Borough of Sutton is compliant with the National Air Quality Standards for all pollutants except nitrogen dioxide. However, there is no safe exposure limit to particulate matter, meaning that to ensure the health of our residents and those who visit the borough, we must go beyond compliance. Carbon dioxide is not considered to be a local air pollutant because, under normal circumstances, it does not exist in sufficient concentrations to be demonstrably harmful to human health.



Nitrogen dioxide and nitric oxide are released into the atmosphere when fuel is burned. Examples include petrol and diesel in a car engine, natural gas in a home central heating boiler, and from power stations. High levels of nitrogen dioxide can inflame the airways in our lungs and over a long period of time affect how our lungs work. People with asthma are particularly affected.

Source: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/assets/documents/reports/aqeg/nd-summary.pdf>

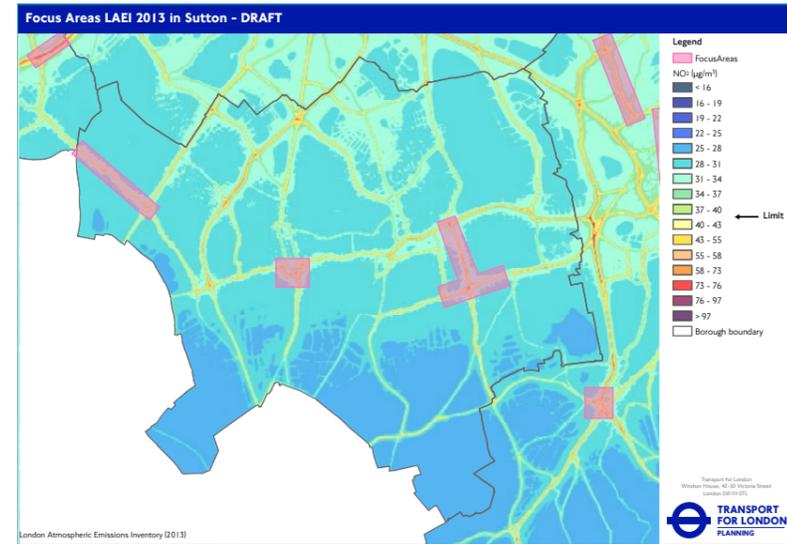
Airborne particulate matter is a collection of solid and liquid materials that range from a nanometer in diameter to around 100 micrometres. It comes from natural and human sources. Sources include the burning of fossil fuels, trace metals, mechanical abrasion e.g. from vehicle braking and tyres and dust from construction sites and quarrying. People most at risk are those with pre-existing lung or heart disease, the elderly and children. The most severe health impacts are from long-term exposure but there is evidence that short-term exposure can cause illness and even death.

Source: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/assets/documents/reports/aqeg/pm-summary.pdf>

1. London Borough of Sutton survey of residents and businesses on sustainability, February-March 2018

The biggest source of air pollution emissions is road transport so this is the Council's main focus. The Greater London Authority has designated three air quality focus areas in Sutton. These are locations with high levels of pollution that people are exposed to.

The three areas are: Central Road, Worcester Park; Woodcote Road, Stanley Park Road & Stafford Road, Wallington; and Chalk Pit Road, Grove Road, Sutton Court Road & Sutton Park Road, Sutton.



◀ *Map of the borough's three air quality focus areas. Shades of blue are least polluted areas; shades of amber, red and brown are the most polluted areas. The red hatched areas are the three focus areas in the borough boundary.*

Reducing the number of motor vehicle journeys will improve air quality, reduce congestion and reduce the barrier a busy road creates between communities. Walking and cycling supports healthier lifestyles.

The Council recognises that lots of people drive in Sutton because the public transport isn't good enough in some parts of the borough,² and the cycle network could be better. The majority of journeys made in Sutton are less than 3 miles in distance³ and so could be done by foot, cycle or public transport.

The Council acknowledges there are concerns about the Energy Recovery Facility at Beddington and its impact on air quality. It is a state-of-the-art facility that has to meet stricter standards for nitrogen dioxide than European Industrial Emissions Directive limits. Compliance will be monitored by the Environment Agency on a continual basis. Managing waste at the Energy Recovery Facility rather than landfilling it will save 128,000 tonnes of carbon emissions each year.⁴

2. [Local Plan, 2018, page 125](#)
 3. [Cycling Strategy, 2017, page 1](#)
 4. More information can be found on Sutton Council's website: https://www.sutton.gov.uk/info/200449/waste_and_recycling/1445/beddington_energy_recovery_facility/2

The Council will continue to work with Transport for London to improve the public transport offer in Sutton, and walking and cycling routes. It will continue to lobby for Sutton Link to be funded and developed in the future.

As well as transport, air pollution is caused by boilers and wood-burning stoves, emissions from construction sites and bonfires. The Council uses its planning powers to make sure new developments do not worsen air quality. This includes during demolition, construction and once operational, for example from vehicles and energy use.

THE TARGETS

- ▶ By March 2022, 48% of journeys in Sutton will be made by walking, cycling or public transport, rising to 63% by 2041.⁵
- ▶ By March 2022, 36% of people will be doing 20 minutes of active travel a day, rising to 70% by 2041.⁶
- ▶ By December 2021, 24% of Sutton's population will be within 400m of the strategic cycle network, rising to 37% by 2041.⁷
- ▶ Implement the air quality action plan, meeting the national air quality standards for nitrogen dioxide as soon as possible.
- ▶ Continue to take action to reduce levels of particulate matter.

5. The baseline for 2014/15-2016/17 is 46%. In March 2022 we will report on data from 2018/19-2020/21. The March 2022 data will be available and reported on in December 2024.
 6. Active travel is defined by TfL as people undertaking at least twenty minutes of walking or cycling a day, either by two blocks of ten minutes or in a single block. The Sutton baseline for 2014/15-2016/17 is 28%.
 7. The baseline for 2016 is 0%.

WHO'S INVOLVED

- ▶ Transport for London
- ▶ The Council - planning, parking, street design, public health, air quality, highways
- ▶ People who live, work and study in Sutton
- ▶ Businesses in Sutton
- ▶ The Sutton Plan partners

STRATEGIES

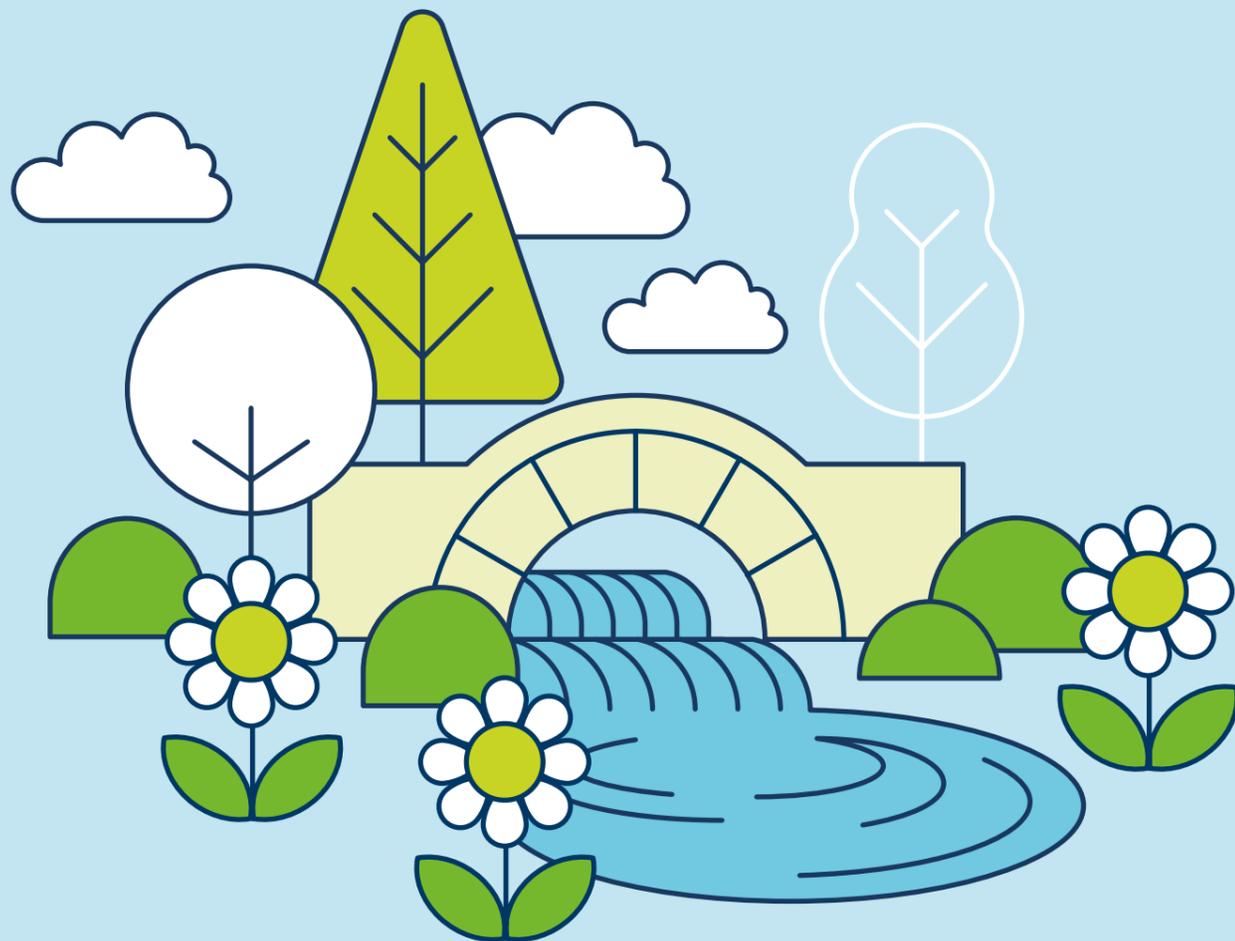
- ▶ [Air Quality Action Plan](#)
- ▶ [Sustainable Transport Strategy](#)
- ▶ [Cycling Strategy](#)
- ▶ [Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Strategy](#)
- ▶ [Local Plan Policy 34 - Environmental Protection](#)



A GREENER BOROUGH

THE VISION

More than half of Sutton's space will be green space.



THE CURRENT SITUATION.

The borough has over 1,146 hectares of protected green space, some agricultural land and 34 allotment sites. There are 54 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, 11 Local Nature Reserves and 42 hectares of chalk grasslands. These make up about 9% of London's chalk grasslands.⁸ The Wandle Valley Regional Park, which covers the River Wandle and the network of adjoining parks and open land, acts as a green corridor, extending over much of the north and east of the borough. The borough has around 145,500 trees in streets, gardens and private land, but is one of London's least wooded boroughs. Trees cover about 2.4% of Sutton's land area.

The River Wandle runs for 5.9km in the borough and is a designated Site of Metropolitan Importance along its whole length within Sutton. It is one of the only chalk streams in London and one of only around 200 in the world. Through targeted improvement works, it is regaining some of its character and species, after many years of neglect and high pollution levels. In the west of the borough is Beverley Brook, which joins the River Thames at Barnes. The borough has a number of lakes and ponds, and a small amount of reedbed. Good water quality is vitally important for biodiversity. The restoration of Beddington Farmlands will include wet grassland, lakes, reedbeds, meadowland and heathland and create one of the largest nature reserves in London.

Green spaces are important for the borough's natural environment and quality of life. They support wildlife habitats and biodiversity, provide places for leisure and recreation and promote health and wellbeing. 90% of residents use the borough's parks and open spaces.⁹ High biodiversity means a variety of plants and animal species.

The benefits to maintaining high levels of native flora and fauna include human wellbeing, food growing, soil structure, carbon capture, helping keep urban areas cool during heat waves¹⁰ and flood protection. Biodiversity is increasingly being shown to have significant positive impacts on physical and mental health. Native trees are important for biodiversity, and the right trees in the right places can improve air quality.



8. [Sutton Council Biodiversity Strategy](#)

9. [London Borough of Sutton Residents Survey \(2019\)](#)

10. *The urban heat island effect occurs when urban areas are much warmer than surrounding rural areas. This is because of the rapid-heating of artificial surfaces and waste heat from buildings, people, vehicles and construction. Nighttime temperatures remain warm because the heat is trapped between buildings.*

It can be difficult to recognise the benefits of green spaces, because they typically do not have an obvious financial value. 'Natural capital accounting' is changing this, by estimating a financial value on the benefits green spaces provide, including flood protection, absorbing carbon dioxide, and supporting biodiversity, as well as the benefits to people of having space to play and relax. By using natural capital accounting, the Council aims to recognise the true value of green assets within the borough, so it can weigh this against the cost, for example, of tree maintenance. The Natural Capital Accounts for London indicate that for every £1 spent by councils on green spaces, there are £27 worth of benefits, for example through physical and mental wellbeing.¹¹

Sutton has a good amount of green space but not all green spaces have equal benefits. Well-managed chalk grasslands or wetlands offer far more for biodiversity, carbon sequestration and flood protection than large areas of short mown amenity grass with few species. Sutton has lots of small green spaces and we need to improve the links between them. 'Green corridors' support nature and offer cool continuous corridors for walking and cycling during heat waves. Not everyone in the borough has a local park or green space nearby they can use. 15% of the borough is an area of nature conservation deficiency.¹² We will prioritise these places. This is our contribution to helping London become a National Park City.¹³

Space to create large new parks, nature reserves and green open spaces is limited, so we need new green spaces to be created in the form of living walls or biodiverse roofs, or through creative approaches like improving road verges for biodiversity, pocket parks, community tree planting and food growing spaces. We need to build new homes in Sutton, so Sutton's planning policies seek to achieve this whilst retaining the existing open amount of open space in the borough, protecting areas rich in native biodiversity and increasing the amount of 'green infrastructure' in new developments.¹⁴

The government recently mandated 'Biodiversity Net Gain' for all local planning authorities in England, which means that all new planning applications should provide a 'net gain' in habitats through each development. This consists of identifying and quantifying the existing habitats on site ('biodiversity units'), and then calculating the difference made by the planning application. This determines if the site is providing a net gain for biodiversity.

Sutton is ahead of the national curve, having adopted No Net Loss and Net Gain (where feasible) through the Local Plan and Technical Guidance Note: Building a Sustainable Sutton¹⁵ and adopted London's first Compensation Tariff, of £94,000 per 'generic' biodiversity unit.

The main aim is to deliver biodiversity gains on each development, but if this is not achievable and the developer will deliver a Net Loss, they will pay the Compensation Tariff rate to deliver the actions outlined in the Biodiversity Strategy.

Sutton will seek to further increase the amount of biodiversity delivered through each planning application, by incorporating a 20% net gain uplift (or 2 units per hectare, whichever is greater) to each development, through the updated Local Plan in 2023, as well as mandatory levels for other biodiversity features (such as nesting / roosting boxes and hedgehog holes).

THE TARGETS

- ▶ No overall reduction in the amount of green space in the borough.¹⁶
- ▶ By 2050, at least half of Sutton's land area will still be green space.¹⁷
- ▶ Plant 2,000 trees every year (community, council and developer-led schemes all count).
- ▶ Advise and monitor Viridor's delivery of the Beddington Farmlands landfill site as one of the largest nature reserves in London by 2023.

FOCUS AREAS

- ▶ Maintain and enhance the biodiversity value of the borough.

