

WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

FINANCE, RESOURCES AND CLIMATE SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 10 FEBRUARY 2021

EXECUTIVE – 22 FEBRUARY 2021

Report by the Chief Executive on the update to the Wandsworth Environment and
Sustainability Strategy (WESS) Action Plan

SUMMARY

On 17th July 2019, Wandsworth Council declared a Climate Emergency, setting a target to be a carbon neutral organisation by 2030. In January 2020, the Finance and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Executive approved an annual action plan which set out a series of actions to deliver its ambitious ten-year Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy (WESS).

This paper provides an update on progress made in the delivery of the WESS Action Plan during 2020, including purchasing zero carbon electricity, delivering the successful Wandsworth Climate Summit, the development of the draft Local Plan and the delivery of electric vehicle chargepoints, more bikehangars and school streets. The paper also provides an overview of the Council's Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions for 2019/20 and presents an updated WESS Action Plan for 2021. This includes plans to develop a Decarbonisation Strategy for Council buildings, a plan to switch vehicles to zero emission options, as well as actions on supporting the green economy, reducing emissions from social housing, a food waste trial and more tree planting.

Taking action on climate change remains a key priority for the Council. Delivery of its climate actions continued throughout the challenges that 2020 posed. The 2021 Action Plan presents an opportunity to continue and accelerate this progress.

GLOSSARY

BEIS	- Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
CDP	- Carbon Disclosure Project
COVID-19	- Infectious disease caused by coronavirus SARS-CoV-2
CREW	- Community energy cooperative based in south-west London
ESG	- Environmental, Social and Governance issues
EPC	- Energy Performance Certificate
EV	- Electric vehicle

LASER	- Public sector energy procurement and energy management service providers
LED	- Light emitting diode
LGA	- Local Government Association
OSC	- Overview and Scrutiny Committee
TfL	- Transport for London
UCL	- University College London
WESS	- Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy

Recommendations

1. The Finance, Resources and Climate Sustainability Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to support the recommendations in paragraph 3 below.
2. If the Overview and Scrutiny Committee approve any views, comments or recommendations on the report, these will be submitted to the Executive and/or the General Purposes Committee for their consideration.
3. The Executive is recommended to:
 - a) Note the progress made in delivery of the Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan at Appendix A.
 - b) Note the 2019/20 carbon emissions data for Wandsworth and the decrease in emissions on 2018/19.
 - c) Approve the updated Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy Action Plan at Appendix B.
 - d) Approve the allocations within the existing Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy capital budget of £5 million to commit to the schemes as detailed in paragraph 76.
 - e) Approve one-off general fund revenue budget variations of £78,000 in 2020/21, £358,000 in 2021/22, £71,000 in 2022/23, and £30,000 in 2023/24 to fund schemes as detailed in paragraph 78.

The Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan

4. On 17th July 2019, Wandsworth Council declared a Climate Emergency, resolving to be carbon neutral as an organisation by 2030, carbon zero by 2050 and the greenest inner-London council by 2030.
5. Recognising the need for urgency, at the same time as declaring a climate change emergency, the Council also set out its roadmap to achieve this vision in the Wandsworth Environmental and Sustainability Strategy (WESS). In January 2020, the Finance and Corporate Resources OSC and the Executive approved an annual action plan which set out a series of ambitious actions to deliver the WESS.

6. The Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy (WESS) sets out the vision for the borough, the challenges faced, and the actions to be taken to address these challenges over the short, medium and long term. The WESS Action Plan sets out in more detail the specific actions that will be delivered. By implementing the Strategy, Wandsworth will improve the overall sustainability of the Borough, improve the health and wellbeing of residents, as well as reducing future costs.
7. The WESS highlights the approach to becoming carbon neutral as an organisation, balancing the carbon emissions made with 'offsetting' activities such as planting trees and new technologies such as carbon capture. This will result in a 'neutral' impact on the climate by not putting more carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere than is taken out. This will be done by reducing carbon emissions as much as possible through reducing the energy used, making sure the energy that is used comes from low and zero carbon sources, creating as little waste as possible and making sure that when the Council spends money on services and products that they are sustainable and low carbon.
8. The Council will promote and enhance its community leadership role, through working with residents, businesses and partners. The Council will engage with residents and ensure that all ages and groups across the borough are included in the delivery of the strategy. This community leadership approach will be more than just information sharing, it will promote positive behaviour change that has meaningful and lasting impacts and support residents with real resource and funding. This will include working with key partners such as TfL, public sector bodies and schools to implement change in the Borough and support residents to make positive changes.
9. The Council committed not only to deliver the WESS but to also report annually on progress and produce an annual action plan. This commitment means that residents are able to see the actions that have been delivered and are clear on next steps to becoming carbon neutral by 2030. In July 2020 an update paper was taken to the former Finance and Corporate Resources OSC which highlighted what had been delivered in the first 5 months of 2020 in relation to climate change. This demonstrated to residents and councillors that work to progress Wandsworth's climate change ambitions was being taken forward and remained an area of focus. This paper provides a further update on the actions delivered throughout 2020.
10. This paper updates the action plan, setting out priority actions that will be delivered in 2021 and beyond.

