

Pathway to a
**CARBON
NEUTRAL**
Council by 2029



Net Zero Action Plan
Annual Performance Report
Year 2 - 2020/21



CONTENTS

Executive summary	4
--------------------------	----------

About this plan	6
------------------------	----------

Chapter 1: Emissions update	8
------------------------------------	----------

- COVID-19 pandemic 10
- Where our emissions are coming from 13
- Summary 14

Chapter 2: Our approach	15
--------------------------------	-----------

- Key drivers in Bromley 15
- Priority actions 17

Chapter 3: Our 7 priority initiatives	18
--	-----------

- Initiative 1 - Street lighting LED upgrades 20
- Initiative 2 - Energy efficiency in our buildings 22
- Initiative 3 - 100% renewable energy 24
- Initiative 4 - Zero Emissions Fleet 26
- Initiative 5 - Alternative Technologies and Renewables Investment 28
- Initiative 6 - Woodlands, parks and greenspaces 30
- Initiative 7 - Certified Carbon Offsets 32
- Summary 34

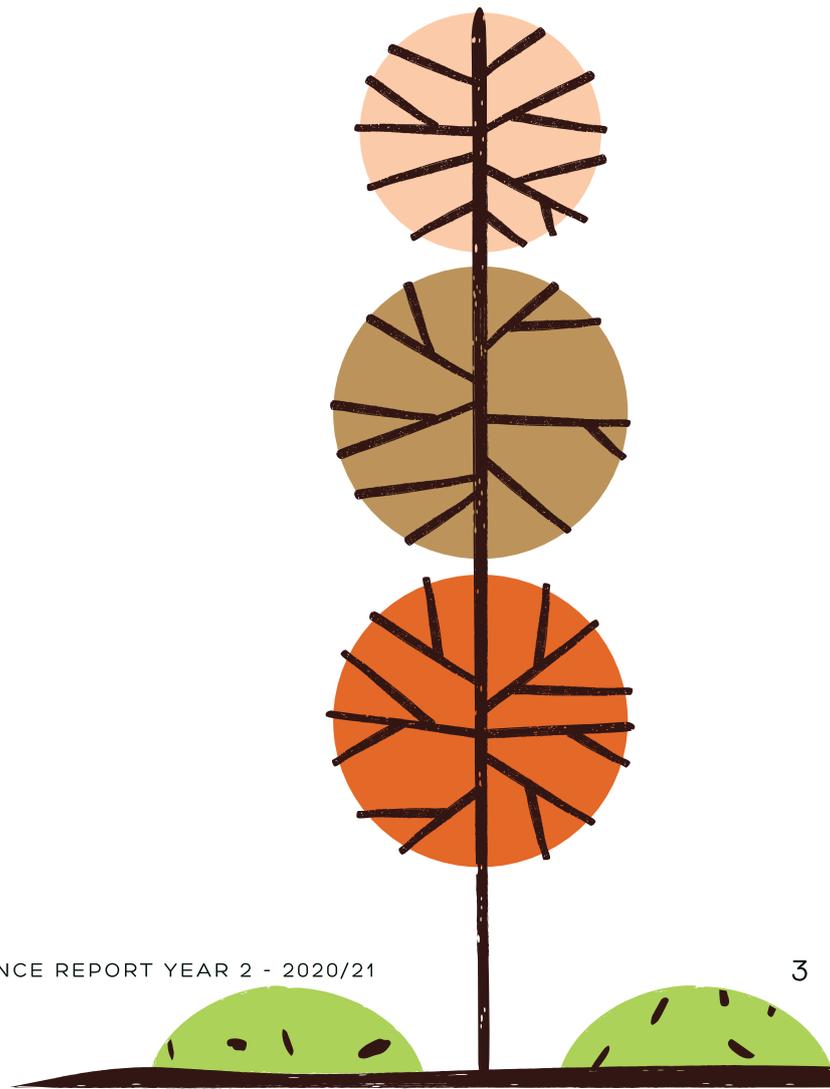
Chapter 4 - Enabling factors and implementation

35

- Enabling factors 35
- Financial factors 35
- Governance and partnerships 38
- Bromley's Green Recovery Working Group (GRWG) 38
- TEC-LEDNet Priority Areas 38
- Monitoring, verification and reporting 40
- Existing obligations 41
- Summary and further information 41

Glossary

42



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

We know that Bromley is a brilliant place to live, work and play. We also know that the local level is where we must collectively implement the strategies and projects, which allow us to meet national policy objectives.

Building on years of good work, this Net Zero Action Plan Performance Report charts the planned activities of the Council in reducing our organisational emissions to achieve our ambitious target of Net Zero by 2029. By focussing on the Council's organisational emissions across seven priority areas, we report the 2020/21 progress towards our ambitious targets which not only reduce emissions, but realise co-benefits including:

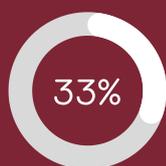
- financial savings
- energy efficiency
- carbon sequestration
- improvements to our beautiful woodlands, parks and green spaces

Meeting Net Zero is a challenge we must rise to, not only because we must fulfil our statutory duties, but because we have a responsibility to future generations for leaving the environment in a better way than when we inherited it.

This is more important now than ever. With the release of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) 6th Assessment Report stating the "unequivocal" human influence on global heating; more frequent and extreme weather events affecting "every region across the globe"; climate change risk being added to our corporate risk register; and in light of an exceptionally difficult 2020/21 due to COVID-19, we must recover from the effects of the pandemic in a way which further embeds sustainability in Council services.

This is imperative in future-proofing Bromley from the effects of climate change, seizing opportunities i.e. Government grant funding to support decarbonisation projects and continuing our contribution to climate goals and emissions reductions.

Many ambitious projects are already underway and the headline figures which illustrate our progress thus far include:



33% reduction

33% reduction in carbon emissions (12,000 tCO₂) achieved against a 2013 baseline



£380,000 savings

a year, through the most recent round of LED streetlighting upgrades



100% green energy

The decision to procure 100% green energy for gas and electricity supplies



Woodlands and Trees

Woodlands and Trees Project Board established to deliver joint carbon and greenspace objectives

ABOUT THIS PLAN

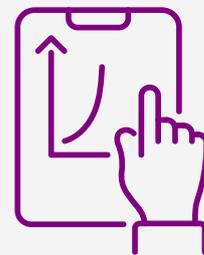
Building on years of good work, this Net Zero Action Plan Performance Report charts the planned activities of the Council in reducing our organisational emissions to achieve our ambitious target of Net Zero by 2029.

This plan is split into four distinct chapters:



Chapter 1: Emissions update

The emissions comparison between year 1 (2019 to 2020) and year 2 (2020 to 2021).



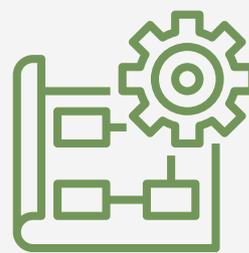
Chapter 2: Our approach

The key drivers and principles that guide this Net Zero Action Plan.



Chapter 3: Our 7 priority initiatives

The seven priority actions and initiatives to reach net zero, including progress and intentions.



Chapter 4: Enabling factors and implementation

The financial mechanisms, governance regimes and partnerships, and the monitoring, verification and reporting, which will facilitate the delivery of these key actions.

EMISSIONS UPDATE

This table highlights the change in tonnes of CO₂e emitted by sources under the control of the Council. The table also illustrates the percentage change in emissions between our year 1 progress report (2019/20) and this year, year 2 (2020/21).

Source	2019/20 Year 1 tCO ₂ e/yr	2020/21 Year 2 tCO ₂ e/yr	Percentage change tCO ₂ e/yr
 Buildings	3,822.0	1,942.5	-49.2%
 Street lighting	2,451.0	1,889.2	-22.9%
 Council fleet	33.8	48.2	+42.6%
 Waste	2.5	0.3	-88.0%
 Water	54.6	7	-87.2%
 Paper	35.1	10.7	-69.5%
 Business travel	184.0	87.3	-52.6%
 Total (tCO ₂ e/yr)	6,584	3,985	-39.5%



Year 1

In year 1 (2019/20) the net zero profile emissions totalled 6,584 tCO₂e, equivalent to an 8.5% reduction against 2018/19 baseline emissions (7,196 tCO₂e).

Year 2

In year 2 (2020/21) the net zero profile emissions totalled 3,985 tCO₂e, equivalent to a 45% reduction against the 2018/19 baseline and a reduction of 39.5% on year 1 (2019/20).



45%

reduction against
the 2018/19
baseline in year 2

The large reduction in emissions (39%) achieved in year 2 (2020/21) is predominantly a result of COVID-19 impacts on Council operations.

However, other factors have also helped to influence a continued reduction in emissions:

COVID-19 pandemic

Noticeably the pandemic resulted in the majority of Council staff working from home for a prolonged period. Through the 2020 lockdown periods this meant that staff occupancy at Council offices remained at around 10% of pre-COVID levels.

Hence, certain assumptions were applied to year 1 (2019/20) data to calculate year 2 (2020/21) emissions to allow for reduced water, waste, paper use and business travel.

Compared to year 1, remote working and reduced staff occupancy levels throughout 2020/21 had a significant impact on emissions arising from office use:



88%

Office waste



87.2%

Water usage



69.5%

Paper usage



52.6%

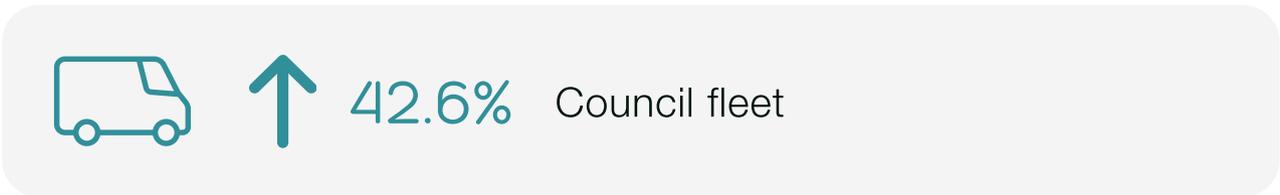
Business travel



49.2%

Energy consumption from buildings

The only source reporting an increase in emissions was from Council fleet (42.6%). This is due to the resumption of normal gritter activity following an unusually temperate winter in the preceding year.

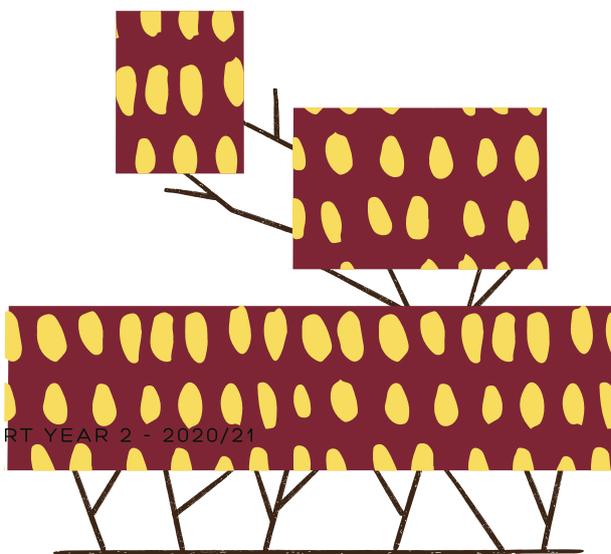


Irrespective of a significant occupancy rate reduction, emissions from the Council’s buildings only reduced by 49% due to several factors:

- they still required low level heating (especially during the winter months to prevent damp)
- servers still needed to operate in back offices
- lighting was still required for security, deep cleaning and work purposes

Therefore, emissions reductions were not as steep in percentage terms, as those for other sources (e.g. waste, paper, water).

Business travel decreased significantly due to COVID-19, though not as much in percentage terms as emissions from other sources such as waste, paper, and water. This is attributed to drivers that claim mileage (e.g. those in Public Health and Protection), who did not have their services curtailed due to restrictions.



Flexible working

The COVID-19 pandemic catalysed flexible working for the majority of council staff, with staff occupancy rates expected to remain at around 50% for the foreseeable future.