WHO'S INVOLVED

- ▶ Sutton Housing Partnership
- ▶ Housing associations
- ▶ Sutton Nature Conservation Volunteers
- ▶ South East Rivers Trust
- ▶ Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust
- ▶ Sutton Council - biodiversity, parks, trees, highways, planning and sustainability
- ▶ People who live, work and study in Sutton
- ▶ Businesses
- ▶ The Sutton Plan partners

STRATEGIES

- ▶ Local Plan:
 - [Policy 5 - Wandle Valley Renewal](#)
 - [Policy 13 - Housing and Garden Land](#)
 - [Policy 25 - Open Spaces](#)
 - [Policy 26 - Biodiversity](#)
 - [Policy 33 - Climate Change Adaptation](#)
- ▶ [Parks and Open Spaces Strategy](#)

11. *Natural Capital Account for London, November 2017*, https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/nca_supplementary_document.pdf

12. See Table 8.12 in *Authority Monitoring Report 2018-19*

13. For more information see the National Park City website: <http://www.nationalparkcity.london/>

14. *Local Plan, Policy 25, page 88, Policy 26, page 90 and Policy 33, page 114*

15. *Technical Guidance Note: Building a Sustainable Sutton*

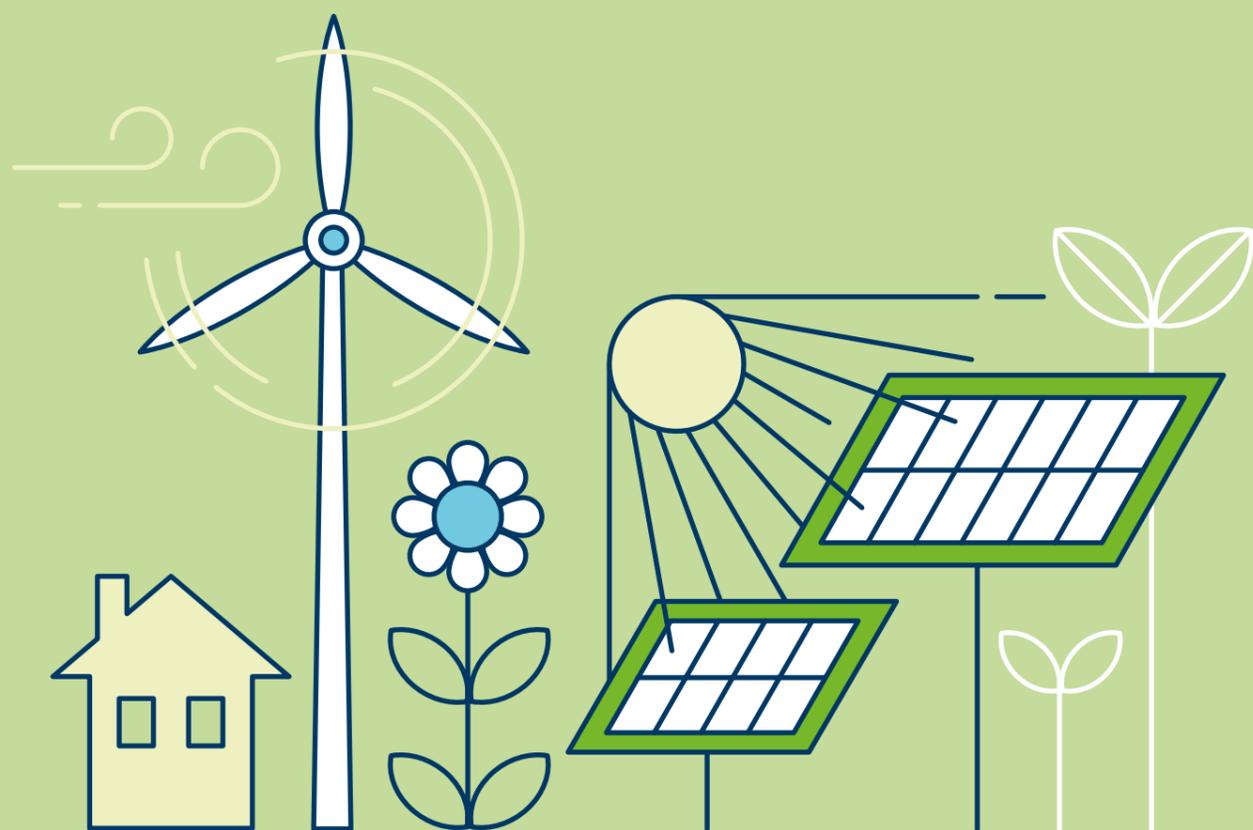
16. The baseline for this is the *Authority Monitoring Report 2016-17*. This sets a baseline of 605.9 hectares of green belt, 529.1 hectares of Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) and 518 hectares of Public Open Space (which includes some land designated as Green Belt or MOL).

17. The Greater London Authority dataset '*London Borough green and blue cover summary statistics*' sets a 2019 baseline of 49.69% 'green' and 1.25% 'blue' (lakes, rivers, ponds etc.) totalling 50.94% green and blue.

ACHIEVING NET ZERO CARBON

THE VISION

The borough will have net zero carbon emissions.



THE CURRENT SITUATION.

Energy usage followed by vehicle use is the main cause of carbon emissions in Sutton, and therefore the dominant contributor to climate change.¹⁸ How the emissions from road traffic will be reduced is covered in the Cleaner Air chapter, with this chapter focusing on energy use.

Homes and businesses in Sutton are reliant on energy sources that in the main contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. Over time, the national grid is decarbonising as more energy comes from renewable sources, with 29 per cent of the UK's electricity coming from renewable sources in 2017.¹⁹ Sutton has a growing population, and as new homes are built the demand for energy will increase.

We need to generate low carbon and renewable energy locally, so that more demand for energy doesn't have a negative impact on carbon emissions and climate change. We need to determine the right heat and energy mix for the borough, based on local geographical and geothermal opportunities. This means solar panels on buildings, heat pumps which take heat from the ground or air, or using local waste heat sources like the Energy Recovery Facility in Beddington.

Waste heat is considered partially renewable,²⁰ depending on the waste it is burning, and is lower carbon energy than coal or gas power stations. The Sutton Decentralised Energy Network Limited has been created to supply low carbon heating and hot water, using the waste heat from the Energy Recovery Facility. Once established, this network could be extended to supply more businesses and homes in the borough and beyond.

An easy decision every business and household can make is to switch their energy supply to a renewable tariff. Large businesses and organisations should enter into a Power Purchase Agreement to make sure new renewable energy capacity is being created. Generating more renewable energy within the borough also needs to happen.

Uptake of solar power is low in London and Sutton, and to begin to address this, the Council has installed solar panels on suitable buildings it owns. Sutton has been part of three group purchasing schemes, making it cheaper for households to purchase solar panels. Over 1,300 households registered and 276 have progressed with solar panel installation. Community energy schemes²¹ are an option for community groups to deliver and the Council wants to support this.

Better insulation of homes reduces carbon emissions and makes them warmer, healthier and cheaper to heat. Households in fuel poverty are categorised as having low income, poor energy efficiency and energy costs that are above the national average. Were they to spend that amount, they would be left with an income that is below the official poverty line.²² Around 10% of households in Sutton are thought to be in fuel poverty, just below the national average.²³ Retrofitting homes across the borough to reduce carbon emissions provides an opportunity to create warmer homes and tackle fuel poverty. Sutton Housing Partnership already has a home improvement programme, and the Council offers free home visits to fuel poor households or where people have certain medical conditions.

These visits are funded by energy companies who have obligations to help improve the energy efficiency of homes. The Council's Statement of Intent²⁴ extends the criteria of those eligible for a home visit, to ensure more vulnerable people in Sutton can benefit. We will provide information to homeowners and the wider public about ways to make homes warmer and save money on energy bills by improving energy efficiency and reducing the carbon footprint of their home.

THE TARGETS

- ▶ The Council will achieve net zero carbon emissions across its estate and operations.
- ▶ The Council will switch to a renewable electricity supply from April 2021.
- ▶ All of the borough's energy needs will be met from renewable, community and local sources of energy, helping to deliver boroughwide zero carbon emissions.²⁵

FOCUS AREAS

- ▶ Take action to tackle fuel poverty.

WHO'S INVOLVED

- ▶ Sutton Housing Partnership
- ▶ Housing associations
- ▶ Energy companies
- ▶ Voluntary and community sector
- ▶ Sutton Council - energy, regulatory services, planning and sustainability
- ▶ Sutton Decentralised Energy Network
- ▶ Organisations building new homes
- ▶ People who live, work and study in Sutton
- ▶ Businesses
- ▶ The Sutton Plan partners

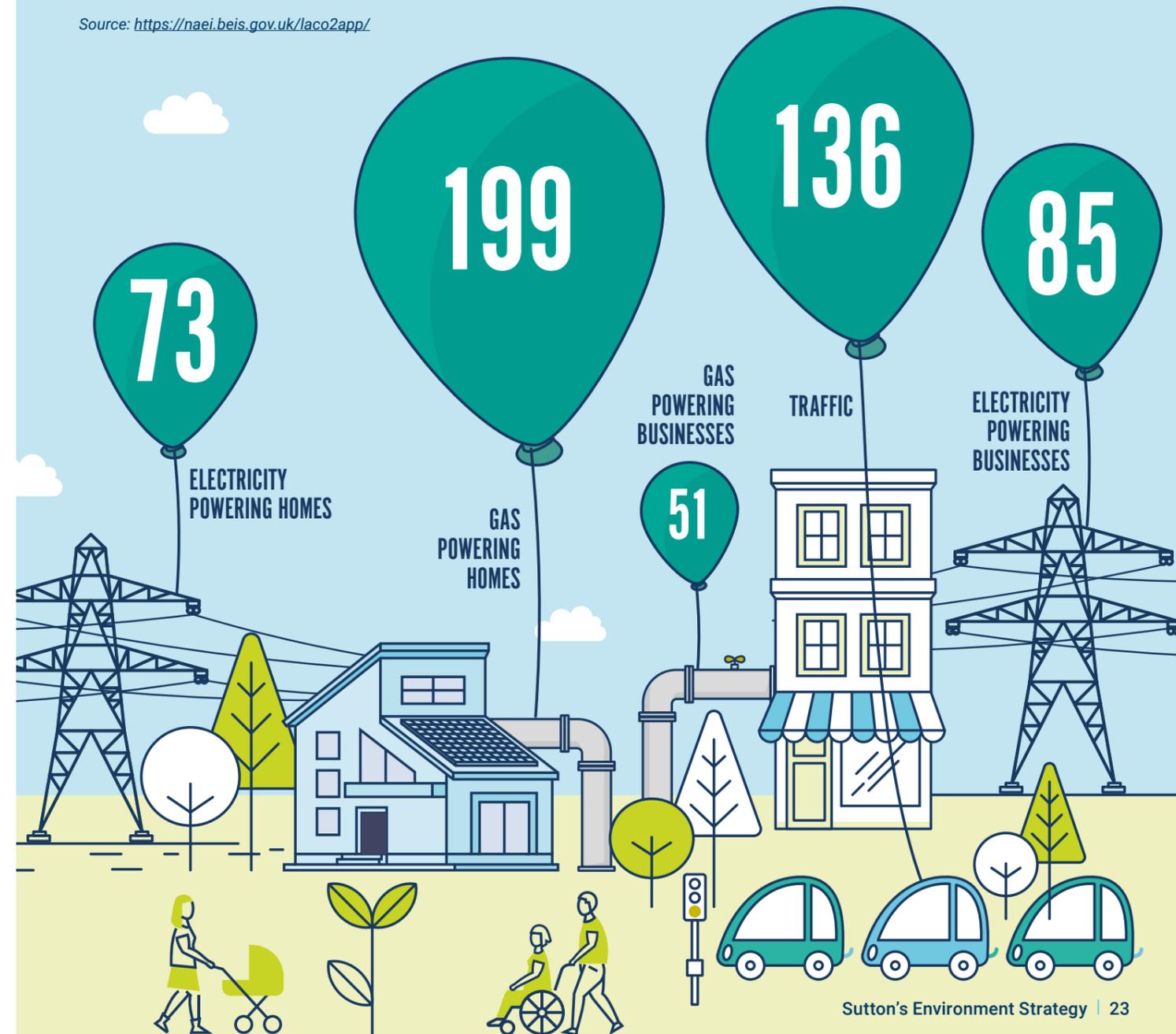
STRATEGIES

- ▶ [Local Plan Policy 31 - Carbon and Energy](#)
- ▶ [Fuel Poverty Action Plan](#)
- ▶ [Town Centre Masterplan](#)

18. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/energy/> and <https://naei.beis.gov.uk/laco2app/>
 19. [London Environment Strategy, page 210](#)
 20. [Defra, and Office of National Statistics UK Environment Accounts 2019](#)
 21. <https://www.communityenergy.london/>
 22. [GOV.UK, Fuel Poverty Statistics](#)
 23. [Fuel poverty strategy, 2014, page 3](#)
 24. [Sutton Council Statement of Intent](#)
 25. <https://naei.beis.gov.uk/laco2app/> then search for Sutton

WHERE ARE SUTTON'S CARBON EMISSIONS COMING FROM? IN KILOTONNES PER YEAR (2018)

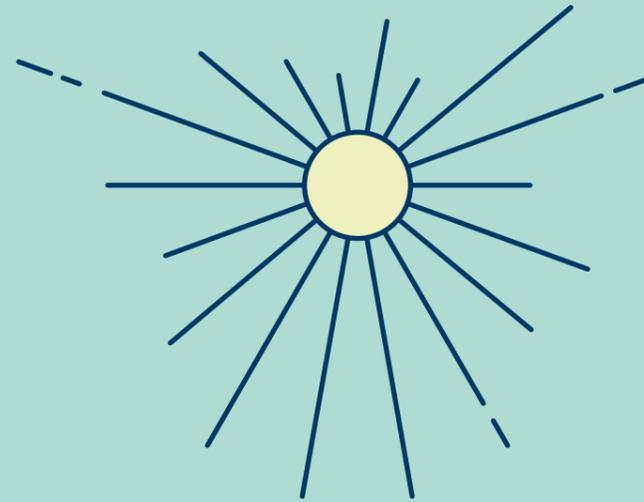
Source: <https://naei.beis.gov.uk/laco2app/>



CREATING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

THE VISION

Waste will be reduced and a circular economy created.



THE CURRENT SITUATION

A circular economy means everything is reused, repaired, or re-manufactured into a new product or recycled. This is only possible if everyone switches to reusable rather than disposable; if manufacturers make their products repairable; and if recycling markets develop so that materials that currently cannot be recycled, can be. These changes are likely to need government intervention and regulation but customers can also challenge businesses about their packaging and products.

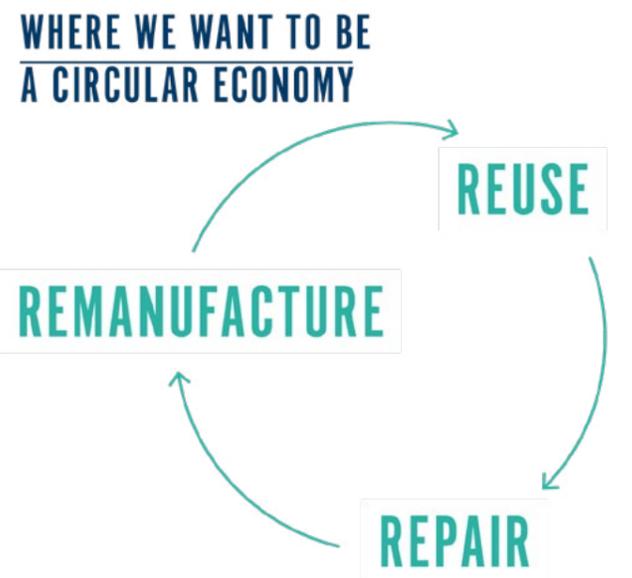
In the shorter-term people and businesses still need to reduce waste, including avoidable food waste, and recycle as much as possible, saving money and the planet.

The government's Resources and Waste Strategy published in 2018 sets out some bold plans on packaging, a deposit return scheme and changes to waste collections by local authorities. These plans are still in development and this strategy may change to reflect them in future.

In 2019/20 the Council spent £326m buying goods and services. The Council can contribute to its environmental objectives through its contracts, purchasing and commissioning of services. The Council has pledged to remove single use plastics from its operations and contracts. Part of this includes calling on supermarkets and other organisations to change to recyclable packaging. Other organisations and citizens can decide whether to purchase or hire

something used infrequently, avoiding purchases with excessive packaging, switching to reusing water bottles and coffee cups, and taking a reusable bag to the shops.

Businesses in the borough can access support to consider how they could adopt circular economy principles through Advance London.²⁶ It is estimated that by 2036, the circular economy could provide London with net benefits of at least £7bn every year in the sectors of built environment, food, textiles, electricals and plastics, as well as 12,000 net new jobs in the areas of reuse, remanufacturing and materials innovation.²⁷ COVID-19 presents an opportunity for a 'green recovery' that will deliver zero carbon commitments.



