



Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy Consultation Report

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Introduction

Overview of the Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Strategy

In July 2023, Southwark Council's Cabinet approved a draft Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Strategy (CRAS). The strategy sets out the council's plans to protect communities, homes, infrastructure, and the environment from the physical impacts of climate change. This includes extreme weather such as heat and flooding, risks to water and food supply as well as the emergence of new pests and diseases. The borough-wide strategy sets out how the council will:

- Future-proof the borough's buildings, streets, and critical infrastructure
- Work with others to prepare, plan, and respond to challenges and shocks
- Improve the borough by improving air quality and biodiversity and reducing inequalities

The council already does a lot of work in these areas, including:

- shaping new building design in planning policy to reduce overheating
- managing flood risk and delivering sustainable urban drainage schemes
- emergency planning that ensures we have a quick and effective response to support residents in times of need
- large programmes of urban greening and planting

The draft strategy recognised this ongoing work while ensuring that the borough is prepared for the challenges that climate change will bring.

Purpose of this Consultation Report

To help create a robust strategy, the council sought the views of Southwark residents, businesses, and community groups on the CRAS. Crucially, the council wanted to hear about local people's response to climate change impacts such as extreme weather and food shortages – to help understand the way communities have pulled together and adapted through recent shocks and stresses.

This Consultation Report has been prepared to provide a comprehensive record of this consultation, the feedback received and the regard had to that feedback.

Further information

The council declared a climate emergency in 2019 and it has an ambition to be a carbon neutral borough by 2030. You can read more about our work to tackle the climate emergency by:

- [Visiting the tackling the climate emergency pages](#)
- [Reading the annual report on progress made during 2022-23](#)
- [Viewing the Climate Change Strategy, and action plan](#)

The council has also been clear that the climate is changing now, and it is changing fast. This is why the CRAS has been produced and developed. You can read more about the draft strategy, the climate threats and plans to prepare Southwark on the [climate resilience web pages](#).

Consultation Summary

Public consultation on the draft CRAS took place for six weeks from 29 August 2023 to 9 October 2023. 124 people completed the online survey and written representations were received from Southwark campaign groups (Extinction Rebellion, Southwark Planning Network, Southwark Law Centre), stakeholders (Historic England, Environment Agency, Natural England) and members of the public. Issues raised included:

- Climate justice and focusing resources on those who are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change
- +2°C and +4°C temperature increase scenarios and the latest national policy context
- More engagement with the community e.g. Citizens' Assembly
- 'Hot homes' that suffer from excess heat as a result of their heating systems or insulation
- Nature-based solutions, urban greening, biodiversity net gain and trees

Officers have updated the strategy in response to suggestions that were raised through consultation. Updates included:

- An increased focus on residents who are exposed to a higher climate risk within the borough and who are most vulnerable to the impacts of a changing climate
- Ongoing commitment to community engagement
- New and revised action points for the five themes within the Strategy

Consultation

Approach to consultation

Early engagement

The draft CRAS and draft action points were developed following a period of internal consultation. This included:

- Meetings between relevant officers in different teams including Planning, Highways, Flood team, Asset Management, Parks and Leisure
- Cabinet member briefings and reviews
- Workshops on climate resilience and adaptation with officers from across different departments

The draft CRAS was then approved for consultation by Southwark Council Cabinet on 10 July 2023.

At this point, whilst the consultation was not live, the draft strategy was publicly available. Extinction Rebellion Southwark provided a deputation to the item at the Cabinet meeting on 10 July 2023. The council had a subsequent meeting with the group on 14 August 2023, to talk through their feedback in detail. This has been considered as part of the public consultation.

Public consultation (29 August – 9 October)

A public consultation opened on 29 August and closed on 9 October 2023. The consultation was open to anyone who lives, works or spends time in the borough. It sought the views of residents on how to make the borough as prepared as possible for the impacts of climate change.

To support the consultation, the council made the following documents available online:

- [A new suite of webpages](#) on the Southwark Council Tackling the Climate Emergency website (please see Appendix B for screenshots).
- [A consultation hub](#) on the council's online consultation platform. Including a consultation survey (please see Appendix C for screenshots).
- The draft Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Strategy
- [A summary of the Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Strategy](#)
- [Draft actions, that will inform a final action plan for the strategy](#)
- [A background document, to show how we've considered various international, national and regional policies and frameworks](#)

An email inbox, climateemergency@southwark.gov.uk, was also available to support any enquiries and to receive direct feedback on the CRAS.

Identifying consultees

The consultation was open to all interested people who lived, worked or spent time in the borough. Following a stakeholder mapping exercise, key stakeholders were also identified. The different stakeholder groups identified included:

- Southwark residents
- Local community and interest groups
- Organisations with statutory and non-statutory responsibility for areas which are relevant to the CRAS

Further details of the contact organisations are listed in Appendix A.

Publicising the consultation

The public consultation began on Tuesday 29 August 2023. At this point, all of the consultation documents, including the webpages and online survey, became available to view and download online.

The consultation was publicised extensively throughout the consultation period. A summary of the outgoing communications are listed in the table below.

Communication method	Audience
Southwark Council Tackling the Climate Emergency electronic newsletter	Residents who want to be kept up to date about climate news in Southwark
Community Gardening newsletter	Community gardener network
Direct email to key stakeholders from climateemergency@southwark.gov.uk	Key stakeholders
Reminder email on 28 September 2023 to key stakeholders from climateemergency@southwark.gov.uk	Key stakeholders
Email notification to residents who had asked to be informed about the start of the consultation	Residents who asked to be notified about the consultation starting
Resident e-newsletter	Large distribution of residents
Business e-newsletter	Businesses in Southwark
Partnership Southwark newsletter	Southwark health organisations
Housing magazine	Southwark council home tenants
Media release	Local news organisations
Social media promotion – throughout the consultation period	All residents

Email notifications to networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith leaders • Housing forum attendees • Southwark Biodiversity Partnership • Residents who had previously responded to consultations on flooding risk and the response to the council • Tenants' Forum • Homeowners' Forum • Local Housing Forum - Central East • Local Housing Forum - Central West • Local Housing Forum - North East • Local Housing Forum - North West • Local Housing Forum - South
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Methods of receiving comments and feedback

The council hosted an online survey on its consultation hub. The consultation hub included relevant information from the CRAS to help users answer questions fully. Residents were encouraged to give feedback via this digital survey. They were also able to provide feedback via email by writing to climateemergency@southwark.gov.uk.

The council also captured feedback by attending a number of events and listening to the experiences of residents.

A summary of the feedback received, and the council's response, is included later in this document.

Meetings and events

As well as online information and documentation, council officers made themselves available for a number of meetings and events. At these events, council officers presented the CRAS, invited feedback and promoted the consultation.

<u>Meeting/event</u>	<u>Date</u>
Community Stakeholder Panel	Monday 11 September
Veolia Wonder Day	Saturday 16 September
Hot Homes Community Meet-up	Wednesday 13 September
Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Q&A (online)	Thursday 5 October
Better Bankside theme group meeting	Wednesday 4 October
Elephant & Castle Business Forum	Thursday 28 September
Team London Bridge Net Zero Steering Group	Tuesday 10 October

Wonder Day

On Saturday 16 September, council officers attended Veolia Wonder Day at the Integrated Waste Management Facility off Old Kent Road, where they had a stall to promote the consultation. As part of this stall, officers spoke to residents about climate change, resilience and adaptation, encouraging people to complete the survey.



Figure 1: Veolia Wonder Day

Feedback received

Summary of feedback received

Throughout the consultation period people could respond by completing the online survey, or by emailing comments directly to climateemergency@southwark.gov.uk. Feedback was also received at events and meetings which were attended as part of the consultation.

In total, 124 responses to the online survey were completed, and seven responses were received via email. These responses, and the regard given to them, has been outlined in the next section of this document.

Responses received

Overarching comments on the Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy and action points

Survey responses

Most respondents were clear or somewhat clear on the council's plans around climate change resilience and adaptation. However, a significant minority were still not clear.

Figure 5: Are you clear on the council's strategy?

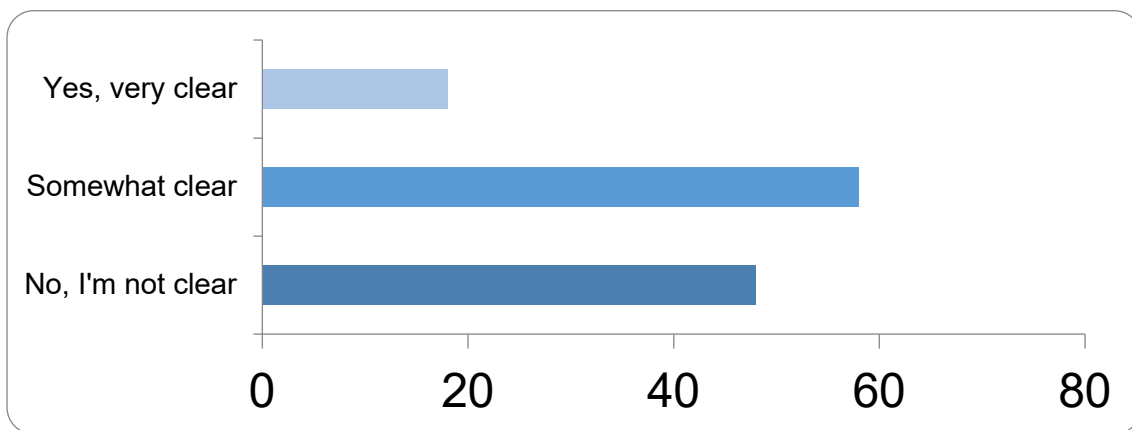


Figure 6: Are you clear on the council's strategy? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
Yes, very clear	18	14.52%
Somewhat clear	58	46.77%
No, I'm not clear	48	38.71%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Over a third of respondents believed that there were risks or actions not covered adequately in the CRAS.

Figure 7: Do you think risks are adequately covered?

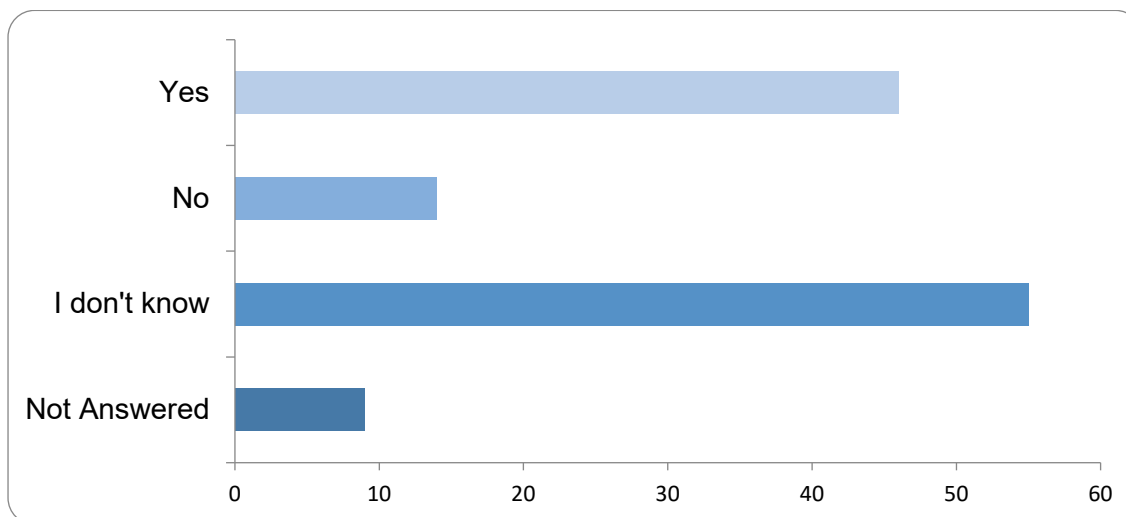


Figure 8: Do you think risks are adequately covered? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	46	37.10%
No	14	11.29%
I don't know	55	44.35%
Not Answered	9	7.26%

Consultation responses

Extinction Rebellion

- The strategy should be based on the latest UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022 and respond to the key policy requirement to plan for 2°C and 4°C of warming.
- Limited progress on securing funding to tackle climate action. The strategy requires 'SMART'er objectives.

