

# Environment Scrutiny Commission

Tuesday 1 October 2019

7.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G01A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1  
2QH

## Supplemental Agenda

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Item No.	Title	Page No.
4.	<b>Minutes</b>	1 - 3
	To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the open section of the meeting on 23 July 2019.	
5.	<b>Draft Carbon Reduction Strategy road map</b>	4 - 15
	A briefing has been provided on the Climate Emergency Strategy draft road map. Councillor Richard Livingstone Cabinet member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency will present.	
	Draft guidance from the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) 2019 edition of Zero Carbon Britain is also enclosed.	
	The following will also attend to present:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Adam Harrison, Cabinet member for a sustainable Camden</li><li>Iskander Erzini Vernoit, Southwark Extinction Rebellion</li></ul>	

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Date: 27 September 2019:



## ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMISSION

MINUTES of the Environment Scrutiny Commission held on Tuesday 23 July 2019 at 7.00 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

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**PRESENT:** Councillor Leanne Werner (Chair)  
 Councillor Graham Neale (Vice-Chair)  
 Councillor Radha Burgess  
 Councillor Tom Flynn  
 Councillor Richard Leeming  
 Councillor Damian O'Brien  
 Councillor Michael Situ

**OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillor Richard Livingstone, Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency

**OFFICER SUPPORT:** Jin Lin, Deputy Director of Public Health  
 Julie Timbrell, Scrutiny Project Manager  
 Sarah Newman, Business Unit Manager Environmental Health & Trading Standards

### 1. APOLOGIES

Councillor Damian O'Brien gave apologies for lateness.

### 2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

### 3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATION

There were none.

#### 4. AIR POLLUTION

The chair invited Casper and Ella, Eco School Councillors at Judith Kerr Primary, to present. They gave their top priorities for tackling air quality and improving the environment. These include ending single use plastic in school. They are also working to understand air pollution and educating their classmates. Monitors have been put up at school to measure nitrogen dioxide. They are looking at journeys to school, most of which are by walking. Once the results of the monitoring are back they intend to look at more ways to lower pollution, and this will include stopping cars and tracks going past, planting more trees and plants, and teaching parents about the dangers of air pollution.

Dr Ian Mudway, senior lecture at the School of Population Health and Environmental Sciences at King's College London provided a presentation. The Commission was then invited to ask questions. Points raised included:

- The impact on major highways of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and how much traffic moves elsewhere or evaporates
- The extent of internal air pollution
- The success of regulation to tackle air pollution versus behaviour change. California chose regulation with scrappage schemes, taxations and banning substances. It now no longer has a diesel problem

Southwark Council officers Sarah Newman, Business Unit Manager Environmental Health & Trading Standards, and Jin Lin, Deputy Director of Public Health, then provided a presentation on Southwark Air Quality action plan.

This was followed by verbal and written presentations and reports from:

- Mums for Lungs
- Dulwich and Herne Hill Safe Routes to School
- London Living Streets: (report provided and additional written submission)
- Fossil Free Southwark
- The Zero Emissions Network (presentation)

#### 5. CLIMATE EMERGENCY

On 27th March 2019 Southwark's Council Assembly resolved to call on cabinet to declare a Climate Emergency and do all it can to make the borough carbon neutral by 2030.

Cllr Richard Livingstone, Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency, provided a verbal report back on the recent Climate Emergency Summit, with reference to the presentations provided to the summit.

He offered to come back in October with a draft Carbon Reduction Strategy, which the Commission welcomed. Cabinet will be agreeing the final plan in December.

## **6. WORK PROGRAMME**

The Commission identified the following issues and people to hear from to inform the Air Quality review:

- Traffic closures around school and the impact on surrounding roads.
- Low Traffic neighbourhoods, and the work of Waltham Forest in particular.
- Domestic fuel consumption
- Heidi Alexander, Deputy Mayor, Transport
- European cities

The Air Quality scope will be updated and distributed for comment.

# Scrutiny Committee Briefing

## Climate Strategy – progress update

**24th September 2019**

Prepared by:

Stuart Robinson-Marshall  
Head of Sustainability & Business Development  
Environment & Leisure

## 1. Summary

This briefing note summarises the progress made since the first Southwark Climate Emergency Summit which took place on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019, and sets out a proposal and roadmap for the development of a Southwark Climate Strategy.