What has been delivered in 2020

11. The events of 2020 posed a challenge in the delivery of Wandsworth's climate change ambitions. In addition to the existing climate emergency, a new and more immediate emergency presented itself in the form of COVID-19. This has meant that staff across the Council have needed to change the way they work and concentrate on helping the people of Wandsworth protect themselves from

the virus and deal with the changes that have taken place to the everyone's way of life.

12. Throughout 2020 the Council has, however, maintained its focus on tackling climate change. Some of the key achievements in 2020 are set out below, and more details on the actions delivered are contained in Appendix A.

Becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2030

13. In 2020 four new members of staff were recruited who are dedicated to taking climate change action forward. These are two Climate Change Policy and Programme Leads, a Climate Change Communications Officer and a Climate Change Engagement Lead. The Council now has a core, dedicated, Climate Change Team managed by the Policy and Review Manager, who is also dedicating 50% of his time to climate change work. This additional resource has given the organisation capacity to drive forward actions and was instrumental in the delivery of the Climate Summit. Whilst colleagues in the wider Policy, Performance and Analytics Division were seconded to COVID-19 related work this team was ringfenced to ensure that climate actions were delivered in 2020.
14. This team works alongside dedicated officers across the Council who are taking forward climate change actions. This includes the Energy and Sustainability Coordinator in Property Services, the Transport Strategy Team and the Planning Policy and Design Team. This capacity remains for 2021 and has enabled the Council to keep up its momentum on delivering climate change.
15. Embedding climate change across the Council is important in driving whole organisation change, and Wandsworth has continued to do this throughout 2020. The Climate Change Steering Group has been key to this, bringing together Assistant Directors from across the organisation to work jointly in developing and progressing actions on climate change.
16. Vehicles are one of the Council's sources of Scope 1 carbon emissions, to reduce these emissions Wandsworth agreed at the Strategic Planning and Transport OSC meeting on 2 November 2020 (Paper 20-336) to replace the existing fleet of 32 commercial heavy-duty vehicles with 28 replacements that produce lower emissions. Some of these new vehicles will be electric and others will be hybrids. A number of the more eco-friendly vans and trucks will be purchased outright while others will be procured on short term lease agreements so they can be replaced with more environmentally friendly equivalents when vehicle technology improves.
17. All of the electricity the organisation uses is now from zero carbon sources such as solar panels and wind farms. This was put into place with a new contract which started in October 2020 and will see a significant reduction in carbon emissions. The Council has also commissioned and started work in delivering energy audits of buildings. Once complete, the energy audits will be used to develop the Decarbonisation Strategy which will set out how the Council will reduce carbon emissions from buildings. Wandsworth successfully bid for £125 000 from the Low Carbon Skills Fund, which will allow progression in the

analysis to develop a Decarbonisation Strategy for council buildings. This will then form the basis for bids to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund, providing funding to reduce organisational emissions.

18. Over the last 18 months the Joint Pensions Committee has invested considerable time and effort in considering its approach to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues which includes receiving training, benchmarking Manager's ESG ratings, conducting carbon footprint analysis and undertaking climate scenario reviews based on 2°, 3°, and 4°C warming. These culminated in a fundamental review of the portfolio and the Committee decided to adopt a policy to progressively decarbonise its investments (as measured by the Weighted Average Carbon Intensity) portfolio, starting with the listed equity mandates. Further the Fund will look for investment opportunities which are expected to outperform in a 2°C scenario.
19. To minimise the environmental impact from the money the Council spends on goods and services, social value has been introduced into procurement. This will improve the way the Council procures goods and services and make sure it is done in a more environmentally friendly way, enabling contractors and suppliers to minimise their environmental impact.
20. The Council's waste and recycling approach for operational buildings has been improved, an Office Waste Strategy was developed, alongside a plan to minimise single use plastics across Council buildings.

Reducing the borough's emissions and preparing for climate change

21. In response to requests from residents, Wandsworth committed to holding a climate summit for residents in November 2020. The Council delivered on this commitment, despite challenging circumstances. The first ever Wandsworth Climate Summit was held in November 2020, which attracted more than 650 residents across 13 events. The aim of this event was to raise awareness of climate change amongst residents and encourage and inspire them to make changes to help the borough tackle climate change. The Climate Summit included high profile national and London groups such as Carbon Trust and London Waste and Recycling Board, as well as a host of local groups and organisations including CREW, Greening the Grid, Parents for Future South West London and Transition Tooting. Feedback from the event found that before the event, 48% of attendees felt they knew a lot or a fair amount about the Council's actions on climate change. This increased to 80% of attendees after the event.
22. The Climate Summit was delivered wholly online due to COVID-19 restrictions and was done in partnership with local groups, who shared their knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm with attendees. Wandsworth was the only local authority in London to run an event of this scale during COVID-19 and one of only three nationally who have run large scale climate related events such as these in the past year.

