



London Borough of Havering

Climate Change Action Plan 2021



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

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Supporting Information

[Click here](#) for a full copy of the Cabinet Report.

[Click here](#) for the detailed Cabinet Report action plan.

Every day we see and hear the impact climate change is having on the world around us and on our personal lives. We see this with extreme weather events and have suffered the effects in our borough.

It is clear that we need to do our bit to reduce carbon emissions. After COP26 in Glasgow, the focus is how the Government and the country will do this.

As a council, we have been asked and challenged a number of times about how we are responding.

I am pleased to say that this action plan sets out our plans for the future.

Our key objective is for the Council to reduce its carbon dioxide emissions and offset the remainder, so that we become carbon neutral by 2040, or sooner if possible. It is also important that we show leadership in the borough, by working with and challenging our partners, businesses and residents to also make sure the wider borough reduces emissions.

This is why we have launched the Havering Climate Challenge so that everybody can show what they are doing to achieve this too.

As a Council we have already started delivering against our promise, but clearly we need to accelerate this, which is why this plan is so important.

We will report back regularly so that progress can be monitored and scrutinised.

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

Councillor Damian White

Leader of London Borough of Havering



There have been numerous challenges for Havering Council since I became Chief Executive, the most notable being COVID-19 and its impact on our residents and communities.

But as we start to emerge from this challenge, our success in tackling climate change will be the legacy we pass down to future generations.

As place shaper, Local Government will play a critical role in helping our communities reduce carbon emissions, as well as doing everything we can in our own service areas.

We are already seeing the impact of climate change in the borough and we need to make sure all parts of the Council continue to support our commitment to protect Havering's environmental heritage and be carbon neutral by 2040.

This plan sets out how we will meet the climate challenge by looking at what is in our control as a council, and how we can support our partners, businesses and residents in the borough.

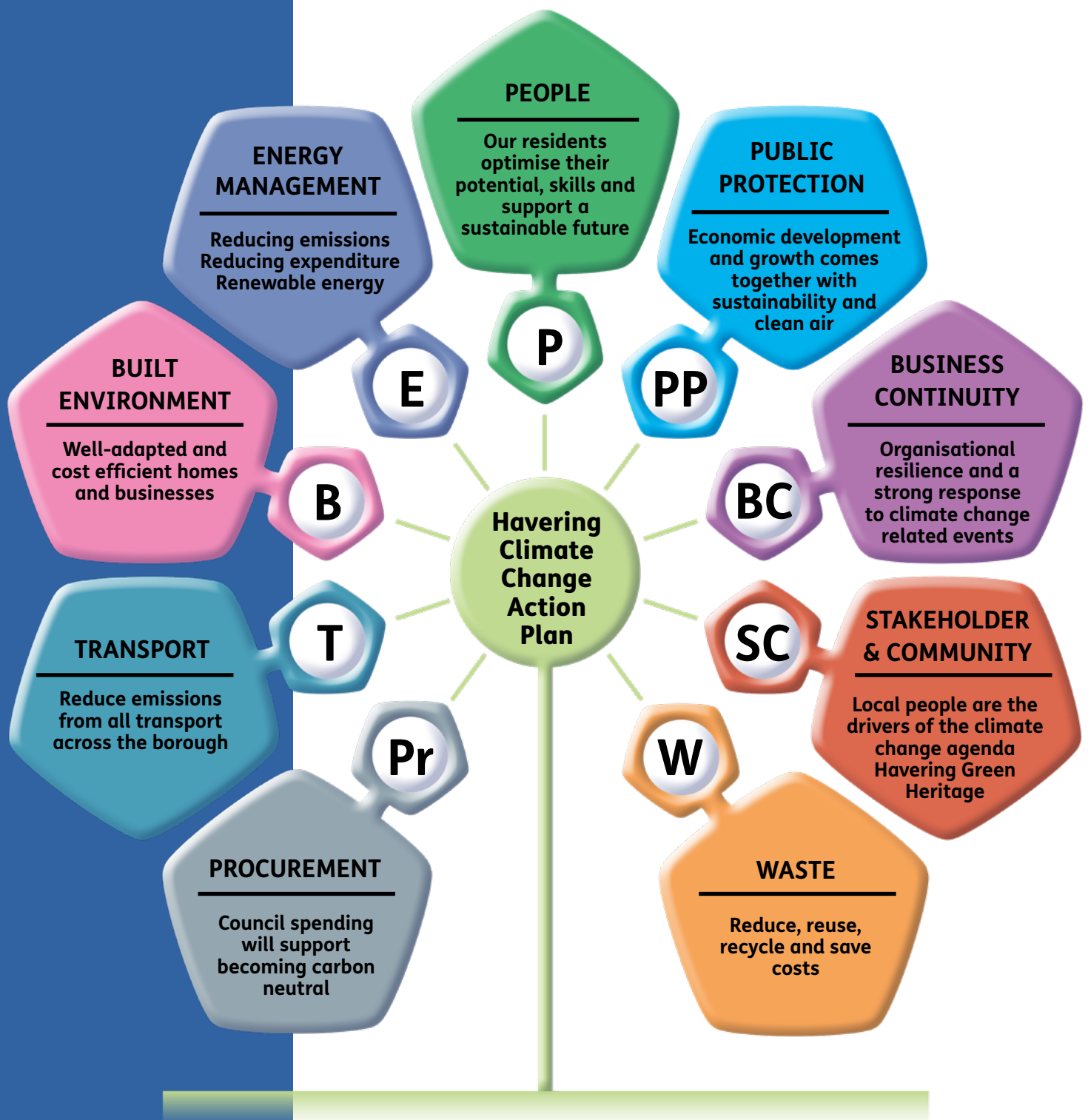
It requires everyone to come together, to work collectively, to address the climate challenge – and safeguard a future for all those to come.