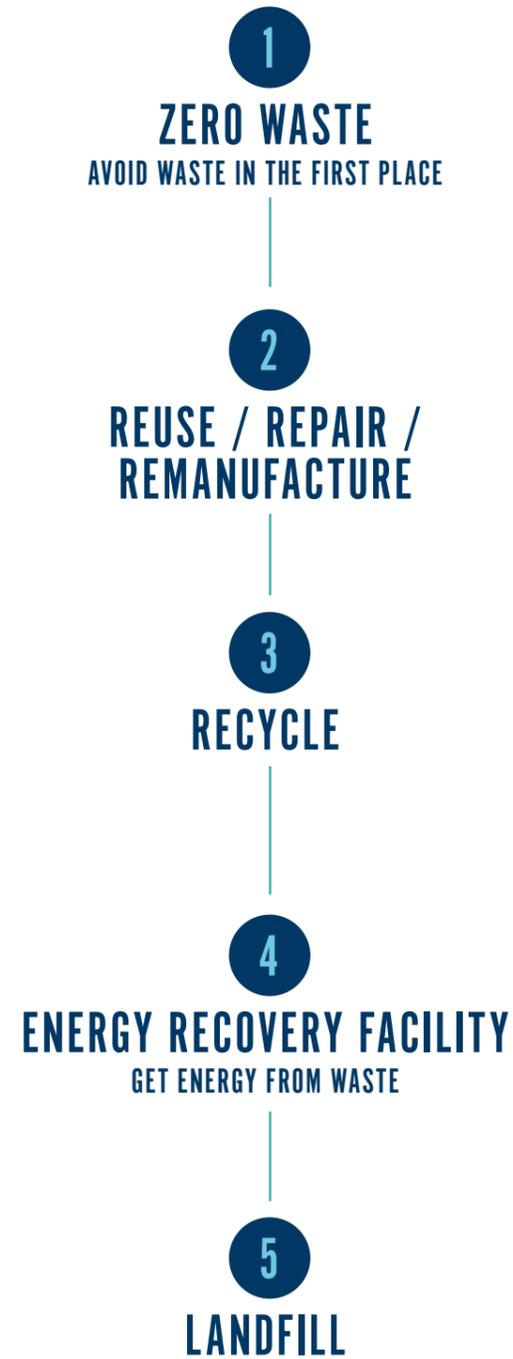
²⁶ Advance London

²⁷ London Waste and Recycling Board, Circular Economy Routemap



WASTE HIERARCHY

IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE



THE TARGETS

- ▶ Reduce waste and increase reuse and recycling from 50% year on year and target being the best recyclers in the UK.²⁸
- ▶ Help residents reduce the amount of avoidable food waste they throw away by 20% by 2025.²⁹

FOCUS AREAS

- ▶ Embed sustainable procurement into the Council's buying and contracts.
- ▶ Encourage businesses to switch to circular economy business models.

WHO'S INVOLVED

- ▶ Businesses
- ▶ Business Improvement Districts
- ▶ Advance London programme
- ▶ Sutton Council - economic development and sustainability
- ▶ People who live, work and study in Sutton
- ▶ The Sutton Plan partners

STRATEGIES

- ▶ [Local Plan Policy 25 - Industrial Use](#)
- ▶ [South London Waste Plan](#)
- ▶ [Waste Minimisation Strategy](#)



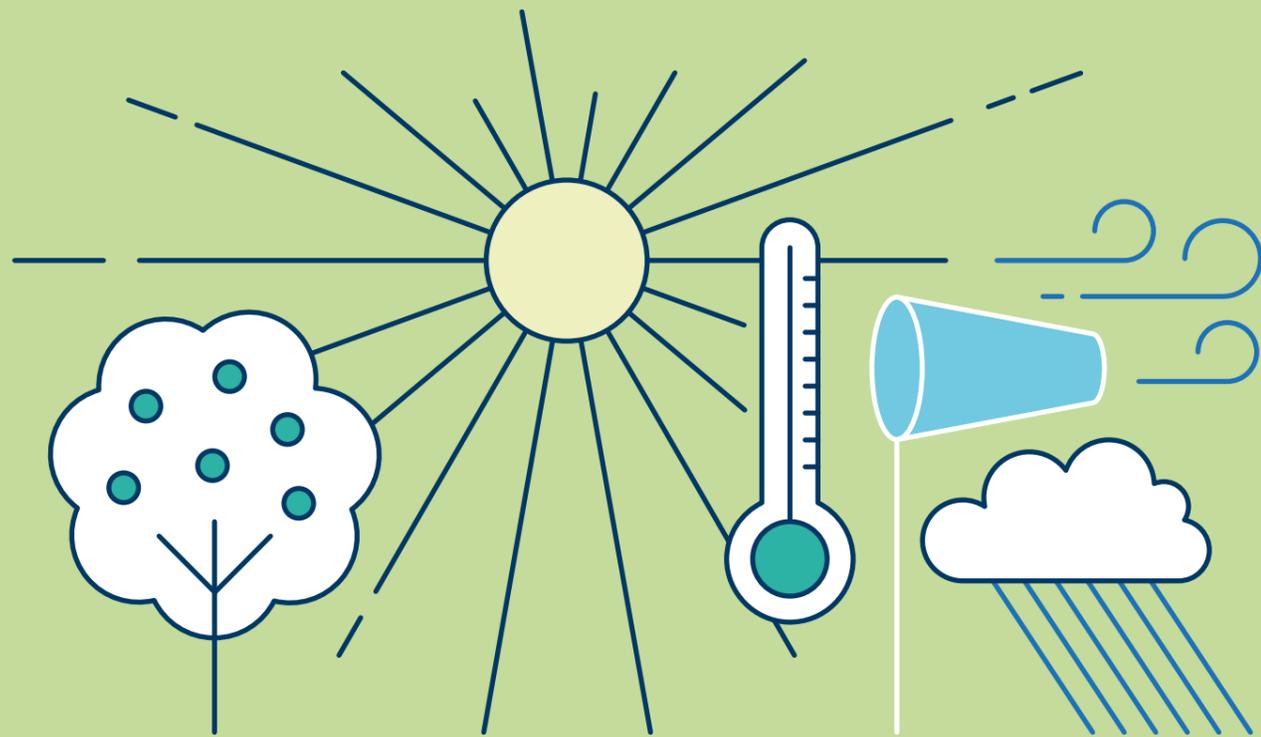
28. The baseline for household residual waste is 434.18kg per household in 2017/18, the food waste baseline is 7,392 tonnes in 2017/18 and Sutton's recycling rate is 50 per cent in 2018.

29. The food waste baseline is 7,392 tonnes in 2017/18.

TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

THE VISION

By taking urgent action, we will prevent the worst effects of climate change on people and infrastructure caused by flooding, heatwaves and loss of biodiversity.



THE CURRENT SITUATION

Climate change is already happening and Sutton needs to prepare for changing weather patterns. The International Panel on Climate Change indicates the world must keep global temperature rises below 1.5°C to avoid catastrophic impacts from climate change.³⁰ The borough needs to be prepared for heavy rainfall, extremes of temperature, and drought. The people living in the borough who are most vulnerable to these effects are the priority for building climate resilience.

According to the latest climate projections,³¹ the UK is more likely to get warmer, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers, with more frequent and intense extremes of weather. We need to be prepared for greater variability in our rainfall as widespread flooding could cause major disruption and economic impacts if infrastructure (roads, railways and substations), businesses and schools flood.

Surface water flooding happens when heavy rainfall is unable to soak into the ground or drain into sewers but instead runs over land, causing flooding. 4,827 homes and 220 businesses in the borough are at low to medium risk of surface water flooding; with a further 2,860 homes and 220 businesses at high risk.³² Sutton is ranked the 30th area in England most susceptible to surface water flooding.³³ The priority areas for flood alleviation schemes are Beddington Gardens, Worcester Park, Wallington Station and South Beddington.

With severe storms likely to become more common in future, it is important that through the planning process new developments are designed to minimise all sources of flood risk and the impact on the surrounding area. Sustainable drainage is one way to reduce the impacts of heavy rain.

It works by slowing down the flow of water, storing it and releasing it to the drainage network at a later time, to avoid overwhelming drains and causing flooding. This can be done by storage tanks but also planting and natural features. Sustainable drainage can improve water quality and create greener spaces.

3.7% of the borough, about 2,900 properties, are at medium or high risk of flooding from local rivers.³⁴ The areas most at risk are those along the River Wandle, Pyl Brook and Beverley Brook.

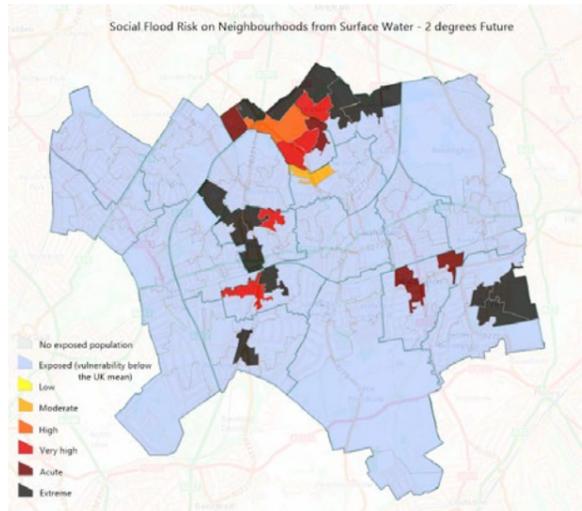


How SuDS 'slow the flow'. Credit: Jane Porter

30. For more information see the International Panel on Climate Change website: https://www.ipcc.ch/news_and_events/pr_181008_P48_spm.shtml

31. The latest UK climate projections (UKCP18) were released in November 2018. <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/approach/collaboration/ukcp/index>

32-34. *Local Plan, 2018, page 107*



▲ **Map of the community flood risk associated with a global 2 degree temperature increase. Community flood risk measures where social vulnerability and exposure to flooding coincide in a neighbourhood. Darker colours mean increased risk.**

Although severe storms will occur more frequently with climate change, drought conditions are also expected to increase as summers become drier and hotter. London and the South East are already classed as 'seriously water stressed', meaning more water is taken from the natural environment than is sustainable in the long-term.

Increased drought conditions will affect water supply and habitats in the borough by reducing river levels, damaging water supply infrastructure and increasing demand. With less ability to continue to draw water from deep in the ground, we need to aim to reduce the amount of water we use to 110

AVERAGE WATER USAGE PER PERSON, PER DAY

- ▶ Sutton currently 160 litres
- ▶ London 156 litres
- ▶ UK 139 litres
- ▶ New development standard in Sutton 110 litres

litres per person per day.³⁵ This will help make Sutton a more sustainable place.

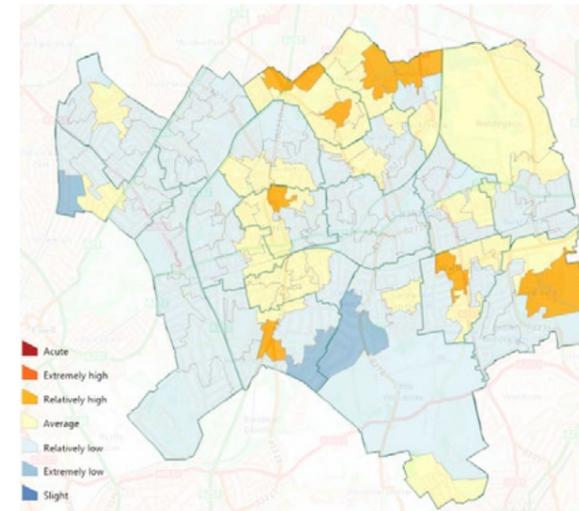
If global temperature rises are not prevented by reducing emissions, hot summers will become more common. The chance of a hot summer has already increased by between 12%-25% due to climate change. By 2050 this could be 50%. By the 2070s, hot spells³⁶ could increase from one every four years to four times a year.

Built up areas are particularly vulnerable to higher summer temperatures and localised heat waves and addressing the impacts of excess heat will become increasingly important.³⁷ Excess heat can particularly be a problem in places where people cannot easily reduce the temperature, for example because they are in hospital or live in a care home. The Council has an emergency planning role to make sure that timely advice is circulated. Planning powers

35. Water usage: *Sutton SES Water Annual Report 2017, page 3, aim 5*
London and UK Draft London Plan, 2017, new developments Local Plan, 2018, Policy 33, page 114

36. A hot spell is defined as maximum daytime temperatures exceeding 30°C for two or more consecutive days. This triggers a public health warning from the Met Office.

37. This is due to the urban heat island effect which occurs when urban areas are much warmer than surrounding rural areas. This is because of the waste heat from buildings, people, vehicles and construction. Nighttime temperatures remain warm because the heat is trapped between buildings.



▲ **Map of heat vulnerability in the borough. This shows where the negative impacts of hotter summers and hot spells are more likely to occur, based on the level of vulnerability of each neighbourhood.**

can ensure buildings are not too hot to be habitable and have adequate ventilation. Trees and green spaces provide important 'cooling' benefits as well.

Whilst cold winters are less likely, extreme cold can be deadly, and tackling fuel poverty will help with this. In the same way as for extreme heat, people are more vulnerable if they are homeless or in a care home or hospital where it is harder to control the temperature. In developing plans around extreme heat, we will also consider extreme cold.

Climate change could mean we need to make roads from different materials or plant drought resident species in parks. Our native biodiversity could be challenged by the introduction of invasive (non-native) species

which are more suited to warmer weather, and falling river levels could have impacts for biodiversity as well as water use. Agriculture makes up 10% of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions.³⁸ There are two main ways people in Sutton can help reduce this. Growing food locally and buying locally grown food helps reduce emissions from agriculture. There will always be some waste, for example vegetable peelings and bones, but using as much as we can of what we buy, and reducing the amount of food that goes mouldy before we eat it, helps reduce emissions. The Council will support action on both.

FOCUS AREA

- ▶ Raise awareness of the climate emergency, the impacts of climate change on Sutton, and the actions individuals can take.
- ▶ Increase the preparedness of Sutton's people, public services and infrastructure for extremes of temperature, drought and flooding.

THE TARGETS

(targets in other chapters of the strategy will also tackle climate change)

- ▶ Retain Sustainable Food City status each year.
- ▶ Work with SES Water to help people reduce their daily water use to 138 litres by 2025.

38. Department for Business, Skills and Innovation: latest data 2018: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/862887/2018_Final_greenhouse_gas_emissions_statistical_release.pdf



WHO'S INVOLVED

- ▶ Sutton Housing Partnership
- ▶ Housing associations
- ▶ Hospitals
- ▶ Care providers
- ▶ Sutton Council - emergency planning, flood risk management, regulatory services, sustainability and planning
- ▶ Environment Agency
- ▶ SES Water
- ▶ Thames Water
- ▶ People who live, work and study in Sutton
- ▶ Businesses
- ▶ The Sutton Plan partners

STRATEGIES

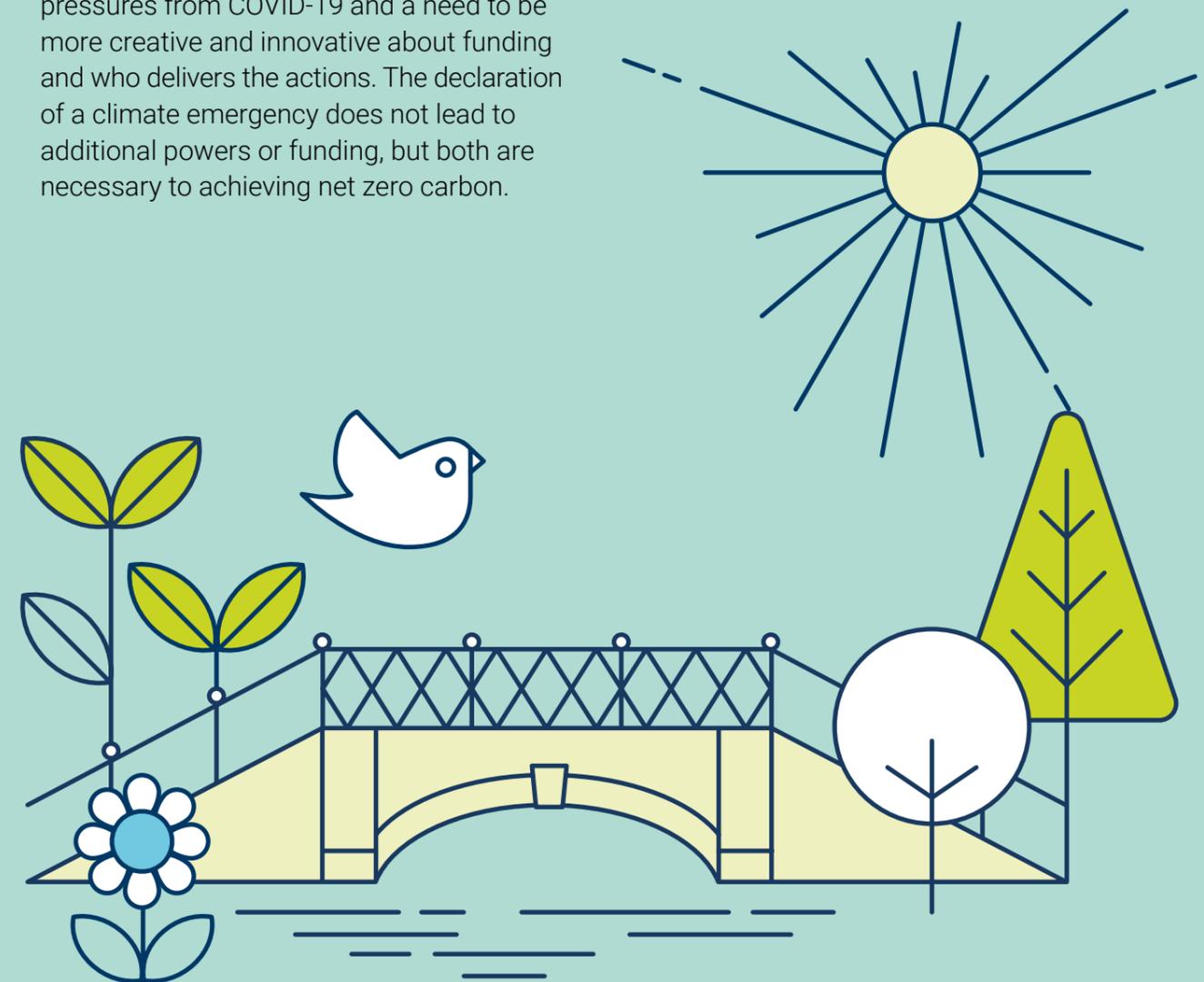
- ▶ [Flood risk management strategies](#)
- ▶ Local Plan:
 - [Policy 13 - Housing and Garden Land](#)
 - [Policy 31 - Carbon and Energy \(includes energy insulation and ventilation\)](#)
 - [Policy 32 - Flood Risk and Sustainable Drainage](#)
 - [Policy 33 - Climate Change Adaptation](#)

IMPLEMENTATION

Achieving net zero carbon is highly ambitious and cannot be achieved by the Council or Sutton residents alone. Global, national, regional and local action must all happen together. Sutton Council remains committed to ensuring that the borough of Sutton continues to lead London in its approach to sustainability and the environment.

