



London Borough of Enfield

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Report Title | Enfield Climate Action Plan 2024-2030 |
| Report to | Environment & Climate Action Scrutiny Panel |
| Date of Meeting | 18 th April 2024 |
| Cabinet Member | Cllr Ergin Erbil, Deputy Leader of the Council Cllr Rick Jewell, Cabinet Member for the Environment |
| Executive Director /Director | Perry Scott, Executive Director of Environment and Communities |
| Report Author | Vera Vajda |
| Ward(s) affected | All |
| Classification | Part 1 |
| Reason for exemption | N/a |

Purpose of Report

1. To provide an overview of the revised Enfield Climate Action Plan 2024-2030.

Main Considerations for the Panel

2. We would like to receive feedback on the revised Climate Action Plan in general, and with particular focus on the shared responsibility and affordability and the need for government funding for actions set out in the Plan.
3. We would like to receive feedback on the strengthened structure of the new Plan and the approach to embed climate action in all services, thereby making it the responsibility of everyone in the Council and extending engagement across the borough.
4. We would like to receive feedback on the improved feasibility of the Plan influenced by the comprehensive internal engagement we conducted with the respective teams to understand their priorities, and our ability to monitor progress in reducing carbon toward achieving our targets.

Background and Options

5. As highlighted in the recent report by the International Panel for Climate Change (IPCC), the effects of climate change are unequivocal, widespread, and intensifying, driven primarily by human activity. London, including Enfield is experiencing observable changes such as hotter, drier summers and warmer, wetter winters signalling the urgent need for concerted action.
6. Enfield faces significant climate risks, including extreme heat, drought and flooding. Our borough's vulnerability to flooding is due to the network of watercourses that flow through the borough as well as incapacity of our aging drainage infrastructure. This is exacerbated by urban development encroachment on our green infrastructure and the increasing intensity of rainfall events.
7. Climate risk compounds the issues of deprivation in the east of the borough. In these areas, a concentration of properties at risk of flooding is notable, particularly in the Lee Valley Area, which was historically an area of marshland and the lower lying lands around Edmonton area compared to that in the west of the borough, where the Salmons Brook and Pymmes Brook meet to join the River Lee. Surface water flooding due to heavy rainfall is particularly high risk, causing the drainage systems to fail.
8. Similarly, the vulnerability to extreme heat is heightened in these eastern wards, where deprivation is more prevalent. London's densely urbanised landscape exacerbates the urban heat island effect, further impacting the marginalised communities burdened by inadequate housing, lack of green space, poverty and high numbers of elderly or very young people, as well as those with long term health conditions. Additionally, Enfield faces fluvial flood risk due to the flood plain of the River Lee.
9. Addressing these interconnected challenges necessitates concerted efforts at the local, national and global levels. Acknowledging our responsibility as a major employer and influencer, Enfield Council declared a climate emergency in 2019, committing to:
 - Make Enfield Council a carbon neutral organisation by 2030.
 - Divest the Council from investment in fossil fuel companies.
 - Only use environmentally friendly products where we are able to do so.
 - Make our supply chain carbon neutral through ethical procurement.
 - Work with local partners and communities and positively promote changing behaviours in Enfield to limit activities scientifically linked to climate change.
10. To expedite the implementation of these crucial initiatives the Climate Action Plan is being finalised having been informed by constructive feedback from local climate change organisations, residents and staff. Continuous engagement with stakeholders will be an ongoing and remain vital to the delivery of these measures.
11. In response, the Council has committed to tackling the climate change emergency and to do this requires a clear strategy with supporting actions.

Relevance to Council Plans and Strategies

12. Our Council Plan 2023-26 sets out our priorities for investing in Enfield to support residents to live happy, healthy and safe lives. Central to this commitment is our priority for Clean and green places where we enhance biodiversity and protect green spaces to help Enfield's resilience in the face of a changing climate. We also strive for a more efficient use of resources, to reduce waste and increase recycling, as well as reduce carbon emissions from energy consumption across our buildings and operations.
13. In line with the Council's priority for More and better homes by making buildings, that are the key emitters, the CAP undertakes measures to enhance the energy efficiency of buildings, including via high quality new homes and the retrofit of existing, as well as connecting them to sources or renewable and low carbon energy such as the Energetik network.
14. Furthermore, the CAP is also aligned with the Council's overarching Blue and Green Strategy, along with the emerging Local Plan and Transport Strategy. This strategic alignment ensures a cohesive approach towards sustainability and climate resilience across all of Enfield's development and infrastructure planning

Report Author: Vera Vajda
Climate Action and Sustainability Lead Officer
Vera.vajda@enfield.gov.uk

Appendices

- Appendix A – Enfield's Climate Action Plan 2024
- Appendix B - Enfield Local Area Energy Plan 2023

Background Papers

- Enfield's Climate Action Plan 2020
[enfield-climate-action-plan-2020-environment.pdf](#)
- Delivering Net Zero study 2023
[Delivering Net Zero](#)

Departmental reference number, if relevant: