

ZERO CARBON CITY

**2040**

WESTMINSTER CLIMATE  
EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

**PROGRESS REPORT**

**2021-22**

**ZERO  
CARBON  
2040**

Westminster Climate Action



City of Westminster

**FAIRER**  
WESTMINSTER

# Foreword

I am delighted to share the first Annual Progress Report, which details a series of achievements made over the first year of Westminster Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan.

Westminster declared a Climate Emergency in September 2019, setting out an ambition to be a net zero carbon council by 2030, and a net zero City by 2040. Since the Climate Emergency was declared, two things have occurred: firstly, we witnessed the only administration change in the council's history and secondly, we recognised the need to accelerate action on the programme to improve our emissions reduction trajectory. Both represent an opportunity for renewed focus and drive as we work to achieve our net zero carbon aims.

As your first Cabinet Member for Climate Action, I am committed to rapid and ambitious local action to tackle climate change. We are embedding climate action into everything we do across the council, with the Leader and all Cabinet Members at the forefront as part of the Climate Leadership Group. Our ambition is to ensure a cleaner, healthier, and fairer environment for the city, as well as for Westminster to be a leading example for what can be achieved locally on climate action.

I'm pleased that we're already working more collaboratively across our city to find opportunities and solutions to assist in tackling the climate crisis. We're informed by experts through the Energy and Green Transition Group within the Future of Westminster Commission, our engagement with business stakeholders through various forums, and we will support residents to contribute directly to our action planning as part of the Westminster Citizens' Climate Assembly.



Cllr Noble, Cllr Ormsby, Cllr Jude, and Cllr Dimoldenberg at our Climate Community Action Day at Ebury Edge

Alongside a refreshed approach, there have also been notable successes over the past eight months. We have developed an Environmental Justice Measure to help highlight differences in how people are impacted by their environment and climate change. In partnership with the Westminster Property Association, we launched the Sustainable City Charter to provide support to local businesses in reducing their environmental impact. Our award-winning Energy Saving Show Home showcased energy efficiency options to help tackle the cost-of-living crisis, and our new Retrofit Task Force has brought together industry experts, and wider stakeholders to identify long term retrofitting solutions. We also signed the Green Finance Institute's Local Climate Bond Pledge ahead of launching our own Local Climate Bond in early 2023.

Underpinning all of this work are strengthened governance arrangements and increased transparency around the Climate Emergency programme. The implementation of a Carbon Impact Evaluation Tool, as part of our financial decision-making process, has been an important step in our ambition to develop a net zero test for all council decisions.

There is still a long way to go before we come close to achieving our net zero carbon aims, but I am confident that through decisive action, we can achieve a Fairer Environment for the City of Westminster. Our Climate Emergency Action Plan will be continually reviewed and updated to ensure that it reflects the highest level of ambition possible. I look forward to sharing our updated Action Plan with you later this year, and in continuing to work with you to deliver a net zero carbon future for Westminster.



**Cllr Matt Noble**

**Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters**

# Bringing our community into the heart of decision-making on climate action

We know from engagement and consultation events during the first year of the Climate Emergency Action Plan's delivery that 88% of our community consider tackling the climate emergency either an 'extremely important' or 'very important' issue, and that Westminster based businesses and organisations see taking climate action as a core aspect of their business planning and corporate responsibility.

We need to better harness the contribution that communities across Westminster can make to tackling the climate emergency if we are to be successful. In recognition of this, we have taken immediate steps to establish a range of initiatives to support collaboration and partnership working on climate action across Westminster. This includes:

1. Westminster's Citizens' Climate Assembly: A representative group of residents will be randomly selected and invited to be involved in an innovative model of deliberative democracy to inform climate decision-making within Westminster. Assembly recommendations will inform future iterations of the Climate Emergency Action Plan.
2. Community Climate Champions and Youth Champions voluntary networks.
3. Resident Research Panel – the council's newly established panel of representative residents that share views and inform decision-making.
4. The Sustainable City Charter – a business-led collaborative partnership to support all businesses across the city to reduce their emissions and drive sustainability.



In parallel, we are developing a broad and inclusive engagement plan to look at all the ways we can ensure our communities are:

- › Better informed about the climate emergency and the council's response to it.
- › Take climate action in their own lives, personally and professionally.
- › Have their say on council climate action and decision-making.
- › Actively participate in codesigning and delivering local climate projects and solutions.

