

Update on the Climate Emergency strategy development

1. The council has cut its carbon emissions by 37% since 2010, and is on track to reduce this by 50% by 2022. It is currently installing LED lights (both in its buildings and in street lamps) to help achieve this and cabinet in March will consider a report on its energy contract that will enable us to move to 100% clean energy.
2. We have taken significant steps to shift transport from cars towards walking and cycling. This includes installing almost 10km of cycleways in the last two years, installing 60 bike hangars this year, putting eight School Street schemes into place: and introducing five controlled parking zones (and consulting on three others) in the last 18 months. A further CPZ proposal (the review and extension of the Trafalgar CPZ) is due to start its consultation in the next month.
3. Three variations on low emission neighbourhoods are also being developed to reduce through traffic by motorised vehicles: a Liveable Neighbourhood pilot around South Bermondsey station and the Bonamy & Bramcote Estates; Dulwich Healthy Streets; and the Walworth Low Emission Zone.
4. There has also been considerable work to support the switch from fossil fuel car-use to electric. By the end of the month, 150 lampposts will have been converted to be able to charge electric vehicles since October 2018 and in the last year 34 rapid charging points have also been installed. We have successfully lobbied TfL to introduce some of its first new clean buses on routes for the borough and continue to lobby for more.
5. The council appointed Chis Page as what we understand to be country's first Climate Change Director in December. Chris is currently working to develop the strategy, plan for the community engagement for the process and recruit a team to assist him.
6. At the budget council assembly last month, we agreed a £2million fund from council reserves to tackle the climate emergency.
7. The budget also saw the first step in delivering our manifesto commitment to vary parking charges base on vehicle emissions, through charging more for diesel parking permits. We plan to have a full emission-based charging system in place for 2021.
8. In addition, cabinet this month will consider recommendations for capital expenditure that will contribute towards this work. This includes proposals for sustainable urban drainage, air quality improvement measures, an expansion

of our school streets programme, electrical charging points to help the shift towards electric vehicles, drinking fountains (to promote active travel) and a significant increase in tree planting.

- Officers are working to develop special planning document on carbon reduction to strengthen our carbon requirements from developers – both for their onsite work and for offset funding. This is likely to be ready in the autumn.

The Strategy

- The developing strategy is based on a matrix of policies to identify those current policies that need to be adapted and amended, new policies that we can implement now and policies that need major structural change that is currently beyond our direct control (due to legislation) but could be with successful lobbying.

Themes	Development of current policies	New policies with significant change	Major structural change
Construction, building and regeneration			
Energy			
Transport and travel			
Biodiversity, trees and greening			
Food			
Waste and recycling			

- The process in developing the strategy from here is therefore to develop all of these ideas and understand their effectiveness and resource implications to help us achieve the objective of becoming a carbon neutral borough by 2030.

- Cabinet will be receiving an update on the roadmap to the Climate Emergency Strategy on 24 March.

13. Timeline for developing the Climate Emergency Strategy:

9 March	Partnership steering group first meeting, with a second meeting on 16 March. This brings together representatives of interested community groups to help develop ideas and helping with the consultation process
16 March	Launch of consultation
21 March	Borough conference
24 March	Cabinet update
	Expert engagement and online consultation during the election period
11 May	Second phase of public engagement (post-election) starts
19 June	Public engagement concludes
22 June	Final strategy drafting starts
27 June – 5 July	London Climate Action Week, including Southwark's Climate Change Conference
14 July	Cabinet adopt the strategy

Member involvement

14. In addition, we will have a cross-party members working group for councillors overseeing the development of the strategy through to the cabinet report in July. This will have eight members: six Labour councillors and two Liberal Democrat councillors in order reflect the political balance of the council.