## 2. Background - the summit.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019, Southwark hosted its first Climate Emergency Summit in response to the declaration by Council Assembly to declare a climate emergency on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019:

- Council assembly resolved to call on cabinet to declare a Climate Emergency and do all it can to make the borough carbon neutral by 2030.
- Develop a strategy, working with local stakeholders, to ensure that the council becomes carbon neutral at a much more rapid pace than currently envisaged.
- This Carbon Reduction Strategy should aim to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 if feasible.
- This strategy should be clear in its targets and resources required.
- It should also be developed in a way that is sufficiently flexible to make best use of new carbon reduction technologies as they develop.
- Call on other London boroughs to also work towards carbon neutrality by 2030.
- Lobby government to provide the power and resources to the Mayor of London and local authorities to accelerate the pace of carbon reduction.
- Lobby the government to take radical steps to divest away from fossil fuels, invest in new technologies to make innovative approaches such as carbon sequestering possible, and reduce the UK's reliance on greenhouse gases.

The summit agreed that the next steps towards developing a response to the emergency would be:

- That another meeting would be held in the autumn to look at the next steps and a draft carbon reduction plan.
- There was a need for further and extensive consultation with residents and stakeholders – it was agreed that officers would develop this as part of the strategy
- It was agreed that a formal consultative group would be formed, and that governance arrangements developed.

The proposals intended to deliver these steps are set out in this report, along with an outline plan for the development of a long term Southwark Climate Strategy to make the borough carbon neutral by 2030.

### **3. Background - outline position**

The targets set out in the Climate Emergency Declaration are challenging. To deliver these will require a significant change to the way the Council, business and everyone living and working in Southwark operates. This is also in the context of delivering an accelerated process 20 years in advance of the current London plan's target of 2050.

Based on our previous baseline targets from 2008 and the data available, Council activity represents about 16% of Carbon Production in the borough, including from our own housing stock.

The direct implication of this is that we cannot achieve a Carbon Neutral Borough in isolation, but only through developing strong partnerships, shared agendas, agreed actions and structures that encourage behaviour change.

### **4. London wide context**

Currently 21 London Boroughs have declared some variety of climate emergencies, with a range of targets from making only their own operations carbon neutral, to whole borough plans and with a wide range of targets from 2025 to 2040.

A number of cross borough groups are focusing on these issues including the London Environment Directors Network (LEDNET), the London Chief Executive Network (CELC) and London Councils has formed a Climate Change Officers Group. Southwark has engaged with all these forums as well as with the GLA in order to coordinate activity. We have also made direct contact with our nearest neighbouring boroughs in order discuss coordinating activity, particularly around data collection and analysis

Within this we are scoping and exploring a dense network of technical and specialist forums that will assist us with delivering our aims in areas such as transport, housing, business and energy.

### **5. Existing data, plans and targets**

Our previous carbon reduction strategy was based on our 2008 baseline. This was a requirement of the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC): this scheme has now ended. The borough wide baseline figures was extracted from existing data published by the department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) around energy, climate change, energy efficiency and fuel poverty, as well as the London Energy and Greenhouse Gas Inventory (LEGGI) and other sources.

Our current Carbon Reduction Strategy has ended with the CRC scheme and there is a need to refresh and replace this strategy in line with the climate emergency and our new targets. Although many of the actions within the strategy are likely to be similar to those taken forward, they need to be looked at in the context of achieving carbon neutrality.

We have been working towards the Council target of reducing the emissions from our own operations by 50% by 2022, based on our existing CRC baselines. The 2008 CO<sub>2</sub> baseline taken for the CRC was 41,306 tonnes per year. Against the same baseline, the figure for 2017-18 was 25961 tonnes. This is a 36.7% reduction on 2008 and work is ongoing. We have largely achieved this through a mixture of energy efficiency, building improvements and capital investments and the consolidation of accommodation.

## 6. Proposed activity

In order to becoming a carbon neutral borough there are a number of key principles and activities that need to be adopted and delivered:

- 6.1. **Data:** our current data set is out of date, and there have been significant changes in the borough and across London in terms of population, regeneration and infrastructure. New baseline data is required in order to assess the scale of the challenge, identify the most effective areas to target and set effective targets.
- 6.2. **Activity:** Although significant progress has been made in respect of carbon reduction and wider sustainability concerns by the council and partners, such activity is not necessarily as well coordinated or recorded as it could be. In line with the data baselining, a detailed analysis of the current activity in the borough needs to be carried out, and challenges and opportunities identified. Some examples of current and activity within scope are:
  - Air quality action plan
  - Development of a Southwark plastics strategy
  - Staff travel strategy
  - Sustainable fleet improvements
  - Consolidation of depots
  - Heat mapping and energy networks
  - Divestment of pension funds from Fossil Fuels
  - Public health strategies and action
- 6.3. **Organisation:** Although the activity assessment (6.2) will inform the structure of the strategy and future delivery areas, it is recognised that current Council activities in this area are not coordinated in a centralised manner, and that there is no overarching structure or reporting mechanism to do this. An initial proposal for such an organisational approach is set out in paragraph 8 along with likely works areas in order to develop the strategy.
- 6.4. **Resourcing:** Local government continues to face pressure on its resources. The delivery of this strategy will require the utilisation of existing resources, the identification of external funding, and the maximising of match funding arrangements. A realistic appraisal of the resources required for delivering carbon



neutrality will need to be carried out as part of the initial strategy production and resources will need to be matched to ambition.

- 6.5. **Partnerships and networks:** as set out in paragraph 4, there are a number of new pan-London and national networks that are now focusing on climate activity. Equally, there are existing networks and stakeholder groups that will have a key role to play in shaping our strategy and delivery for the next decade. A scoping and engagement exercise will be carried out with all existing networks and in order to integrate Southwark's activity into the wider field, share and develop best practice and shape the delivery of the strategy new partnerships will need to be developed with the private sector, housing providers, public sector partners and voluntary and community groups.
- 6.6. **Consultation:** Southwark cannot respond to the emergency alone and the climate emergency impacts on all residents and activities within the borough. It is therefore planned to carry out an extensive consultation exercise within the borough early in 2020 in order to give everyone with the borough an opportunity to shape the future strategy and ensure we are meeting the needs of residents and stakeholders. It is also proposed to have a partnership group within the ongoing governance structure to ensure the voices of residents are heard and continue to shape activity.
- 6.7. **Legislative landscape:** broadly speaking, current legislation does not support, or does not go far enough, to help deliver the likely aims of our Climate Strategy. We are working within local networks and with partners to achieve a consensus on key legislative changes that may be required, what potential incentives would be effective and removing key policy barriers.

## 7. A Climate Strategy for Southwark

Based on the above areas of focus it is proposed that Southwark develop a single, overarching Southwark Climate Strategy 2020-2030 to act as a response to the emergency and set out our plan, activities, milestones and targets for the next decade. This will be developed in conjunction with residents and partners following consultation.

## 8. Proposed governance

The development of such a strategy is complex and potentially touches on all aspects of life within the borough. As such the level of involvement and consultation from council departments, partners and consultative groups needs to be extensive. A governance framework is set out in appendix 1. The board aims of the boards are:

- **Partnerships steering group:** this is intended to be a broad, borough wide group which will include key members, partners, businesses, cultural organisations, national action groups and local groups, and it will have a steering role and be informed by the delivery board.

- **Strategic steering group:** this is an officer led group, with representatives from across the council. It will have a steering role (jointly with the partnerships group) and be informed by the detailed work of the delivery and coordination group.
- **Delivery and coordination group:** will deliver the strategic outcomes of the steering group across a series of workstreams – coordinating and bringing together established areas of activity as well as the new and emerging themes within the strategy.
- **Workstreams:** each Workstream will be led by a senior officer and report back to the delivery and coordination board. The initial areas of workstream activity are proposed to be:
  - Housing and new homes
  - Public realm and adaptation
  - Planning and regulation
  - Regeneration and development
  - Waste minimisation and plastics
  - Transport
  - Energy and facilities
  - Businesses
  - Green space and biodiversity
  - Data, commissioning, procurement and monitoring
  - Engagement and consultation
  - Communications