Paperless office and digitalisation

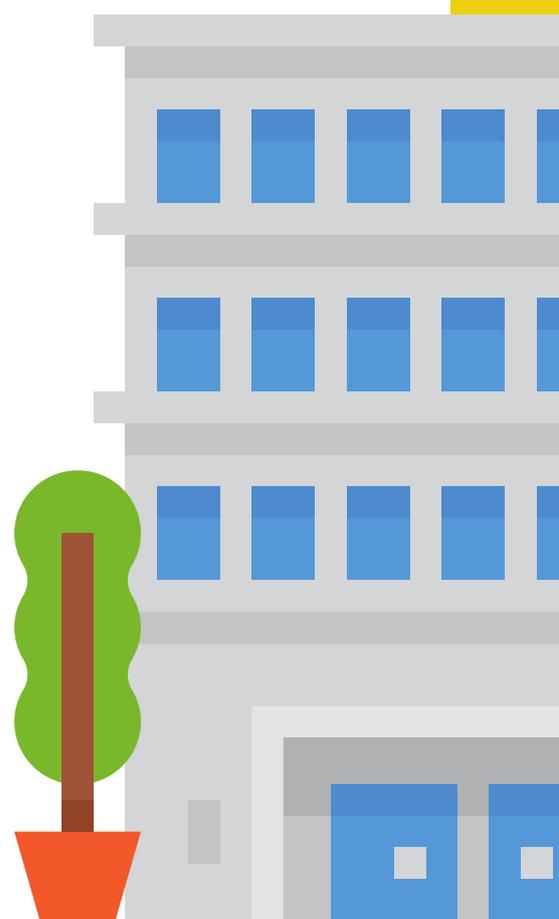
As the Council continues to push ahead with its paperless office environment (supported by a wide digitalisation exercise), it is expected that paper emissions will remain low post-COVID

Council emissions and trends

Electricity emission factors are expected to continue to decrease over time as more national grid electricity is generated from renewables and fossil fuels are phased out. This will help lower emissions from electricity consumption. However, there remains significant uncertainty over the rate of this change, hence why strong action to implement energy efficiency measures will remain imperative for achieving carbon neutrality by 2029.

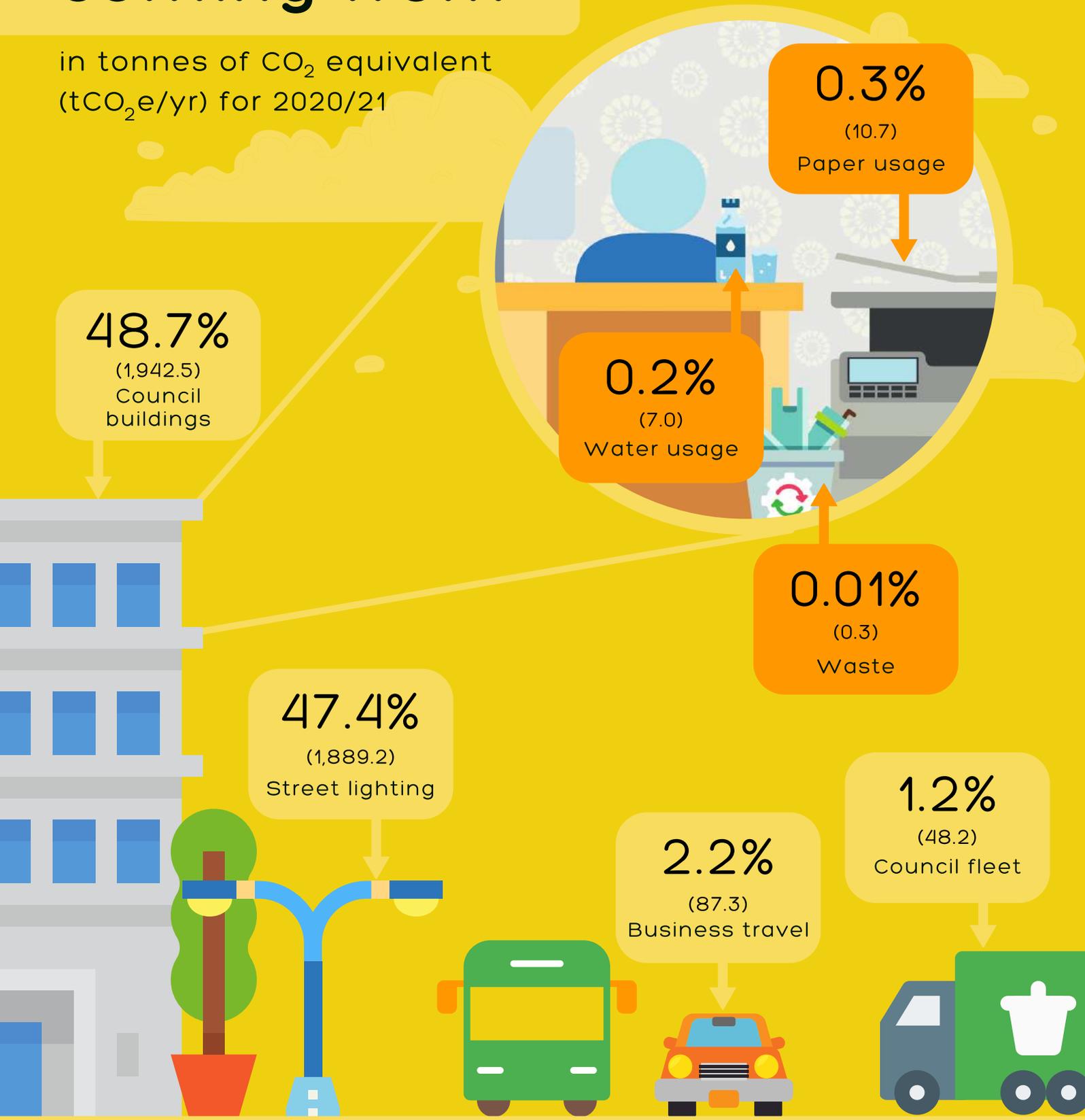
Progress on initiatives

The 22.9% reduction in emissions from streetlighting is attributable to progress made on Initiative 1 (i.e. the replacement of 3,638 old lanterns with energy saving LED lanterns). See Initiative 1 for further information.



Where our emissions are coming from

in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e/yr) for 2020/21



Summary

This chapter has provided a progress update on the changes to our emissions profile between year 1 and year 2 of this action plan.