Southwark Planning Network's Climate Change and Planning Group

- The strategy must focus on climate justice and those who are most at risk, particularly those who have multiple over-lapping vulnerabilities e.g. black and minority groups, people with disabilities, older, poorer people.
- Further community engagement is needed with a programme of mechanisms like a Citizens Assembly. High risk groups must be included in this.
- Long term engagement with residents, Tenants and Residents Associations (TRAs), and business and other sectors is needed, this needs to start with people's current concerns.
- The council should use existing good practice and resources e.g. GLA guidance on SUDs, and learn from other London boroughs etc.
- Some key messages about reduce and reuse of resources need to run through strategy and action points everything, e.g. new and existing buildings to be adapted in the future for other uses - giving a longer lifetime and less demolition.
- Ensure new developments don't contribute to climate change in the first place – this needs to come before we consider mitigation of the results of climate change. That means the council getting tougher on expecting developments to be net zero, and only allowing

payments in lieu (carbon offset contributions) in very exceptional circumstances and a potential penalty payment for resorting to a payment in lieu. The council should expect greater ingenuity in coming up with climate solutions as part of planning applications – Council discretion to determine what is sufficient in each case.

Southwark Law Centre

- It could be made clearer that this document is only part of Southwark Council's broader climate strategy. Documents piece together – perhaps a subheading on the front page?
- There should be a greater focus on consultation and community engagements
- Efforts should be made to tap into local knowledge and understand local concerns, as an ongoing process and not a one-off. It is for the Council to actively set up these streams rather than passively expect community to navigate the process and organise. This should be with residents and businesses directly, as well as via TRAs and other community groups.
- There needs to be a focus on climate justice, including the greater risks for certain groups, including various ethnic minority groups, people with disabilities, older people, and those from lower socioeconomic groups.
- Ensuring new developments don't contribute to climate change in the first place – this needs to come before we consider mitigation of the results of climate change. I appreciate it might be more appropriate to go into the detail via the broader climate strategy, but it needs to be referenced here. That means:
 - Focusing on reduce and reuse strategies;
 - The Council getting tougher on expecting developments to be net zero, and only allowing payments in lieu (carbon offset contributions) in very exceptional circumstances;
 - A potential penalty payment for resorting to a payment in lieu;
 - Expecting greater ingenuity from developments in coming up with climate solutions as part of planning applications – Council discretion to determine what is sufficient in each case.

Natural England

- No comment

Coin Street Builders

- Welcome the overall aims of the draft Strategy and particularly its approach to working in partnership. States that they can contribute to the implementation of the strategy under four of the five strategic headings through the delivery of their Doon Street development

Environment Agency

- The strategy aligns with numerous threads that run through Thames Estuary 2100 Plan. The 2100 Plan introduces the riverside strategy approach as a way for those involved in shaping the future of the Thames riverside to work together to ensure the required future changes to the riverside take place in a planned and integrated way.

Historic England

- Encourage the referencing of the historic environment at points throughout the strategy and suggest options for the future planning guidance.

General summary of feedback and regard had to responses

- Officers have updated the strategy to ensure the strategy and actions focus on those in the borough who will be most vulnerable to the impacts of a changing climate.
- The council has given due regard to the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022 and has updated the strategy to plan for 2°C rise by 2050 and assess the risk 4°C of warming by 2100, in line with Climate Change Committee advice. The council recognises that there is a certain amount of uncertainty associated with longer-term climate change projections, and will take a responsive approach to delivering and updating the strategy on an annual basis as better data becomes available.
- The council is committed to ongoing community engagement regarding climate adaptation and resilience in the borough and will be undertaking this throughout 2024.
- The theme of ‘Circular Economy’ is one of the key priority areas in the council’s main Climate Change Strategy, where a series of actions points seek to support circular principles within the borough.
- The council will continue to work closely with neighbouring boroughs, GLA, London Councils and the climate change sector to learn and share best practice and inform council climate workstreams.
- The consultation responses that relate to planning policy and how the council should determine planning applications are noted. Although suggestions for new planning policies are outside the scope of the strategy – as it does not form part of the council’s Local Plan that guides the work of the planning team – the need for ensuring climate adaptation is considered through the planning system is fundamental to ensuring the resilience of the borough. Climate adaptation is covered by various policies in the adopted Southwark Plan (2022) and the London Plan (2021) that are used on a daily basis in the planning process. The partial review of the Southwark Plan has commenced with planning policies being updated in relation to the climate emergency and climate adaptation. The first stage of public consultation on new and updated policies will take place later in 2024. Consultation will also take place on climate-related planning guidance in supplementary planning documents.
- Officers will be working collaboratively with relevant stakeholders on the Thames Estuary 2100 Plan (TE2100) and a new Riverside Strategy for the borough.

General feedback

Survey responses

Respondents were asked a number of question about themselves. The vast majority of respondents, 87%, said that they lived in Southwark.

Figure 9: Which of these best describes you

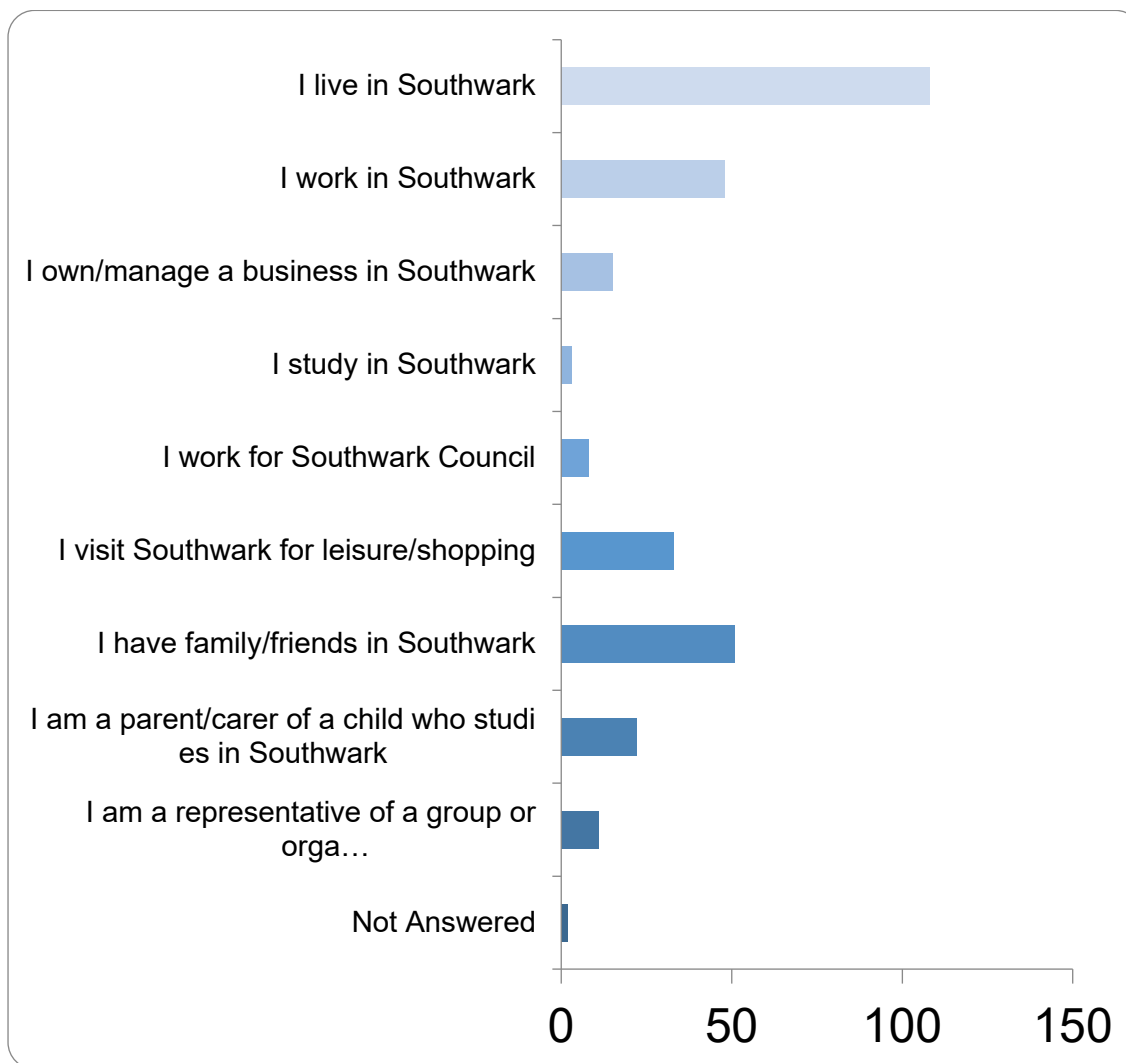


Figure 10: Which of these best describes you (total and percentage)

Option	Total	Percent
I live in Southwark	108	87.10%
I work in Southwark	48	38.71%
I own/manage a business in Southwark	15	12.10%
I study in Southwark	3	2.42%
I work for Southwark Council	8	6.45%
I visit Southwark for leisure/shopping	33	26.61%
I have family/friends in Southwark	51	41.13%
I am a parent/carer of a child who studies in Southwark	22	17.74%

I am a representative of a group or organisation (please specify)	11	8.87%
Not Answered	2	1.61%

The most common way respondents found out about the consultation was by receiving an email from the council.

Figure 11: How did you find out about the consultation?

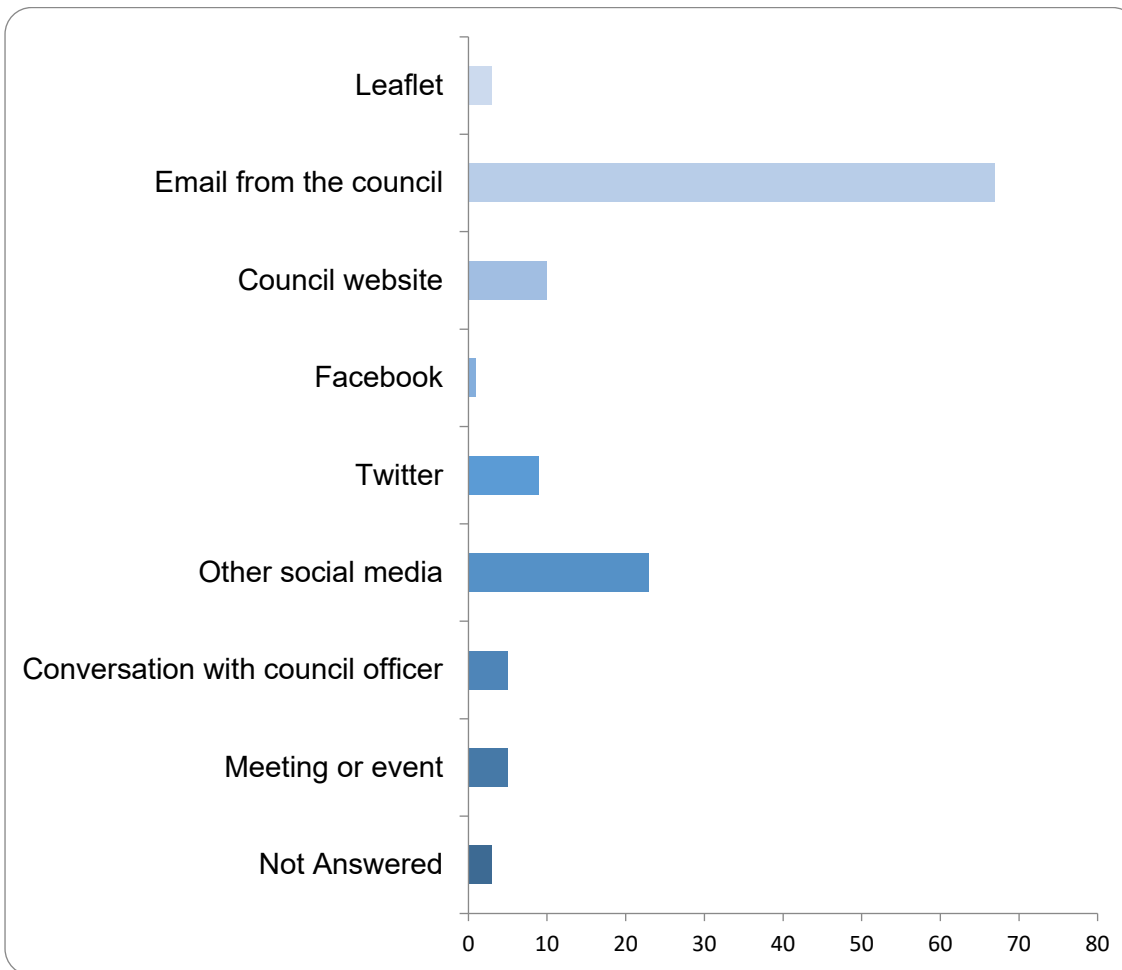


Figure 12: How did you find out about the consultation? (total and percentage)

Option	Total	Percent
Leaflet	3	2.42%
Poster	0	0.00%
Email from the council	67	54.03%
Council website	10	8.06%
Facebook	1	0.81%
Twitter	9	7.26%
Instagram	0	0.00%
Other social media	23	18.55%
Conversation with council officer	5	4.03%
Meeting or event	5	4.03%
Not Answered	3	2.42%

Over 90% of respondents were either very concerned or slightly concerned about the impacts of climate change in their local area.