23. Wandsworth Youth Council led a Climate Commission in February 2020 with officers supporting the running of the event; and members and officers sat on the Youth Council Climate Question Time panel in November. A Youth4Climate competition was held over the summer, with the winner chosen by a panel including the CEO of Battersea Arts Centre, the founder of Plogolution and Cllr Calland as Chair of the FRCSOSC.
24. Recognising the importance that talking about climate change has, and the need to ensure that information is provided to residents, there was an increase in the amount of climate change related communications carried out throughout the year to keep residents informed on what the council is doing and what they can do. This included a “Love to Garden” campaign, which highlighted the positive benefits of maintaining gardens, and the launch of a climate change e-newsletter.
25. £500,000 of funding from central government was secured to improve the energy efficiency of people’s homes through the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme. Wandsworth was one of only 56 local authorities across England to successfully bid for funding. The Council is working with a Wandsworth based retrofit provider, RetrofitWorks, to deliver retrofit to 75 homes across the borough. This funding is targeted at homes that are low income and have poor Energy Performance Certificate ratings so are either in or close to fuel poverty. The works will provide insulation, energy efficiency improvements and low carbon heating, reducing carbon emissions, making homes warmer and reducing fuel bills for those that most need it.
26. A paper was reported to the Housing and Regeneration OSC meeting in September 2020 which set out what the Council will do to improve Wandsworth’s social housing and reduce carbon emissions. This includes commissioning a stock condition survey to identify potential opportunities for energy efficiency improvements, identifying projects and programmes to support through the capital programme which will have a carbon reduction benefit and setting targets for the next 10 years. Wandsworth aims to exceed the 35% CO2 reduction requirements on the Council’s 1000 new homes development programme and produce an energy strategy for each housing development providing a full assessment of the benefits and viability of utilisation of cleaner and green technologies. The Green Homes Grant funding from central government includes a full suite of retrofit works to four tenanted properties including the installation of solar PVs, LED lighting and upgraded heating and heating controls. These works, which are underway, will improve the energy efficiency of these houses, raising the EPC ratings to C, and will act as a pilot to demonstrate the benefits of retrofit improvements for residents.
27. Wandsworth’s draft Local Plan prioritises ambitious climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and ensures green infrastructure is integrated in development with clear commitments to placemaking that makes the public realm healthier for people and the environment. The draft Local Plan provides spaces that are resilient to climate change and protects the most vulnerable, embracing 15-minute neighbourhoods and taking forward recommendations

from the 2020 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. The Local Plan is open for consultation now, with the consultation closing on 1st March.

28. The Council received £55,000 funding from the Department for Transport for 13 ecargo bikes for use by two council teams (the parks police and the enforcement team), three charities (Share Nurseries, Elays Network and Waste Not Want Not Battersea) and local businesses (including Battersea wine bar, The Humble Grape, Putney sports shop, The Crewroom, gardening and handyperson company Osman O'Connor & Co, as well as the Putney Business Improvement District Positively Putney). The businesses own the bikes and are using them to replace journeys they would normally be made by car or van, such as 'last mile' deliveries or collections.
29. Bike hangars have been installed in 21 streets, which is in addition to the 40 already in place on local estates. Cycle corridors are being rolled out as part of work to prioritise sustainable travel, including in major strategic routes along Garratt Lane and Queenstown Road, and the Council established the Healthy Streets Forum bringing together councillors, officers and the community to help ensure that the streets of Wandsworth are as clean and environmentally healthy as they can possibly be. Wandsworth now has the third highest number of School Streets in inner London – with 20 in place to date. School Streets reduce traffic caused by the school run and support social distancing measures outside the school gates, as well as helping improve the air quality around schools.
30. Wandsworth also continues to have the highest number of publicly available EV charging points of any local authority in the country (560). By April 2021 another 200 lamppost sockets are set to come on stream, with more charging points to be added during the rest of 2021. Areas of Shaftesbury Ward in Battersea and Thamesfield Ward in Putney have been part of a pilot which has seen a huge increase in EV charging points, with multiple chargers on most streets, bringing to life what the future of electric transport may look like. All feasible lamp columns in both defined areas now have sockets installed with 116 in the Shaftesbury area scheme and 29 in Thamesfield.
31. Whilst charging infrastructure to support the transition to electric vehicles has been built, there has been the continued promotion of the use of shared, electric mobility through the car clubs in the borough. At the end of 2020, more than 38,000 residents were members of a car club, a year-on-year increase of 30%. Whilst the number of vehicles available from car club bays ("back-to-base" operation) declined slightly in 2020 due to difficult operating conditions during the pandemic, proposals for new contracts to stimulate growth in back-to-base operation are planned for later in 2021. The increase in overall membership is predominantly due to continued operation of the free-floating car club Zipcar Flex throughout the borough.
32. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Council's aim to support local economies, the drive to shop local realised the co-benefits to the local economy of actions taken in the borough to help cut carbon emissions on streets and reduce exposure to air pollution in busy areas. There was the successful

introduction of town centre pedestrianisation schemes, with businesses unfurloughing staff and reporting that the schemes had essentially stopped them from going out of business in 2020 as new visitors came to support local trade.