Before reading any further, please refer back to the Net Zero Action Plan and Year 1 progress report to refresh on the policy context, as well as the scope of our reporting to fully understand what the plan is and is not. To reiterate:

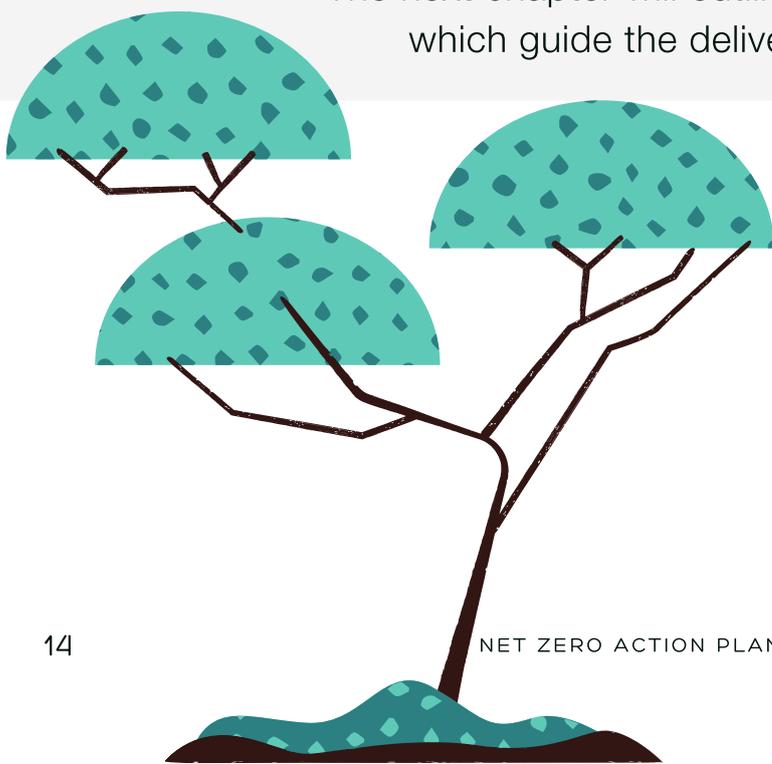


It is an organisational plan covering strategies to reduce emissions created by Bromley Council



It is not an action plan to quantify and lay a roadmap for the reduction of emissions across the whole borough

The next chapter will outline the key principles which guide the delivery of this plan.



OUR APPROACH

Key drivers in Bromley

Our adopted approach to meeting net zero in organisational emissions is guided by three key drivers:



Renewable energy and energy efficiency (REEE)

Global energy use accounts for two thirds of all emissions. That is why REEE is the foundation of our NZAP. It is the gateway to reducing our overall energy demand on the national grid as far as possible. This simultaneously reduces energy costs, while moving away from fossil fuel-based energy, towards a green energy supply.



Leadership by example

Bromley Council aim to set an example, leading the way in reducing the emissions of our organisation, while we continue to guide residents, businesses and communities to do the same.



Co-benefits

The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines co-benefits as being “the positive effects that a policy or measure aimed at one objective might have on other objectives”. Although the measures detailed in this NZAP are aimed at emissions reductions, where possible the plan seeks to positively influence other objectives across the Council. For example, the planting of woodlands and street trees will act as a natural way to capture CO₂. If planned correctly this measure could also be used to support biodiversity and support improvements in air quality. This aligns with objectives of the Council’s Air Quality Action Plan, the Open Space Strategy and objectives in Bromley’s local planning document i.e. Bromley’s Local Plan.



Priority actions

Various factors have informed the proposed projects which we will implement to achieve net zero by 2029, such as:

- the potential carbon, energy and cost savings of initiatives
- available funding
- the priorities identified in terms of mobilising medium to large scale projects

In line with best practice, we aim to reduce our emissions as much as possible, then offset any remaining emissions through seven priority initiatives:

Primary initiatives 1 to 4



Aim to reduce emissions to potentially deliver a 96% reduction

Secondary initiatives 5 to 7



Aim to offset the remaining 4% of emissions

OUR 7 PRIORITY INITIATIVES



Reduction

against the 2018/19 baseline



Street Lighting LED

Phased upgrade of remaining 10,000 non-light-emitting diodes (LED)

Reduction

24 to 27%



Energy efficiency

Priority site refurbishments and Automated Meter Readers (AMR) installed

Reduction

5 to 10%



Renewable energy

Purchase power from renewable energy generator

Reduction

Up to 96%



Zero Emissions Fleet

100% Zero emissions fleet and accompanying infrastructure

Reduction

Under 1%



Alternative Technologies and Renewables Investment

Establish portfolio of renewable investments

Offset

TBC



Parks and Greenspaces

Natural carbon offsets and co-benefits

Offset

Less than 1%



Certified Carbon Offsets

Purchase UK based carbon credits

Offset

TBC

offset

STREET LIGHTING LED UPGRADES



2026 target

**Phased upgrade of remaining
10,000 non-LEDs**



Intermediary target

Feasibility assessment for upgrade of remaining street-lights before the end of 2022.



Cost

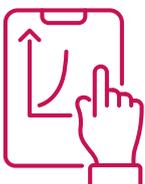
£4.5million



Emissions reductions

6 to 9%

In 2020/21 electricity consumption from Bromley's 28,000 streetlights accounted for approximately 47.4% of the Council's carbon emissions. Bromley's streetlights total around 28,000, of which there are now only approx. 6,300 remaining to upgrade to energy efficient LEDs.



Key actions

Develop/deliver a phased upgrade programme for updating the remaining 6,300 non-LED lights. It is worth noting that the remaining columns will predominantly be 6m columns with relatively low wattage lamps, therefore offering lower energy savings compared to the old high wattage lanterns used for the 10m and 8m columns. However, an initial assessment suggests that the potential annual carbon and cost savings could be 347 tCO₂e and £165k respectively.

Action is being taken to accelerate this programme to a 2022 target.

Progress

In October 2020 a project began to upgrade a further 4,200 traffic route streetlights (10m and 8m columns) to LEDs with dimming capability and photocells – installation is expected to complete shortly. Due to COVID-19 lockdown measures, the production/supply of the new lights was impacted, consequently delaying the original planned installation date. Apart from the benefits of improved light quality for both pedestrians and road users, this latest project is set to achieve the following:

- Annual cost saving: -£380k
- Annual carbon saving: -600 tCO₂e
- Project payback: 3 years



BUILDINGS (ENERGY EFFICIENCY)



2029 target

Priority site refurbishments complete and AMR meters installed



Intermediary target

Feasibility assessments and energy audits undertaken before the end of 2025.



Cost

TBC (audit dependent)



Emissions reductions

5 to 10%

In 2020/21 energy consumption from the operation of Council buildings accounted for 48.7% of total emissions - this compares to 58% in year 1 (2019/20). This change to the Council's total emissions profile is primarily a result of COVID-19. To realise future cost/energy/carbon savings it is imperative that the Council continues to improve the energy efficiency of the estate and move towards the use of low carbon energy sources for heating whenever feasible.

As more buildings (heating) and vehicles switch towards electricity, it becomes increasingly important to ensure that electricity is supplied by renewable sources to not only relieve pressure on the national grid, but to also provide security of electricity supply and protect against electricity price increases.