Figure 13: How concerned are you about climate change?

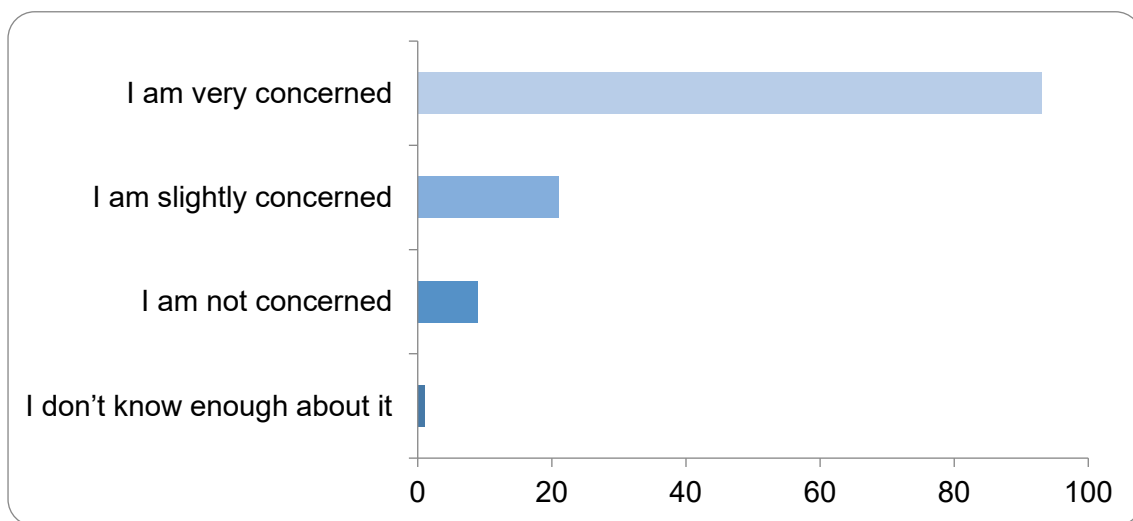


Figure 14: How concerned are you about climate change? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
I am very concerned	93	75.00%
I am slightly concerned	21	16.94%
I am not concerned	9	7.26%
I don't think it will affect me	0	0.00%
I don't know enough about it	1	0.81%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Respondents were also asked where they look for support or guidance on extreme weather. Responses to this question showed that there is a variety of trusted messengers for extreme weather, including Southwark Council. However, the most commonly used methods are via the news or a weather app on a mobile phone.

Figure 15: How do you find out about extreme weather?

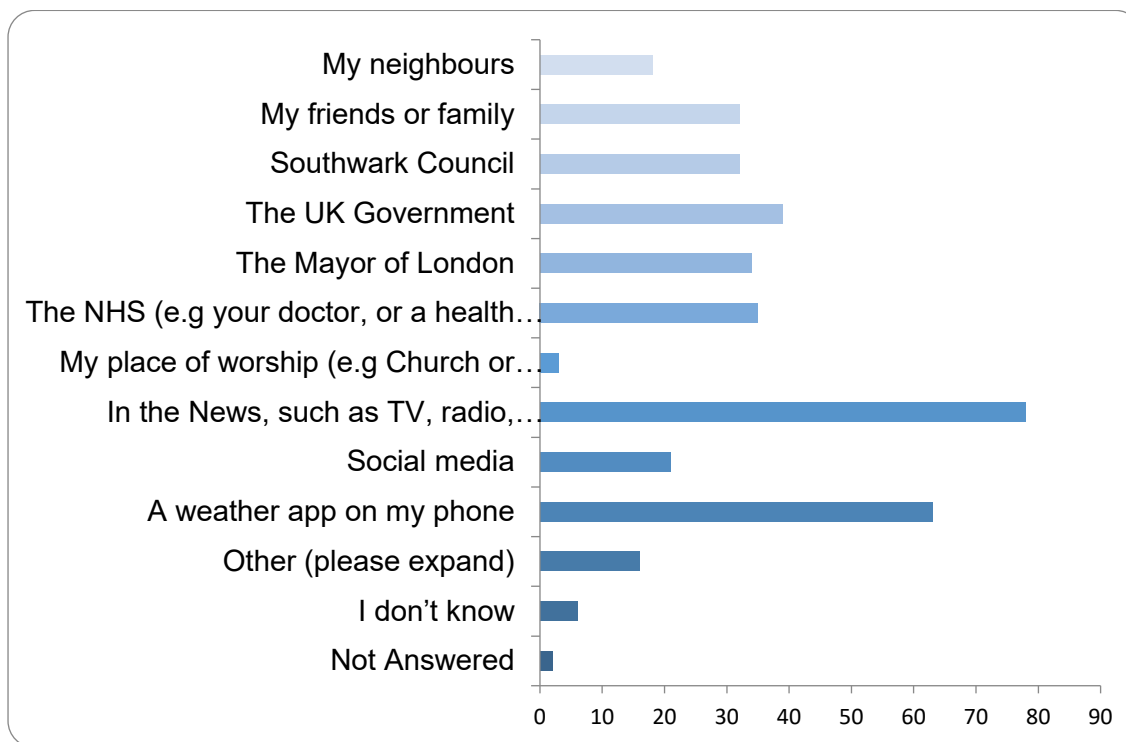


Figure 16: How do you find out about extreme weather? (total and percentage)

Option	Total	Percent
My neighbours	18	14.52%
My friends or family	32	25.81%
Southwark Council	32	25.81%
The UK Government	39	31.45%
The Mayor of London	34	27.42%
The NHS (e.g. your doctor, or a health visitor)	35	28.23%
My place of worship (e.g. Church or Mosque)	3	2.42%
In the News, such as TV, radio, websites or newspapers	78	62.90%
Social media	21	16.94%
A weather app on my phone	63	50.81%
Other (please expand)	16	12.90%
I don't know	6	4.84%
Not Answered	2	1.61%

Overheating

Survey responses

The vast majority of respondents stated that they had experienced overheating in the past five years.

Figure 17: Have you experienced overheating?

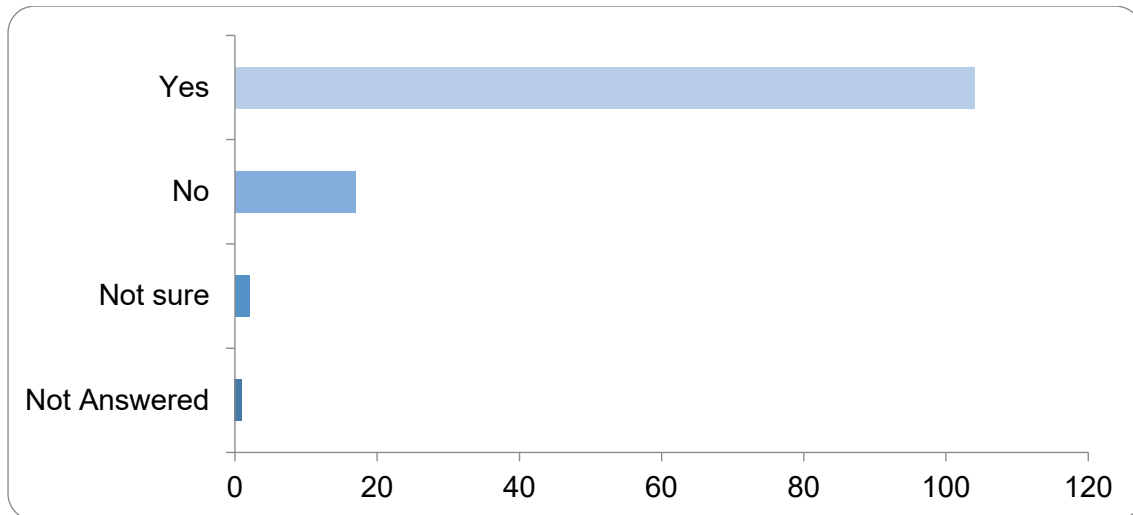


Figure 18: Have you experienced overheating? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	104	83.87%
No	17	13.71%
Not sure	2	1.61%
Not Answered	1	0.81%

Most respondents believe that overheating is a risk or an extremely big risk to their local area.

Figure 19: How much of a risk is overheating to your local area?

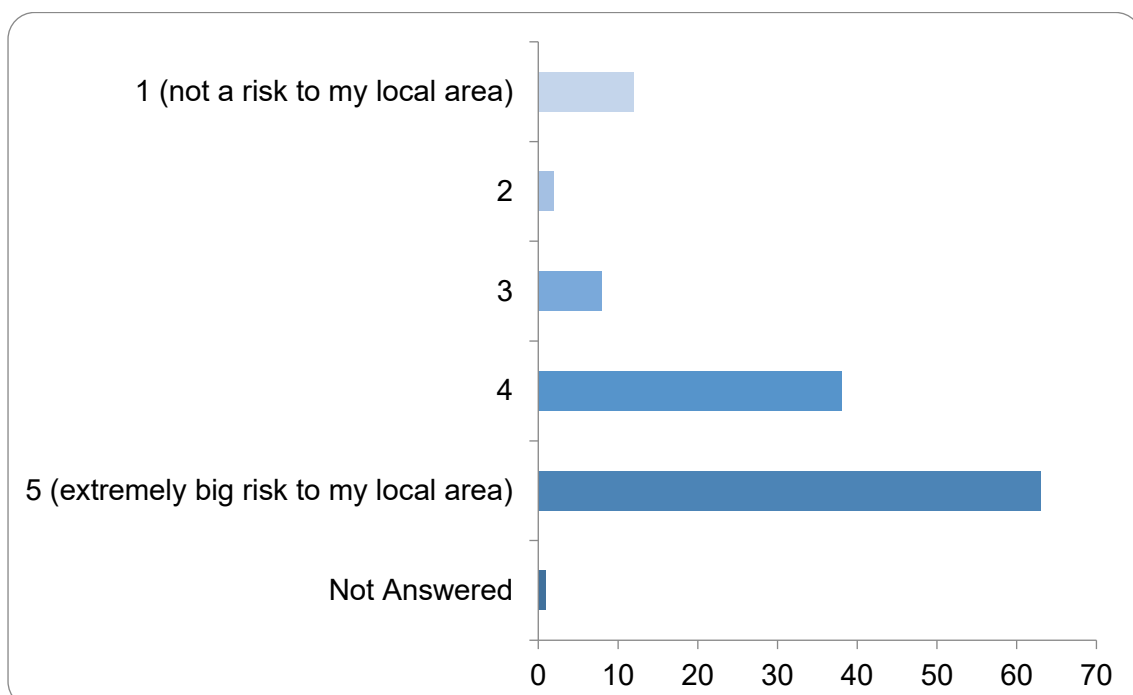


Figure 20: How much of a risk is overheating to your local area? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
1 (not a risk to my local area)	12	9.68%
2	2	1.61%
3	8	6.45%
4	38	30.65%
5 (extremely big risk to my local area)	63	50.81%
Not Answered	1	0.81%

Respondents were asked if, when experiencing periods of extreme heat, they had done anything differently. The three most common thing which respondents had done were changing their plans, buying a fan or air-cooling device, or going to a local park or green space.

Figure 21: What actions did you take during periods of extreme heat?