33. Parks across Wandsworth have been recognised as being award winning, with an increase in the number of Green Flags awarded to parks from two in 2019 to five in 2020. A draft Biodiversity Strategy has been developed, which is being discussed at the Community Services and Open Spaces OSC in February 2021. The Council has announced £100,000 spending on new trees over the next two years. As laid out in the first WESS Action Plan, 540 trees were planted by April 2020, with 80 trees given to community organisations to plant on their own land.

External validation of Wandsworth's climate approach

34. A study by UCL published in September 2020 looked at the challenges and opportunities for local authorities in the context of climate emergency action planning. The study found that Wandsworth Council was rated highly in its administrative capacity to lower carbon emissions, only one of four local authorities that specified the co-benefits of climate actions, and were rated third best out of the 33 authorities in terms of climate action planning. Wandsworth was also specifically highlighted by the Managing Director of Climate Emergency UK in a report by the Local Government Chronicle as an example of a local authority that is doing a lot on climate change.
35. In the 2020 WESS Action Plan, there was a commitment to seeking external validation of the Council's approach. In 2020, Wandsworth took part in the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), an internationally recognised body for assessing cities and companies' climate action approaches, for the first time. Wandsworth was one of only 33 local authorities to participate in CDP. This tested the WESS and action plan against what other places are doing across the world, with Wandsworth receiving a B grade. A B grade is highly regarded, especially on first submission to CDP. It shows Wandsworth has solid plans in place, is making progress on its climate goals and has a framework in place to deliver action on climate change. CDP noted that Wandsworth produces a borough-wide emissions inventory, that Wandsworth understands, reports and is taking action on climate risks and vulnerability in the borough, is incorporating specific sustainability goals into mainstream borough-wide planning and has an action plan in place to reduce carbon emissions.

Wandsworth's Carbon Emissions

Council emissions

36. It is important for the Council to measure its carbon emissions in order to show what they are, where they come from and how the Council plans to reduce them and become carbon neutral by 2030.

37. Carbon emissions are organised into three groups or 'scopes':
- Scope 1 (Direct emissions): Activities owned, controlled or paid for by the Council that release emissions straight into the atmosphere. They are direct emissions and include combustion in gas boilers owned or controlled by the Council, or from petrol and diesel fuelled vehicles.
 - Scope 2 (Energy indirect): Emissions released into the atmosphere associated with use of electricity, heat, steam and cooling. These are indirect emissions that are a result of Council activities, but which happen at sources that are not owned or controlled by the Council, such as power stations.
 - Scope 3 (Other indirect): Emissions that are a consequence of Council actions, which occur at sources that are not owned or controlled by the Council and not classed as scope 2 emissions. These include business travel by means not owned or controlled by the organisation, waste disposal, or purchased materials or fuels.
38. Wandsworth currently measures its Scope 1 and 2 emissions, but does not currently measure Scope 3 emissions. These are much more difficult to measure as these emissions are tied to services and products purchased from other companies and organisations, who often don't record and measure their carbon emissions.
39. Work on Scope 3 emissions measurement is being led on a national level by Local Partnerships (a joint venture owned by the LGA, the Treasury and the Welsh Government), who have developed a Scope 1 and 2 emissions calculation framework for all local authorities to use. Wandsworth is using this for Scope 1 and 2 emissions calculations. Local Partnerships are developing a Scope 3 emissions approach for all Local Authorities so there is a consistent methodology and approach to Scope 3 emissions. In addition, London Councils has a project that will produce recommendations for a shared borough approach to carbon emissions accounting, including an agreed methodology for Scope 3 emissions. This is scheduled to be completed by July 2021. The intention is that these will either feed into the Local Partnerships work or will be progressed by London Boroughs. Wandsworth officers are in regular contact with London Councils on this area of work and are involved in one of the subgroups working on this.
40. Alongside the new contract which commenced in October 2020 under which the council purchases zero carbon electricity, the framework provider, LASER, became responsible for capturing and monitoring energy usage and emissions from grid electricity and gas use. As part of their initial work, LASER have been reviewing previous records to identify any readings that are missing and to ensure the data from the current and previous years is calculated in a consistent way. This exercise has been completed for 2019/20 and will be completed for 2017/18 and 2018/19 as well. This means there may be small changes to the emissions data presented below as data analysts from the council and LASER review the full dataset.
41. Wandsworth's Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions for 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 are presented below:

Wandsworth Carbon Emissions (tCO₂e)	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Scope 1 (Gas and vehicle and plant fuel)	14,743.69	14,532.16	13,130.10
Scope 2 (Electricity)	11,969.00	8,898.37	7,875.00
Total Carbon Emissions	26,712.69	23,430.53	21,005.34

42. The figures show an overall decrease in emissions of 10.36% from 2018/19 to 2019/20 and a decrease of 21.74% from 2017/18 to 2019/20. The decrease in Scope 1 emissions is due to an overall decrease primarily in gas consumption.
43. As part of the forthcoming Decarbonisation Strategy (see paragraph 53 below), Council buildings are being ranked by efficiency levels and prioritised for energy efficiency improvements and retrofits according to that ranking, with the feasibility studies funded by the Low Carbon Skills Fund. This will include switching from gas heating to low carbon heating such as heat pumps, leading to a reduction in Scope 1 emissions.
44. As the vehicle fleet is predominantly powered by combustion engines, fuel consumption over the years 2017/18 – 2019/20 has remained fairly steady. There is a continued shift from diesel to petrol vehicles, which reduces the emissions of gases and particulates that contribute to air pollution, including nitrogen dioxide and PM_{2.5}, but does not reduce carbon emissions significantly. The Council is developing a plan for transitioning its fleet to zero emission vehicles, which is due later this year, with work already underway on this as highlighted in paragraph 16 of this report. It is expected that there will be substantial Scope 1 emissions reductions over time as the fleet is replaced by electric or other zero emission vehicles.
45. The decrease in Scope 2 emissions is due to ongoing energy efficiency measures being introduced across the corporate estate, as well as the year on year reduction in CO₂ emissions associated with electricity as the national grid gradually decarbonises. In addition, Wandsworth generated 120,313.00 kwh of solar power in 2017/18, saving 42.28 tCO₂e, 161,581 kwh of solar power in 2018/19, saving 45.26 tCO₂e and 165,626 kwh of solar power in 2019/20, saving 42.33 tCO₂e. Whilst electricity usage is expected to increase as the heating of the Council's operational buildings and fleet are electrified, because of the purchase of zero carbon electricity overall emissions will continue to reduce as there is a shift from gas to electricity. In addition, it is expected that

there will be the introduction of more on-site renewable generation for power and heat, further details of which will be outlined in the Decarbonisation Strategy.

Borough-wide emissions

46. As well as measuring the carbon emissions the Council makes as an organisation, it is also important for the Council to be aware of the carbon footprint of the borough as a whole. The UK Government has set a target of the UK becoming net zero by 2050. Wandsworth is committed to doing its part in contributing to the achievement of this target.
47. Official data from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) provides a reliable long-term measurement of some of the borough's emissions. Collection of this data started in 2005 and is updated annually. The data collected provides a picture of Scope 1 and 2 emissions for the borough, although it does not include emissions linked to aviation or from waste or the products residents buy and consume.
48. The latest published BEIS data shows that carbon emissions from the borough as whole have reduced from 1478.9 kilotons of CO₂ (ktCO₂) in 2005 to 858.0 ktCO₂ in 2018, a reduction of 42%. When looking at per capita emissions (the amount of CO₂ per person in the borough) Wandsworth has gone from 5.2 tons per person in 2005 to 2.6 tons per person in 2018, a reduction of 49.7%. The majority of these emission reductions have come from electricity usage (62.1% of total reductions since 2005), which is linked to the decarbonisation of the electricity grid and the shift to renewable energy generation nationally.
49. Just under half of total borough emissions (47.8%) come from domestic sources, which means the electricity and gas used in homes, with 28% coming from industry and commerce and 24.2% coming from transport. Of domestic carbon emissions, nearly three quarters (71%) comes from gas used for heating and cooking, which highlights the importance in improving the energy efficiency of homes in the borough and moving from using gas to heat homes.
50. Boroughwide data demonstrates the importance of working with residents and local businesses to ensure they are aware of the steps they can take to reduce their carbon emissions and are supported to take action. In 2020 Wandsworth made progress in this area by securing Green Homes Grant funding, holding the Climate Summit, which included a session on greening your home and a session with the Chamber of Commerce, and ongoing communication and engagement actions. Supporting the borough as a whole to reduce emissions is an area of on-going focus for the 2021 WESS Action Plan.

2021 WESS ACTION PLAN

51. While Wandsworth has made significant progress in delivery of the WESS and its action plan in 2020, in very challenging circumstances, there is a lot more that needs to be done to deliver on the commitments made. The Council's target of being carbon neutral as an organisation by 2030 requires the

organisation to step up its actions, and the Council is aware of the need to support and encourage residents to reduce their climate impact. Officers have reviewed the action plan and identified new areas to work on, as well as additional actions in existing areas of work. Key actions are set out below, but the full action plan with more detail on what will be delivered and by when is included in Appendix B.

Becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2030

52. As set out in the organisational emissions data in paragraphs 36 to 45, Scope 1 and 2 emissions occur from the buildings and vehicles the Council operates. Developing robust and clear plans to reduce these emissions is key to being able to plot a course to achieve carbon neutrality for the organisation by 2030 and to prioritise the actions that will deliver the carbon reductions needed.
53. A Decarbonisation Strategy is being developed for operational buildings, which will develop more detailed plans to decarbonise heat. As highlighted in paragraph 17, in 2020 energy audits and feasibility studies were started for the corporate estate, and the strategy will take forward recommendations from this work. The Decarbonisation Strategy will allow the prioritisation of actions and intervention, targeting the highest carbon emitting buildings so carbon reductions can be made as quickly and effectively as possible. It will allow better measurement of carbon emissions reduction and enable a clear path to be set out for emissions reductions from buildings, as well as supporting bids for external funding when it becomes available and set out in more detail how emissions reductions from buildings will be achieved. The Decarbonisation Strategy will be presented to the Finance, Resources and Climate Sustainability OSC in July 2021.
54. Ahead of the expansion of the Ultra-Low Emission Zone to the inside of the South Circular, the Council will develop plans for moving to zero emission vehicles across its entire vehicle fleet. Implementing this plan and switching to zero emission vehicles will reduce Scope 1 carbon emissions associated with vehicle use and allow the tracking of those reductions.
55. The development of these plans will enable the Council to produce a detailed emissions pathway analysis, which will set out the quantifiable carbon emission reductions that can be achieved year on year. This will set clear emissions reductions targets for the highest areas of Scope 1 and 2 emissions, enabling progress tracking towards the goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2030. The 2021 WESS Action Plan commits to this work being completed by December 2021, allowing the Decarbonisation Strategy and zero emissions vehicles plan to be incorporated. The Scope 3 emissions work detailed in paragraph 39 will allow measurement of Scope 3 emissions and then plan in detail how and when these emissions will be reduced.
56. Carbon Literacy training for staff will be launched, which will provide the knowledge that staff need on what climate change is and how to take action to reduce carbon emissions. This training has been developed in-house and will be scalable as more and more people become Carbon Literate in the

organisation. Staff involved in the development of the training are Carbon Literate and have been trained in how to deliver climate-based training online and in-person. There has been engagement with The Carbon Literacy Project, who first developed this approach, and they are enthused by the innovative approach to Carbon Literacy training. A staff Climate Change network will be launched, which will encourage sustainable choices among staff and run a live staff event on Climate Change.

57. Key IT infrastructure will be moved to the cloud to reduce associated carbon emissions. IT infrastructure uses a significant amount of electricity and will form a part of Scope 3 emissions. Microsoft Cloud computing aims to be carbon negative by 2030, meaning that Scope 3 emissions associated with IT will be significantly reduced.

Reducing the borough's emissions and preparing for climate change

Planning for the future

58. Wandsworth's Local Plan is a key priority for the Council and the new draft Local Plan places greater emphasis on placemaking and design that prioritises health and wellbeing and climate change. Public consultation on the draft Local Plan has started, inviting comments from a range of stakeholders across the borough until 1 March 2021. An updated draft incorporating that feedback will be published in Autumn 2021.
59. Once the Environment Bill receives royal assent and guidance is published, Biodiversity Net Gain will be embedded into planning processes.

Biodiversity

60. A refreshed tree strategy will be produced by September 2021 which will sit alongside the new Biodiversity Strategy. This tree strategy will provide a clear long-term approach on tree planting policy and the management and support required to deliver the ambitions of the WESS. Not only will this outline the many benefits associated with trees, including environmental, health, wellbeing and economic, but it will also inform future contract specifications and requirements. The extensive tree planting programme will continue with a further 600 trees planted by April 2022 and the completion of the ambition (outlined at this Committee last year) to plant 1,000 new street trees. New trees will be helped to become established and take root through the use of 750 tree gators installed on all new trees planted across the borough.
61. As well as maintaining parks and green spaces, the Council will raise awareness and promote behaviour change amongst residents around importance of biodiversity and actions that can be taken to done to promote and protect it.

Green Economy

62. Action around supporting and promoting the green economy have been added into the action plan, including establishing what green jobs exist currently in the borough, forecasting what future demand will be and seek funding to support the development of green jobs. The Council will work with local providers, including South Thames College, to develop new courses that provide the skills needed for local residents to thrive in the developing green economy.
63. Further actions around the green economy include working with key businesses and groups in the borough, including the Chamber of Commerce, to share information and practical guidance on how local businesses can take advantage of the opportunities of the green economy and showcasing green local businesses through a green awards category in the annual Chamber of Commerce business awards.