## 9. Project mobilisation

### September 2019

- Draft governance structure proposed to COT for comments - complete
- Revision of governance following feedback - complete
- Formation of strategic steering group
- Drafting of terms of reference and scope for the overall project
- Identification of members for the partnership steering group

### October 2019

- Climate strategy proposal taken to Scrutiny committee, and feedback incorporated into plan.
- Climate Strategy proposal to Cabinet
- Initial meeting of strategic steering group
- Start of data collection and strategy reviews
- Identification of members for the partnership steering group
- Workstream leads identified and scope produced
- Workstreams set up

### November 2019

- Initial meeting of Partnership steering group
- Design work for consultation
- Best practice review

**January 2020**

- Consultation approach designed

**February 2020**

- Draft performance framework and baseline data
- Draft Southwark Climate Strategy

**March 2020 – May 2020**

- Consultation with residents, partners and stakeholders

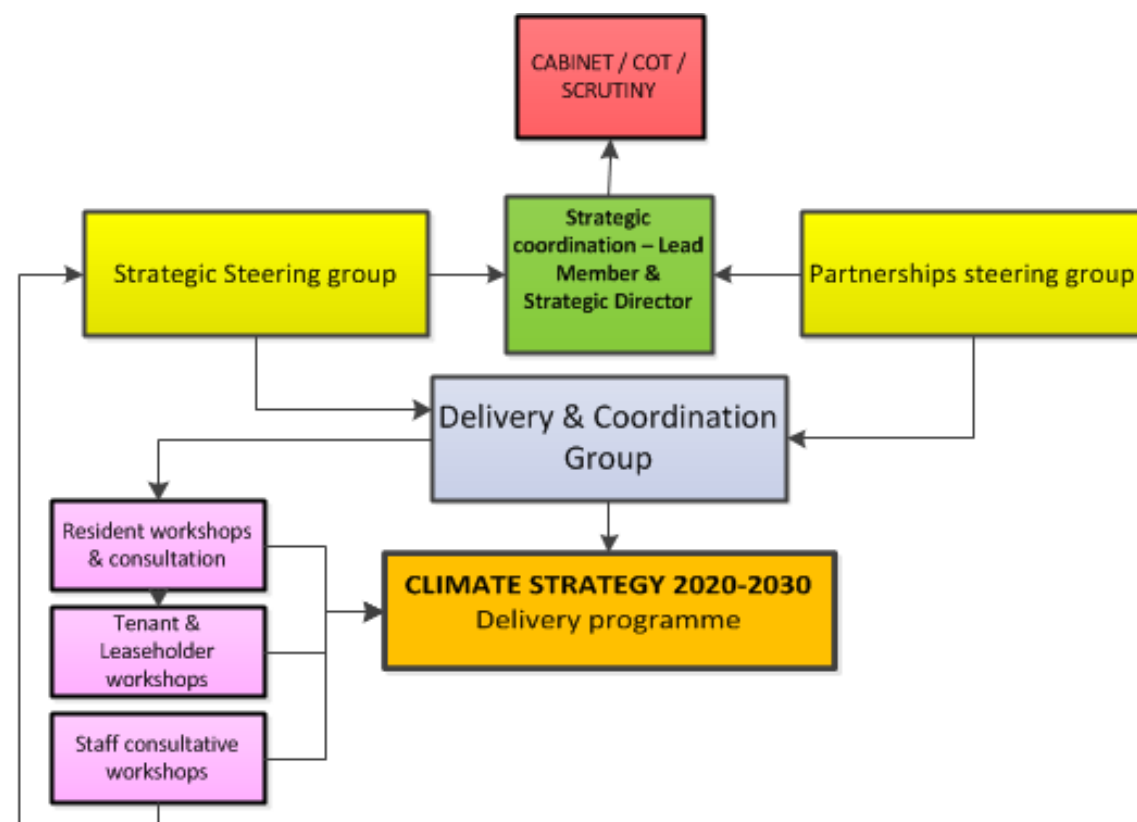
**June 2020**

- Final draft of Southwark Climate Strategy incorporating consultation outcomes
- Climate Strategy to Cabinet for approval

**July 2020**

- Climate event

**Appendix 1:** Southwark Climate Strategy – Proposed governance structure



*The following is from a draft chapter for the new (2019) edition of Zero Carbon Britain. We welcome any feedback....*

#### 4.5 Developing a climate emergency action plan for your area

A great many people and organisations across the UK are calling for climate emergency action plans for their local areas. They are working with Local Governments to explore net-zero transformations in transport, energy, housing, food, waste, and buildings and land-use. Many Local Governments, often in the front line of dealing with climate impacts such as flooding, fires, storm damage, have now made climate emergency declarations – and are working on climate emergency action plans. This process is happening on many different scales - for urban cities such as Edinburgh or Bristol, for large devolved areas such as Manchester or London Metro Regions, for rural market towns such as Machynlleth or for villages like Wedmore.