Andrew Blake-Herbert

Chief Executive of London Borough of Havering



Climate Change Action Plan Overview



People

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

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



HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Open a dialogue on climate change with as many stakeholders as possible – including residents, businesses and local regional and national partners – via a series of online conferences to jointly develop measurable outcomes to tackling climate change. For more information visit: www.havering.gov.uk/climatechange
- Support local businesses to promote air quality, sustainability and public health in the borough and help them to access grants and government funds through a trusted climate change resource page on the Havering Council website¹
- Develop a Green Apprenticeship Scheme that aligns with the Council's recovery ambitions to promote opportunities for businesses to tackle climate change. Forge links between businesses and local colleges to identify emerging skills, issues and priorities and investigate opportunities for green apprenticeships for local people²
- Develop a Local Housing Skills Centre to deliver practical green actions within the borough and undertake research to identify opportunities to redress skills gaps across all of Havering's communities³

Refer to the People Action Plan in Appendix A Havering Climate Change Action Plan – as per link on contents page

¹ P2, P3 & P4

² P5, P6, P7, P9 & P10

³ P8 & P11



HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Work to attract investment from high-tech environmental companies looking to establish a presence in Havering⁴
- Establish Joint Ventures with local colleges on research and development of green strategies⁵
- Develop a culture change programme for climate issues for Havering Council officers which promotes 'green' staff benefits, such as the bicycle purchase scheme and Havering Rewards. This ensures all HR policies are aligned with the Council's commitment to tackle climate change; and develops actions and behaviours in partnership with Trade Unions to promote environmental and health actions across the workforce and establishes a dedicated staff forum on climate change⁶
- Establish a programme of Councillor Briefings on environmental and climate issues which incorporates input from residents, businesses, local, regional and national partners and promotes Havering as a key location for accessing green training and helping local Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) to adopt climate action policies⁷

⁴ P12

⁵ P13

⁶ P14, P15, P16, P17, P18

⁷ P19

Public Protection

Havering Council is striving for a future where all residents in the borough live in comfortable, affordably heated and well-adapted homes that are cost-efficient with low or zero greenhouse gas emissions and that everyone in Havering has abundant and clean potable water. In the future that we envision, all the pollution hotspots are adequately targeted and mitigated. It is vital for us to make sure that economic development and growth comes together with clean air and sustainability.

HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Develop a plan to reduce emissions from private sector housing stock and investigate the possibility of setting higher energy standards for licensed and privately rented homes⁸
- Deliver the Council's current Air Quality Action Plan (2018 – 2023) and produce an updated version which supports ambitions of the Havering Climate Change Action Plan⁹
- Promote energy efficiency schemes to private sector housing landlords and to vulnerable tenants including enforcing smoke controls for unlicensed burning, investigating chimney smoke complaints and visiting premises to inspect ovens¹⁰
- Identify new premises for the pollution prevention and control service and liaise with water authorities and water companies to ensure that people in Havering have access to safe and clean drinking water¹¹
- Work with Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) to tackle climate change and promote partnerships¹²
- Implement Trading Standards projects supporting and protecting vulnerable consumers

Refer to the the Public Protection Action Plan in Appendix A Havering Climate Change Action Plan - as per link on contents page

⁸ PP1 & PP2

⁹ PP3 & PP4

¹⁰ PP5 & PP6 & PP9

¹¹ PP7 & PP8

¹² PP10

Business Continuity

With severe weather becoming increasingly unpredictable and causing greater impacts to the wider organisation, the vision of this work stream is to develop overall organisational resilience to climate change, whilst promoting ongoing improvements to support in the response to climate change related events.



HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Ensure ongoing effectiveness of the Havering Community Flood Warden Scheme and the Major Emergency Plan (MEP) in allowing the Council to address any climate change scenarios and flood risks in the borough¹³
- Identify and introduce improved flood management processes and ensure they are balanced with developmental and regeneration needs as part of Havering's ongoing responsibility to represent North East London Councils on the London Risk Advisory Group and North East London Flood Partnership Group¹⁴
- Continue close monitoring and recording of blocked culverts, flooding issues and the rise of safety requirements across the borough and allocating funding for maintaining cleared culverts¹⁵
- Provide advice on the implementation of streetscape improvement proposals including the installation of greening measures¹⁶
- Ensure extreme climatic conditions and effects of climate change are factored into risk assessments and risk registers for services¹⁷

Refer to the Business Continuity Action Plan in Appendix A Havering Climate Change Action Plan - as per link on contents page

¹³ BC1 & BC5

¹⁴ BC6

¹⁵ BC7

¹⁶ BC2

¹⁷ BC3

Business Continuity



HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Increase community engagement with the voluntary sector and community members by allowing them to have direct input into risk registers and identify resilience issues. Ensure residents, businesses and partners have access to the Greater London Authority (GLA)'s London-wide climate risk maps¹⁸
- Deliver the Council's Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) and establish a Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) approval body to carry out responsibilities relating to flooding, extreme weather and climate change adaptation¹⁹
- Deliver Severe Weather Plans, particularly to help vulnerable residents deal with hot and cold weather and provide additional guidance to communities during severe weather periods²⁰
- Ensure plans are in place to address the added impact of climate change on issues of disease, food safety, waste and climate-enhanced pandemics²¹
- Continue to evaluate and address financial and insurance risks relating to climate change²²

¹⁸ BC4

¹⁹ BC8 & BC9

²⁰ BC10 & BC11

²¹ BC12

²² BC13

Stakeholder and Community

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

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

HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Work in partnership with community and voluntary groups and Havering COMPACT forum partners to raise awareness of climate change and energy issues across different communities; support voluntary and community sector partners with their climate change funding applications and recruit volunteers for green initiatives across the borough²³
- Work with the community to develop a green forum and to encourage involvement within parks and support of the borough's Friends of Parks groups²⁴
- Engage Registered Social Landlords (RSLs), care providers and private landlords in the Council's sustainability agenda and develop a knowledge hub for climate change issues²⁵
- Deliver the Council's Parks and Open Spaces Strategy in relation to water, air and local environment quality²⁶

Refer to the Stakeholder and Community Action Plan in Appendix A Havering Climate Change Action Plan - as per link on contents page

²³ SC1, SC2 & SC3

²⁴ SC4 & SC5

²⁵ SC6 & SC7

²⁶ SC8

Stakeholder and Community



HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Continue the Healthy Schools Programme as a way of engaging with schools and education settings in the Council's sustainability agenda²⁷
- Explore funding initiatives to enhance community participation in the Council's sustainability agenda and develop a communications strategy to promote climate change priorities²⁸

²⁷ SC9

²⁸ SC10 & SC11

Waste Management

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

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

HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Deliver the Council's Reduction and Recycling Plan and review it twice a year to ensure it is on target²⁹
- Roll out Recycling and Waste Reduction programmes, for the Council's corporate buildings, and develop and implement initiatives to reduce electronic waste³⁰
- Develop and Communicate Waste Plans for Council-operated buildings and set standards for the current and future decommissioning of corporate buildings³¹
- Design an improved recycling system for dry recyclable materials and potentially food waste, and develop and implement a project to reduce the use of plastic across all Council activities³²
- Monitor contractors' CO₂ emissions from vehicle-based waste collection operations³³