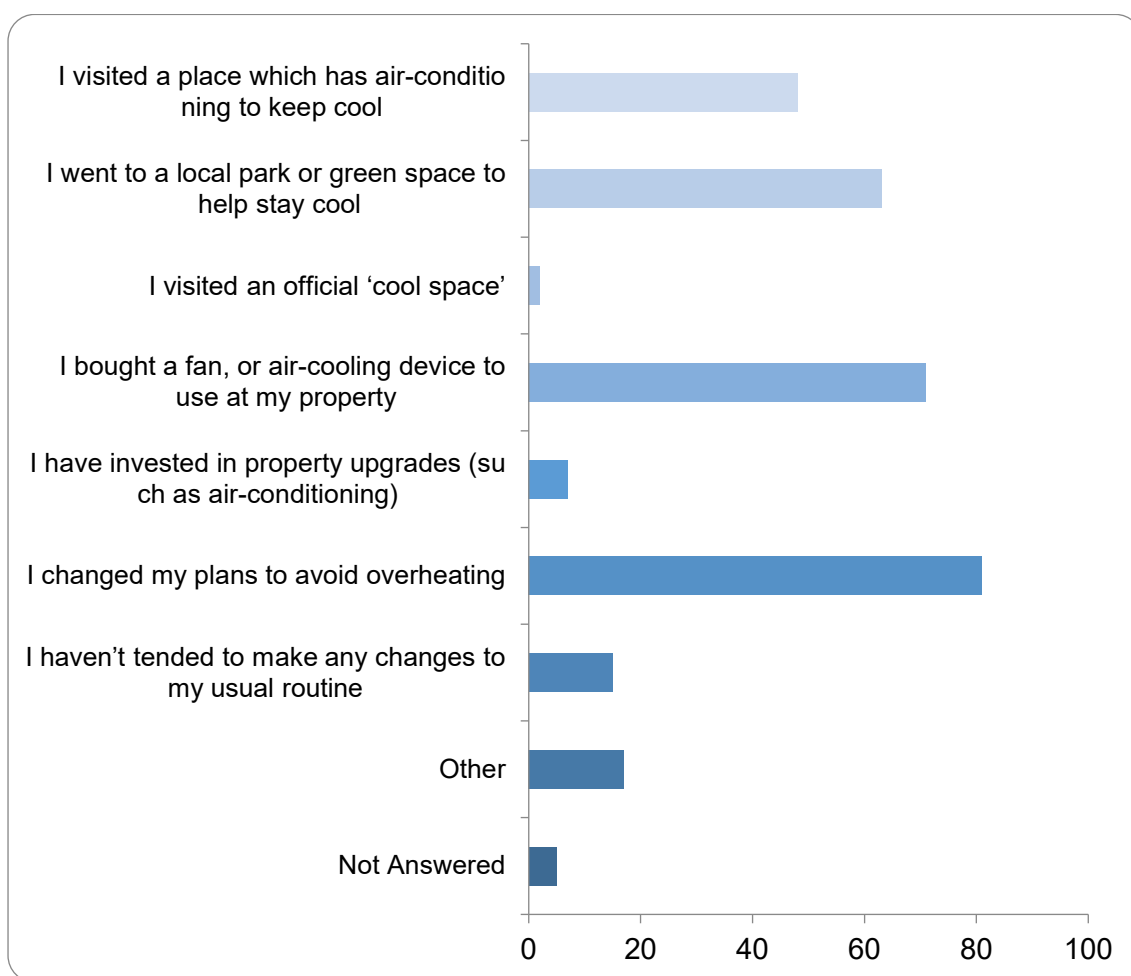


Figure 22: What actions did you take during periods of extreme heat? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
I visited a place which has air-conditioning to keep cool	48	38.71%
I went to a local park or green space to help stay cool	63	50.81%
I visited an official 'cool space'	2	1.61%
I bought a fan, or air-cooling device to use at my property	71	57.26%

I have invested in property upgrades (such as air-conditioning)	7	5.65%
I changed my plans to avoid overheating	81	65.32%
I haven't tended to make any changes to my usual routine	15	12.10%
Other	17	13.71%
Not Answered	5	4.03%

Hot homes study

From early August to mid-September this year, 40 properties in Southwark were part of a study led by the Bureau of Investigative Journalism and University of Glasgow's Urban Big Data Centre. This study investigated the temperatures of these properties over the summer period, and recorded the experiences of the residents. It included a range of property types.

The council has been working with the researchers to be able to consider as much of the data as possible. Every home in the study rose to at least 25°C, the maximum safe indoor temperature for London as recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO). Some did so for over a fortnight. Ten homes recorded temperatures over 30°C.

Prior to this research being published, and during the public consultation period, council officers attended a meeting with participants on Wednesday 13 September. Here, officers heard first-hand about some of the experiences.

Consultation responses

The council received the following responses regarding this theme:

Southwark Planning Network

- A key issue of heat risk is night-time temperatures. Cooler buildings are needed, especially homes: cool respite spaces during the day is not a medium/long term solution, many of respite spaces on GLA cool spaces map are parks/green spaces.
- Mitigation measures are essential as deaths from heat impacts take place very quickly
- Assessment of heat risk in new buildings is not adequate via planning policy - in some planning applications, mitigation measures are reliant on curtains and blinds.
- Consider the orientation of proposed new buildings, to reduce overheating and ensure shade
- Include green or brown roofs and encourage more natural solutions more broadly.
- Consider whether the height and mass of new buildings could contribute to heat risk both for users and neighbours.
- Keep Biodiversity Net Gain either onsite or local, so those affected by development can get environmental benefits, including against overheating.
- Ensure that buildings' impact on overheating is minimised, i.e. by making them eco-friendly.

Southwark Law Centre

- A key focus should be the inclusion of green/brown roofs and the encouragement of other natural solutions – ties into the focus needing to be on reduction, not just mitigation.
- Buildings should look to eco-friendly credentials (natural and beyond) before pivoting to mitigation.
- Assessment of heat risk in new buildings within planning process is not sufficiently robust – some applications point to curtains and blinds for mitigation.
- Consider the orientation of proposed new buildings, to reduce overheating and ensure shade. Consider adding this in as express policy requirement.
- Holistic approach which considers how new development may increase heat effects for neighbouring buildings and broader area.
- This should be linked with push to keep Biodiversity Net Gain either onsite or local, so those affected by development can get environmental benefits, including against overheating.
- One of the key issues of heat risk is night-time temperatures, which daytime respite spaces will not alleviate. This must be combatted with cooler buildings.

Natural England

- No comment

Summary of feedback and regard had to responses

Officers have added new and updated overheating action points for the strategy to tackle hot homes, undertake risk assessments for our services so the council can ensure they are available to those who are most vulnerable, and pilot projects to trial new shading in council parks.

Several responses referenced the implementation of planning policy through the planning process and design guidance for new development, such as green roofs, internal overheating and building orientation. Officers have updated the action point to prepare appropriate planning guidance in supplementary planning documents that will ensure new development responds to climate risk and the partial review of the Southwark Plan will look to update planning policies.

The adopted Southwark Plan (2022) and London Plan (2021) have a suite of existing design and environmental policies that positively requires development to respond to climate change and these are used for decision-making in the development management process.

The council's approach to biodiversity net gain is currently being prepared; considering new government regulations and climate adaptation will be central to this.

Flooding

Survey responses

Around one-fifth of respondents had experienced flooding in the past five years.

Figure 23: Have you experienced flooding in the past five years?

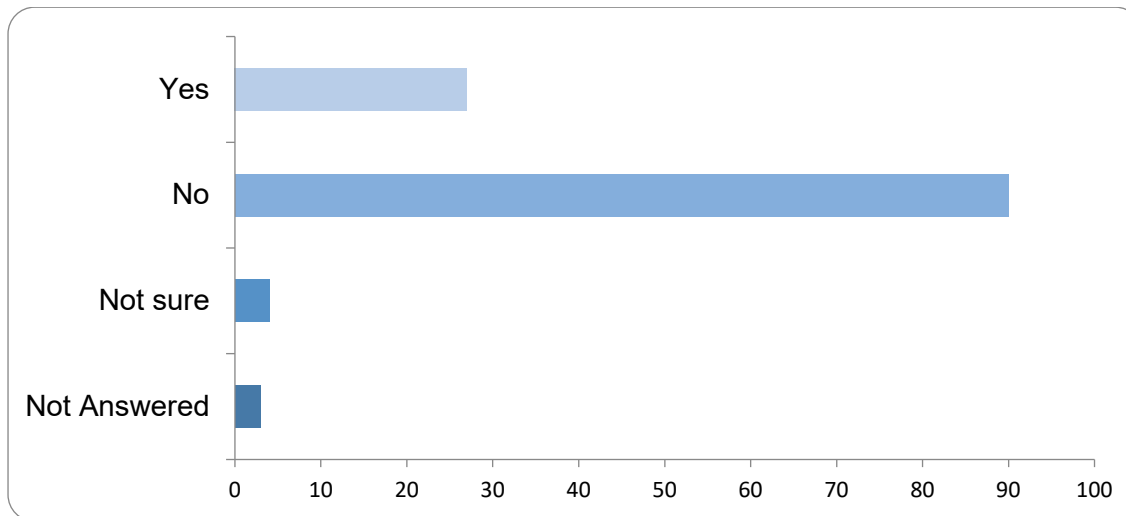


Figure 24: Have you experienced flooding in the past five years? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	27	21.77%
No	90	72.58%
Not sure	4	3.23%
Not Answered	3	2.42%

Most respondents consider flooding to be a risk, with a range of severity. However, one-fifth of respondents do not consider flooding to be a risk at all to their local area.

Figure 25: How much of a risk is flooding?

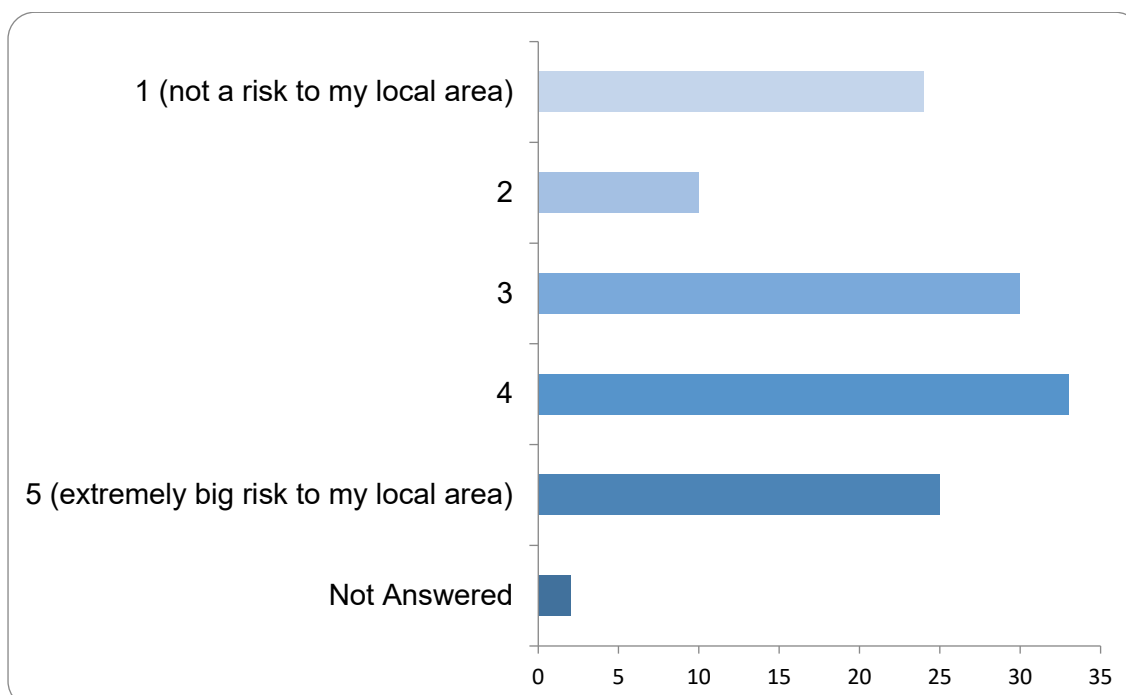


Figure 26: How much of a risk is flooding? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
1 (not a risk to my local area)	24	19.35%
2	10	8.06%
3	30	24.19%
4	33	26.61%
5 (extremely big risk to my local area)	25	20.16%
Not Answered	2	1.61%

Respondents were asked if they had experienced a number of things that can be caused by sudden, heavy rainfall. A number of people did not answer the question. Of those who answered the question, problems with travel due to flooding was the most common issue.

Figure 27: Experience of impacts caused by flooding.

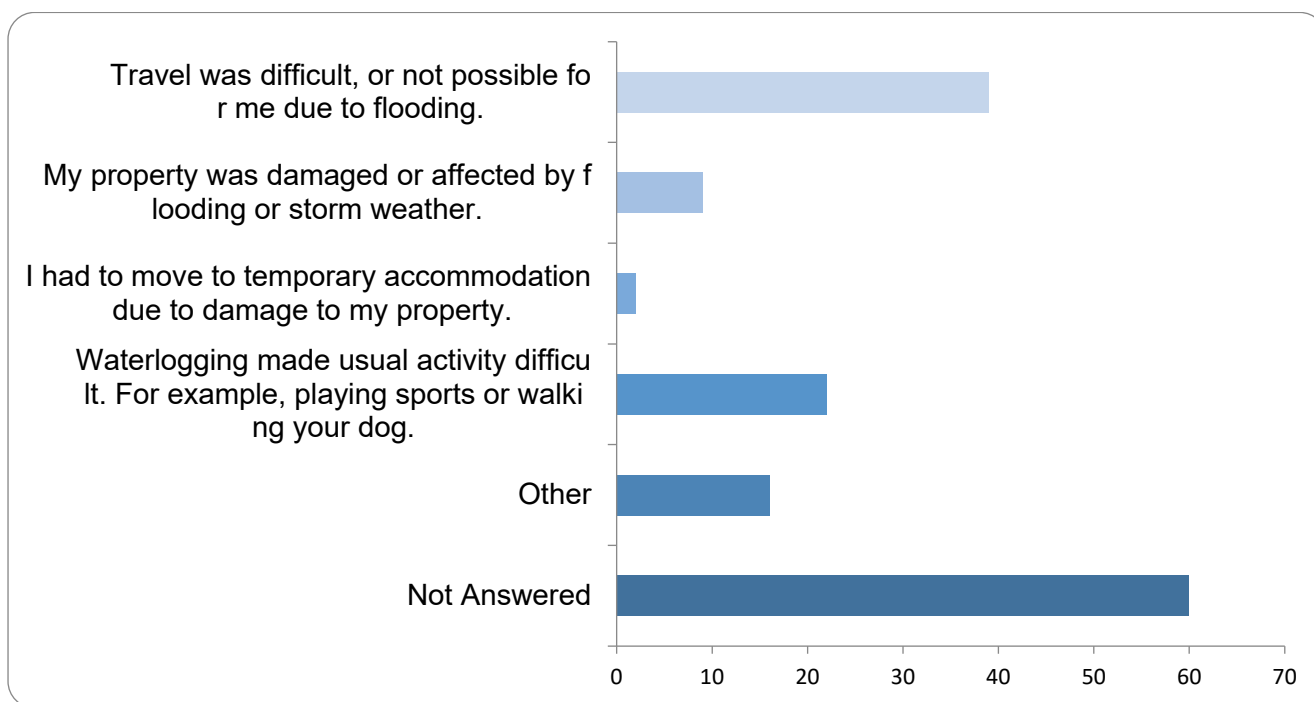


Figure 28: Experience of impacts caused by flooding, total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
Travel was difficult, or not possible for me due to flooding.	39	31.45%
My property was damaged or affected by flooding or storm weather.	9	7.26%
I had to move to temporary accommodation due to damage to my property.	2	1.61%
Waterlogging made usual activity difficult. For example, playing sports or walking your dog.	22	17.74%
Other	16	12.90%
Not Answered	60	48.39%

Stakeholder responses

The council received the following responses regarding this theme:

Southwark Planning Network

- New developments to have zero run-off/better than green field run-off.
- Drinking water does not need to be used for all activities - used grey water is suitable for flushing toilets. The Strategy should ensure that grey water is being reused.
- The Strategy should ensure that rainwater is being harvested and reused.
- Many areas of Southwark are at risk of groundwater and surface water flooding and sewer overflows - in part because it is very low lying compared to other areas of London
- Ensure that external surfaces are permeable to allow water to penetrate the ground rather than being channelled to a sewer
- Greening should extend beyond individual sites and link to local walking and cycling routes and nature corridors between green spaces
- Minimise hard surfaces, maximise green roofs, attenuation and infiltration.
- Emphasise the need for natural solutions, including the existing reference to blue-green infrastructure.

Southwark Law Centre

- Emphasise need for natural solutions, including existing reference to blue-green infrastructure – e.g. minimise hard surfaces, maximise green roofs, attenuation and infiltration.
- New developments to have zero run-off/better than green field run-off.
- Strategy should ensure that rainwater and grey water are being harvested and reused.
- Drinking water does not need to be used for all activities - used grey water is suitable for flushing toilets.
- Many areas of Southwark are at risk of groundwater, surface water and sewer overflows - in part because it is very low lying compared to other areas of London. This heightened sensitivity needs to be reflected into policy and developments react accordingly.
- Ensure that external surfaces are permeable to allow water to penetrate the ground rather than being channelled to a sewer.
- Greening should extend beyond individual sites and link to local walking and cycling routes and nature corridors between green spaces

Natural England

- No comment

Summary of feedback and regard had to responses

Officers have expanded an action point to roll out best practice water saving measures across the council to include buildings, operations and spaces. This will consider the use of grey water and water sensitive urban design. The new Local Flood Risk Management Strategy that will be adopted in early 2024 and the action point to include blue/green infrastructure in our highways will also reduce the risk of flooding in the borough.

The consultation responses that relate to water and flooding planning policies and how the council applies them to determine planning applications are noted. Although suggestions for new planning policies are outside the scope of the strategy, as it does not form part of the Local Plan that guides all planning decisions, the need for flooding to be considered through the planning system is fundamental to ensuring the resilience of the borough. Mitigating flood risk is covered by policies in the adopted Southwark Plan (2022) and the London Plan (2021) that are used on a daily basis in the planning process.

The partial review of the Southwark Plan will offer the opportunity to review water use in the design of our buildings and spaces. This will build on the existing suite of planning policy and guidance.

Water scarcity

Survey responses

The vast majority of respondents stated that they had not experienced limitations or gaps in the supply of running water at their property in the past five years.

Figure 29: Have you experienced water scarcity in the past five years?

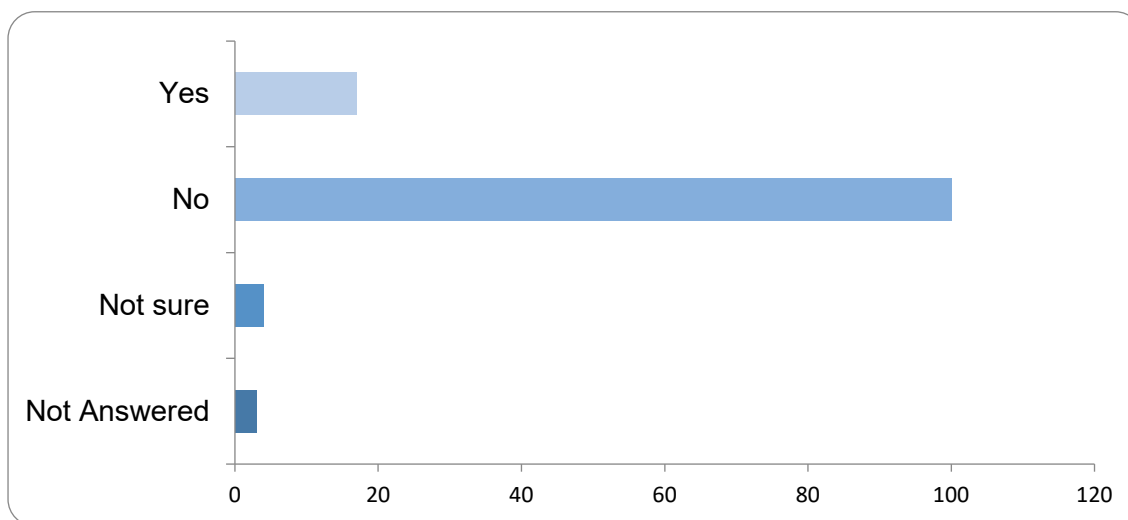


Figure 30: Have you experienced water scarcity in the past five years? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	17	13.71%
No	100	80.65%
Not sure	4	3.23%
Not Answered	3	2.42%

Generally most respondents saw a low level of risk in their local area for limitations or gaps in the supply of running water.

Figure 31: How much of a risk is water scarcity?

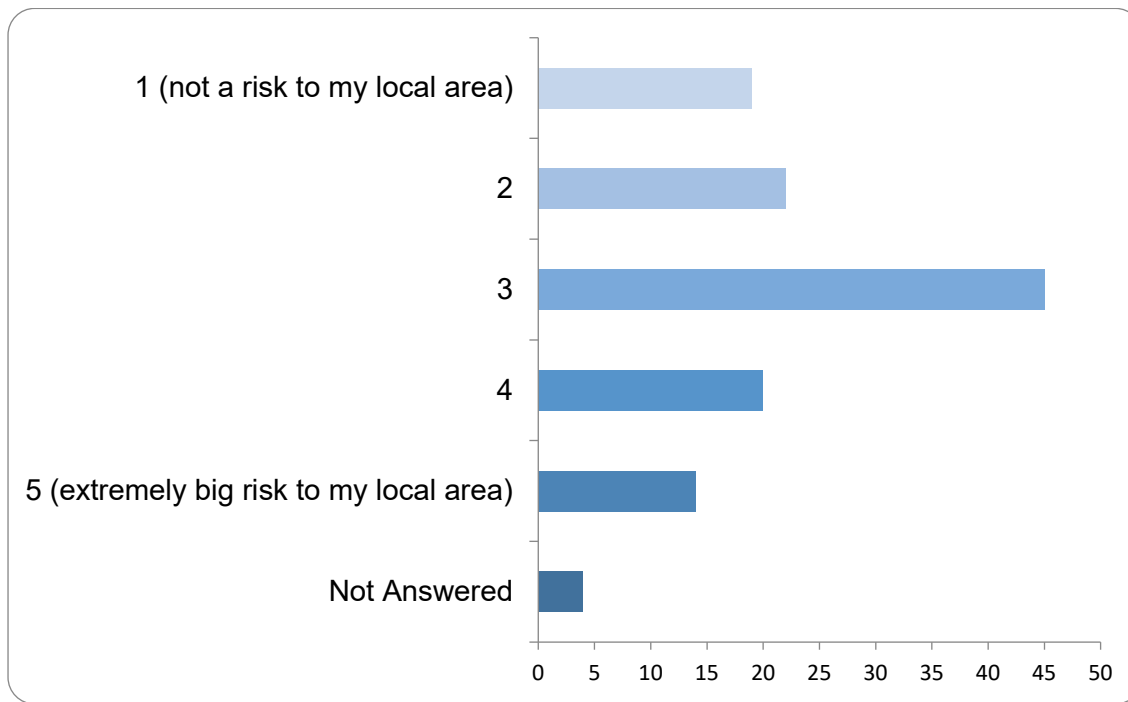


Figure 32: How much of a risk is water scarcity? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
1 (not a risk to my local area)	19	15.32%
2	22	17.74%
3	45	36.29%
4	20	16.13%
5 (extremely big risk to my local area)	14	11.29%
Not Answered	4	3.23%

Respondents were asked if they had experienced any common problems relevant to water shortages. The most common things which people had experienced were a ‘hosepipe’ ban and burst pipes or sewage in their local area.