But how on earth do local groups and councils start such projects?

##### Developing your Action Plan

Exploring a climate emergency action plan to reach zero carbon can help inform new development pathways, offering economically viable and resilient futures for your area. Key elements of the process include:

1. **Declare an emergency:** Work with a wide range of independent local groups, backed by a citizen's petition calling on your council to make a climate emergency declaration, backed by a commitment to planning and delivering the necessary actions, with a clear timeline to a net-zero end point. Some communities have also called for a combined climate and biodiversity declaration. Once successful, this offers civic ownership of the climate emergency planning process, so widening its engagement, resources and influence.
2. **Make it public:** Make a clear civic announcement of the climate emergency declaration and launch the action planning process, calling for input from citizens, funders, experts and other key players. By using local and social media and through presentations to universities, community groups, campaigners and policymakers, it is possible to create a significant level of public engagement in building the plan.
3. **Make it open:** The process by which the plan is then developed should be as inclusive as possible, as local citizens, businesses, and community groups will better engage if their voices have fully been heard from the outset.
4. **Connect local:** The framing of any process should reflect and respect the needs, traditions and culture of the area, thereby linking to important local opportunities such as agriculture or industry. This helps by embedding any research work around the key issues and language which are relevant to your locality.
5. **Boundaries:** Be clear on what areas your action plan has responsibility for, working out who has control of what, at which level. Making effective action plans means being clear on what the village or town council, local government you are making the action plan for has exclusive control over (as opposed to national and regional authorities): and where the complex and diffuse boundaries of responsibility lie.

6. **Cross-fertilise:** Identify and build links with relevant research already underway. Are other similar towns or villages further ahead with their action planning process? Are there already plans from councils above or below your level?
7. **Clear Process:** Reach consensus on the development process; such as the roles for steering groups and working groups, how membership of these groups is defined and how minutes can be shared, including to those who don't go on-line, for example copies in the library.
8. **Mapping:** Identify and engage relevant collaborators – e.g. local universities, industry, experts, non-governmental organisations, funders, young farmers, think-tanks and of course citizen expertise. You can also map out processes such as transport or food waste.
9. **Multi-solve:** Think across disciplines - the changes needed to reduce emissions can also increase resilience, create jobs, offer health benefits, reduce council expenditure, improve wellbeing etc.
10. **Tools:** Explore energy modelling support tools (e.g. Open Source Energy Monitor)
11. **Resources:** It is good to recognise that planning and delivery of the necessary actions must be publically reflected in the annual council budget. It will involve a great deal of detailed work, so it may be worth seeking initial kick-start funding for your 'project team' from key funding organisations, individuals and agencies. But even if there is little initial funding, the current wave of citizen commitment can un-leach a great deal of expert volunteer time.
12. **Zero Carbon 'expert seminars':** Expert seminars can bring together a selection of leaders relevant to a working group. It is useful to have a high-profile partner organisation to make the invitations, plus an independent facilitator.
13. **Keep up the momentum:** Agree a timeline, including consultations and make key milestones public so everyone knows what's happening.
14. **Celebrate:** come together as a community to recognise key milestones and celebrate the achievement!

#### **Potential multi-solving benefits of a climate emergency action plan:**

- **Co-benefits** - Councils can create healthier, more resilient local communities powered by locally generated zero carbon energy, served by affordable public transport, cleaner air, more efficient and easy to heat housing stock, greater employment, stronger local supply chains, healthier food and land systems with more space for biodiversity.
- **Stronger local social cohesion** – At a time when society is divided on many key issues, involving citizens through a collaborative process to deliver an ambitious carbon reduction target and engaging with the difficult choices that implies can bring us together in common purpose across barriers and across generations.
- **Un-do business as usual** - We can replace austerity with a 'green new deal' approach, re-think corporate delivery contracts, reverse costly policies and investments in carbon-intensive infrastructures such as roads or airports and divest from fossil fuels.