Nevertheless, this comes at a time of continued pressure on council budgets, new pressures from COVID-19 and a need to be more creative and innovative about funding and who delivers the actions. The declaration of a climate emergency does not lead to additional powers or funding, but both are necessary to achieving net zero carbon.

The lockdown during the coronavirus pandemic in 2020 provided glimpses of what a greener Sutton could look like. In recovering from coronavirus, the world, the UK and Sutton has an opportunity to pursue a "green recovery". The pandemic has also threatened some of the progress made, especially on public transport usage and single use items. These challenges need to be overcome as we tackle the climate emergency.



CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This Environment Strategy supports the London Borough of Sutton to achieve all four of its corporate priorities: Being Active Citizens, Making Informed Choices, Living Well Independently and Keeping People Safe.

The Council is able to take action across its services and functions, and through its role in shaping and supporting the community in the borough. It will seek to influence change in citizens, businesses, public sector partners, developers and other organisations in the borough.

FUNDING AND RESOURCING

This strategy will be delivered by:

1. Internal resources/staffing

Delivering the strategy will involve a 'whole council' approach, with officers across the Council working on the actions. Major changes to the Council's estate and the construction of new council homes will be used as an opportunity to demonstrate Sutton's sustainability commitments.

2. Grants/funding applications/partnerships

The Council will bid for available funding, sometimes in partnership with other organisations. We will work with organisations who have their own targets and funding for sustainability initiatives or are best placed to deliver a project, including the Sutton Plan partners. Technological and digital changes may bring new opportunities that we need to adapt to.



3. Investments that cover their own costs

The Council will explore options to fund sustainability schemes through an 'invest to save' model, or to invest in assets in a way that provides income in the future. The carbon offset fund, paid by developers when they are unable to offset some of the carbon emissions of a development on the site, will be used for sustainability projects, particularly those related to energy and fuel poverty.



LONDON-WIDE ACTION

Sutton is represented at London level by elected members on the Transport and Environment Committee of London Councils; and at senior officer level on the London Environment Directors Network.

The Council supports the Joint Statement on Climate Change³⁹ issued by these bodies, and is working with other boroughs on seven pan-London programmes:



#1 Retrofit London:

Retrofit all domestic and non-domestic buildings to an average level of EPC B.

Programme timescale: 2020 – 2030.

#2 Low-carbon development:

Secure low carbon buildings and infrastructure via borough planning.

Programme timescale: 2020 – 2022.

#3 Halve petrol and diesel road

journeys: Halve road journeys made by petrol and diesel via combined measures that can restrict polluting journeys and incentivise sustainable and active travel options.

Programme timescale: 2020 – 2030.

#4 Renewable power for London:

Secure 100% renewable energy for London's public sector now and in the future.

Programme timescale: 2020 – 2030.

#5 Reduce consumption emissions:

Reduce consumption emissions by two thirds, focusing on food, clothing, electronics and aviation.

Programme timescale: 2020 – 2030.

#6 Build the green economy:

Develop London's low carbon sector and green our broader economy.

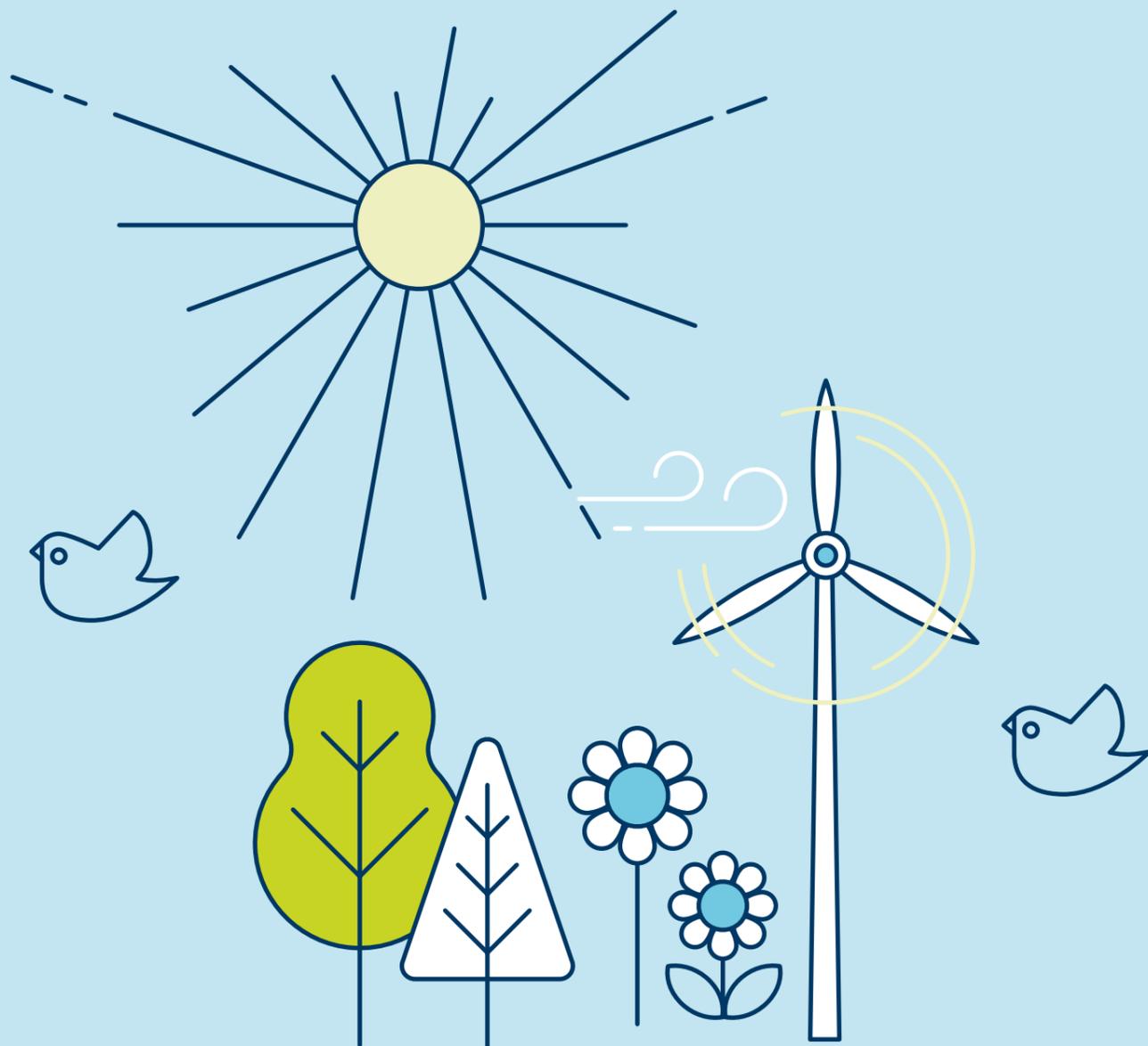
Programme timescale: 2020 - 2030.

#7 Creating a resilient and green London

³⁹. The full statement can be read here: <https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/our-key-themes/environment/climate-change>

ASKS OF OTHERS

Sutton Council contributes around 3% of the total borough emissions. This means we have asks of others in order to achieve net zero carbon emissions.



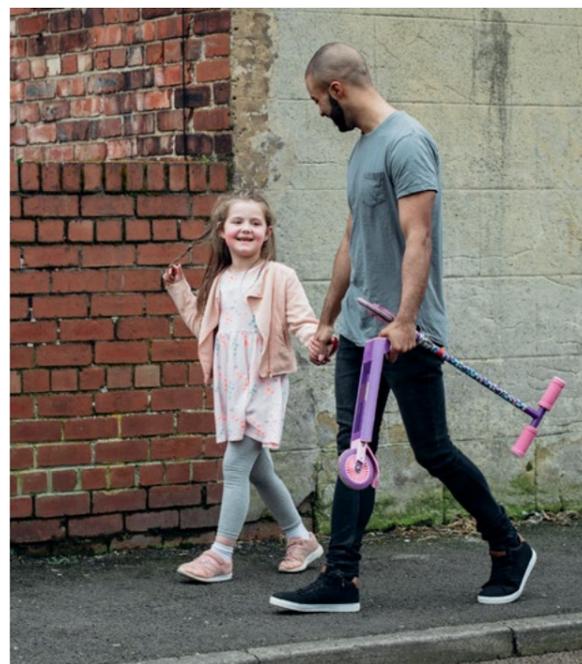
WE NEED EVERY BUSINESS, ORGANISATION AND PUBLIC SECTOR AGENCY IN THE BOROUGH TO:

- ▶ Encourage your staff and customers to walk, cycle or use public transport to get to you. Make it easy for them to do this by providing facilities such as cycle parking, showers and season ticket loans.
 - ▶ Allow staff to work from home where this is practical for their job.
 - ▶ Switch your business fleet to electric vehicles or bikes and install electric vehicle charge points at your premises for customers to use as well.
 - ▶ Switch your energy to a renewable tariff and enter into a power purchasing agreement to increase the supply of renewable energy.
 - ▶ Get an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) for your buildings and site and identify ways you can reduce your energy bills by installing insulation, such as through switching your light bulbs to LED and installing energy efficiency measures such as insulation to reduce your energy consumption and bills.
 - ▶ Install solar panels on your roof and when replacing boilers or other heating equipment, opt for a heat pump or join a district heating system where this is technically feasible.
 - ▶ Recycle everything you can, including food waste.
 - ▶ Minimise unnecessary packaging if you supply goods and opt for fully recyclable packaging.
 - ▶ Eliminate single use items from your company's operation.
- 
- ▶ When undertaking new building work or maintenance, choose sustainably sourced materials and maximise opportunities for green roofs and solar panels.
 - ▶ Manufacturers need to adopt circular principles - choosing materials based on their sustainability and longevity; enabling repairs and the availability of spare parts; and the full recyclability of products at the end of their useful life.
 - ▶ Provide information for your staff about how they can reduce the company's environmental impact.
 - ▶ Engage your supply chain and work with businesses that take sustainability seriously.
 - ▶ Seek sustainability accreditation for the action you are taking and celebrate the changes to inspire others.

WE NEED EVERY SCHOOL IN THE BOROUGH TO:

- ▶ Encourage staff and pupils to walk, cycle or use public transport. Make it easy for them to do this by providing bike parking, showers and season ticket loans for staff. Gain STARS accreditation if you haven't already.
- ▶ Launch a School Streets programme outside your school to improve air quality where this is feasible.
- ▶ Install electric vehicle charging points for staff vehicles and switch any vehicle fleet to electric.
- ▶ Recycle everything you can, including food waste from your canteens.
- ▶ Eliminate single use items from your school's working practices.
- ▶ Install water fountains and encourage reuse.
- ▶ Engage your supply chain and work with businesses that take sustainability seriously.
- ▶ Switch your energy to a renewable tariff and enter into a power purchasing agreement to increase the supply of renewable energy.
- ▶ Switch your light bulbs to LED and sign up to be part of the schools retrofit programme provided by the GLA, to improve the energy efficiency of your buildings.

- ▶ Install solar panels on your roof and when replacing boilers or other heating equipment, opt for a heat pump or join a district heating system where this is technically feasible for your school and premises.
- ▶ When undertaking new building work or maintenance, choose sustainably sourced materials and maximise opportunities for green roofs and solar panels.
- ▶ Teach pupils about the environment, including how to take action on climate change, how to recycle correctly, and how to cycle safely.
- ▶ Use your grounds to engage young people about the environment and curriculum topics - such as gardening, rainfall and sustainable drainage, and mental wellbeing.
- ▶ Provide information for young people, their parents and your staff about how they can reduce the school's environmental impact.



WE NEED EVERY HOUSEHOLD IN THE BOROUGH TO:

- ▶ Switch to a renewable or low carbon energy tariff.
- ▶ Get an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) for your property and identify ways you can reduce your energy bills by installing energy efficiency measures such as insulation.
- ▶ Opt for energy efficient (A++) appliances such as washing machines and boilers.
- ▶ When doing home renovation work, choose sustainably sourced materials and maximise opportunities for insulation, green roofs and solar panels.
- ▶ When replacing boilers or other heating equipment, opt for a heat pump or join a district heating system where this is technically feasible for your property.
- ▶ Walk, cycle and use public transport as much as you can.
- ▶ Sign up to a car sharing service instead of having a car.
- ▶ Take reusable bags, cutlery and coffee cups when out and about.
- ▶ Ask questions of the businesses you shop with, and find out their environmental credentials.
- ▶ Buy products with recyclable and minimal packaging.
- ▶ Recycle everything you can, including food waste.

- ▶ Be savvy about your food shopping: make use of your leftovers and freezer, and avoid buying what you don't need so it doesn't go to waste.
- ▶ Keep front gardens for wildlife and not completely paved over for cars. Install rain gardens and other sustainable drainage features in your garden.

WE NEED THE HOUSING PROVIDERS IN THE BOROUGH TO:

- ▶ Retrofit your housing stock to zero carbon standards.
- ▶ Build new housing stock that is zero carbon standard, uses sustainable materials, and creates sustainable communities.
- ▶ Share best practice and learning around carbon reduction and environmental improvements.
- ▶ Identify opportunities to embed sustainability across your business, including areas such as biodiversity and green spaces, electric vehicle fleet and sustainable procurement.

WE NEED ENERGY COMPANIES TO:

- ▶ Help people switch easily to the cheapest tariff.
- ▶ Offer smart meters to customers and increase the uptake of them.
- ▶ Promote ways to reduce energy consumption and save money.
- ▶ Invest in new renewable energy supply.

WE NEED SES WATER TO (TARGETS IN THEIR BUSINESS PLAN):

- ▶ Help people reduce their daily water use to 138 litres by 2025 and 118 litres by 2050.
- ▶ Promote ways to reduce water consumption and save money.
- ▶ Help customers use less water by providing home visits and installing water saving devices.
- ▶ Meter 90% of customers by 2025, with a minimum 10% of these customers on smart meters.
- ▶ Reduce leakage on the water network and explain the action residents need to take when they have a leak.
- ▶ Work with the Water Industry to:
- ▶ Prevent the equivalent of 4 billion plastic bottles ending up as waste by 2030.
- ▶ Achieve net zero carbon emissions for the sector by 2030.
- ▶ Improve rivers through delivery of the Environment Agency's Water Industry National Improvement Programme (WINEP).

WE NEED WASTE COMPANIES OPERATING IN THE BOROUGH TO:

- ▶ Offer recycling as standard to every business they service.
- ▶ Incentivise the recycling of food, electrical items, batteries, wood, textiles etc. as appropriate to the business.
- ▶ Work with vehicle manufacturers to encourage investment in electric or other low carbon fuel waste fleets.

WE NEED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURERS TO:

- ▶ Invest in renewable energy, green technologies and circular business models.
- ▶ Provide green finance options for businesses, public sector organisations and individuals.
- ▶ Offer mortgages, lending options and new financial models of investment to individuals and businesses that support energy efficiency and retrofitting.
- ▶ Support a 'build back better' approach, particularly for flooded properties, to install flood prevention measures that will protect against future flooding.

WE NEED THE LONDON MAYOR AND TRANSPORT FOR LONDON TO:

- ▶ Accelerate plans for the electrification of the bus fleet to 2030.
- ▶ Extend the tram and London Overground network into Sutton.
- ▶ Invest in and improve the Transport for London Road Network (TLRN) for cycling and walking.
- ▶ Extend the bus network so that every home is within 5 minutes walk of a frequent, reliable and accessible bus service.
- ▶ Strengthen the existing Low Emission Zone standard to clean up polluting business vehicles.
- ▶ Continue to fund group purchasing schemes such as for solar panels, and expand these to include energy retrofit / insulation measures for able-to-pay households.