Figure 33: Experience of Water scarcity issues

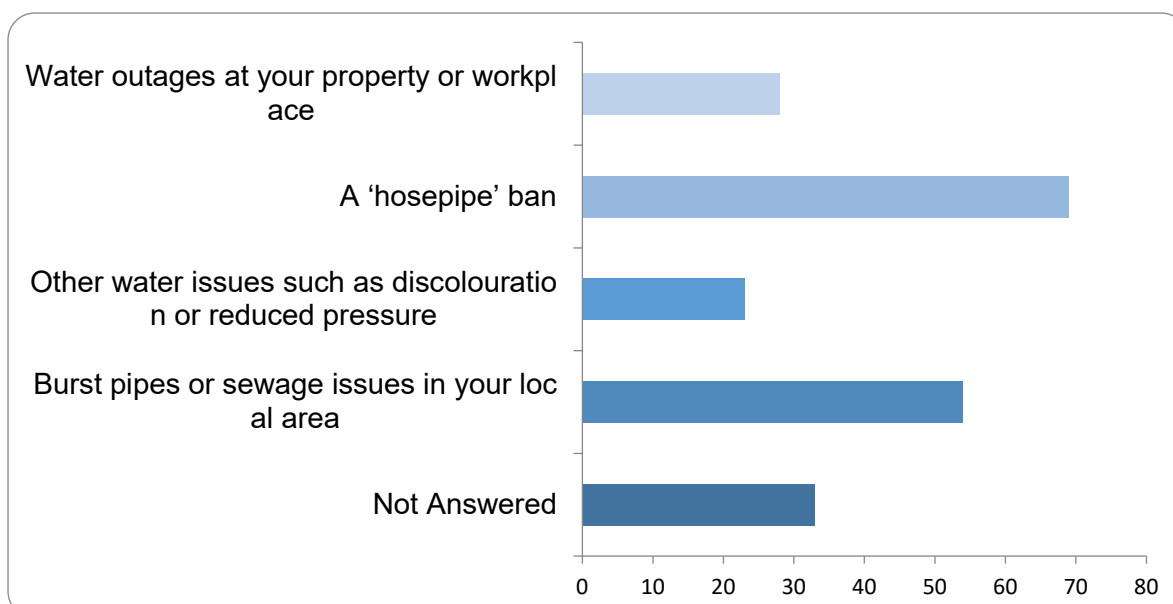


Figure 34: Experience of Water scarcity issues, total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
Water outages at your property or workplace	28	22.58%
A 'hosepipe' ban	69	55.65%
Other water issues such as discolouration or reduced pressure	23	18.55%
Burst pipes or sewage issues in your local area	54	43.55%
Not Answered	33	26.61%

Respondents were asked what they did in these situations to adapt. Most people reduced their water usage, whilst some people spent more money on temporary solutions like bottled water.

Figure 35: What action was taken during water scarcity issues? Total and percentage

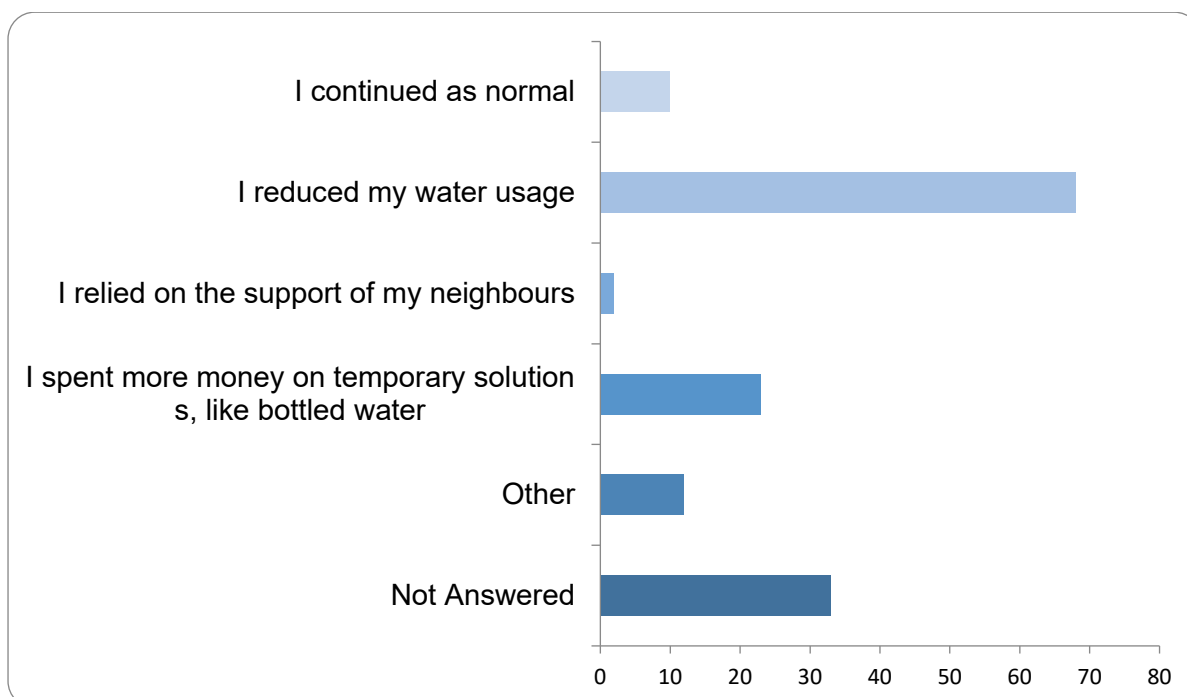


Figure 36: What action was taken during water scarcity issues? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
I continued as normal	10	8.06%
I reduced my water usage	68	54.84%
I relied on the support of my neighbours	2	1.61%
I spent more money on temporary solutions, like bottled water	23	18.55%
Other	12	9.68%
Not Answered	33	26.61%

Consultation responses

The council received the following responses regarding this theme:

Southwark Planning Network

- Existing trees should be retained and new trees should have good canopy size and value; use CAVAT to measure value of existing trees.
- Make sure that greenspace is getting enough hours of sunlight.
- Information should be provided to help local communities understand Biodiversity Net Gain documents / reports in planning applications, and to know what to look for.
- Biodiversity Net Gain requirements for new projects: the Council should require a higher threshold of biodiversity net gain from developments (e.g. 20% rather than the current 10%), at least for certain developments.
- There should be a clear link between the Climate Resilience Strategy and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Southwark.
- Connectivity – Southwark should extend its green corridors. Southwark Land Commission Recommendation 16: Join up existing green spaces to create a network of Biodiversity Corridors.
- Plant selections should have very high proportion of native species and wildlife friendly species.
- Encourage communities to get involved in protecting and extending greenspace. Southwark Land Commission Recommendation 17: Offer opportunities to participate in the greening of our borough, through community gardening and re-wilding.
- Southwark should call on Thames Water to improve their practices and minimise lost water. The emphasis should be on the big players and not just individuals.

Southwark Law Centre

- Retain existing trees and make sure new trees have good canopy size and value; use CAVAT to measure value of existing trees. There should be a more robust assessment under the planning system, going beyond BNG / UGF assessments, given the risk of newer biodiversity dying.
- Make sure that greenspace is getting enough hours of sunlight. Assessment of overshadowing of outside natural space needs to go beyond the basic BRE “2+ hours” test to reflect specific needs/sensitivities – this is set out in the BRE guidance itself.
- Provide information to help local communities understand Biodiversity Net Gain documents / reports in planning applications, and to know what to look for.
- Biodiversity Net Gain and Urban Greening Factor – the Council should commit to a higher BNG threshold (say 20% rather than the current 10%) for certain developments.
- Create a clear link between the Climate Resilience Strategy and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Southwark.
- Connectivity – Southwark should extend its green corridors.
- Plant selections should have very high proportion of native species and wildlife friendly species.
- The draft suggests using Thames Water as an external partner - Southwark should call on Thames Water to improve their practices and minimise lost water. The emphasis should be on the big players and not just individuals. We are all aware that the climate crisis cannot

be fixed by individuals alone, and needs systemic change. Selecting Thames Water as an external partner without a critique of their practices would be greenwashing.

Natural England

- No comment

Summary of feedback and regard had to responses

Policy P61 'Trees' of the adopted Southwark Plan (2022) is the planning policy that is used to determine the impact on trees. The policy sets out a process to use CAVAT to measure and secure value. The policy will be reviewed in the partial review of the Southwark Plan.

The council's approach to delivering its Biodiversity Duty is being prepared in light of further publication of government regulations and guidance arising from the Environment Act (2021). The duty requires the council to consider what it can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity. The three main aspects of the Biodiversity Duty are:

- (1) The preparation of a council wide Biodiversity Plan that will encompass all the actions and initiatives the council is taking to enhance biodiversity. Preparation of biodiversity plan is underway and must be statutorily reported on by January 2026. It will draw together council work streams, plans and strategies that contain a biodiversity focus, including the Climate Change Strategy and Southwark Land Commission recommendations.
- (2) The preparation of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy is expected to commence in early 2024. This will be local strategy for nature and environmental improvement established by the Environment Act 2021. Each local nature recovery strategy will agree priorities for nature's recovery, map the most valuable existing areas for nature and map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals.
- (3) Biodiversity Net Gain delivery which is led by Planning Policy from January 2024. Southwark's approach to BNG is therefore just one aspect of this council-wide plan. The partial review of the Southwark Plan will offer the opportunity to review local biodiversity net gain uplift options.

Trade and food security

Survey responses

Around one-fifth of respondents stated that they had struggled to access affordable food and other essentials in the last five years.

Figure 37: Have you experienced food insecurity in the past five years?

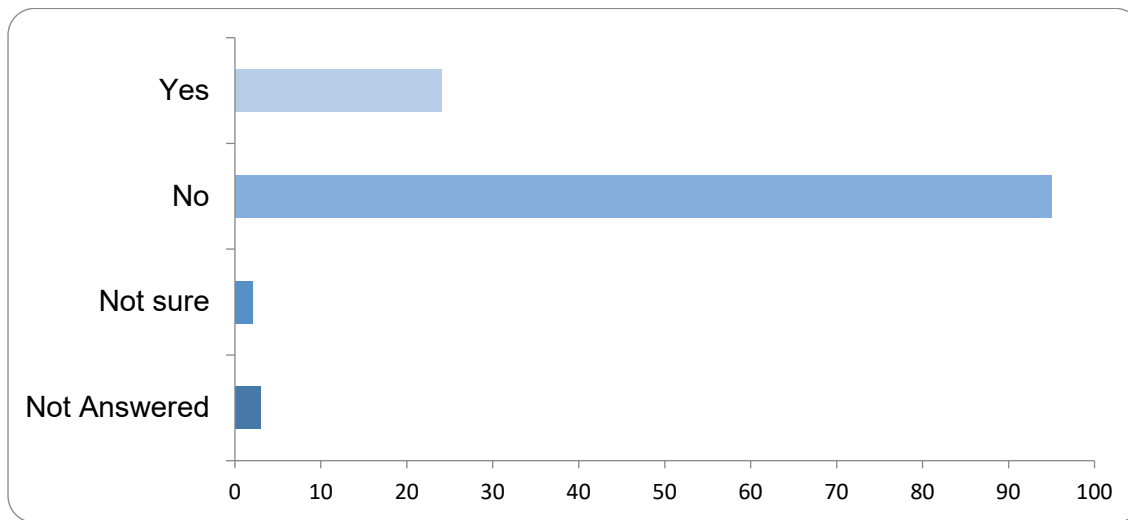


Figure 38: Have you experienced food insecurity in the past five years? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	24	19.35%
No	95	76.61%
Not sure	2	1.61%
Not Answered	3	2.42%

Most respondents believe that struggling to access affordable food and other essentials is a risk in their local area.

Figure 39: How much of a risk is food insecurity?

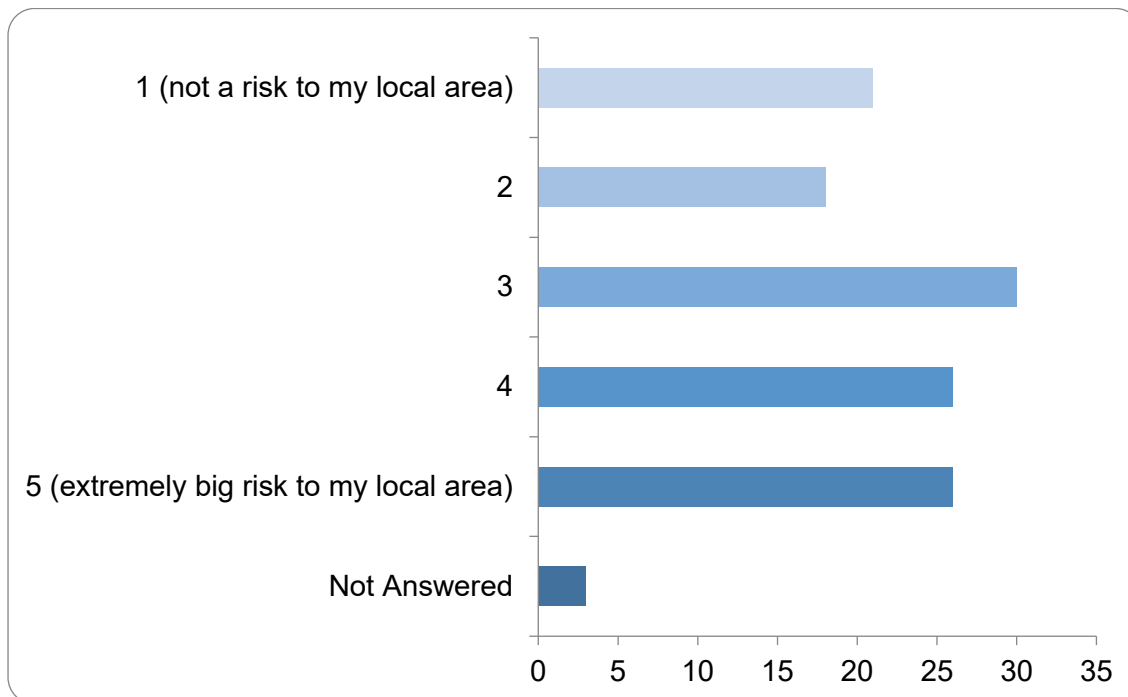


Figure 40: How much of a risk is food insecurity? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
1 (not a risk to my local area)	21	16.94%
2	18	14.52%

3	30	24.19%
4	26	20.97%
5 (extremely big risk to my local area)	26	20.97%
Not Answered	3	2.42%

Respondents were asked if they had experienced a number of things relevant to food security. Over half of respondents said that they have taken steps to reduce their food waste. 30% of respondents also stated that they have been unable to find the food or essentials at their usual locations.

