

Report for: Full Council - 24 March 2025

Title: Fourteenth Annual Carbon Report (2024)

Report

authorised by: Barry Francis, Director Environment and Resident Experience

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Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/

Non-Key Decision: Non-Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1. Haringey has made an ambitious commitment to become a Net Zero Carbon Borough by 2041 and a Net Zero Carbon Council by 2027 while delivering our vision for Haringey: A place where we can all belong and thrive.
- 1.2. This is the fourteenth Annual Carbon Report (see Appendix 1) and the fourth since the Haringey Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP) was adopted. It reports on the latest carbon emissions dataset for 2022 (there is a two-year delay in processing and receiving the emissions data). The report contextualises the carbon performance for 2022. The Annual Carbon Report also reports on all relevant carbon reduction projects delivered across the borough in the calendar year 2024.
- 1.3. Haringey's 2041 Net Zero Carbon target that was agreed in 2021; it sets out an emissions target of a 100% reduction in emissions by 2041 from a 2015 baseline. The report also outlines progress towards the HCCAP targets for reducing carbon emission in the borough.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1. I'm pleased to present our Fourteenth Annual Carbon Report – a comprehensive documentation of our climate journey that not only showcases our achievements but honestly confronts the challenges we face in creating a more sustainable Haringey.

- 2.2. This report reveals a consistent decline in emissions with an overall 21% reduction in 2022 from our 2015 baseline, primarily driven by the decarbonisation of electricity. Between 2021 and 2022, we successfully reversed the increase in emissions seen during the post-COVID "rebound effect", with Haringey outperforming neighbouring boroughs and the national average.
- 2.3. As the borough's largest employer, the council has taken a leadership role, reducing our own directly controlled emissions by 73% since 2015. We've invested significantly in energy-efficient schools, LED street lighting borough-wide, fleet decarbonisation, renewable energy production, and council home retrofitting.
- 2.4. Our new-build housing programme exemplifies our commitment to zero carbon practices, with Watts Close winning "Development of the Year" in the homes category at the 2024 Unlock Net Zero Awards. As our first completed zero-carbon housing scheme, it demonstrates that climate-forward design isn't aspirational but achievable. When buildings produce as much energy as they consume, we rewrite the narrative of what urban living can be.
- 2.5. The expansion of School Streets to benefit 41 educational establishments and over 16,000 pupils represents a profound reimagining of how children interact with their environment. These aren't just traffic reduction schemes – they're incubators for a generation that understands streets as places for people, not just vehicles.
- 2.6. However, we must acknowledge the stark reality that our current 21% reduction falls significantly short of the 47% reduction needed by 2022 to align with our trajectory for a Net Zero Carbon Borough by 2041. The recently published Seventh Carbon Budget by the Climate Change Committee underscores the urgency of our task, highlighting that we need to achieve an 87% reduction in UK emissions by 2040 compared to 1990 levels. The Budget also emphasises that electrification and low-carbon electricity supply should make up 60% of emissions reductions by 2040, with domestic buildings and transport being critical sectors requiring rapid action.
- 2.7. Transport emissions, at 22% of our total, reveal how deeply car dependency remains woven into our urban fabric. The 1% increase in transport emissions signals the challenge of shifting entrenched mobility patterns.
- 2.8. In the spirit of the Haringey Deal and wider co-delivery of projects, our oversubscribed Community Carbon Fund and newly established Haringey Climate Partnership, demonstrate our commitment to inclusive participation and co-production in tackling climate change. We recognise that this challenge requires all of us – council, residents, businesses, and community groups – working together through bold policies and constant progress reviews.

- 2.9. According to the "The Future is Local" report by UK100 and the Mission Zero Coalition, local authority action stands at the very heart of achieving our climate ambitions. When we walk our neighbourhoods and observe inefficient buildings, car-dominated streets, and energy systems dependent on distant fossil fuels, we're witnessing the physical manifestation of climate challenges that can only be addressed through place-based solutions. The transformative potential is striking – the report reveals that place-specific approaches to decarbonisation require nearly 70% less investment while generating almost double the economic returns and societal benefits. This isn't merely about environmental targets, but about reimagining our community's future: the potential for vibrant job creation, reduced energy bills, economic regeneration, and more resilient neighbourhoods. As evidenced across the UK, councils like ours are uniquely positioned to convene stakeholders, engage communities as active participants rather than passive recipients, and deliver climate action with an efficiency that national programs simply cannot match. Our work in Haringey represents not just a contribution to national goals, but a fundamental reshaping of how our community lives, works, and thrives in a rapidly changing world.
- 2.10. Addressing the Climate Emergency isn't just about reducing carbon; it's about building a more prosperous, equal, and sustainable borough. We approach this challenge as an opportunity to create a better future for all Haringey residents. The pathway forward requires us to see Haringey not as it is, but as it could be – a borough where low-carbon choices aren't exceptional but expected, where sustainability is woven into the fabric of everyday life, and where climate action enhances rather than diminishes quality of life for all residents.
- 2.11. Lastly, I would like to honour the memory of former councillor and local resident Nicky Gavron, who recently passed away. A trailblazing champion of the environment, Nicky established the London Climate Change Agency and founded the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group. Her passion and dedication to climate advocacy will be sorely missed, but her legacy of activism continues to inspire us as we work toward a sustainable future. Our heartfelt condolences go out to her loved ones.