## How can plans deliver action?

Councils can simultaneously make change happen in several key ways.

- **Upward:** Once they have declared, local councils can collectively lobby district or county councils for actions beyond their own jurisdiction, and to make available the resources needed to enable actions in their areas. They can also advocate for action from National Government, including the funding and commitment needed to implement a UK climate emergency mobilisation plan.
- **Sideways:** Leading by example encourages others to act. Councils can share both their declaration, plan and actions achieved so far – openly communicating on what works, and what doesn't. This can include; councils near-by, or councils they work with, those they are twinned with and via council networks e.g. Local Government Management Board.
- **Downward:** Councils can undertake policy and budgetary development to drive action within their own jurisdiction for example in the transport systems it runs, its food purchasing contracts for schools or hospitals, the land it controls, the education system it manages, its libraries arts and culture etc. To increase resilience, a Council can also make it clear when key subcontracting tenders are up for renewal and encourage bids from social enterprises and local supply chains, as Preston Council has done. For every aspect, from mass retrofit, to community renewables, to transforming transport - there are real life case-studies which show what can be achieved. Researching and sharing relevant case-studies can demonstrate locally that change is achievable, help scale-up plans, avoid mistakes and highlight the co-benefits such as jobs, cost savings, health benefits or community cohesion. It is worth considering quick wins – changes that can be achieved rapidly and offer significant emissions reductions. Councils also need to support those they have responsibility over - for a district council, this could include development of 'climate emergency action packs' to support parish councils within its area.
- **Inwards:** Councils will need to educate their own staff about the climate emergency, its causes, the potential actions and the role it can play in driving a broader climate emergency response. This could include Carbon Literacy training within the council, developing a new approach to decision-making, from the CEO downward. The council can also take strong and immediate action on its own infrastructure including; energy it buys, the buildings it uses, the roof spaces potentials for PV etc.

Councils will not be able to reverse global warming by themselves, but working in these four directions can help deliver meaningful practical actions and put pressure on national government to act.

More information and resources can be found on the CAT website ([www.cat.org.uk](http://www.cat.org.uk)), including training courses, conferences, and our free information service. Please do get in touch if you have any questions and we'll do our best to help. Good luck!

Other useful links include:

<https://climateemergency.uk>

[https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/0861\\_GP\\_ClimateEmergency\\_Report\\_Pages.pdf](https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/0861_GP_ClimateEmergency_Report_Pages.pdf)

[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a8b2f10017db29af12740d5/t/5c5105ac4ae23755fa8e3739/1548813761390/Darebin\\_Climate\\_Emergency\\_Plan\\_lo-res\\_-\\_web-ready\\_June\\_1\\_2018.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a8b2f10017db29af12740d5/t/5c5105ac4ae23755fa8e3739/1548813761390/Darebin_Climate_Emergency_Plan_lo-res_-_web-ready_June_1_2018.pdf)

<https://policy.friendsoftheearth.uk/insight/33-actions-local-authorities-can-take-climate-change>

<https://policy.friendsoftheearth.uk/insight/policy-changes-needed-enable-local-authorities-england-deliver-climate-change>

<https://www.labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Bringing-Energy-Home-2019.pdf>

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/may/31/labour-businesses-public-sector-contracts-climate-emergency>

<https://climateoutreach.org/resources/report-are-the-public-ready-for-net-zero/>

<https://www.local.gov.uk/councillor-workbook-acting-climate-change>

<https://www.tcpa.org.uk/planning-for-climate-change>

[https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/1986/5-year-plan-branded\\_3.pdf](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/1986/5-year-plan-branded_3.pdf)

<http://unlockingsustainablecities.org/A%20Civic%20Plan%20for%20a%20Climate%20Emergency.pdf>

[http://www.green-innovations.asn.au/RSTI/Local=first-implementation\\_local-govt.pdf](http://www.green-innovations.asn.au/RSTI/Local=first-implementation_local-govt.pdf)