Key actions

Undertake a full energy audit of the top 10-15 most energy intensive buildings to identify energy efficiency opportunities.

Develop an energy efficient upgrade programme for the priority sites.

Ensure any site refurbishments and new build projects incorporate low carbon design elements and solar photovoltaic (pv) installation wherever viable.

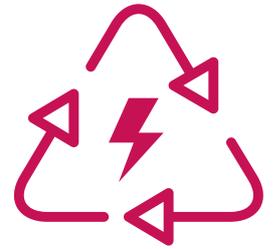
Roll out an Automated Meter Reading (AMR) installation programme to achieve more accurate and timely billing and energy monitoring capability.

During 2020/21 the Carbon Management Team (CMT) developed a business case for the design and installation of a solar pv system on the rooftop of the Civic Centre's North Block building that will help supply the Council with its own generated electricity. The CMT are currently seeking approval for the project which could serve as a template for developing further solar rooftop projects across the Council's estate.

An exercise to assess the Council's most energy intensive properties in 2020 was delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions. Bromley's Energy Manager is now aiming to deliver a planned assessment of the estate in 2021 and develop a programme to install AMR meters at strategic sites. Based on the energy efficiency assessment findings, a planned upgrade programme will be developed that will in turn inform accurate carbon savings.



100% RENEWABLE ENERGY



2027 target

Purchase power directly from a renewable energy generator



Intermediary target

Green electricity and gas contract secured by 2021



Cost

TBC



Emissions reductions

Up to 96%

The most effective solution for reducing emissions is a rapid shift to 100% renewable electricity.

In 2020/21 electricity associated emissions accounted for 73% of the Council's total net zero profile emissions, whilst gas emissions accounted for 23%.

Procuring 100% renewable energy therefore offers the most impactful opportunity for carbon reduction – a potential 96% reduction – by allowing the Council to discount all of our energy emissions.

Two main options exist for switching to renewable energy sources:

Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin certificates (REGOs) -

can be purchased from energy suppliers that certify the electricity coming from the renewable energy element of the national grid - approximately 25-30% of the national grid's electricity comes from renewables (not to be confused with zero-carbon electricity that includes nuclear).

Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) -

a direct agreement with a renewable energy generator. These types of agreements typically allow for further investment that directly leads to increased renewable generation.

There is an on-going debate around additionality and whether REGOs lead to increased renewables generation (i.e. where demand translates into new sources of green, renewable energy being built), which is considered a key requirement for being able to report zero emissions for energy.



Key actions

Undertake a full energy audit of the top 10-15 most energy intensive buildings to identify energy efficiency opportunities.

Review green energy options for both gas and electricity when the existing energy contract nears expiry, including PPA options to purchase directly from a renewable energy generator.

Progress

In October 2020 the Leader of the Council made an executive decision that the Council proceeds with the procurement of green energy. In October 2020 the Council switched to purchasing REGO-backed renewable energy from Haven Power, and green gas from Total Gas & Power. Unlike many energy suppliers who supply a mix of both green and brown energy, Haven Power only supplies 100% renewable energy.

At the time of writing the Council are awaiting a response from the GLA and London Councils regarding their position on REGO-backed electricity from 100% renewable suppliers. In particular, whether this will allow the Council to credibly discount our electricity emissions. If not, it is likely that we will need to switch to a PPA in the future at contract renewal.



ZERO EMISSIONS FLEET



2029 target

100% Zero emissions fleet and accompanying infrastructure



Intermediary target

Install minimum of five electric chargepoints at main depot by 2023 and the rest by 2026



Cost

TBC



Emissions reductions

Under 1%

Council fleet refers to vehicles directly managed by the Council but not vehicles used by the Council's contractors (e.g. Veolia for Waste Services). The remaining fleet operated directly by the Council now consists of a mixture of light vehicles, minibuses operated at three educational establishments, and several pool cars. Our gritters are owned by the Council but operated by our contractor as part of the Highways contract.

Although the Council's fleet only accounts for around 1% of the Council's emissions, this is deemed an important initiative for helping to advance the use of zero emissions vehicle in the broader context. Also, the benefits of zero emissions vehicles extend to improving air quality, which feeds into Bromley's Air Quality Action Plan objectives.



Key actions

Install electric chargepoints at the main depot to enable electrification of the Council's own fleet and the next fleet of refuse collection vehicles, if electric becomes the industry standard for HGVs over hydrogen

Switch to a 100% Zero emissions fleet.

The Council's draft Zero Emissions Charging Strategy (subject to approval) will guide the transition to zero emissions vehicles for Council fleet. Work continues closely with other service areas to assess options as and when existing fleet vehicles are either decommissioned or lease agreements renewed.

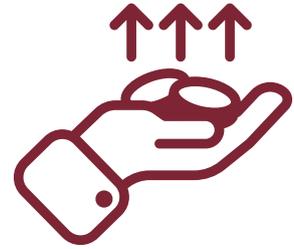
The installation of electric charge points has been included in the Council's capital works programme for the depot, however budget overspend to redress priority issues at the depot, has temporarily side-lined installation of charge points. The Carbon Management Team are now appraising options to use the Councils' Carbon Neutral Fund to cover costs and future proof the depot for future charge point installation.

The Council will also continually evaluate the use of emerging technologies, such as Hydrogen powered fleet, if this becomes the preferred industry standard for certain types of vehicle, such as HGVs.

Our approach to delivering zero emissions vehicles is technology neutral, as we anticipate a future where a mixture of different technologies could be required.



ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGIES AND RENEWABLES INVESTMENT



2029 target

Establish a portfolio of renewable Council owned, or joint owned, investments



Intermediary target

Annually horizon scan for UK-wide investment and partnership opportunities



Cost

Tbc



Emissions reductions

Tbc

Following the government's recent announcement for the UK to become a world leader in clean wind energy and all homes to be powered by renewable energy by 2030 it is envisaged that renewable investment opportunities will increase during the course of this plan, allowing organisations to either use the generated electricity themselves, offset their emissions, or create a revenue stream.



Key actions

Explore commercial renewable investment opportunities as and when they materialise.

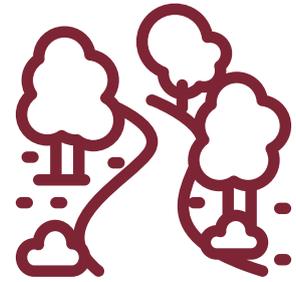
Explore joint partnership opportunities with other Councils.