3. Reasons for decision

- 3.1. In line with the reporting process set out in the HCCAP, and the requirements of the council's Constitution (Part 4 Section A, 3.1 (xiv)), the Annual Carbon Report provides an update towards the achievement of these goals, and the wider work across the council and the borough to reduce carbon emissions.

4. Alternative options considered

To not publish the Fourteenth Annual Carbon Report

- 4.1. This would reduce transparency and neglect the successes made by local community groups and council services, and it would not showcase how they

help the borough meet our ambition. It would not be in line with the council's constitution.

To prepare and publish a more condensed Annual Carbon Report

- 4.2. The Annual Carbon Report is a long report, at 73 pages, so there is an alternative option to produce a shorter, more condensed style of report. This option was not adopted because this would require a fundamental change to the structure of the report and additional resources to produce the necessary infographics. The 2024 report was already significantly underway so this would have been difficult to achieve within the current timeframe to publish the report and the limited available resources. The report does include an executive summary, and the report will be communicated and made accessible in the following ways:

- Introduce graphs and tables where possible to represent complex information;
- Use bullet points to break down information to improve readability;
- A lot of effort has been made to reduce repetition and to pare down language that avoids technical jargons;
- The technical glossary and appendix have been moved to a separate document to cut down the number of pages of the main report.

5. Background Information

- 5.1. Reducing carbon emissions in the borough works towards achieving the wider London and national climate change targets:

- a) The Mayor of London's Environment Strategy 2018 which commits London to being a zero-carbon city by 2050, with efficient buildings, clean transport, and clean energy.
- b) The 2019 amendments to the Climate Change Act 2008 updated the statutory target to reduce the UK's greenhouse gas emissions to achieving net zero carbon by 2050. The Sixth Carbon Budget, published in 2020, set the UK's target to reduce carbon emissions by 78% (from the baseline of 1990 levels) by 2035.

- 5.2. The Annual Carbon Report highlights the international, national, and regional policy changes and projects that have impacted on the carbon footprint of the borough during 2024. These include:

- a) The global and national impact of the COP29 held on November 2024 in Baku, Azerbaijan;
- b) New national government policies and projects that will work towards the Government's zero-carbon ambition;
- c) New government policies, including Clean Power by 2030, Great British Energy and Energy System Reform;

- d) The Biodiversity Net Gain requirement in the Environmental Act was made mandatory that all planning permissions granted in England must deliver a minimum 10% biodiversity net gain;
 - e) The publication of the London Climate Resilience Review by the GLA.
- 5.3. The Annual Carbon Report updates on Haringey's carbon reduction performance and its progress in achieving the 2041 Net Zero Carbon target. In line with a wider London approach, the council reports against the London Energy and Greenhouse Gas Inventory (LEGGI) data. This shows that there was a 21% reduction overall in the period 2015-2022 from 726 to 576 ktCO₂. However, this reduction falls short of the necessary 47% to achieve the target of a Net Zero Carbon Borough by 2041. Carbon reduction projects and initiatives described in this Annual Carbon Report for 2024 will be reflected in the 2024 carbon emissions dataset that will be published in 2026 and which will be reported in the 16th Annual Carbon Report.
- 5.4. For 2022, there was a 4% reduction in emissions from the previous year from 602 to 576 ktCO₂. This has reversed the slight increase in emissions by 1.18% in the previous year. However, the emissions in transport and workplace have continued to increase at 1% and 6% respectively in 2022, though at a slower rate compared to 2021, as the "rebound effect" post-COVID eased off. The increase in these two sectors was balanced out by the significant 11% reduction in domestic emissions. Progress has been made with energy efficient measures, retrofitting, and moving away from gas in the domestic sector. However, alongside this the warmer average winter temperatures in 2022 and higher energy prices might also be the reasons for people to have reduced their energy use at homes and therefore carbon emissions in domestic sector.
- 5.5. Consumption-based emissions – commissioned by London Councils, the GLA and ReLondon – take a wider view than LEGGI emissions by including the emissions embodied in the goods and services that are imported into London and consumed here and reflects people's lifestyles. There was a 7.4% increase in consumption-based emissions in 2021 compared to previous year, which is below the 8.3% increase seen at the London level. The data in 2021 has shown consumption-based emissions have bounced back to pre-Covid levels as the effect of Covid has eased off.
- 5.6. The report mirrors the six areas identified in the HCCAP to reduce carbon emissions: Council, Housing, Workplace, Transport, Energy, and Community. These chapters summarise the key carbon reduction projects and achievements of our council and community in 2024. Highlights of this, which are set out in more detail in the report, include:
- a) Updates on the implementation of the governance structure for climate action through the Haringey Climate Partnership, and the introduction of a dedicated

online tool delivered to aid in embedding climate mitigation and adaptation into projects and decision-making papers for Cabinet;

- b) Updates on the implementation of Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan;
- c) Updates on the actions in line with the Housing Energy Action Plan, Housing Asset Management Strategy, the council's Energy Advice Programme, retrofit programme, and the key council's sustainable housing projects completed in 2024;
- d) Updates on the School Street Programme and Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs);
- e) Updates on the implementation of the Walking and Cycling Action Plan;
- f) Updates on the roll-out of half-day and full-day Carbon Literacy sessions, having trained 189 staff members, and delivery of Climate Action Training for Cabinet members;
- g) Updates on the delivery of the projects funded by the Haringey Community Carbon Fund for Year 3, granting a total of £75,533; and opening of the Year 4 grant period to which £112,060 was allocated;
- h) Updates to a Climate Adaptation and Resilience section, that includes work on climate risk mapping and the work on preparing for heat waves and flooding;
- i) Updates on the work with businesses to engage, inform, and help to reduce their emissions through grants and advice;
- j) Inclusion of reporting on consumption-based emissions for Haringey;
- k) Updates on the 2024 Go Green Eco Urban Festival events, and other community engagement and new initiatives that have been delivered directly by community groups.

5.7. The financial benefits to delivering carbon savings include reduction in energy bills for residents, businesses, schools and the council. For example, as a result of the council's work on fuel poverty in partnership with SHINE, the new retrofit design guide webpages, interventions have resulted in an average of £245 in savings on energy bills per year, per household.

5.8. The final part of the Annual Carbon Report highlights the agreed projects that the council and community will be working on over the next year, these include:

- a) Delivering and designing the seven decarbonisation programmes funded through the Carbon Offset Fund Allocation Strategy 2025-2029 approved by Cabinet in February 2025;
- b) Awarding funding to Year 4 projects from the Community Carbon Fund with up to £112,060 in grants, and helping to deliver the funded projects;
- c) Designing and updating the extension of the Community Carbon Fund programme with £400,000 available for funding Years 5-8, with Year 5 opening for bids in Autumn 2025 for a pot of £100,000 and any unspent monies from previous years;

- d) Delivering the council's Civic Centre refurbishment and extension, including significant carbon reduction measures;
- e) Working to design 16 further School Streets;
- f) Installing additional electric vehicle charging points across the borough in 2025 in line with demand;
- g) Directing Haringey residents to the GLA Warmer Homes London scheme for domestic energy efficiency;
- h) Training staff members and partner and local organisations in fuel poverty advice;
- i) Delivering energy efficiency and decarbonisation retrofit of almost 289 street properties as part of the Housing Energy Action Plan with works expected to start in early 2025;
- j) Delivering the Power Up Haringey local scheme to encourage homeowners' uptake of retrofitting by breaking down supply and demand barriers, and promoting green skills as part of Fast Followers programme;
- k) Upgrading the park buildings to at least Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) grade C by 2025;
- l) Delivering energy reduction measures as part of the in-sourcing of leisure facilities, including pool covers and investigating opportunities for renewable energy sources;
- m) A programme of boroughwide sustainable urban drainage (SUDs) projects as part of the Flood and Water Management Investment Plan to mitigate flood risk and improve resilience to future climate events;
- n) Continuing the delivery of the council's Carbon Literacy training programme;
- o) Starting the design of a climate resilience project on a council-owned and community used building;
- p) Developing a borough Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan;
- q) Commencing solar and energy efficiency projects within the council and school estate, working in partnership with Community Energy Companies;
- r) Undertaking energy efficiency audits on the corporate estate to bring forward a pipeline of projects.