- ▶ Develop the next iteration of the retrofitting programmes for workplaces, schools and homes that provide funding and innovation on energy efficiency at the scale needed for transformation in London.
- ▶ Continue to fund electric vehicle charge point installation in boroughs and take action on the electrification of the 'GLA family' fleet.
- ▶ Continue to fund waste minimisation communications campaigns to reach Londoners and the installation of water fountains.
- ▶ Expand London Power (which provides renewable and affordable energy to homes) to businesses / commercial clients to enable charities, small businesses and organisations such as the Council to switch.



WE NEED NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO:

Energy efficiency and decarbonisation

- ▶ Fund the retrofitting of the 77,100 properties in the borough (excluding council homes) to a zero carbon standard. We estimate this will cost between £20k and £100k per property, depending on building type and a mature supply chain. This totals between £1.5 bn and £7.71bn.
- ▶ Fund the retrofitting of the 6,600 council housing properties to a zero carbon and fire safe standard by meeting the gap created by accelerating this work beyond planned maintenance and upgrades. We estimate this will cost between £20k-£100k per property, totalling £120m - £600m.
- ▶ Invest in wind, solar and other renewables to decarbonise the National Grid and ensure there is sufficient supply for the demands on electricity.
- ▶ Update national planning policy with stronger requirements on carbon reduction, use of renewables and public transport accessibility. This will help stimulate the markets for low carbon building materials and renewable energy sources.
- ▶ Develop a plan for the decarbonisation of heat, by providing the regulatory and financial framework that supports uptake in solar, community energy and other renewable forms of energy.

- ▶ Bring in tougher minimum energy efficiency standards for buildings (which should increase over time) and provide financial support to homeowners, landlords, housing associations and small businesses to undertake energy efficiency measures.
- ▶ Reaffirm the smart meter rollout programme which is behind schedule.

Transport

- ▶ Accelerate further to 2030 the ban on new petrol and diesel vehicle sales. This needs to be accompanied by a scrappage scheme for diesel and petrol cars and other incentives to give up a car altogether.
- ▶ Offer financial incentives for businesses to switch to a commercial electric vehicle fleet.
- ▶ Increase funding for Transport for London so that increased funding can be passed to boroughs for walking, cycling and sustainable transport, so that funding levels match our ambition.
- ▶ Continue to fund the installation of electric vehicle charging points.
- ▶ Increase fixed penalty notice penalties for anti-idling and increase funding for local authorities to be able to resource this enforcement.
- ▶ Require businesses and schools to have travel plans and to update them regularly.

Waste

- ▶ Require manufacturers and businesses to package products in recycled and commonly recyclable packaging, or require the business to offer a free take-back service.

- ▶ Review the Waste Transfer Regulations and identify where they impede on circular economy businesses and initiatives.
- ▶ Ban single use plastics where alternatives are available e.g. single use water bottles and nappies.
- ▶ Support and fund the development and innovation of waste reprocessing facilities that seek to recycle new materials e.g. plastic film to make these businesses nationally scalable so that local authorities can start to offer them in recycling collections.

Climate change

- ▶ Reduce the requirements on school and nursery catering services to offer meat at least three times a week.
- ▶ Raise public awareness of the reasons why front and back gardens need protecting from being built over, and restrict the sale of artificial turf. Give local authorities new planning enforcement powers on this, with funding to resource enforcement.
- ▶ Require large businesses and organisations including public sector agencies to report annually on their carbon emissions and those of their supply chain.
- ▶ Increase funding for flood risk management schemes and adapt the funding formula to allow increased funding of projects that tackle surface water flooding.



CLEANER AIR

Target: By 2041, 63% of journeys in Sutton will be made by walking, cycling or public transport.

Target: By 2041, 70% of people will be doing 20 minutes of active travel a day.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
SUPPORTING USE OF ACTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL:					
1 Implement the Sustainable Transport Strategy 2020 - 2025, enabling an increase in walking, cycling and sustainable travel across the borough.	See action plan within the LIP3 strategy - progress reporting will be undertaken annually to the Environment & Sustainable Transport committee.	Principal Policy Officer - Strategic Transport <i>Various others from teams across the Council e.g. Highways</i>	Existing Council budgets, including TfL Local Implementation Plan and Cycleway funding. The Ashden / Friends of the Earth toolkit proposes spend of £50/person/year on walking and cycling. This equates to £10.3m. The Council has historically received around £1.5m each year from TfL towards transport projects and other sources (e.g. Section 106). A significant increase in funding from TfL would be needed and TfL's overall funding situation due to COVID-19 makes this significantly more uncertain.	Implementing	LIP3 Progress is reported annually to the Environment and Sustainable Transport Committee with the last update in October 2023 .

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
<p>2 Lobby for improvements to the frequency, coverage and zero emissions status of bus services in the borough.</p> <p>TfL are now proposing for the red bus fleet to be zero emission by 2030. The Council will continue to lobby for earlier adoption in Sutton as changes caused by the Bus Review are implemented.</p>	Ongoing	Principal Policy Officer - Strategic Transport	<p>Staff time on lobbying can be met from existing budgets.</p> <p>Future new routes and increases will be subject to TfL funding position and priorities.</p>	Implementing	<p>Currently all buses operating in Sutton meet the Euro VI emissions standard.</p> <p>The TfL Bus Action Plan, launched on 11 March 2022, accelerated the date for a London-wide zero emission bus fleet to the year 2030 from the previous 2037 ambition.</p> <p>TfL has introduced the new electric buses on routes 93, 154, 164, 213 and 80, joining the zero-emission buses already operating on Route 413. This means that half of all bus journeys undertaken in the borough are now zero-emission. With more zero-emission buses set to join the borough's fleet in spring 2024, this will make 90 zero emission buses operating in the borough.</p> <p>The changes announced as part of the Sutton Bus Review are also expected to be delivered by 2024.</p>

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
3	Lobby for improvements in facilities to support walking and cycling on the TfL Road Network.	Ongoing	Team Leader - Sustainable Transport and Commissioning (Highways)	Regular funding bids are made on an annual basis to deliver improvements for walking and cycling.	Implementing	<p>The transport programme has received funding of £971,000 from TfL for transport projects in the 23/24 year.</p> <p>The October 2023 Environment and Sustainable Transport Committee Meeting approved the submission to Transport for London (TfL) for funding approval of £1,129,000 for the LIP workstreams for 24/25 ; and the 2024/25 programme for the (non-formula based) specific bids for Bus Priority of £215,000 and Cycling Network Development schemes of £405,000.</p> <p>The report also outlined that:</p> <p>The 2023/24 programme was still being delivered with the projects at various stages of progress, with many currently going through the feasibility and consultation process. A number of schemes have been completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ North Street Zebra crossing - completion of anti-skid surfacing ▶ Westmead Road - 20mph scheme ▶ Collingwood Road - 20mph scheme ▶ Kimpton Road - 20mph scheme ▶ Foresters Drive - Phase 1 installation of gateway treatments ▶ Tweeddale Road - junction improvement ▶ Stayton Road - Parking improvements to assist buses <p>£40,000 is in place to continue investigating cycling measures on the Morden to Sutton cycleways link, and the Beddington North TfL Major Scheme including dedicated cycle lanes along the length of Beddington Lane, is due for completion this winter.</p>

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
4 Lobby for improvements to rail services in the borough including metroisation, meaning a more frequent service.	Ongoing	Principal Policy Officer - Strategic Transport	TfL's strategic business case for metroisation in South London estimated that the whole scheme will cost £1.6bn. Network Rail and TfL are also looking to progress elements separately.	Implementing	<p>The Council's bid to the Government's Levelling Up Fund for the Belmont Rail Frequency Improvement scheme was successful - £14.1 million secured to increase train frequency and improve active travel options to serve the London Cancer Hub and Belmont.</p> <p>The Council is working with Network Rail to deliver the Levelling Up Fund bid, and the programme is anticipated to complete by March 2026.</p> <p>The wider metroisation proposals, including turnbacks at Wallington and Cheam, are supported by the Council in the new Sustainable Transport Strategy and Local Implementation Plan.</p>
5 Implement a programme of School Streets and Play Streets, working with residents and schools.	Launched in autumn 2021/22.	Team Leader - Sustainable Transport and Commissioning (Highways)	School Streets Phase 2 programme approved at the Environment & Sustainable Transport committee in October 2022. Existing LBS capital and TfL funding being used in 22/23, with Capital Bid for additional works and further TfL funding in 23/24.	Phase 2 - Implementation Phase 3 - Feasibility	<p>A programme of School Streets launched in 2021. Residents can also bid for an event fees and charges grant to support the costs of road closures for events they want to hold e.g. Play Streets.</p> <p>An update was taken to the October 2023 Environment and Sustainable Transport Committee Meeting providing an update on the Phase 2 School streets (agreed at E&ST in Oct 2022) The 4 schools are Robin Hood Lane, Tweeddale Primary School, Abbey Primary School and Woodfield Primary School in Beddington Gardens (an existing scheme that is moving over to camera enforcement). They are due to go live in Spring '24. Consideration is being given to a Phase 3 programme.</p>

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
6 Undertake 'Neighbourhood Place Shaping' consultation with residents regarding the 'Safer and Healthier Streets' programme, developing and co-designing potential schemes as appropriate.	Ongoing	Team Leader - Sustainable Transport and Commissioning (Highways)	Lack of TfL funding has delayed progress, and in-year allocation only recently received to allow work to restart.	Draft proposal	Two key areas at Worcester Park and Butter Hill have been identified for reconsultation; the results have been received and processed. Proposals for how to progress were considered at the December 2022 Environment and Sustainable Transport committee.
7 Deliver and monitor the Parking Strategy to identify any displacement activities and reduction in traffic.	Ongoing	Principal Engineer - Sustainable Transport and Commissioning (Highways)	Met from existing budgets.	Implementing	<p>In October 2022, the Council approved additional funds to proceed with further phases of the Parking Strategy. This will be an 18-month programme of work.</p> <p>The update to the October 2023 Environment and Sustainable Transport Committee Meeting advised that the procurement of an essential new parking computer software package led to a 2 month delay with the Parking Strategy which is now due to complete in Summer 2024.</p>
8 NEW: Work with industry partners such as couriers, delivery companies, and local businesses to mitigate air quality impacts associated with parcel deliveries in face of the rise of e-commerce and changes in work patterns post-Covid.	2023/24	Climate Partnership Manager <i>Highways</i>	Last-mile parcel consolidation scheme generates revenue for the council for siting delivery lockers on council-owned land.	Final proposal	High-level locations for lockers have been identified, and member support from the four pilot wards has been secured.
9 Continue to offer support to businesses and schools in travel planning.	Ongoing with progress reported annually.	Sustainable Transport Officer	Met from existing resources.	Implementing - schools	<p>School engagement takes place through Travel for Life (formerly STARS) and School Streets. Schools or education settings are awarded gold, silver or bronze accreditation depending on the number of activities that they have completed. 22 schools have Travel for Life accreditation (8 Gold, 4 Silver, 10 Bronze).</p> <p>No business engagement currently taking place due to lack of funding.</p>

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
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IMPROVING COUNCIL STAFF TRAVEL:

10	Produce a new travel plan for council Staff travel to and at work, including HR policies, travel allowances, the use of personal vehicles, pool and electric bikes, car clubs and public transport. Encourage partners to do the same. As part of this work, investigate the feasibility of a salary sacrifice scheme to support staff take up of electric vehicles (or other renewable fuels).	2024/25	Strategic Reward and Insight Lead	New policy production can be met from existing budgets.	Draft proposal	A working group has been established to drive the development of this work. Data on staff travel habits has been collected through the recent staff survey which will inform the next steps.
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Target: By 2041, 37% of Sutton's population will be within 400m of the strategic cycle network.

IMPROVING CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE:

11	Secure funding for cycle network improvements e.g. new quiet routes, segregated cycle paths, cycle parking etc.	Ongoing	Senior Sustainable Transport Officer	TfL funds cycleways. The Council is supporting school cycle parking. The Council can use Section 106 (S106) and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding secured through planning for new initiatives.	Implementing	Secure residential cycle parking funding of £36k from TfL received for 2023/24 to install hangars in SHP & local Housing Association developments. Procurement in progress. Hangars purchased with 2022/23 TfL funding have been procured & are in the process of being installed.
12	UPDATED: Encourage e-bike use by working with e-bike providers and bike shops to promote offers on e-bikes. Undertake promotion to residents and encourage workplaces to introduce electric cargo bikes as part of services / goods delivery.	Ongoing	Senior Sustainable Transport Officer	Dockless e-bike hire scheme launched 2022 and met from existing budgets. Electric cargo bikes cost over £4,500 and require external funding.	Implementing - promotion of e-bike hire only.	Since launching in September 2022 nearly 27,000 e-bike journeys have started from Sutton with an estimated saving of 12.3 tonnes CO2. The service was extended for an additional 12 months in September 2023. There is an e-bike for staff use at Sutton Council's Civic Offices. Application to the DEFRA Air Quality Grant submitted in September 2023 to provide support for businesses to switch to e-cargo bikes. Outcome of bid expected in March 2024.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
CYCLE SKILLS AND TRAINING:						
13	Provide cycle maintenance and cycle safety training and workshops.	Ongoing	Sustainable Transport Officer	Funded through the Local Implementation Plan allocation from Transport for London with associated targets. TfL funding for the remainder of 2023/24 covers service requirements.	Implementing	During the period April - September 2023, 293 children and 33 adults received cycle training.

Target: Implement the Air Quality Action Plan, meeting the national air quality standards for nitrogen dioxide as soon as possible. Continue to take action to reduce levels of particulate matter.

The actions for this target are monitored via the [Air Quality Action Plan 2019 - 2023](#) and the [annual progress](#) reports published on the Council's website.

A GREENER BOROUGH

Target: No overall reduction in the amount of green space in the borough.

Target: By 2050, at least half of Sutton’s land area will still be green space.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
GREEN SPACE PROVISION:					
<p>1 UPDATED: Maximise opportunities for exceeding Local Plan targets for increasing overall green space coverage and improving green space factor (GSF) and urban green factor (UGF) scores by incorporating green infrastructure, new biodiversity habitats, green roofs, trees and nature-based SuDS measures as part of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ new residential and commercial developments; ▶ new council housing and other council-led schemes e.g. schools; ▶ estate renewal schemes; ▶ area-based regeneration schemes such as for Sutton Town Centre and Rosehill; ▶ transport and highway schemes delivered through Sutton’s Local Implementation Plan (LIP); and ▶ flood alleviation schemes delivered through the Local Flood Risk Management Action Plan. <p>Report through the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR)</p>	<p>Publication of Local Plan Issues and Preferred Options document for public consultation (Regulation 18 stage) by April 2024</p>	<p>Senior Planner</p> <p><i>Senior Biodiversity Officer Housing Regeneration Team Sustainable Transport & Commissioning (Sutton) Team Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) officer</i></p>	<p>Greening and SuDS measures are normally included as part of the cost of the development / scheme. In some situations, public realm funding could be used for schemes that residents want to implement.</p>	<p>Implementing</p>	<p>Progress is reported annually in Sutton’s Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).</p> <p>Planning policies on urban greening, open space, SuDS, back garden land, climate change adaptation and biodiversity net gain (BNG) are currently under review as part of the ongoing Local Plan review process.</p>

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
<p>2 NEW: Prepare a green infrastructure (GI) strategy for the Borough as part of the Local Plan review in order to deliver multiple benefits for cooling, SuDS, biodiversity net gain, local amenity and healthy streets which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ is based on an understanding of existing GI assets and linkages from a range of sources including the Local Plan evidence base; Green Space Information for Greater London (GiGL); and remote mapping and satellite imagery generated by automated mapping tools; ▶ identifies opportunities for creating new or enhancing existing GI assets and linkages in order to ensure that the Borough is integrated into London's wider green space network and for mitigating climate impacts through strategic GI interventions, including as part of area-based regeneration schemes; estate renewal; habitat creation schemes; Pocket Parks and SuDS retrofit. 	<p>Publication of Local Plan Issues and Preferred Options document for public consultation (Regulation 18 stage) by April 2024</p> <p>Remote mapping tools being trialled during 2023-24 (see biodiversity net gain below)</p>	<p>Head of Strategic Planning</p> <p><i>Senior Planner</i></p> <p><i>Senior Biodiversity Officer</i></p>	<p>Greening and SuDS measures are normally included as part of the cost of the development / scheme. In some situations, public realm funding could be used for schemes that residents want to implement.</p>	<p>Currently preparing the Local Plan Issues and Preferred Options document for public consultation in Spring 20204 (Regulation 18 stage)</p>	<p>Progress is reported annually in Sutton's Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).</p> <p>Planning policies on urban greening, open space, SuDS, back garden land, climate change adaptation and biodiversity net gain (BNG) are currently under review as part of the ongoing Local Plan review process.</p>
<p>Report through the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR)</p>					

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
<p>3 NEW: Ensure that the revised planning policies being prepared as part of the review of Sutton's Local Plan continue to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ protect the Sutton Green Belt and metropolitan open land (MOL) against loss to inappropriate development; ▶ maintain or enhance the provision of public open space throughout the Borough (hectares per 1,000 population)? ▶ require all developments in areas of open space deficiency to provide new open space and/or contribute towards the provision of new open spaces or improvements to the accessibility and quality of existing public open space. 	<p>Publication of Local Plan Issues and Preferred Options document for public consultation (Regulation 18 stage) by April 2024.</p>	<p>Head of Strategic Planning Senior Planner</p>	<p>Costs are contained within the Strategic Planning budget for preparing the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Currently preparing the Local Plan Issues and Preferred Options document for public consultation in Spring 2024 (Regulation 18 stage)</p>	<p>Progress is reported annually in Sutton's Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).</p>
<p>4 Using Local Plan data, work with local people and community organisations to create green spaces, biodiversity habitats and plant trees where there is a deficit.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Sustainability Manager</p>	<p>Dependent upon project size, however, external funding is expected to be required.</p>	<p>Implementing</p>	<p>A project has been developed for Limes Avenue Recreation Ground which focuses on improvements to tackle and adapt to climate change. Works are due to take place in 2024.</p>
<p>5 Support communities' creation of pocket parks, community gardens, food growing, and the 'meanwhile' use of spaces.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Head of Parks and Open Spaces</p>	<p>External funding is needed to support delivery of this action. Community groups can apply for public realm funding through Local Committees, or grants such as the Greener City Fund (GLA). Ongoing costs for maintenance need to be considered at the point of application together with who is responsible for ongoing maintenance.</p>	<p>Draft proposal</p>	<p>See above.</p>

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
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MANAGEMENT OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACES:

6	Implement the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy . This is a major programme of business-as-usual activities, re-engineering processes and methods of parks maintenance, and projects.	5-year programme of works from 2020 - 2025.	Head of Parks and Open Spaces <i>Various other teams and organisations supporting implementation.</i>	5-year programme of works, some of which is fully funded, some is partly funded and some will depend on successfully bidding for external funding.	Implementing	Work is in progress and a separate action plan update is produced annually.
7	Prepare and review parks management plans, starting with the major parks. Objective is to produce two plans per year.	Ongoing	Head of Parks and Open Spaces <i>Various including the Tree Officers and Biodiversity Officers.</i>	This work is funded from existing budgets.	Implementing	15 plans have already been completed covering twenty five parks and open spaces sites in the borough. Sites covered include all 11 Green Flag parks.

Target: Plant 2,000 trees every year (community, council and developer-led schemes all count).

TREE PLANTING:

8	Plant 2,000 trees each year.	Annual	Senior Arboriculturalist	Tree planting is dependent on the allocation of funding from Local Committees, other council budgets and external funding bids as the parks team does not have a budget allocation for purchasing trees.	Implementing	In total 4,537 trees were planted in 2022/23. Funding was provided by Natural England, the Treescapes Fund, Public Realm funding, sponsorship, donations, friends groups, the Elms 4 London initiative as well as planning contributions and council capital funding.
9	Support community groups who want to plant trees - help with bidding, give advice and organise planting events.	Annually - reporting on the number of trees planted.	Senior Arboriculturalist	Providing support is met from existing budgets. Free trees are offered throughout the year by various partner organisations.	Implementing	Tree and hedge planting events in 2022/23 have taken place at a range of sites including Oaks Park, Carshalton Park, Poulter Park and Sutton Common Rec. Work has taken place with Friends groups, community groups and the Sutton Tree wardens. Funding has been provided from a number of external partners and stakeholders as well as Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (planning contributions).

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
10	COMPLETE: Maintain a list of trees good for biodiversity and a range of locations, to guide developers and residents when planting trees.	Ongoing	Sustainability Manager Senior Arboriculturalist	Met from existing budgets.	Implementing	List is published on the Council's website.

Target: Advise and monitor Viridor's delivery of the Beddington Farmlands landfill site as one of the largest nature reserves in London by 2023

TREES, PARKS AND BIODIVERSITY:

11	Monitor and advise on the creation of new wildlife habitat through the restoration of Beddington Farmlands.	Ongoing to December 2023.	Senior Biodiversity Officer <i>Reserve Warden</i> <i>Planning Enforcement</i> <i>Development Management</i>	Viridor funds the Reserve Warden position as part of its planning obligation for the Energy Recovery Facility. Other staff time on monitoring and advising is not separately funded.	Implementing	This work is ongoing. Work by Valencia up until the end of October 2023 included: 1. presenting a Master Planning workshop in March 2023, which set out the high level possible required changes to the approved RMP. This included possible removal of Phase 2 wet grassland and conversion as a storage lagoon and removal of the acid grassland and heath, replacing with a neutral meadow. 2. Valencia Waste Management employed Stantec Consulting to flesh out the possible changes required to the Restoration management Plan (RMP) and these are being considered as part of a detailed set of ongoing pre-application meetings. 3. The Council is still of the opinion that wider site habitat creation and management are being neglected / not delivered at pace and the delivery of all non-contested habitats, in the required state by the end of 2023, is highly unlikely. As such, the Council is considering all options, including the use of its enforcement powers, to ensure the delivery of the restoration works.
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Focus: Maintain and enhance the biodiversity value of the borough.

	Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
12	Deliver the Biodiversity Strategy.	2020 -2025	Senior Biodiversity Officer <i>Biodiversity Net Gain Officer</i> <i>Biodiversity Education Officer</i> <i>Biodiversity Field Officer</i> <i>Reserve Warden of Beddington Farmlands</i>	Some projects can access agri-environment funding but others (e.g. river restoration) require funding applications. Funding may be available through the Biodiversity Net Gain planning policy.	Implementing	<p>8 'butterfly banks' and one chalk grassland enhancements for Priority Species have been installed / undertaken across the south of the borough, increasing the area of 'chalk grassland' in the borough by circa 0.31 hectare.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Team has continued to provide significant outreach engaging people in nature / ecology & climate issues, through guided walks and talks, including to Beddington Farmlands and webinars on Biodiversity Net Gain to a national audience.</p> <p>An application was made to TfL funding to deliver phase one of the 'Greening Sutton Town Centre' project, through improving green infrastructure within the high street and funding was granted in 22/23. Designs currently being developed with input from key Stakeholders. Project to be delivered in Spring 2024.</p>
13	Provide biodiversity education to 5,000 people each year (3,500 school-aged children).	Ongoing	Biodiversity Education Officer	These events are self-financing.	Implementing	<p>During 2022/23, the Biodiversity Team engaged 9,272 people. Of this, 5,805 school-aged children and 2,484 adults were engaged via school trips and activities at Sutton Ecology Centre.</p> <p>A further 983 people were engaged around the borough through guided walks, talks, presentations, etc.</p>

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
<p>14 Promote and enable environmental volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>850 volunteer days are donated by volunteers each year.</p>	Ongoing - annual progress reporting.	Senior Biodiversity Officer	<p>Met from existing budgets.</p> <p>There are various organisations in Sutton that offer environmental volunteering as well as council-led opportunities.</p>	Implementing	<p>Volunteers with the Biodiversity Team donated 784.81 days, at a total value of £56,270.76 in 2022/2023.</p> <p>The 2022/23 output from volunteering with the Biodiversity Team is equivalent to 3.27 full-time members of staff undertaking habitat management work.</p> <p>Volunteers with the Parks and Open spaces Team donated 1,471 days, at a total value of £105,468 in 2022/2023.</p>

PLANNING:

<p>15 Prepare for mandatory implementation and monitoring of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) in 2023.</p>	2023	<p>Senior Biodiversity Officer</p> <p><i>Biodiversity Net Gain Officer</i></p> <p><i>Officers from Strategic Planning and Development Management</i></p>	Met from existing budgets.	Implementing	<p>Work has taken place to collate, record and map planning evidence to inform Council policy of 10% BNG uplift or greater.</p> <p>The Environment Act requires all developers to deliver a 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from January 2024. This requirement will be incorporated into the review and update of the council's Local Plan which is currently taking place. In the interim, the Council will be giving consideration to how it adapts to the mandatory requirements in the determination of planning applications.</p>
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Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
16 NEW: Creation and implementation of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy in 2023.	2023	Senior Biodiversity Officer <i>Biodiversity Net Gain Officer</i> <i>Officers from Strategic Planning and Development Management</i>	Met from existing budgets.		<p>Ongoing. Work in 2023 included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Reviewing statutory guidance on LNRS ▶ Working with Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL) to draft out initial Ecological Network Mapping (how can we consider better connecting existing habitats and where do we need to make interventions?) ▶ Drafted out potential new habitat areas (which could possibly be created as BNG offset sites). ▶ Started discussions with stakeholders in Sutton and adjacent boroughs/Surrey to consider how landscape-scale policies could align and support each other. <p>We are awaiting further regional guidance on how to proceed. The GLA is the Responsible Authority for delivering the LNRS for London and LBS will feed into this our priorities.</p>

ACHIEVING NET ZERO CARBON

Target: The Council will achieve net zero carbon emissions across its own estate and operations.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
PATHWAY TO NET ZERO:						
1	Develop a pathway for net zero carbon emissions across the Council's estate and operations.	March 2023	Head of Climate Action and Sustainability	£40,000 (combined with the borough-wide pathway).	Implementing	A draft report has been produced.
THE COUNCIL'S ESTATE:						
2	As appropriate opportunities come forward, replace council buildings with zero carbon or BREEAM 'Outstanding' buildings, and identify retrofit measures for the remainder.	As appropriate	Head of Programme and Project Management, Assets	Costs not known at present. A business case would need to be developed.	Implementing - where funding permits.	Housing Phase 2C projects at Beddington Lane and Woodcote Road are to be Passive House certified. The Therapia Lane Depot refurbishment is being designed to achieve BREEAM Very Good certification. Work is also taking place to ensure that the St Nicholas redevelopment is delivered in line with the Council's climate aspirations.
3	Undertake an investment grade audit of the Council's commercial building stock and physical assets in the corporate portfolio to identify the opportunities for retrofit to zero carbon and the likely costs. Include Sutton Housing Partnership residential properties in this audit.	2022 - 2024	Energy Manager	Cost of study determined by tender, may be possible to demonstrate an 'invest to save' approach.	Implementing	This work is being delivered via a rolling programme of decarbonisation audits through to 2025. The outcomes will inform funding bids for decarbonisation projects such as the successful application for carbon reduction projects at the Sutton Youth Centre.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
4	2023/24	Head of FM Client Head of Programme and Project Management Head of Climate Action and Sustainability	Additional funding required to commission this.	Draft proposal	This work has been superseded by the Pathways to Net Zero work, the outcome of which will be used to inform this. In the interim period, the council has trialled a number of approaches to deliver schemes in accordance with its climate commitments (see action 2 above).
5	Ongoing	Head of Asset Management	Promotion of scheme. Funding met from existing budgets	Implementing	Information has been provided to tenants such as the CryerArts Centre.

COUNCIL FLEET:

6	2024/25	Technical Services Manager	Cost to be determined by procurement activity.	Draft proposal	Tenders for this contract have been returned and are being evaluated. This is likely to result in a further reduction in the council's fleet from the current twenty one to seventeen vehicles.
7	2023/24	Energy Manager Head of FM Client	Additional electricity supply is required meaning costs are circa £350,000.	Implementing	Installation of a new electricity supply is due to take place in late 2023 with final completion in 2024.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
8 Work with the existing provider to switch the Mayor's vehicles to electric where possible and include in the specification when next procured.	2023/24	Committee Services Manager	Costs were identified through a tender process; with the provider quoting a significant uplift.	Draft proposal	The procurement of a new contract was undertaken in Autumn 2023. Due to the significant uplift in cost associated with switching the Mayor's vehicle to electric it was not deemed viable at this time. This situation will continue to be monitored.

STREET LIGHTING AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING:

9 Complete the street lamp column (concrete replacement) and LED lighting rollout by 2027. Around 54% of the stock has been converted to date. Replacing concrete street lamp column stock will allow implementation of future EV charging points on street lamp columns.	Ongoing until 2027	Design and Delivery Manager (Highways) Principal Engineer Street Lighting	Following approval of the programme and confirmation of funding, the 4 year delivery programme commenced in April 2023 - £5.6M.	Implementation	The update in October 2023 to the Environment and Sustainable Transport Committee summary: As of now, there are 15,045 lighting columns, with 2,994 still made of concrete. Among street lights, 8,223 have already been upgraded to LED, while 6,822 remain of the old style. Since April 2023, the design process for LED lanterns has been ongoing, along with additional structural testing on lamp columns over 20 years old to inform implementation and materials specification. LED replacement is scheduled to start in January 2024 and will take four years to complete. The focus initially will be on main roads to maximise energy savings. The Central Management System (CMS) rollout has begun, with base stations currently being installed to enable communication with the management system hub. New LED lanterns will have CMS nodes for cost-effective installation, and older LED lanterns are being tested for future retrofitting.
10 Work with other local authorities and industry experts to identify opportunities to reduce the carbon intensity of road resurfacing materials.	As opportunities and technology allow.	Design and Delivery Manager	To be met from existing budgets or external funding bids.	Implementation	Two sections of highway were resurfaced with recycled materials last financial year. There is currently a cost implication associated with alternative materials with a reduced durability factor which makes them unviable to use at this time. This action will continue to be reviewed as opportunities and technology allows.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
11	<p>Build upon previous successes, securing funding to install electric vehicle charging points on residential roads and at key places across the borough where this supports a switch away from more polluting vehicles, with an aim to install 100 points a year.</p> <p>As opportunities and technology allow.</p> <p>For lamp column charging - this will be aligned with the lamp column replacement programme where unsuitable lamp columns are currently located.</p>	Electric Vehicle Project Officer	Government and TfL funded programme of electric vehicle charging points.	Implementation	<p>The update in October 2023 to the Environment and Sustainable Transport Committee advised:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 115 lamp column charging points were delivered in 2021 - 2022. there are 14 Slow and Fast charging points across the council-owned car parks with scope to introduce additional bays 9 rapid charging points across the borough, with plans for a further 24 points planned for delivery in the next 12-18 months. <p>Lamp column charging to be aligned with the lamp column replacement programme. On-street EV charging bays will be added between 30th October and 10th November by Source London.</p> <p>It is expected that a revised EV Charging Strategy covering the key procurement and delivery model options will be brought to the E&ST Committee early in 2024/25.</p>

COUNCIL HOUSING - SUTTON HOUSING PARTNERSHIP:

12	Develop plans for low-carbon alternatives to individual gas boilers in new and existing homes.	2020 - 2022	Director of Asset Investment and Sustainability (Sutton Housing Partnership)	Funded through the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).	Proposal	SHP has installed air source heat pump technology into a limited number of homes (23). Currently the contractor market to design and install such solutions is only in the development stage, and the cost of doing this at scale is prohibitive.
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Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
13 Improve the SAP (Standard Assessment Procedure) rating of the housing stock by delivering energy efficiency improvements planned as part of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programme. These include major repairs, improvements to council stock and redevelopment of estates.	The current HRA Business Plan covers the period 2020/21 to 2049/50.	Director of Asset Investment and Sustainability (Sutton Housing Partnership) <i>Housing Strategy and Commissioning Manager</i>	Projected expenditure is set out in the HRA Business Plan.	Implementing	7 whole house retrofit properties completed to EPC A standard to date. A further 16 due to be completed by December 2023. An additional 49 homes are due to be retrofitted as part of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) wave 1 scheme by the end of 2024. These will be retrofitted to EPC C standard. Procurement on a further 62 homes, (SHDF wave 2.1) to commence in quarter 3 of 2023/24 with the works to be completed 24/25. Further works to be incorporated into the 24/25 Budget.
14 COMPLETED: Retrofit 5 council properties as part of the Energiesprong retrofit pilot.	On site works scheduled to complete by August 2021	Retrofit Programme Manager (Sutton Housing Partnership)	£8m in total. £4.3m from the Housing Revenue Account; remaining funding from GLA, BEIS and ECO3i.	Completed	5 pilots were completed. Energy performance on these homes is significantly improved.
15 Retrofit a further 75 council properties as part of the Energiesprong project.	June 2022	Retrofit Programme Manager (Sutton Housing Partnership)	Ashden / Friends of the Earth toolkit suggests a carbon reduction of 275 tonnes CO2.	Implementing	Programme delayed due to supplier market challenges, as identified above. 7 completed and handed over from contractor to date with a further 16 to be completed by December. A further 40 were planned via the 45 Thicket Crescent scheme, which would have taken the total to 63, however this scheme was not progressed due to grant funding risks.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
16	Assess the feasibility for retrofit of the next 1,800 council properties already identified as potentially suitable and develop a business case.	2022/23	Retrofit Programme Manager (Sutton Housing Partnership)	Between £20k and £100k per property, so an estimated £130m - £650m. This will require funding from the government. Ashden / Friends of the Earth toolkit estimates this could save 17,875 tonnes of CO2.	Implementing	Funding has been set aside in the 2023/24 HRA Business Plan (updated) to HEB November 2023. However, setting this funding aside for Energy Efficiency works has led to other workstream budgetary provisions having to be cut.
17	Develop plans to retrofit the remaining council properties to zero carbon standard (6,600 properties in total) through feasibility studies and development of a business case.	2020 - 2030, approx. 600 units per year.	Retrofit Programme Manager (Sutton Housing Partnership)		Draft proposal in progress	See update in action 16.