Progress

Bromley may be able to accommodate some ambitious renewable projects. Early stage feasibility assessments are being undertaken to determine the suitability for renewable opportunities in the Borough, with the Council also monitoring the market for opportunities elsewhere.



WOODLANDS, PARKS AND GREENSPACES



2029 target

Establishment and/or enhancement of Council green spaces for natural carbon offsets and co-benefits



Intermediary target

Feasibility assessment to begin in 2021



Cost

Tbc



Emissions reductions

<1% by 2029

Tree planting is a medium to long term solution for carbon sequestration because young trees absorb small amounts of carbon during their early years. In the context of the Council's ten year net zero target, a significant number of trees/saplings would have to be planted across vast acres of land to make an impact. Tree establishment also comes with its challenges – a robust maintenance programme to stimulate healthy growth, and tree/site protection is vital for its success.

However, the Council recognises the value and many benefits that green spaces, parks and woodlands provide to residents and natural ecosystems, and the need to protect and enhance them for future generations. As more and more carbon is sequestered over time, this initiative will help the Council maintain its net zero target post 2029 and reduce borough wide emissions.



Key actions

Produce a new Tree Management Strategy.

Consider offsetting opportunities associated with registering new tree planting under the government approved Woodland Carbon Code.

Quantify/compare carbon sequestration levels for native trees, grasslands, wild meadows, hedgerows, verges.

Conduct feasibility assessments for shortlisted Council-owned sites deemed suitable.

Deliver suitable projects in a cost-efficient manner, maximising grant funding opportunities where possible.

The Council's Arboriculture team are currently producing a new Tree Management Strategy to take forward from 2021 onwards.

Bromley's Parks and Greenspaces team are currently preparing applications for a range of woodland and other habitat grants to manage the rare and priority habitats overseen by our contractor's Bromley Countryside Team. In addition, a few large projects are being prepared ready for funding applications along with a range of smaller ones.

The Carbon Management Team has begun joining up its carbon mitigation objectives with the Parks & Greenspaces and Arboriculture teams, their respective service providers, the public, and councillors to develop and implement a holistic strategy that is able to satisfy cross service objectives.

A Woodlands Establishment Board has been created to drive forward rewilding projects (woodlands, grasslands, and meadows) that will deliver carbon reductions against the Council's NZC target. The project board has shortlisted sites located within the borough for further suitability for woodlands creation. The board intends to take advantage of significant national grant funding to access arboricultural expertise for biodiversity impact assessments, woodlands management plan development, initial planting and establishment, annual maintenance and more.

We will adopt the "right tree, right location" approach and the species' suitability for planting in specific areas will be determined at a later stage. This will subsequently inform the many variables required for the carbon calculations such as age, attrition rate, hardwood/softwood, etc. We therefore cannot provide an estimated sequestered amount of carbon at this time but will be in a better position to do so if our grant funding applications are successful and allow us to proceed to the next stage.

A different proposal to invest £1.35million to planting an additional 5000 street trees in the next four years is scheduled to commence in Autumn 2021. It is the largest single investment in trees in the borough's history. It will utilise existing tree pits where a tree had been planted previously, contributing to air quality objectives and emissions reductions.

CERTIFIED CARBON OFFSETS



2029 target

Purchase UN certified and/or verified voluntary carbon credits, based in the UK



Intermediary target

Annually horizon scan for UK-wide carbon offset opportunities from 2024



Cost

Tbc



Emissions reductions

Tbc

Purchasing certified carbon offset credits remains a last resort option for offsetting any residual carbon emissions that cannot viably be offset through initiatives 5 and 6. If the Council does exercise this option the preference will be for a UK-based project, typically involving tree planting, new woodland creation or peatland bog restoration.



Key actions

Research suitable UK-based carbon offset projects.

Purchase offset credits in an honest and transparent way.

Progress

The Carbon Management Team will look to identify the most appropriate and cost-effective carbon offsetting credits further into the ten year plan, once all of the above initiatives have been fully appraised.



Summary

This chapter laid out the initiatives which will be used to deliver our NZAP. Many of these ambitious reduction projects are already underway, while more of the offset projects are currently being researched. Pending member approval, feasibility and financing, we will look to mobilise these projects over the next few years. By 2027 we will have a clearer idea of the residual emissions that we need to offset.

ENABLING FACTORS AND IMPLEMENTATION

Enabling factors

Implied at the end of the last chapter there are a network of financial mechanisms and decisions, as well as governance and partnerships, required to enable the progression of projects in our NZAP. Some of these mechanisms are explored in this chapter.

Financial factors

At this point in time it is difficult to know the amount of funding required for the Council to become a carbon neutral Council due to the uncertainty of which projects will be most suitable. However, feasibility assessments are being conducted to identify and help inform the most viable and cost-effective projects/initiatives to take forward.

While we develop our seven priority actions, we must keep sight of the funding streams, which will enable us to deliver these projects. Fortunately, more financial options have become available over time as the government introduces further green deals to accelerate national and regional decarbonisation.

The key funding streams are outlined over the next two pages:



Key

#

Internal to Bromley

#

External funding

1

Carbon Management Recycling Fund (£500k)

Although the total fund amount has been committed to a street lighting LED upgrade project, as soon as the works are completed (estimated to be Spring 2021) the Council will start paying back the fund from the energy savings. Hence, the fund will start building up again, and the money will be made available for further invest-to-save projects.

2

Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme

The scheme replaced the Salix Energy Efficiency Loan Scheme (SEELS) and allows public sector bodies (PSBs) to apply for a grant to finance up to 100% of the costs of capital energy-saving projects that a) deliver stimulus to the energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation sectors, supporting jobs and b) deliver significant carbon savings within the public sector

3

The Mayor of London's Energy Efficiency Fund (MEEF)

An investment fund, established by the GLA, which will help achieve London's ambition of being a zero carbon city by 2050. MEEF has been developed with Local Authorities as a core sector given their leadership in the low carbon development industry. MEEF has access to £500m of financing that can provide² funding for up to 100% of the capital cost of a project. Features include a minimum investment size of £1m and fixed term interest rate. As well as funding individual projects MEEF can also fund estate wide maintenance and refurbishment.

4

Carbon Offsetting Funds (s106 contributions)

The release of Carbon Offsetting Funds (COF) are based on the cost of reducing a tonne of carbon. This is currently set by the GLA at £95 per tonne of CO₂. It is to be used on a variety of carbon reduction projects across the borough. Projects can include energy efficiency measures on council property and street lighting. The current available balance is approximately £260,000, with £71,000 committed to various projects and over £1M in approved planning applications.