Refer to the Waste Management Action Plan in Appendix A Havering Climate Change Action Plan - as per link on contents page

²⁹ W1

³⁰ W2 & W3

³¹ W4, & W6

³² W5

³³ W7 & W8

Procurement

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

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

HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Agree a vision statement for sustainable procurement that aligns with national and Havering targets and ensure all Council projects and reports address key environmental considerations³⁴
- Establish a framework to identify current spending against associated carbon emissions and agree a target for reduction; whilst investigating opportunities for divesting from fossil fuel³⁵
- Revise Contract Standing Orders to ensure sustainability issues are incorporated into the procurement of goods, services and works³⁶
- Provide training for staff and contract managers on sustainability issues, including sustainable procurement to ensure that Havering has a low-carbon procurement framework to guide and support companies with whom we do business³⁷
- Work with local supply chains to ensure they understand requirements in disclosing and reducing carbon emissions³⁸

Refer to the Procurement Action Plan in Appendix A Havering Climate Change Action Plan - as per link on contents page

³⁴ Pr1 & Pr2

³⁵ Pr3

³⁶ Pr4

³⁷ Pr5

³⁸ Pr6

Procurement



HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Reduce pension investment in environmentally unsustainable companies³⁹
- Evaluate a funding strategy for tackling climate change, including green bonds and grant availability⁴⁰
- Develop a framework to evaluate the impact of ICT developments, purchases and disposals on the environment by ensuring clear evaluations on the sustainability, use and disposal of electronic waste⁴¹
- Establish a mechanism for measuring and monitoring the energy usage of ICT equipment and storage by working to industry standards and communicating best practice with local businesses and other public sector organisations⁴²
- Develop an action plan to embed the need to tackle climate change amongst providers and partners⁴³

³⁹ Pr7

⁴⁰ Pr8

⁴¹ Pr9 & Pr10

⁴² Pr11 & Pr12

⁴³ Pr13

Transport

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

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



HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Publish an Annual Status Review on the Local Implementation Plan, which implements the Mayor of London's Transport Strategy (MTS) at a local level⁴⁴
- Upgrade its transport fleet with more fuel-efficient and environmentally-friendly alternatives, including replacing the Mayor's vehicle with a fully-electric car in 2021⁴⁵
- Review pilot of Transys fleet management software and examine feasibility of entire Council fleet roll-out⁴⁶
- Deliver 'Driver Certificate of Professional Competence' training for drivers in Passenger Transport Fleet, Grounds Maintenance, and Highways and eco-driver training for drivers outside of these areas (i.e. non-HGV licence holders)⁴⁷
- Work with schools to set travel plans which deliver modal shift from single household car use and review and rationalise council fleet to determine essential and necessary vehicles⁴⁸

Refer to the Transport Action Plan in Appendix A Havering Climate Change Action Plan - as per link on contents page

⁴⁴ T1

⁴⁵ T2 & T3

⁴⁶ T4

⁴⁷ T5

⁴⁸ T6 & T7



HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Review staff travel by promoting fuel-efficient vehicles, the provision of car and cycle parking spaces and the possibility of creating car-pooling schemes⁴⁹
- Develop a 'Cycling and Walking' strategy for residents, businesses and the community⁵⁰
- Provide quarterly update reports on the Sustainable Travel: Active, Responsible, Safe (STARS) schools accreditations scheme - which is funded by TfL⁵¹
- Review current School Street pilots with a view to the expansion of the scheme⁵²
- Develop an Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Strategy⁵³
- Produce a feasibility assessment of Last Mile Delivery to make e-commerce deliveries more energy efficient⁵⁴
- Develop a programme to plant at least 250 trees per year on Havering land and highways⁵⁵

⁴⁹ T8 & T9

⁵⁰ T10

⁵¹ T11

⁵² T12

⁵³ T13

⁵⁴ T14

⁵⁵ T15

Built Environment



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

**All business and
organisational
buildings
are powered
sustainably and
have zero carbon
impact.
Our heat and
power are
supplied from
renewable
energy and,
where possible,
by local sources
that efficiently
meet demand.**

HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Implement suitable renewable energy technologies for individual Council properties, hostels and sheltered accommodation⁵⁶
- Secure carbon-offset monies via Section 106 obligations. Investigate low-carbon and high energy efficiency standards in new-build Council housing⁵⁷
- Establish a proactive approach when commissioning new facilities and achieving low-carbon buildings and develop an assessment and phasing programme to identify and target the worst performing properties for energy efficiency improvements
- Influence Academy Trusts and Department for Education on promoting low-carbon school building and improving existing buildings and ensure all new build school expansions are built to a high standard⁵⁸

Refer to the Built Environment Action Plan in Appendix A Havering Climate Change Action Plan - as per link on contents page

⁵⁶ B1

⁵⁷ B2, B3, B4 & B5

⁵⁸ B6

Built Environment



HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Uphold current Havering standards and London Plan requirements for housing developments and create a climate change checklist to discern the climate change credentials of each development. Work with housing developers to prepare for zero-carbon homes by outlining requirements in pre-application meetings
- Support and showcase low-carbon housing developments which are beyond minimum requirements and monitor Section 106 carbon offset fund obligations with funds made available for spend⁵⁹
- Develop climate resilience strategies with guidance incorporated in planning and pre-application processes; conduct feasibility study on green development and landscaping to explore the employment of ‘sponge’ principles – controlling run off, green roofs, underground water storage, use of landscaping and planting⁶⁰
- Promote wildlife corridors as part of the wider landscape strategy and encourage the provision of appropriate species of broad-leaved trees on streets / and in urban areas to provide shade and mitigate adverse temperatures⁶¹

⁵⁹ B7

⁶⁰ B8

⁶¹ B8

Built Environment



HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Develop a monitoring action plan in association with Greater London Authority (GLA) which will monitor climate commitments from developers and requires major developments to demonstrate the Urban Greening Factor on sites and buildings⁶²
- Acquire external funding to deliver energy efficiency measures in addition to or to support the capital programme (e.g. Energy Company Obligation [ECO] funding, government funding, etc.) and ensure continued allocation of funding within capital budget specifically for energy efficiency measures⁶³
- Establish and deliver programme of engagement with Council tenants on energy saving; encouraging Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) to provide information to their tenants on energy saving; and sharing best practice on energy information for tenants amongst RSLs⁶⁴

⁶² B9 & B10

⁶³ B11 & B12

⁶⁴ B13

Energy Management

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



Decisions will be made with the aim of reducing the use of energy, leading to reduced carbon emissions and budget savings. Our progress and ambitions will be shared with local businesses and developers in order to share best practice, acquire funding and to improve and design out energy wastage.

HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Model and develop options to purchase more energy from renewable sources by moving to green energy suppliers⁶⁵
- Rationalise its corporate estate and associated carbon footprint through an Energy Management Plan with explicit targets for energy reduction and by developing retrofit solutions for the properties it retains in the future⁶⁶
- Continue to measure and report annual carbon emissions for the borough and for the Council including an annual review of Display Energy Certificates (DECs) in all public buildings with a floor area greater than 250m²⁶⁷
- Reduce energy use by installing smart meters in facilities managed by Corporate Estates and Community Housing; undertake a water meter audit and consolidate water bills in corporate areas; monitor and reduce energy usage across the Council corporate estate using SystemsLink energy management software⁶⁸

Refer to the Energy Management Action Plan in Appendix A Havering Climate Change Action Plan - as per link on contents page

⁶⁵ E1

⁶⁶ E2, E3 & E4

⁶⁷ E5, E6 & E7

⁶⁸ E8, E9, E10 & E12

Energy Management



HAVERING COUNCIL WILL:

- Prepare criteria for construction standards applicable for Council projects to increase environmental standards beyond those required by Building Regulations⁶⁹
- Extend the use of SystemsLink energy management software across all campus managers including schools; ensure all schools are made aware of funding to improve energy efficiency and raise staff awareness about individual energy use⁷⁰
- Produce a plan to ensure all developments conform to sustainable building practices; and establish a method of ongoing monitoring and provide updates to the street lighting LED replacement programme⁷¹

⁶⁹ E11

⁷⁰ E13, E14 & E15

⁷¹ E16 & E17