NEW-BUILD COUNCIL HOUSING AND ESTATE REGENERATION:

18	Seek to secure the budgets to enable all new-build council homes and estate regeneration projects led by the Council to be built or retrofitted to a zero carbon standard.	Ongoing	Head of Housing Enabling and Development	Ashden / Friends of the Earth toolkit estimates an increased cost of 7%. This will require changes to the allocation of government funding for new build housing for local authorities and housing associations.	Implementing	Works are in progress on the Council's first new build zero carbon Passive House social housing development. This will be used to compare the cost of building to net zero versus carbon offsetting. The council is also looking to incorporate Passivhaus principles into the Elm Grove regeneration scheme.
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PLANNING:

19	UPDATED: Ensure that all major residential and commercial developments achieve net 'zero carbon' standards in line with London Plan Policy SI 2 and Policy 31 of Sutton's current Local Plan by maximising on-site emissions reductions by at least 50% against the Part L 2021 baseline and offsetting the remaining on-site emissions by securing developer contributions to fund appropriate carbon reduction schemes offsite.	Ongoing - implemented via the development management process.	Senior Planner <i>Development management team (planning case officers)</i>	On-site carbon reduction costs included as part of construction costs and met by developers. Carbon offset cost, currently priced at £95 per tonne over 30 years. This is delivered through developer contributions secured via a Section 106 agreement.	Implementing	Progress is reported annually in Sutton's Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) . Carbon offset contributions secured via Section 106 agreements are recorded in the Council's Exacom database.
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	Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
20	UPDATED: Develop a pipeline of suitable energy efficiency, renewable energy and fuel poverty projects that can be implemented using the carbon offset fund.	2024	Sustainability Manager	Feasibility studies will require funding. May be possible to demonstrate return on investment. Carbon offset funds can be used to deliver carbon saving projects	Final proposal	A review of the Council's carbon offset fund approach has taken place during 2023. This introduces a new system for assessing potential carbon offset projects based upon carbon cost effectiveness; lifetime cost effectiveness; links to supporting ambitions of the Council's Environment Strategy and Climate Emergency Response Plan; co-benefits; and monitoring plan. It provides a streamlined approach for reviewing projects and a regular call for projects. The first round of projects funded this way are expected to be confirmed in 2024.

	Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
21	<p>UPDATED: As part of the Local Plan review, strengthen the Council’s planning policies on climate change mitigation in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ ensure that all residential and commercial developments achieve ‘net zero carbon’ standards in line with the Council’s commitments in Sutton’s Environment Strategy and Climate Emergency Declaration; ▶ ruling out the use of gas boilers borough-wide; ▶ review the definition of a ‘net zero carbon building’ to give consideration to unregulated emissions (e.g. equipment and appliances) as well as regulated emissions covered by Part L of the Building Regulations; ▶ review how on-site performance is measured by either continuing to set targets based on a percentage reduction in regulated carbon emissions over the Part L 2021 baseline or setting absolute targets for each of the following key attributes: space heating demand; energy use intensity (EUI) and maximising renewable energy generation; ▶ strengthen requirements for undertaking Whole-Life Carbon Assessments and Circular Economy; ▶ incorporate an energy masterplan and updated planning policies as part of the new Local Plan for extending low or zero carbon district heating networks to serve new and existing developments within Sutton Town Centre. 	2023-24	Strategic Planning Manager	Additional funding required for the updating of the Local Plan.	Draft proposal	<p>Local Plan review is underway.</p> <p>The joint Delivering Net Zero study, which was commissioned by LB Sutton in partnership with a consortium of other London Boroughs, was completed in May 2023. This will form the evidence base for reviewing and updating the relevant Local Plan policies.</p> <p>The Local Plan ‘Issues and Preferred Options’ document, including policy options for achieving net zero carbon standards, is currently under preparation. Subject to approval at HEB Committee, it is intended to publish the ‘Issues and Preferred Options’ document for public consultation in early 2024 (Regulation 18 consultation).</p>

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
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COUNCIL POLICY AND DECISION MAKING:

22	Review existing policies for potential conflicts with zero carbon and sustainability commitments, and identify options to address this.	As and when potential conflicts are identified.	Head of Climate Action and Sustainability	Undertaking this on an ad hoc basis means this can be met from existing resources. A wholesale review is not possible without additional resources.	Implementing	<p>The current focus is on enhancing the Local Plan to maximise opportunities to reduce carbon through our planning framework.</p> <p>The introduction of climate impact assessments are also highlighting broader opportunities to drive carbon reduction through Council policies.</p>
23	Use the pension fund's policy on Responsible Investment and its membership of local, national and international investor forums to drive company improvements on sustainability and governance, and support the transition to a lower carbon economy through investment selection.	The Pensions Committee adopted a new Responsible Investment policy in June 2020. The pensions committee is required to review its investments every 3 years.	Head of Pensions and Investments	Additional costs of implementing Responsible Investment policy to be borne by the Pension Fund.	Implementing	The Fund will now implement the new strategy approved by the Pensions Committee at its March 2023 meeting. This will be done over the next 18 months or so. Investment in renewable infrastructure approved at June 2023 meeting.

Target: The Council will switch to a renewable electricity supply from April 2021.

ENERGY USE:

24	Develop and deliver a plan for installing renewable energy generation and insulation across the Council estate e.g. solar panels, air source and ground source heat pumps.	2022/23 - as part of pathways project work.	Energy Manager	Feasibility studies will determine costs. External funding will be required such as the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund.	Implementing	Decarbonisation surveys are being undertaken in both the corporate and commercial stock to provide opportunities to introduce Green technologies and provide a pipeline of carbon reduction projects. External funding was successfully applied for from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund for carbon reduction measures at the Sutton Youth centre.
25	Maintain the use of fully renewable electricity across 100% of the Council's estate. This will be procured either through a Power Purchase Agreement or a REGO-backed supplier green tariff.	Annually	Energy Manager	Met from existing council budgets.	Implementing	The continued use of fully renewable electricity is procured through a REGO-backed supplier.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
26	COMPLETE: Explore options to introduce battery storage from the solar canopy and solar panels with electric vehicle charge points at the Council's Civic Offices and Gibson Road car park in Sutton town centre.	Ongoing	Energy Manager	A new substation (required for battery storage) would cost over £100k, funding for which does not currently exist.	N/A	The Council's Civic Offices complex was surveyed for battery storage, however, this proved unfeasible due to the prohibitive cost of the infrastructure changes required. UKPN surveyed the Civic site and a new supply is required which will be installed during Nov-Dec 23. Following this EV charging stations will be installed in the Civic car park. Estimated cost £8,000 + VAT.

Target: Aspire to achieve net zero carbon emissions across the whole borough.

27	Produce a borough-wide pathway to net zero which identifies actions, potential costs and key stakeholders.	2022/23	Head of Climate Action and Sustainability	£40,000	Implementing	A draft report has been produced.
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SUPPORTING ACTION BY OTHERS:

28	Support community energy schemes in the borough: promote opportunities for residents, businesses and community groups to generate their own energy locally e.g. solar panels, ground source or air source heat pumps, as well as options to reduce energy use or improve carbon emissions, for example through boiler replacement schemes.	Ongoing - as opportunities arise.	Sustainability Manager	This cannot be resourced at the present time. External funding is currently available through the Mayor of London.	N/A	No progress to date.
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Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
29 Extend the Sutton Decentralised Energy Network to deliver low carbon energy to new and existing developments across the borough and realising up to 5,000 tonnes of carbon emission savings per annum, based on viability study and financial business cases.	Business case to be submitted to Council for the Lavenders estate in early 2024. Recommendation options for major expansion works to Sutton town centre and the London Cancer Hub site forecasted to be presented in Spring 2024.	Managing Director of SDEN	Estimated capital costs of c£2.1m for the Lavenders estate project. Capital costs for STC and LCH to be determined in due course. Access available to the DESNZ Green Heat Network Fund for up to 50% of capital costs. The Sutton Town Centre and London Cancer Hub projects potentially offer opportunities for external investors.	Draft proposal	The company is exploring the viability of a heat network connection to Sutton town centre (STC) and the London Cancer Hub (LCH) site. Recommendation options for these projects to be presented to Council in Spring 2024. Discussions with Clarion Housing are progressing in relation to a heat network connection to 348 dwellings on the Lavenders estate. Both parties are now to agree to contractual Heads of Terms. Design consultancy onboarded and route profile for the Lavenders estate now identified.
30 NEW: Work with partners, businesses and interested organisations on projects and initiatives that reduce borough-wide emissions.	From 2021/2022	Climate Partnership Manager <i>Businesses, Business Improvement Districts, voluntary and community organisations</i>	Cost will be met by a partnership fee by participating businesses.	Implementing	The Green Enterprise Partnership's Go Green Scheme provides tax incentives for up to two years to businesses that are progressing through a four step certification scheme. As of November 2023 over 77 businesses have joined the partnership and are progressing through the certification process.

Focus Areas: Take action to tackle fuel poverty.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
FUEL POVERTY:					
31 Deliver 'Sutton Healthy Homes', a borough-wide home energy advice service to support residents to increase the energy efficiency of their homes. The scheme will prioritise support for vulnerable residents and those either at risk of, or living in fuel poverty, helping them to access grants and information to reduce their fuel bills and improve the thermal efficiency of their homes.	2023 - 2025	Environment Projects Officer <i>Public Health Projects Officer</i> <i>Partnership Manager (Sutton Housing Partnership)</i>	Service funded until March 2025.	Implementing - funded until March 2025.	All 200 funded cases to support vulnerable people most at risk from fuel poverty with energy advice and advocacy support are on track for delivery before Christmas 2023. Further support will be funded by third party grants secured through membership of South London Energy Efficiency Partnership.
32 Implement actions identified through monitoring of the 'Sutton Healthy Homes' service and from best practice elsewhere, to tackle fuel poverty in Sutton within the framework of Sustainable Warmth and the Fuel Poverty Action Plan for London.	Ongoing - annually	Environment Project officer	Additional funding will be needed to deliver support across the whole borough.	Implementing	Although all figures are still provisional, the Sustainable Warmth scheme has so far supported 15 low income, hard to heat households in Sutton to become warmer and more energy efficient through the fully funded installation of external wall insulation, smart heating controls, hot water tank thermostats, loft and underfloor insulation and solar panels. Marketing for HUG2 scheme, to upgrade efficiency of off-gas homes, until 2025, is starting. Letter of support provided for Thinking Works/Citizens Advice Sutton joint bid to extend funding for Energy Debt advisor.

CREATING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The vision: Waste will be reduced and a circular economy created.

Target: Reduce waste and increase reuse and recycling from 50% year on year and target being the best recyclers in the UK.

Target: Help residents reduce the amount of avoidable food waste they throw away by 20% by 2025.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
REDUCING WASTE, ENCOURAGING REUSE AND INCREASING RECYCLING:						
1	<p>Implement the Waste Minimisation Strategy and Reduction and Recycling Plan (RRP). Key areas of action include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Reduce waste; ▶ Maximise recycling; ▶ Reduce the environmental impact of waste; ▶ Maximise the use of local waste sites; ▶ Be innovative; ▶ Lead by example with our own waste. 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Updated RRP is due to be update in March 2024 and will be published on the London Data Store.</p> <p>The Waste Minimisation Strategy is planned for review in 2024 and will be published on the Council website upon completion.</p>	<p>Waste Strategy Manager</p> <p>Contract & Performance Officer</p>	<p>Associated project costs to be identified individually. Some elements may be funded through the Community Infrastructure Levy and S106.</p>	<p>Implementing</p>	<p>RRP received committee approval in spring 2023 and action updates are reviewed regularly.</p>
2	<p>COMPLETE: Maintain the map and promotion of reuse and upcycling shops, schemes and projects in the borough.</p>	<p>2020/21, then ongoing promotion.</p>	<p>Environment Projects Officer</p>	<p>Met from existing budgets.</p>	<p>Implementing</p>	<p>Map was published in 2021 and has been used as a basis for a regional south west London zero waste map. As this is more comprehensive this replaces ours, and is signposted to on our website. Promotion of this map and reuse/repair opportunities is ongoing generally.</p>
3	<p>Promote 'Refill Sutton' where local businesses and organisations refill water bottles for free and sign up more businesses, year-on-year.</p>	<p>Ongoing - annually.</p>	<p>Waste Strategy Manager</p>	<p>Met from existing budgets.</p>	<p>Implementing</p>	<p>Contacted businesses to affirm their commitment in early summer 2022 and emailed all businesses to promote the initiative. There are now 36 businesses in the borough offering refills, of which 15 are chains.</p>

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
4	Work with the GLA and SES Water to install drinking fountains in outdoor high-footfall locations in the borough.	Ongoing	Sustainability Manager GLA and SES Water	GLA is funding the fountains; funding required for ongoing cleaning and maintenance.	Draft proposal	Maintenance has been agreed within the existing parks and street cleansing contracts. The council is in discussions with GLA and SES about whether funding is available to cover installation and water testing.
5	COMPLETE: Implement a library of things borrowing service for little used items such as lawn mowers and sewing machines.	2021/22	Environment Projects Officer	£30k set up costs, funded via My Neighbourhood Fund (NCIL).	N/A - completed	Launched at Sutton Library in July 2022.
6	UPDATED: Recommission the borough textile banks service.	2024	Waste Strategy Manager	Met from existing budgets.	N/A	Work has been delayed and now due to be undertaken in 2024. The Council plans to utilise a pan-London framework to procure this service.
7	COMPLETE: Work with organisations and residents to expand recycling options across the borough for materials that cannot be collected in kerbside recycling (e.g. crisp packets, coffee cups etc.).	Ongoing	Waste Strategy Manager	Costs unknown at present but anticipate meeting through existing budgets.	Implementing	Action completed as schemes trialled have since been replaced with wider soft plastic recycling in supermarkets. Updates have been made to the Council website and the reuse and recycling maps to reflect this.
8	COMPLETE: Undertake a waste composition analysis, to guide communications about increasing recycling and reducing contamination.	2021/22	Waste Strategy Manager	Approximately £20k, met from existing council budgets.	N/A - Completed	Waste composition analysis of flats and kerbside collections was completed in 2022 and has been used to undertake targeted communications.
9	Continue to maximise the number of materials collected for recycling, at the doorstep and at the recycling centre.	Ongoing	Head of Waste and Street Cleansing and Waste Strategy Manager	Detailed cost implications to be confirmed during the procurement process.	Final Proposal	The Council is undertaking work to commission a new waste and recycling service when the current contract ends in 2025. Increasing recycling will be incorporated into new service specifications.
10	As waste processing technology changes, identify new options to recycle more materials that are currently thrown away as rubbish, and target zero waste.	Ongoing	Head of Waste and Street Cleansing and Waste Strategy Manager	Detailed cost implications to be confirmed during the procurement process.	Final Proposal	As above, this work is being incorporated into the work to commission a new waste and recycling service.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
11	Work with Veolia, Viridor and other suppliers to develop plans to trial and then transition to a fully zero carbon vehicle waste fleet.	As funding and technology allows.	Head of Waste and Street Cleansing and Waste Strategy Manager	Detailed cost implications to be confirmed during the procurement process.	Draft proposal	Options are currently being explored as part of the work to commission a new waste and recycling service when the current contract ends in 2025.

Focus area: Embed sustainable procurement into the Council's buying and contracts.

DECISION MAKING AND PROCUREMENT:

12	Finalise Sutton Council's sustainable procurement policy and strategy to focus on circular economy and achieving zero carbon goals, and embed into Sutton's procurement delivery plan. Provide sustainable procurement training for commissioning staff to ensure implementation.	Ongoing	Environment Projects Officer, <i>Procurement team</i>	Met from existing budgets.	Draft proposal	Work with the procurement team is underway to review draft documents and plan implementation.
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Focus area: Encourage businesses to switch to circular economy business models.