5

The GLA's "accelerator" frameworks

These aim to finance projects in their development stage, such as the commissioning of feasibility studies, consultation services, public engagement etc. With this enabling financial mechanism, the Carbon Management Team envisages more viable projects in the future at no cost to the Council throughout the project's development stage. This mechanism is also designed to deliver projects at pace by streamlining the process to achieve financial and carbon savings earlier.

6

Carbon Neutral Fund

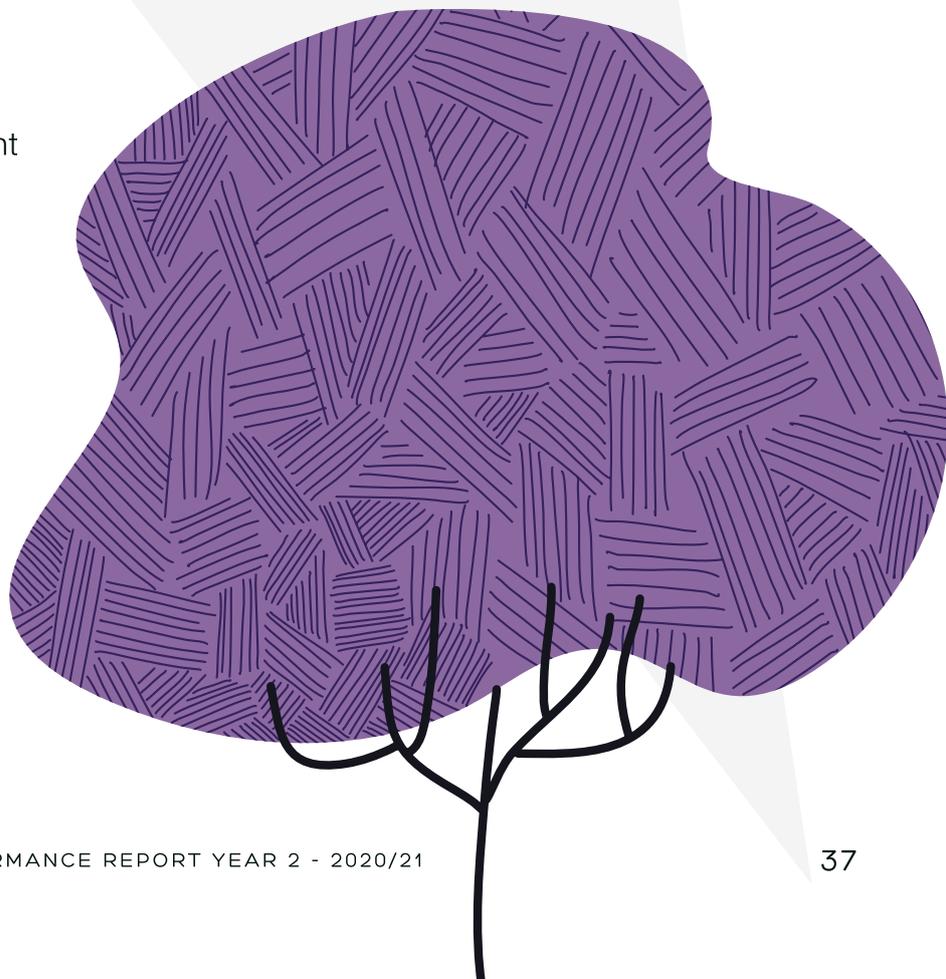
In recognition of new investment being required to achieve our net zero target, as part of approving the 2020/21 revenue budget the Council agreed to establish a Carbon Neutral Fund. This will provide pump-priming funding of £0.875m for new initiatives to reduce the Council's carbon footprint whilst reducing its long-term energy costs.

7

The Council's Capital Programme Funding

For future energy efficiency initiatives as part of the Environment Work Programme, such as building refurbishment, further street lighting upgrades, and renewable energy projects.

Each initiative to achieve the Council's net zero target will need to be assessed through a detailed business case process, taking into account available funding, revenue budget savings and other investment priorities. Savings generated from these projects will need to be factored into consideration of the Council's future budget strategy.



Governance and partnerships

Achieving net zero emissions will be iterative, remain ambitious and subject to change as technology evolves, the regulatory environment changes, and more government funding becomes available.

Hence, continual review will be required to ensure the action plan is on track. While the key driver behind our 2029 net zero target relates to the regulatory changes of June 2019, it is important to recognise the influence of the wider landscape on our organisational NZAP.

Bromley's Green Recovery Working Group (GRWG)

The impact of coronavirus on Council services, residents, businesses and the delivery of future Council projects cannot be understated. This is why the Council has established a GRWG to align the Council with national aspirations to place climate and ecological policy at the heart of an economic and socially resilient recovery from COVID-19.

The first meeting of the Council's GRWG was held in December 2020. The group will be used to explore areas where the Council can be more aspirational and will set out a strategy and subsequent action plan that aligns with existing corporate functions. Importantly it will provide a platform for internal discussion and promote a more environmentally and socially sustainable borough (whilst strengthening the Council's financial resilience). It will demonstrate leadership to partners, stakeholders, businesses and the public, forming a basis for lobbying government.

Elevated lobbying power will be required to demand greater financial support to Councils, enabling us to reduce our organisational emissions and those of the borough as a whole.

TEC-LEDNet Priority Areas

The London Councils' Transport and Environment Committee (TEC) and the London Environment Directors Network (LEDNet), comprise London's local government environment leaders. In November 2019 they committed to pooling their experience, expertise, resources and working together, to pursue seven priority areas, necessary for delivering on London's climate ambitions, through the publication of a TEC-LEDNet Joint Statement: Climate Change.

Priority area number 4 of the Joint Statement, Renewable power for London, was focused in securing 100% renewable energy for London's public sector. This aligns with the Council's ambition to achieve carbon neutrality by 2029, through the purchase and supply of renewable energy to council owned estate. The remaining six action areas require significant investment and the engagement of individuals and businesses, through to national government.

Local councils, including Bromley, are already starting to positively influence the remaining TEC-LEDNet action areas, for example, supporting the roll out of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. This will help to achieve ambition number 3 in the Joint Statement to halve petrol and diesel road journeys between 2020 and 2030. However, this is outside the scope of Council's organisational NZAP. More detail on borough-wide emissions, as well as all organisational emissions, procured services and other projects will follow in the forthcoming carbon management programme (CMP3) report. In addition, the Carbon Management Team are beginning to engage with consultants to map out a suitable borough-wide emissions reduction strategy. This will provide the guidance and a roadmap for the whole borough to work towards carbon neutrality before 2050, with the emphasis on partnerships and collaboration between all stakeholders in Bromley and beyond, to realise this goal.