Healthy Streets and Air Quality

64. A new 2030 network vision, the Walking and Cycling Strategy, has been developed and is being presented to the February meeting of the Strategic Planning and Transportation OSC. This prioritises active travel and other sustainable forms of travel and would replace the current Cycling Strategy, incorporating plans for improving the public realm. This will provide a closer link to the borough's wider transport strategy, the Local Implementation Plan using a 'Healthy Streets' approach to street design. The Strategy will be developed in consultation and engagement with interested stakeholders, reflecting the Council's approach to full consultation and committee discussion around major traffic management schemes. Measures that promote sustainable transport will continue to be put in place, including:
- Investigate the feasibility of further pedestrian and cycle-friendly schemes, building on the success of the town centre pedestrianisation programme.
 - Complete and roll-out further sustainable travel routes and schemes including in Nine Elms and Queenstown Road with a consultation for a permanent scheme planned for Summer 2021 and construction pencilled in to commence by Q1 2022/23. On Garratt Lane, the second Northbound cycling corridor is due to be implemented by the end of the financial year and the design for permanent measure to prioritise sustainable modes of transport will start in autumn 2021.
 - Installing new contraflow lanes
 - Make provision for cargo bikes parking
65. The integrated approach Wandsworth is taking on climate and air pollution will be cemented in a new Air Quality Action Plan for public consultation during 2021. Wandsworth will achieve a net increase in the number of trees within regeneration areas at Winstanley and York Road and the Alton Estate.
66. Wandsworth's opposition to Heathrow expansion and work with other councils, Greenpeace and the Mayor of London will continue, drawing attention to the significant impacts any expansion will have on residents' lives.

67. Accelerating the take up of sustainable forms of transport where journeys cannot be made by active travel is essential for reducing both climate and air pollution in the borough. Capital funding and climate change funding, if approved, will be used to deliver additional electric vehicle charging capacity in 2021/22, with numbers to be determined and subject to successful bids to the government Office for Zero Emission Vehicles to boost this spending power. These may not necessarily be lamp columns and could deliver a smaller number of faster chargers to provide more overall capacity, focusing on provide a mix of some sockets in areas where demand is high and some in areas where there are big gaps. Demand for charging infrastructure will be assessed and plans developed for further roll-out for residents and visitors, which assesses relative need for on-street, destination and rapid charging. More than 1,500 requests for lamp column charging have been received across the borough and future rollout is likely to be based on a mixture of high-demand areas and filling in gaps.
68. An Innovate UK funded project is already underway, which includes an additional 24 on-street residential chargepoints scheduled to be installed in Q1 2021/22, providing 46 sockets at 13 separate sites. Another estimated 20 on-street residential chargepoints across 10 sites will be included in the planning for Q2 2021/22 with site selection focused on filling the gaps in wards that have lower levels of provision, as mentioned above. Wandsworth Council secured £88,250 grant funding as one of the consortium participants along with other organisations including other local authorities, Virgin Media, Loughborough University. The aim of this project is to leverage the existing power and communications infrastructure of Virgin Media which includes pre-existing ducts and grid connections around the UK which will provide the foundation upon which a variety of operators can install their chargepoints.
69. In addition to building charging infrastructure to support the transition to electric vehicles, there will be continued promotion of shared, electric mobility through the car clubs in the borough. Already around 25% of Zipcar Flex vehicles are fully electric, but to boost the proportion of pure EVs in the fleet, a new contract with Zipcar through to May 2023 has been agreed, which includes a discounted rate for EVs to incentivise deployment. Zipcar has ambitions to make the Flex fleet fully electric by 2025, so it is expected that more users each year able to take advantage of driving cars that are free from tailpipe emissions.

Improving energy efficiency in homes

70. Delivery of Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme will continue, and bids will be developed for any future funding that becomes available to help make residents' homes more energy efficient and generate their own renewable electricity and/or heat.
71. The Council will commission a stock condition survey to provide accurate baseline data on the condition of housing stock and identify potential opportunities for energy efficiency improvements to help tackle fuel poverty. The Social Housing Technical Assistance pilot will provide the Housing and

Regeneration Department with a full assessment of its 16,000 tenanted housing stock and a plan to improve the energy efficiency of this to EPC C plus a pathway to net zero. The Council will improve the energy efficiency of council housing stock and estates by moving to LED lighting where appropriate, delivering a programme of roof and window renewals and exploring options to install new technologies to improve energy efficiency in council owned housing blocks such as ground/air source heat pumps. Further research will be undertaken into potential green funding streams and bids for funds will be made as appropriate, such as for the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. External funding will support the implementation of energy efficiency measures.

Reducing waste

72. Ahead of scoping the next Waste & Recycling contract, a food waste collection trial service will launch and a composting trial via the free supply of 100 home composting containers will also take place. A waste minimisation and recycling promotion communications campaign will take place to encourage residents to take action on waste.