Figure 41: Impacts of food insecurity



Figure 42: Impacts of food insecurity, total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
I have been unable to afford food or essentials due to increasing costs.	17	13.71%
I have been unable to find the food or essentials that I wished to purchase at the usual locations (such as your local shops).	38	30.65%
I have used a food bank or food vouchers.	5	4.03%
I used my allotment, or community gardening space for some food.	17	13.71%
I have used a community fridge.	3	2.42%
I have taken steps to reduce my food waste, such as by buying only what I need from my local shops.	66	53.23%

Other	6	4.84%
Not Answered	41	33.06%

Consultation responses

Southwark Planning Network

- Consider how this point links to gentrification flowing from improper redevelopment - not only when developments include large chains etc., but understanding how new developments can disrupt the local economy and lead to local independents being priced out / losing business, to be replaced by bigger chains.
- We welcome the mention of social vulnerability in this theme - social vulnerability should be referred to under other themes as well.

Southwark Law Centre

- Consider how this point links to gentrification flowing from improper redevelopment - not only when developments include large chains etc., but understanding how they can disrupt the local ecosystem and lead to local independents being priced out / losing business, to be replaced by bigger chains.
- As the recent Land Commission report states “during the plan-making process, it must take a dynamic approach to the urban environment, considering not just the affordable space provided in a given development but the potential inflationary pressure the “non-affordable” space could have on land in the surrounding area”.
- The proposal for an “extreme weather risk assessment” is likely to be another box-ticking exercise: developers will not change developments but simply explain why the development they have always proposed is sufficient and point to explanations why a lower standard is acceptable on the facts. Objective duties / standards / thresholds are preferable to another document that gives the developer discretion. At least proper scrutiny from the Council would be required.
- This is the only section mentioning social vulnerability - this needs to feed into other points as well.

Natural England

- No comment

Summary of feedback and regard had to responses

Officers have updated the strategy to ensure climate risk and vulnerability is a key principle for the strategy, and will be a focus of delivery. The council will be working with business networks and public sector partners to plan for and prevent impacts from climate-related events on the local economy, town centres and high streets.

Pests and diseases

Survey responses

Over a quarter of respondents had experienced new or more common plant diseases in their garden or allotment in the past five years. Notably, around a quarter of respondents also expressed that were unsure about this.

Figure 43: Have you experienced new pests or diseases in the past five years?

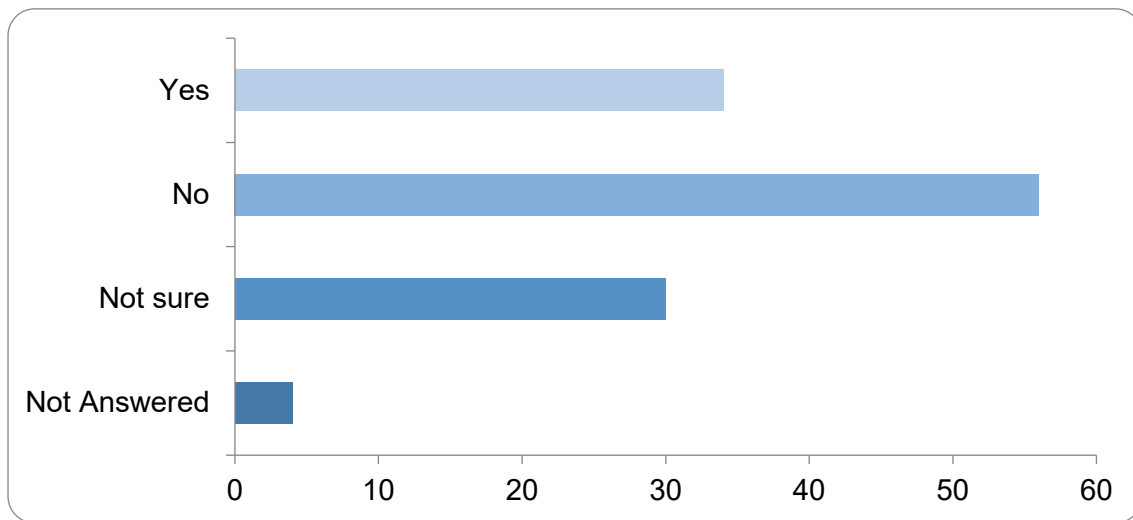


Figure 44: Have you experienced new pests or diseases in the past five years? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	34	27.42%
No	56	45.16%
Not sure	30	24.19%
Not Answered	4	3.23%

Most respondents believe that new or more common plant diseases present a medium risk.

Figure 45: How much of a risk is new pests and diseases?

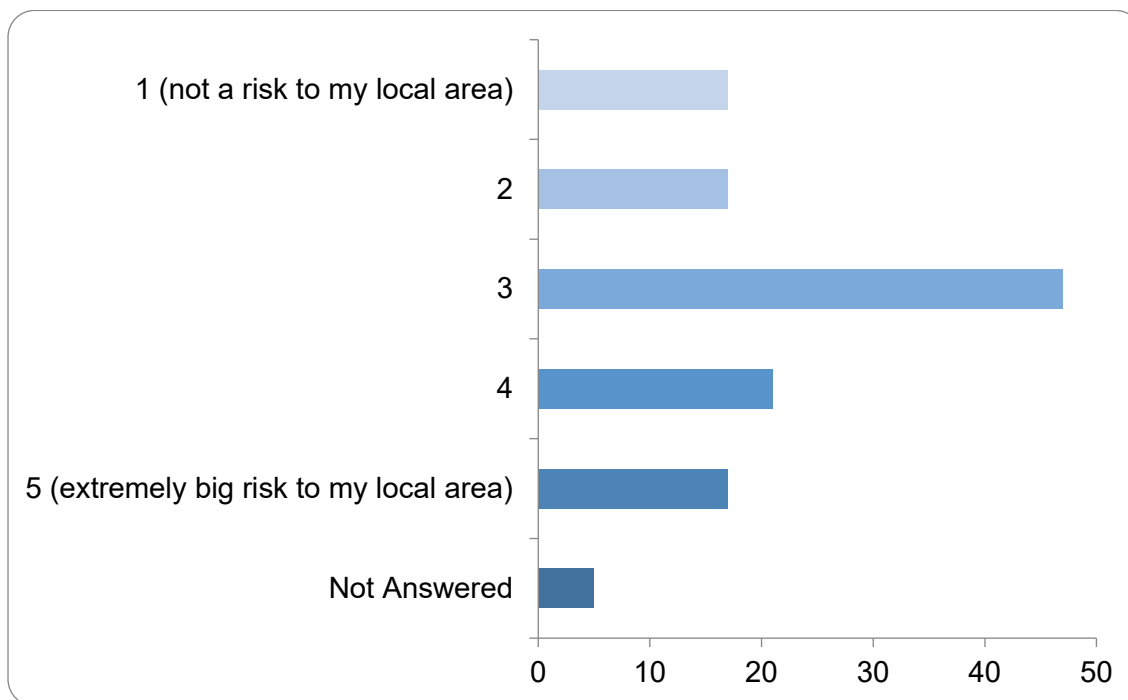


Figure 46: How much of a risk is new pests and diseases? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
1 (not a risk to my local area)	17	13.71%
2	17	13.71%
3	47	37.90%
4	21	16.94%
5 (extremely big risk to my local area)	17	13.71%
Not Answered	5	4.03%

Respondents were asked about their knowledge of pests and diseases in their garden or local areas. Most respondents stated that they have no knowledge, or they have some knowledge of pests and diseases.

Figure 47: How much do you know about new pests and diseases?

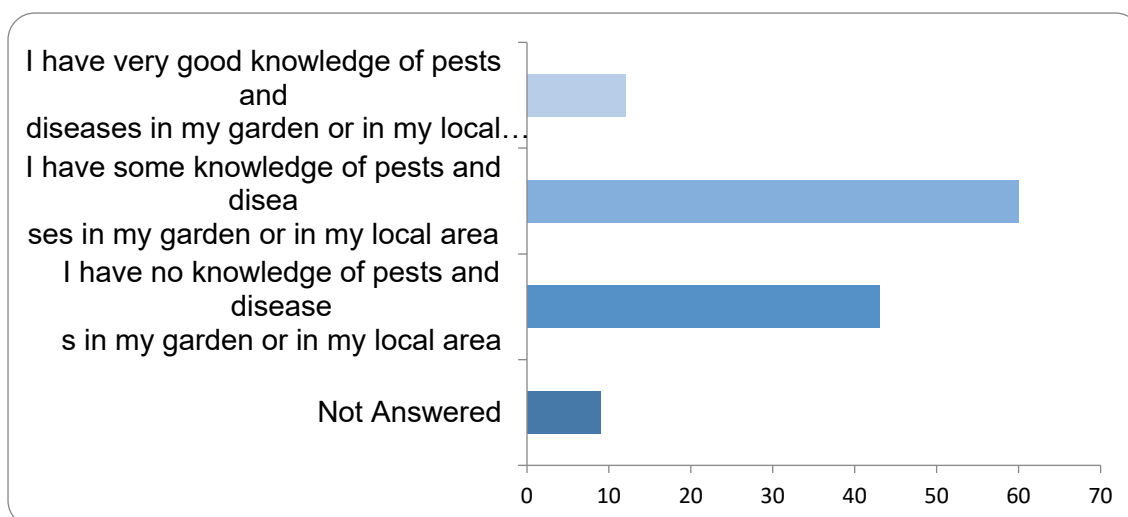


Figure 48: How much do you know about new pests and diseases? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
I have very good knowledge of pests and diseases in my garden or in my local area	12	9.68%
I have some knowledge of pests and diseases in my garden or in my local area	60	48.39%
I have no knowledge of pests and diseases in my garden or in my local area	43	34.68%
Not Answered	9	7.26%

The vast majority of respondents also stated that they would like to know more about invasive pests and diseases and how to report them.

Figure 49: Would you like to know more about new pests and diseases?

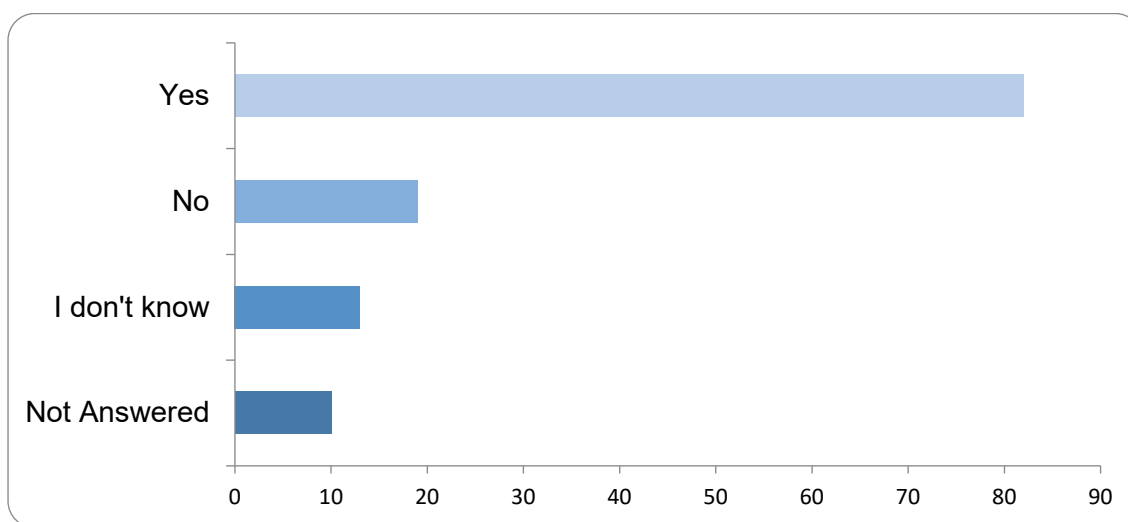


Figure 50: Would you like to know more about new pests and diseases? Total and percentage

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	82	66.13%
No	19	15.32%
I don't know	13	10.48%
Not Answered	10	8.06%

Consultation responses

Southwark Planning Network

- See points above (Water theme) about improving Biodiversity Net Gain standards - flourishing biodiversity will be more resilient
- Increase powers and enforcement around developers keeping greenery alive once delivered - and ensuring it is appropriate and likely to survive in the first place

Southwark Law Centre

- See points above about improving Biodiversity Net Gain standards - flourishing biodiversity will be more resilient.