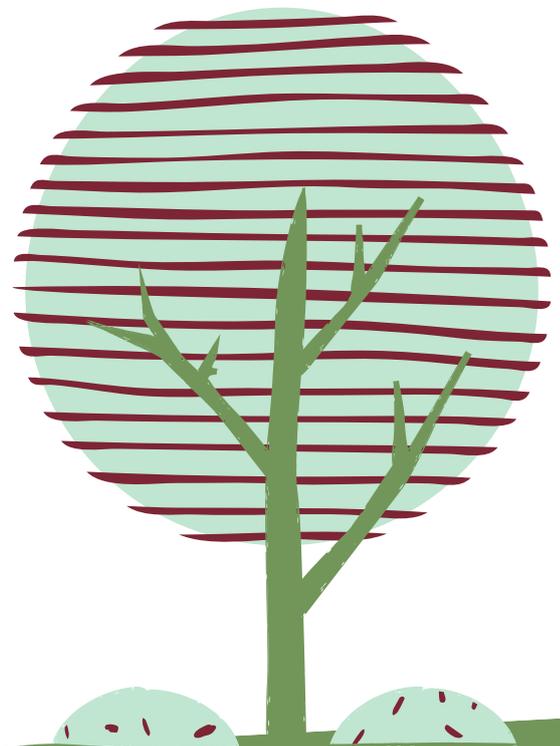
Monitoring, verification and reporting

Performance against the Council's 2029 Net Zero Carbon target will be closely monitored, measured and reported by the Carbon Management Team.

Each new initiative will be quantified in terms of carbon, energy and financial savings, and show before and after statistics to help assess project performance.

Carbon Management Performance (CMP) reports are provided to the Director of Environment and Public Protection on a monthly basis at the Departmental Management Team (DMT) meetings. This report will include information pertaining to the progress of projects and other relevant carbon reduction work.

The Carbon Management Team will report biannually to the Environment Portfolio Holder (the Council Member responsible for environment) on the progress made towards the Council's net zero target. We will also report annually to the Environment and Community Services Policy Development and Scrutiny (PDS) Committee.



Approval to spend the Carbon Neutral Fund on suitable projects will be sought through the Executive Committee as and when required.

The annual Bromley's GHG Emissions Performance report will continue to quantify the Council's performance in reducing their emissions and provide yearly progress statistics against the net zero target. It will include project specific information and report on actions taken to help reduce both scope 3 and borough-wide emissions, ensuring that reporting is accurate, complete and transparent (via the Council's website).

Existing obligations

When reporting on their emissions, local authorities are advised to use the international guidance on accounting and reporting, known as the GHG protocol. This guidance will apply to reporting carried out under the NZAP, in the same way it is incorporated into our CMP reports.

Summary and further information

This chapter detailed the mechanisms which will enable the delivery of initiatives in our NZAP, as well as those which will allow us to measure their success and progress towards net zero by 2029.

For more information on Council activity regarding emissions reduction projects, please email ClimateChange@bromley.gov.uk

GLOSSARY

Automated Meter Reader

Automatic Meter Readers (AMRs or SMART Meters as they are sometimes known) provide suppliers with a cost-effective solution to obtaining meter reads that would otherwise need to be physically read. They are also capable of providing end users with information to help monitor and control energy consumption.

Carbon emissions

The shorthand for carbon dioxide emissions, or CO₂, usually produced by the burning of fossil fuels.

Carbon management programme

Bromley Council's dedicated programme of work to reduce carbon emissions.

Carbon neutral

The aim of having no carbon dioxide emissions produced.

Carbon Offset Fund

A fund that receives s106 contributions from developers who submit applications to build major developments that fall short of carbon standards. This money is then used to support carbon reduction projects in Bromley.

Carbon offsetting

Reducing emissions or capturing carbon in one sector, to compensate for an inability to reduce emissions in another sector.

Carbon sequestering/sequestration

Capturing carbon through long-term storage methods. An example would be to plant more trees.

Decarbonisation

The process of removing all energy sources that produce carbon emissions from the energy grid.

Energy efficiency

The amount of useful energy produced per unit of fuel. For example, loft insulation keeps the useful warm air in the home, increasing the energy efficiency of the building.

Electric Vehicle (EV)

Electric vehicles are those which use electric motors to drive their wheels. They derive some or all of their power from large, rechargeable batteries.

Greater London Authority (GLA)

The regional governance body of London.

Green energy

Any energy source that does not produce a high amount of carbon dioxide emissions, preferentially producing none at all. Often synonymous with renewable energy.

Green house gas emissions (GHG)

The gases that trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere, an excess of which are increasing global average temperatures i.e. global warming. In the context of this action plan it usually refers to carbon dioxide but can also refer to other gases such as methane.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change.

LED lighting

Light Emitting Diode. A more energy efficient form of lighting when compared to standard bulbs. They do not get as hot and release more of their energy as light.

Net Zero Carbon

The aim of having no carbon dioxide emissions produced, and if any are produced, that they are offset by carbon capturing processes.

Payback period

A period of time in which the value of a loan, or budget must be repaid to the lender.

Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)

A long-term contract under which a business agrees to purchase electricity directly from a renewable energy generator. Power Purchase Agreements provide financial certainty to you and the project developer. PPAs therefore help to deliver more renewable energy, saving CO₂.

Procurement

The process of acquiring goods and services, which a Council chooses not to run internally, through fair and competitive bidding processes in an open market.

Scope 1 Emissions

Direct emissions that occur from activities such as burning gas in boilers to heat homes and businesses or petrol/diesel vehicle emissions.

Scope 2 Emissions

Direct emissions that occur from activities such as burning gas in boilers to heat homes and businesses or petrol/diesel vehicle emissions.

Scope 3 Emissions

Indirect emissions that are related to an organisation's activities, but occurring from sources not owned or controlled by the organisation. For example Adult social care providers, contracted by Bromley to undertake that service, will produce emissions through their company activity. However, Bromley Council do not legally own, or control the emissions arising from this contractor's activities.

Solar photovoltaic (pv) system

Solar pv panels convert light from the sun into electricity as a form of green energy.



Pathway to a
**CARBON
NEUTRAL**
Council by 2029

Net Zero Action Plan and
Annual Performance Report
2020/21 – Year 2



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