Working with schools

73. A resources hub for schools on climate change and sustainability will be created, which will include both facilities management information and broader climate change/sustainability information and collate and showcase actions taken by individual schools. Schools will benefit from feasibility studies to assess which energy efficiency measures including deep retrofits are best suited to decarbonise school buildings in the borough.

Communication and engagement

74. The success of the Wandsworth Climate Summit will be built upon, including the development of an engagement plan which will include more online engagement events on climate change and series of events at the same time as the COP26 summit that will be hosted by the UK in November 2021. A comprehensive communications plan will be delivered which will ensure residents are aware of the commitment the Council has made to taking action on climate change and of the actions they can take as residents to reduce emissions.

DELIVERING THE WANDSWORTH ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

75. As noted in paragraph 13, over the last year the Council has increased capacity to deliver on climate change commitments. This has enabled climate action delivery during lockdown periods and was instrumental in the delivery of the recent Wandsworth Climate Summit. This capacity remains and will allow further delivery in the coming year.

76. In January 2020, the Finance and Corporate Resources OSC agreed to allocate £5 million to projects which directly support the delivery of the WESS (Paper 20-39). A series of bids have been submitted to utilise these funds to deliver projects that will accelerate delivery of the WESS. An overview of these bids is set out below:

Project Bid	Budget allocated £
Wandsworth Bridge (cycle resurfacing)	50,000
Electric Vehicle Charge Points	203,000
Bike hangars	150,000
Cycle Parking On Street	70,000
School Streets	192,500
School cycle parking	45,000
E-cargo bike sustainable freight scheme	60,000
	770,500

77. The Finance, Resources and Climate Sustainability OSC is recommended to approve the allocations to support these projects, as set out in Recommendation D of the report. Appropriate profiling across the years has been provided in the capital paper (Paper 21-64) elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.
78. In addition to these capital projects, a series of additional bids for revenue funding to support and accelerate delivery of the WESS have been proposed. An overview of these bids is set out below:

Bid	Full Bid Amount	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Air Quality	148,000		148,000		
Intensive home composting	4,000	4,000			
Waste Behaviour Change Communications	50,000	20,000	30,000		
Food Waste Reduction Trial	105,000		50,000	25,000	30,000

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(WESS) Action Plan Update**

Waste Consultant	10,000		2,500	7,500	
Waste Support Officer	20,000		2,500	17,500	
Pedestrian Crossing Study	25,000	25,000			
School Energy Audits	120,000	25,000	95,000		
Children's Model UN	5,000		5,000		
Transport Strategy Programme Co-ordinator	50,000	4,000	25,000	21,000	
Totals	£537,000	£78,000	£358,000	£71,000	£30,000

79. It is recommended that the Finance, Resources and Climate Sustainability OSC approves these one-off budget variations, as set out in Recommendation (e) of this report.

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES COMMENT

80. The WESS action plan in January 2020 approved specific annual revenue budget which funds the additional staffing resource outlined above. The specific climate change bids received as outlined above have been added to the capital programme in a paper elsewhere on this agenda. A number of revenue bids are also recommended to be supported which will require positive general fund revenue budget variations of £78,000 in 2020/21, £358,000 in 2021/22, £71,000 in 2022/23 and £30,000 in 2023/24 only. These have been incorporated within the Council tax setting paper (Paper 21-63) elsewhere on this agenda.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

72. The Equality Act 2010 requires that the Council when exercising its functions must have "due regard" to the need to eliminate discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it and to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. An Equality Impact Needs Analysis (EINA) was completed as part of the Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy that was published in July 2019 and still applies to this paper and the updated action

plan. Separate project and service specific EINAs will be developed as individual projects are developed and taken for decision.

SUPPORTING THE WANDSWORTH ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY (WESS)

73. This paper provides an update on progress against delivery of the WESS and the previous action plan, provided at Appendix A. The paper also highlights further actions to be delivered in 2021 and beyond, with an updated WESS Action Plan for 2021 attached at Appendix B which includes how Wandsworth will reduce its emissions and develop a pathway for further emissions reduction.

CONCLUSION

74. The initial development of the WESS and associated action plan has put Wandsworth in a strong position to take action on climate change. By developing a robust approach early, Wandsworth is ahead of many other local authorities in taking the lead on climate action. By securing delivery capacity, Wandsworth has been able to continue its climate progress at a time when many other local authorities have had to divert resource away from it. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, delivery of the WESS has remained and will continue to remain a priority for Wandsworth. The updated action plan sets the path to increase momentum and deliver further on our climate ambitions.

The Town Hall,
Wandsworth,
SW18 2PU.

PAUL MARTIN
Chief Executive

2nd February 2021

Background papers

There are no background papers to this report.

All reports to Overview and Scrutiny Committees, regulatory and other committees, the Executive and the full Council can be viewed on the Council's website (www.wandsworth.gov.uk/moderngov) unless the report was published before May 2001, in which case the democratic services officer can supply it if required.