- Greater powers and enforcement around developers keeping greenery alive once delivered - and ensuring proposed biodiversity is appropriate and likely to survive in the first place

Natural England

- No comment

Summary of feedback and regard had to responses

The council's approach to biodiversity net gain is currently being reviewed in light of new government regulations. Climate adaptation will be central to the council's approach as new plans and strategies are developed.

Planning permissions for new development require ongoing maintenance of landscaping through planning conditions and this is subject to planning enforcement when required.

Monitoring our consultation

Why we monitor our consultation

Our statement of community involvement indicates that the success of consultation can be measured by the numbers and diversity of consultees and respondents. As a result, we have tried to engage with as many different groups as possible.

We monitor our consultation at every stage so that we can see where we need to engage more with certain groups at the next stage of consultation

How we monitor our consultation

We reviewed the consultation to see how we could improve future consultations on tackling the climate emergency in Southwark. This includes reviewing the consultation against the requirements of our statement of community involvement.

Where possible we try to monitor event attendance and survey responses. We monitor age range, gender and ethnicity by including a monitoring form within our consultation questionnaires so that we can monitor the range of people from our communities that responded to the consultation.

However, this is optional and in a number of cases, respondents do not provide this information.

Appendices

Appendix A: Stakeholder organisations notified about the consultation

- Active Travel England
- Age UK Lewisham and Southwark
- Southwark Faith Leaders
- Alzheimer's Society Southwark
- Ancient Monument Society
- Arqiva
- Bakerloo Line Extension
- Bankside Open Spaces Trust
- Better Bankside
- Blackfriars Settlement
- Blue Bermondsey BID
- Bolivian Latin Age Association
- Bonamy And Bramcote Estate TRA
- Borough Market
- British Land
- Chokedup
- Citizens Advice Southwark
- City Airport
- City Planning At TfL
- Civil Aviation Authority
- cliniQ
- Commission For Architecture And The Built Environment
- Community Southwark
- Council For British Archaeology
- Dept. For Housing, Communities & Local Government
- Dulwich Almshouse Charity
- Elephant Amenity Network
- Environment Agency
- Excel Beyond Barriers
- Extinction Rebellion Southwark
- Fields In Trust
- Fire And Emergency Department
- Fossil Free Southwark
- Friends Of Burgess Park
- Friends Of Peckham Rye Park
- Friends Of Russia Dock Woodland
- Glengall Road RA
- Greater London Authority
- Guys and St Thomas' NHS Trust
- Health And Safety Executive

- Healthwatch Southwark
- Heathrow Airport Safeguarding
- Historic Royal Palaces
- HSE Fire Risk Assessments
- Irish Pensioners Centre
- Jewish Care
- King's College London
- Latin Elephant
- LBS Harbour Master
- Ledbury Residents
- Lend Lease
- Link Age Southwark
- Living Bankside
- Living Streets
- London Bridge City
- London Climate Change Partnership
- London Councils
- London Fire & Emergency Planning Authority
- London LGBTQ Centre
- London South Bank University
- London Underground
- Metropolitan Police Service (Designing Out Crime)
- MHCLG Planning Casework Unit
- National Air Traffic Safeguarding Office
- Natural England - London Region & South East Region
- Network Rail Property (Southern)
- NHS London Healthy Urban Development Unit
- Northfield House RA
- Notting Hill Genesis
- Opening Doors
- Pages Walk Residents Association
- Partnership Southwark
- Peabody Housing
- Peckham Heritage Regeneration Partnership
- Perronet House TRA Chair
- Plastic Free East Dulwich
- Plastic Free Peckham
- Port Of London Authority
- Repowering London
- Rye Lane Trader's Association
- SDA Independent Living
- SDCAS
- SE24
- SELCE
- SGTO
- South East London Integrated Care Board (ICB)
- South London and the Maudsley NHS Trust
- South London Cares

- Southbank And Waterloo Neighbours
- Southbank BID
- Southwark biodiversity partnership
- Southwark Carers
- Southwark Charities
- Southwark Cyclists
- Southwark Diocese
- Southwark Food Action Alliance
- Southwark Law Centre
- Southwark Park Association 1869
- Southwark Pensioners Action Group
- Southwark Pensioners Action Group (SPAG)
- Southwark Pensioners Centre
- Southwark Travellers Action Group
- Southwark TUC
- Southwark Wellbeing Hub
- Space Studios
- St George's Circus Group
- Surrey Docks Angling Club
- Team London Bridge
- TFL Railway Infrastructure Manager
- Thames Tideway Tunnel
- Thames Water
- The Camberwell Society
- The Dulwich Society
- The Gardens Trust
- The Georgian Group
- The Girdlers' Company
- The Peckham Society
- The Society For The Protection Of Ancient Buildings
- The Tate
- The Trustees Of The Dulwich Estate
- The Victorian Society
- The Walworth Society
- Theatres Trust
- Time and Talents Association
- Transport For London
- Trinity Newington Residents' Association
- Tustin Estate TRA
- Twentieth Century Society
- UK Power Networks
- United St Saviours
- University of the Arts London
- Veolia
- Vital OKR
- We are Waterloo

Appendix B: Resilience and adaptation web pages

Figure 51: Screenshot of Resilience and adaptation web pages



What are the climate threats?



How we will prepare Southwark



Our climate resilience and adaptation strategy



Resources and key documents

Figure 52: Screenshot of webpage about climate threats

What are the climate threats?

There are a range of risks and threats that will be caused by the climate emergency, many of which will overlap with one another. The impact of these threats will also depend on how quickly we can reduce our carbon emissions. [You can see what the difference between 2°C and 4°C of warming will mean for overheating and rainfall in your area on this website.](#)

We've broken these down into five categories to help us target our work. We've summarised the categories below. If you'd like more details, view our [full draft strategy document](#).

[Overheating](#)

[Flooding](#)

[Water scarcity](#)

[Trade and food security](#)

[Pests and diseases](#)

[Read about how we plan to take action on these threats](#)

Figure 53: Screenshot of web page about resources and key documents

Resources and key documents

There are lots of resources and information available to learn more about the climate emergency. Below are some links that we'd recommend looking at. Please note that some of these are external sites, and may not be using the most recent data available.

- [Look at how high temperatures might climb and how much rain might fall in your area and how](#) – this was produced by the BBC and the Met Office in August 2022 to show how climate change will impact different parts of the UK based on 2°C and 4°C of warming
- [What are the effects of climate change and how will it impact weather in the UK?](#) – various information resources from the Met Office

Key documents

If you'd like to read more about our draft resilience and adaptation strategy, view the following documents:

- [our draft Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Strategy Summary](#) (PDF, 353kb)
- [our full draft Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Strategy](#) (PDF, 406kb)
- [our draft actions, that will inform a final action plan for the strategy](#) (PDF, 441kb)
- [a background document, to show how we've considered various international, national and regional policies and frameworks](#) (PDF, 808kb)

Figure 54: Screenshot of webpage about the resilience and adaptation plan

How we will prepare Southwark

Our vision is for a just, equal and resilient Southwark, where all residents are protected from the changing climate and have the same opportunities to thrive in our borough. The impacts of climate change do not impact all people in the same way, and inequalities could be made worse without us taking action now.

We cannot achieve this alone, and will only do it by working with partners in London such as the Greater London Authority, London Councils and other boroughs. We will need to work with major organisations in the borough such as universities, schools and NHS trusts. We will partner with government, the Environment Agency and others, and we will also work with local businesses, residents and all those committed to building a fairer and more sustainable Southwark.

Below are the goals and key actions we have set out to tackling each climate risk.

[Overheating](#)

[Flooding](#)

[Water scarcity](#)

[Trade and food security](#)

[Pests and diseases](#)

Figure 55: Screenshot of webpage about the climate change resilience and adaptation strategy

Our climate resilience and adaptation strategy

The climate emergency remains the challenge of our time, and time is running out. The best action we can take is to cut our emissions as quickly as possible. We already have a plan to do this, with an ambition to be a carbon neutral borough by 2030. However, we also know that our climate is changing now, and it changing fast.

That is why we have made a draft strategy to prepare Southwark for the future. The draft strategy creates a framework to protect our communities, homes, infrastructure and environment. It is a strategy for the whole of the borough, and sets out how we will:

- future-proof the borough's buildings, streets and critical infrastructure
- work with others to prepare, plan and respond to challenges and shocks
- improve the borough at the same time, such as by improving air quality and biodiversity and reducing inequalities

The council already does a lot of work in these areas, including:

- shaping new building design in planning policy to reduce overheating
- managing flood risk and delivering sustainable urban drainage schemes
- emergency planning that ensures we have a quick and effective response to support residents in times of need
- large programmes of urban greening and planting

Our draft strategy recognises this ongoing work while ensuring that we're prepared for the challenges that climate change will bring.

Appendix C: Consultation Hub

Figure 56: Screenshot of consultation hub

The screenshot shows the top of a web page for Southwark Council. At the top left is the Southwark Council logo with the URL southwark.gov.uk. To the right is a search bar with the text 'Search' and a magnifying glass icon. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links: Home, Streets for People, Southwark 2030, Find Activities, and We Asked, You Said, We Did. The main header features a graphic of a globe with a green leaf and red concentric circles, followed by the text 'TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY TOGETHER IN SOUTHWARK'. A dark grey banner below the header contains the text 'Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation'. The page content is divided into two columns. The left column has a section titled 'Overview' with three paragraphs of text. The right column has a section titled 'Contact' with an email address and a 'Closed 9 Oct 2023' notice.

Southwark Council
southwark.gov.uk

Home Streets for People Southwark 2030 Find Activities We Asked, You Said, We Did

TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY TOGETHER IN SOUTHWARK

Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation

Overview

This survey is to get your views on how to make the borough as prepared as possible for the impacts of climate change.

Have you experienced your home or place of work being too hot in recent years, or maybe you have been flooded after some heavy rain?

Tell us about your experiences to help us make our draft strategy as helpful as possible for all of Southwark.

Why we need this strategy

The climate emergency remains the challenge of our time, and time is running out. The best action we can take is to cut our emissions as quickly as possible. We already have a plan to do this, with an ambition to be a carbon neutral borough by 2030.

However, we also know that our climate is changing now, and it is changing fast. In its most recent report (March 2023), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) made its starkest warning yet on the urgency and the scale of action. The report showed not enough progress is being made by world leaders and estimated that current policies would see global temperature increases exceed 1.5°C, reaching around 3.2°C by 2100. National projections show we

Closed 9 Oct 2023
Opened 29 Aug 2023

Contact
ClimateEmergency@southwark.gov.uk

Figure 57: Screenshot of a question in the online survey

Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation

Page 3 of 13



Closes 9 Oct 2023

This service needs [cookies](#) enabled.

General questions

6. How concerned are you about the impacts of climate change in your area?

(Required)

- I am very concerned
- I am slightly concerned
- I am not concerned
- I don't think it will affect me
- I don't know enough about it

7. Have you been affected by any of the following shocks or stresses in the last five years?

	Yes	No	Not sure
Overheating – excessively warm or hot weather	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Flooding at your home, work, or in your neighbourhood	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Limited or no supply of running water at your property	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Struggling to access affordable food and other essentials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New or more common plant diseases in your garden or allotment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>