REDUCING WASTE, ENCOURAGING REUSE AND INCREASING RECYCLING:

Supporting others to take action

13	Offer an audit and advice service for small businesses, charities and community organisations with premises, helping them access grants and information on environmental improvements.	Ongoing	Climate Partnership Manager	Met from internal resources .	Implementing	Delivery as part of the BEIS Additional Restrictions Grant 3 (ARG3) in 2022/23 with 75% (45 out of 60) of businesses engaged. In 2023/24 being delivered either via the Green Enterprise Partnership or with internal resources (i.e. officer time).
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Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
14 Work with partners, businesses and interested organisations on projects that implement circular economy principles and demonstrate the potential of the approach.	From 2021/2022	Climate Partnership Manager <i>Businesses, Business Improvement Districts,, voluntary and community organisations and South London Waste Partnership</i>	Seeking funding from external sources	Draft proposal	'Meanwhile' project to establish a circular economy hub in the former Debenhams store in St Nicholas centre developed; seeking external sources of funding.
15 Work with local businesses and skills and training providers to develop the local supply chain needed to achieve building retrofit goals and support a local green economy. Support local people to access the training needed for these jobs.	Ongoing	Senior Project Manager, Employment and Skills Green Skills Academy is led by South London Partnership	Additional funding is expected to be required to deliver training programmes, however, promotion will be met from existing budgets.	Implementing	This work is being delivered via the South London Partnership Green Skills Academy .

COUNCIL OPERATIONS:

16 When the Council refurbishes, consolidates or moves buildings, reuse as much office furniture, stationery and building fabric as possible, either elsewhere in the Council or by offering it to others, and apply the 'circular office' approach.	Ongoing - as building changes take place.	Head of FM Client <i>Sustainability Manager</i>	Potential cost to join reuse platforms, can be met from existing budgets.	Implementing	No office moves have taken place during the reporting period. Last move was to relocate staff from the Denmark Road, Carshalton offices when items were rehomed using Freegle.
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TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

Target: Retain Sustainable Food City status each year.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
PLANNING:						
1	Deliver the Local Plan Policy 25b (open spaces) on allotments and promote allotment plot availability.	Ongoing	Planning Officer - Strategic Planning	Met from existing council budgets.	Implementing	Monitoring via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) .
DECISION MAKING AND PROCUREMENT:						
2	Extend sustainable catering commitments to the meals on wheels contract and other food outlets under Council-let contracts e.g. library and parks cafes.	Ongoing - as contracts / tenancies are renewed.	All managers of services with food-related services or contracts e.g. Meals on Wheels, Library Cafes, Park cafes etc.	Contract changes are the best time to incorporate this. There is likely to be an increase in cost.	Implementing - schools	Considerations continue to be incorporated into school meals contracts.
Target: Work with SES Water to help people reduce their daily water use to 138 litres by 2025.						
This work is delivered via the SES Water Resources Management Plan , however, actions below relate to how the Council is working to reduce its own water use.						
COUNCIL OPERATIONAL BUILDINGS:						
3	Identify if there are cost-effective options to improve the Council's water efficiency in its buildings (e.g. toilets, taps).	Ongoing - annual review.	Energy Manager <i>ADSM (the Council's water provider).</i>	Funded by AquaFund, operated by council water provider ADSM. Water efficiency technologies have been implemented throughout the corporate estate such as automated meter reading devices and urinal and water flow control devices being fitted. As new technology develops they will also be used.	Implementing	This is ongoing, with leaks and unusual usage reported by ADSM.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
4	Review water usage in services using high volumes of water e.g. parks.	Ongoing - annual review.	Energy Manager <i>ADSM (the Council's water provider).</i>	Funded by AquaFund, operated by council water provider ADSM. All sites are monitored and any unusual usage is communicated by exception reports sent directly to staff.	Implementing	This is ongoing, with leaks reported by ADSM.

Focus area: Raise awareness of the climate emergency, the impacts of climate change on Sutton, and the actions individuals can take.

ENCOURAGE INDIVIDUAL ACTION ON THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY:

5	Raise awareness of the climate emergency and encourage behaviour change e.g. paving over gardens, fast fashion, reuse, water reduction, food waste, cycling and walking.	Ongoing	Sustainability Manager <i>Communications and Engagement Officer</i>	From existing budgets. We will apply for funding where this would support or increase our environmental work or communications.	Implementing	Various communication has taken place including promotion of fairtrade fortnight, e-bike hire, Library of Things, Green Christmas tips, refill scheme, Sutton Community Environment Champions, repair cafes and repair week.
6	Maintain information on the Council's website about the actions people, businesses, landlords and organisations can take on climate change, with links to guidance and expertise.	Ongoing	Environment Projects Officer	Met from existing budgets.	Implementing	This information is available on the what you can do page on the website which was updated in Summer 2023.
7	Work with schools, charities, environmental groups, businesses, business groups and interested partners to raise awareness and support action. Explore ways to celebrate and recognise action.	Ongoing	Head of Climate Action and Sustainability	Additional officer is required to undertake this in a meaningful and consistent way.	N/A	Opportunities to work with partners and maximise our role and impact as a leader of place are continually under review. However to undertake this in a meaningful way will require additional resources.
8	Work with and support the London Councils Climate Programmes to develop the case for legislative and regulatory change, investment and leadership at national level to respond to the climate emergency.	Defined in each of the climate programmes' action plans.	Head of Climate Action and Sustainability	Funding requirements and borough contributions are being determined by each programme lead.	Implementing	Work is underway to maximise the impact of the recently launched London Council's Climate Programme.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
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VOLUNTEERING:

9	Maintain a network of community environment champions to encourage friends, neighbours and colleagues to take action on climate change.	Ongoing since 2021 launch of network.	Environment Projects Officer	Met from existing budgets.	Implementing	The network consists of over 60 members, of which a number meet every 2 months to progress ideas and support council activity. The Network continues to grow and improve its approach and has facilitated activity such as the establishment of the Sutton Repair Cafe
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Focus area: Increase the preparedness of Sutton's people, public services and infrastructure for extremes of temperature, drought and flooding.

INCREASING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE:

10	Use the Climate Just framework to work with people identified as being vulnerable, as well as with the community and voluntary sector and places such as care homes and hospitals to build knowledge and action when there is a risk of heat waves, excess cold or flooding.	2022/23 (delayed due to COVID-19).	Head of Climate Action and Sustainability <i>NHS Clinical Commissioning Group, voluntary and community services.</i> <i>Colleagues from Sutton Council - Public Health, Communications, Social Services and Emergency Planning.</i>	Additional funding and resources required to progress.	Draft proposal	Discussions have been held with Commissioning teams to help raise awareness of the impact of climate on care homes. Discussions through the Borough Resilience Forum are also helping to develop a partnership approach to climate related incidents with a focus on supporting our most vulnerable residents.
11	Deliver the Worcester Park Flood Alleviation Scheme.	2024	Flood Risk Officer	Estimated cost is ~£1m. Fully funded from existing council budget and from the Environment Agency and Thames Water funding.	Implementing	Going through the planning process.

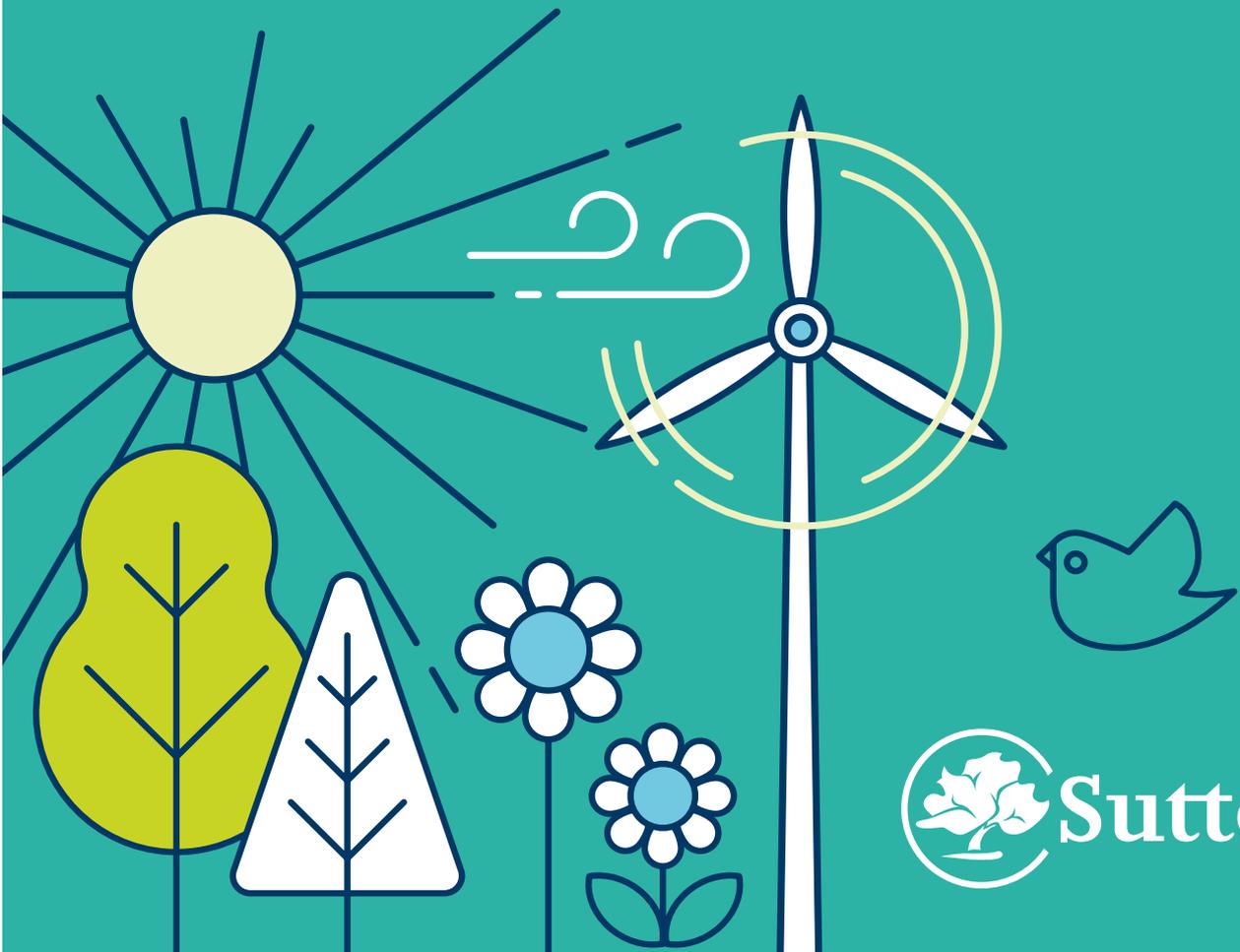
	Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update
12	Progress the catchment wide feasibility study to determine appropriate flood alleviation scheme(s) across the Beddington Gardens, Wallington Station and South Beddington priority areas.	Ongoing	Flood Risk Officer	Feasibility study funded by the existing council budget. Additional funding will be required from the Environment Agency to progress the schemes after this stage, if they meet the criteria.	Implementing	Feasibility study in development.
13	Support the delivery of the River Wandle and Beverly Brook Catchment Plans to achieve Water Framework Directive targets.	Ongoing	South East Rivers Trust <i>Senior Biodiversity Officer - provides reporting/progress updates.</i>	There are a variety of projects with associated costs. This strategy doesn't provide any additional funding.	Implementing	The Council works closely with the South East Rivers Trust to support this work. Detailed updates are included in quarterly reports, including plans to improve the Goat Bridge weir and undertake restoration works at Richmond Green.
14	Work with the GLA and Public Health England on emergency planning for heatwaves. Response mechanisms will include 'cool' spaces in public buildings and assets.	Ongoing	Emergency Planning Manager	Met from existing budgets.	Implementing	Heatwave advice and support provided during summer 2023. Cool spaces are also published on the GLA map. Sutton sits on a pan-London group which has been developing a London Heat Plan. The Council's Parks Service liaised with London Fire Brigade during Summer 2023 to identify areas at risk of grass fires when there are prolonged periods of hot dry weather. The Parks Service is revising parks mowing plans to ensure they include fire breaks to protect adjacent buildings.
15	Raise awareness of Met Office severe weather alerts, supporting residents, schools and businesses to sign up to alerts to be directly informed when severe weather events are anticipated and take action to plan accordingly.	Ongoing	Emergency Planning Manager	Met from existing budgets.	Implementing	This work is implemented as 'Business As Usual' during periods of severe weather.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
STREETS AND PUBLIC SPACES:						
16	Include sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) in every road improvement scheme and assess the feasibility of switching to 100% permeable surfacing materials.	As part of planned programme works.	Design and Delivery Manager (Highways)	There may be additional costs to include SuDS and for ongoing maintenance. These costs need to be included in scheme financial considerations at the start.	Draft Proposal	Awaiting update
PLANNING:						
17	Implement Local Plan Policies 26c (Biodiversity) and 33b (Climate Change Adaptation)21 in line with the Council's Technical Guidance Note on 'Building a Sustainable Sutton' (June 2018). Compliance of major developments with the relevant green space factor (GSF) and biodiversity accounting targets is reported annually in Sutton's Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).	Ongoing - monitored annually.	Senior Planner (Strategic Planning)	Met from existing budgets.	Implementing	Detailed progress available in the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).

CROSS CUTTING

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
DECISION MAKING AND PROCUREMENT:						
1	COMPLETE: All council committee papers to complete a climate impact assessment, analysing the sustainability impacts of the policy or decision being made.	Ongoing from January 2023	Head of Climate Action & Sustainability <i>Head of Committee Services</i>	No cost.	Implementing	Climate Impact Assessment and guidance was rolled out as a mandatory requirement to all relevant committee reports and projects at the start of 2023.
2	Reduce as much as possible paper copies supplied for committee meetings through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ concise reports; ▶ encouraging members to go paperless; and ▶ only providing paper copies for complex reports. 	Ongoing	Committee Services Manager	No cost.	Implementing	Paper-free support to councillors pursued as part of May 2022 intake of councillors. 25 of 55 councillors currently receive printed copies of reports for at least one committee of which they are a member. All 55 councillors have been issued with Chromebooks in order to reduce paper use. Support, including training, is made available to officers from across the council emphasising the importance of concise reports.
PENSIONS AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS:						
3	Explore the use of innovative green financial instruments, low or no-interest borrowing and community sources of funding to deliver environmental improvements.	Ongoing	Head of Climate Action & Sustainability	Any new financial approach will require a business case.	Draft proposal	Options are being considered and discussed with finance colleagues.

Action	Timescale	Lead (others involved in italics)	Cost and funding	Project status: draft proposal, final proposal, implementing	Progress Update	
COUNCIL STAFF:						
4	Promote ways staff can reduce their environmental impact at home and in the workplace, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Waste and recycling; ▶ Heating and energy use; ▶ Travelling to and during work; ▶ Water use. ▶ Nature-based solutions 	Ongoing	Environment Projects Officer <i>Communications and Engagement Officer</i>	Carbon Trust recommends spending the equivalent of 1% of energy bills on awareness campaigns, with an estimated energy saving of half the cost of the campaign. This would be approx. £30k. This cannot be achieved with existing budgets.	Implementing	Ongoing communications happen throughout the year. The focus has been on energy efficiency and the cost of living crisis. A Climate Action Community of Practice has been established which incorporates the staff environmental champions.
5	COMPLETE: Create a network of environment champions within the Council.	2021/22	Environment Projects Officer	Met from existing budgets.	Implementing	The group merged with the Community of Practice in October 2022.
6	EXISTING: Deliver a Climate Action Community of Practice, equipping staff with skills, knowledge and tools to respond to the Climate Emergency.	Ongoing	Sustainability Manager	Met from existing staffing resources.	Implementing	Launched in June 2022, the group now meets monthly to review best practice and different learning areas.
SUPPORTING ACTION BY OTHERS:						
7	Offer an audit and advice service for schools, helping them access grants and information on environmental improvements.	As funding permits.	Head of Climate Action & Sustainability	The Ashden / Friends of the Earth toolkit proposes a part-time member of staff and to target a total reduction in CO2 of 1,875 tonnes. This requires an extra member of staff to progress this. Schools can access interest free loans through Salix finance.	N/A - no resources to progress.	N/A
8	Continue to promote funding opportunities to relevant groups for environment improvements e.g. businesses, charities, groups that work with vulnerable residents, schools etc.	Ongoing - promoting as relevant opportunities arise.	Sustainability Manager Climate Partnership Manager	Time on promotion can be met from existing resources. Funding is made available from a range of sources, for public sector, private sector, individuals and communities.	Implementing	Funding opportunities are shared regularly with partners.



 **Sutton**