5.9. Projects identified in the HCCAP and the Annual Carbon Reports are funded based on local business cases being brought forward. Projects are implemented based on the council securing external funding, or using funding sources such as Section 106 carbon offset contributions.

6. Contribution to strategic outcomes

6.1. The HCCAP forms part of the themes of the council's Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026. The Annual Carbon Report contributes to reporting against the theme: 'Responding to the Climate Emergency'. This theme consists of five high level outcomes, namely, Outcome 1: 'A cleaner, low waste Haringey', Outcome 2: 'A greener Haringey', Outcome 3: 'A zero carbon and climate resilient

Haringey', Outcome 4: 'Expanding active travel' and Outcome 5: 'Better air quality in Haringey'.

- 6.2. The role of the council within this objective is to take active steps to reduce the council's own emissions, lead efforts to reduce emissions across the borough, and support a just transition to an equitable low carbon economy. The Annual Carbon Report provides information on projects which have supported these priorities.

7. Carbon and Climate Change

- 7.1. This report sets out progress towards the HCCAP targets to be Net Zero Council by 2027 and Net Zero Borough by 2041 from a 2015 baseline. This report demonstrates a consistent decline in emissions with an overall 21% borough-wide reduction in 2022. Additionally, there was a notable 73% reduction in corporate council emissions in 2023/24, underscoring the commitment to decarbonisation at an organizational level.
- 7.2. The report also highlights projects and programmes instrumental in mitigating carbon emissions and through improved energy efficiency, curbing travel-related emissions and fostering behavioural change conducive to sustainability and making strategic low-carbon investments. These initiatives contribute to reducing carbon emissions and generate co-benefits such as improved air quality, enhanced public health, and economic savings.
- 7.3. The Annual Carbon Report also includes a section on climate resilience and adaptation, setting out the council and borough's work to prepare residents and businesses for a changing climate. This has included an update on the GLA's Climate Resilience Review final report published this year, along with the council's initiatives aimed at flooding and heat wave preparedness, as well as initiatives focused on preserving and enhancing biodiversity and green spaces.

8. Statutory Officers' comments

Finance

- 8.1. The report seeks to demonstrate the council's ambitious vision and commitment to achieving Net Zero Carbon Borough by 2041 and a Net Zero Carbon Council by 2027. There are various projects identified and supported through the Haringey Climate Change Action Plan to achieve the council's strategic vision. These projects are financed from external income and allocations from the s106 developer contributions to support carbon reductions. Future projects delivered through the Haringey Climate Change Action Plan will be dependent on the external funding secured in the future, to avoid any financial risks to the council.

Strategic Procurement

- 8.2. Strategic Procurement note the report content and objectives.
- 8.3. The report does not include any procurement related decisions and therefore have no objections to the report recommendations.

Assistant Director of Legal & Governance

- 8.4. The Climate Change Act 2008 (the Act) is the statutory basis for the UK's approach to tackling and responding to climate change. The Act places a legal duty on central government to set legally binding targets to reduce UK greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2050.
- 8.5. The Assistant Director for Legal and Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report, and notes that (1) this is a progress report and (2) the views expressed in the Equalities section below. Under the terms of the council's Constitution at Part Four, Section A, Council Procedure Rule 3.1(xiii) the receipt of an annual report on progress toward reducing carbon emissions in the borough is a function which has been reserved to Full Council, and there are no specific legal implications arising out of this report to stop Members from adopting the Recommendations.

Equality

- 8.6. The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not;
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 8.7. The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty. Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.
- 8.8. As the Annual Carbon Report describes actions and projects already undertaken across the council and the borough, no Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA) has been undertaken for the Report itself. However, the council projects described in the report, including the HCCAP, have already considered equalities in detail in their design and implementation, including carrying out full Equalities Impact Assessments where appropriate, and implementing mitigations where necessary.

9. Use of Appendices

- 9.1. Appendix 1 - The Fourteenth Annual Carbon Report
- 9.2. Appendix 2 – Annual Carbon Report Glossary and Carbon Emission Data Sources

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 10.1. Haringey Climate Change Action Plan (HCCAP)
https://haringey.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-02/climate_change_action_plan_march_2021.pdf
- 10.2. Previous years' Annual Carbon Report (Thirteenth, 2023)
<https://haringey.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-03/Thirteenth%20Annual%20Carbon%20Report%202023.pdf>
- 10.3. Statistics from LEGGI for years 2015-2022
<https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/leggi>
- 10.4. Statistics from London's consumption-based emissions account for years 2001-2021
<https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/news-and-press-releases/2024/consumption-based-emissions-cbes-dataset-london>