

## RECOVERY ACTION PLAN - “Green Section”

In 2021 a Recovery Action Plan was developed for the Council to assist in recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. Below is an excerpt from the plan focusing on the actions put forward to address the climate emergency and the Council’s commitment to addressing climate change.

### SUPPORTING A GREEN RECOVERY - ACTION PLAN

Ref.	Key Actions	Key task	Desired outcome	Target date	Owner
<b>CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY</b>					
GR1	To develop a strategy to deliver carbon neutrality for the Council in line with Government targets or sooner.	Prepare a draft strategy to deliver carbon neutrality for the Council and support actions to lower the wider-borough’s carbon emissions.	Enabling policy/strategy to support delivery of a green recovery.	January 2022	SM
GR2	Explore and devise a future financial treasury management strategy that take into account environment, social governance and responsible investments.	To discuss with the Council’s treasury management advisors how to progress a change in the Council’s investments.	A Green Investment Strategy	2022	TCo/SM
GR3	Aim to develop a more environmentally sustainable economy post-COVID and Brexit.	To develop a green recovery strategy which includes measures to evolve a more sustainable and resilient economy.	A thriving community which minimises its impact on the environment measured through buildings meeting appropriate environmental standards (e.g. BREEAM) and well-being surveys.	2024	SM/KM/ AB

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<b>REDUCE THE CARBON FOOTPRINT OF COUNCIL OPERATIONS</b>					
GR4	Use opportunities provided by agile working to enhance/accelerate climate change initiatives	Develop a policy to enable long term homeworking and office hot desking.	Reduced car travel, emissions (compared to pre-pandemic levels) and release offices for multi-use.	Policy November 2021 Full implementation on April 2022	SM
GR5	a. Continue to develop our programme to use more electric vehicles by staff to reduce CO2 emissions  b. Purchase electric fuelled equipment when existing liquid fuelled equipment reaches end of life.	Examine options for future purchase of electric cars & bikes; introduce measures to enable staff to purchase/lease electric cars.  Implement measures to reduce the Council's carbon footprint through purchase of a green fleet equipment for grounds maintenance.	Electric pool vehicles/bikes in use by staff for business purposes.  10% of staff to own electric vehicles.  Green Fleet and electric tools in use.	Completed  2025  2028	HR  Sustainability and Flood Risk Officer (SFRO)/SM  JT/ /DC
GR6	Improve all council-owned residential and municipal properties and facilities through better insulation, investment in alternative heating and ventilation and aim to reduce utilities costs where possible.	To undertake energy studies of Council properties to identify cost effective improvements and then to progress installation.	Council properties being less expensive to run	Dec 2021 study completed Installation target to be set	SM/SFRO

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GR7	Review and improve, where possible, our waste management strategy.	To undertake a review of waste strategy in line with Government changes proposed for 2023.	Increased recycling and reduced quantities of household rubbish.	2022	JT/DL

Ref.	Key Actions	Key task	Desired outcome	Target date	Owner
<b>INCREASE USE OF CLEAN ENERGY</b>					
GR8	a. Work with businesses and communities to promote and support cleaner and greener living and working.	To work with economic development team to build in opportunities for providing a sustainable environment. Promote opportunities in the Borough for the development of 'green' jobs including training.	To have a Staines development plan which demonstrates leadership in developing sustainable communities.	2023	HM/AB/SM/KM
	b. Develop opportunities for increased locally generated clean energy.	Work in partnership via the Economic Development team.	10% Increase in "green" employment in the Borough, in roles that have a positive impact on the environment measured through sector analysis of local employment.  50% of local businesses to use clean energy.	Target to be confirmed  2027	KM/HM  KM/HM/SFRO /SM
GR9	Implement technologies to maximise clean energy usage.	Develop opportunities (and schemes) for increased locally generated clean energy on Council buildings and in new build.	Council owned offices and housing sites to have a minimum capacity of 10% renewable energy generation.	2024	RM/SFRO

Ref.	Key Actions	Key task	Desired outcome	Target date	Owner
<b>ENCOURAGE GREATER USE OF CYCLING AND WALKING</b>					
GR10	<p>a. Undertaking a borough-wide feasibility study to identify potential walking and cycling routes in conjunction with Surrey CC; and</p> <p>b. Increase opportunities for exercise through walking and cycling and improving air quality by reducing car dependency, working with the highways authority.</p>	Undertake actions to encourage greater cycling and walking by the community and Council.	A Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan to allow future implementation of schemes in an appropriate way.	March 2022	SM/AB

Ref.	Key Actions	Key task	Desired outcome	Target date	Owner
<b>IMPROVE AND INCREASE PROVISION OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACES AND ENHANCEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY</b>					
GR11	a. Enhance our parks and open spaces to adapt to climate change.	To develop and implement park strategies which meet both the environmental and social needs required of our open spaces and meet future climate change (mitigation and adaptation) and educational needs (a, b, and c).	That parks have both environmental and social benefits for our residents, including reduced air emissions,	2023	JT/IS
	b. To seek ways of improving the environmental and social value of our parks and open spaces and consider opportunities to create and support carbon sink initiatives within the Borough including landscaping and more tree planting where possible.	Map out opportunities, including rain gardens, to improve the landscape and adapt and mitigate climate change.	To develop a suite of enhancement opportunities	2023	JM/IS/SM
	c. Enhance our parks and open spaces to adapt to climate changes, providing clean, accessible, outdoor spaces with access to nature for education and well-being purposes; and	Develop a biodiversity strategy	Actions from the strategy to enhance wildlife and measurable increases in populations of key species.	2022	IS
	d. Increase land management to provide greater biodiversity to encourage wildlife and insect populations.				

Ref.	Key Actions	Key task	Desired outcome	Target date	Owner
<b>IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF HOUSING STOCK</b>					
GR12	a. Promote residential development that is sustainably located and allows safe and easy access for residents to existing services and transport hubs; and	Develop as part of developments and the Local Plan opportunities for better accessible developments.	Local Plan	2023	AB
	b. Seek and support the retrofit of existing residential housing to enable alignment with more demanding energy efficiency standards.	Identify ways of making the housing stock more sustainable, including through better insulation, alternative heating and ventilation and aim to reduce utility costs where possible.	i. Ensure KGE housing stock meets highest viable environmental standards.	2026	RM
			ii. Participate in current and future opportunities for seeking funding, such as Green Jump, to enhance the energy efficiency of housing stock across the Borough.	2023	SFRO