# Emissions performance: 2030 Trajectory

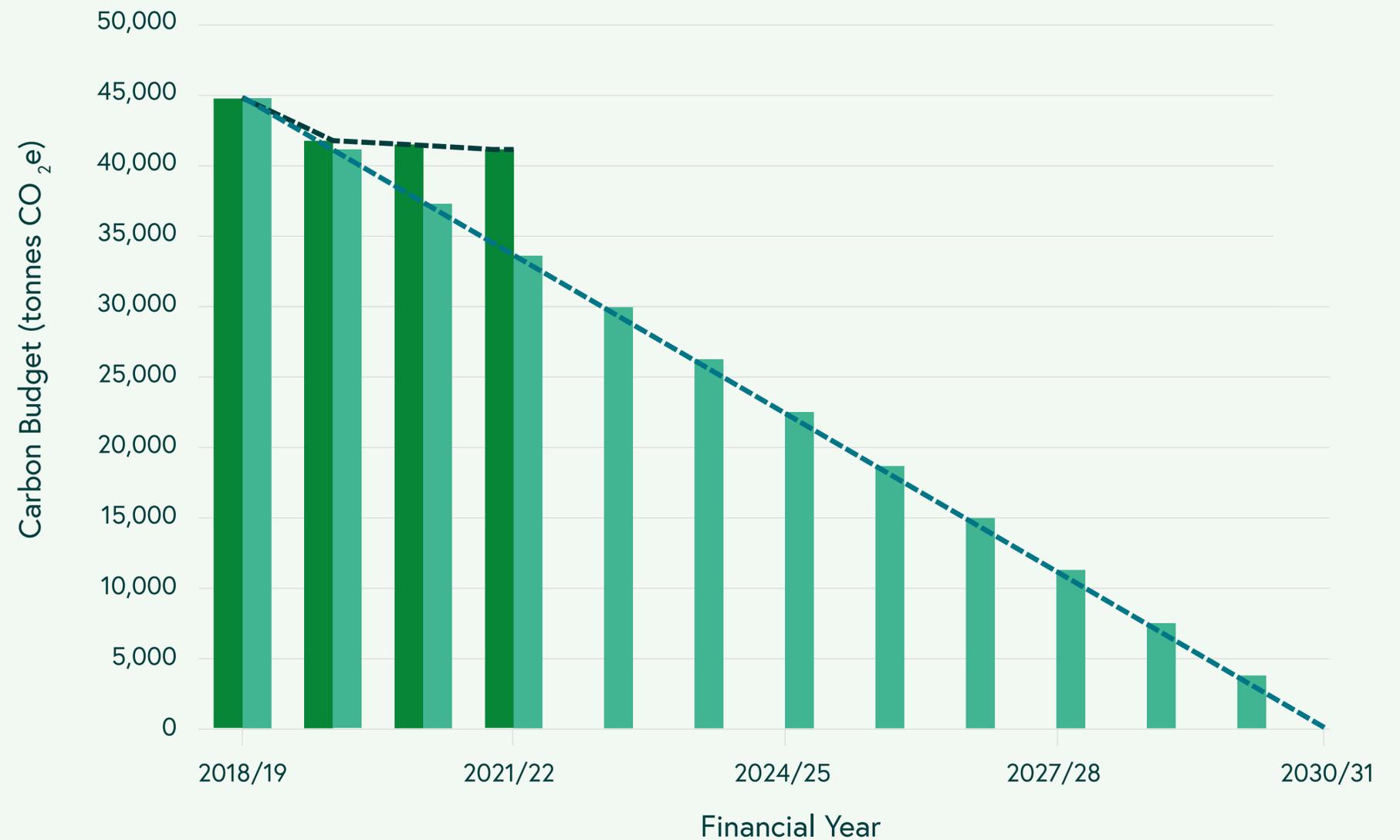


Westminster City Council generated almost 45,000 tonnes of carbon from our buildings and activities in our baseline year from April 2018 to March 2019. We have been tracking our overall emissions performance as an organisation each year since the baseline.

As of the 2021/22 reporting year, we produced 41,399 tonnes of carbon – a 7.2% reduction on our baseline. We must reduce council emissions by 3,700 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> (8.3% of our baseline) each year to achieve our net zero 2030 target.

In reality, the cuts we are achieving through our action plan will vary year-on-year. We are working hard to improve our emissions data and better understand the emissions savings linked to each action and when future savings will be delivered. This is a key priority for the council and we need to continue to ramp up our efforts if we are to meet our net zero targets.

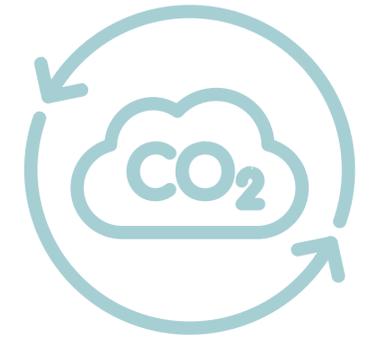
**WCC GHG Emissions Trajectory**  
(Scopes 1–3 Apportioned reduction per annum)



Our true pathway to 2030 is likely to be delivered through a series of stepped savings as each carbon saving project is delivered, rather than the modelled linear trajectory shown on the chart by the blue dashed line.

- Actual GHG Emissions
- GHG Reduction
- - - GHG Reduction (Trajectory)
- - - Actual GHG Emissions (Trajectory)

# Emissions performance: 2040 Trajectory



The City of Westminster has some of the highest carbon emissions by local authority area in the UK, producing 2.2 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) in 2017.

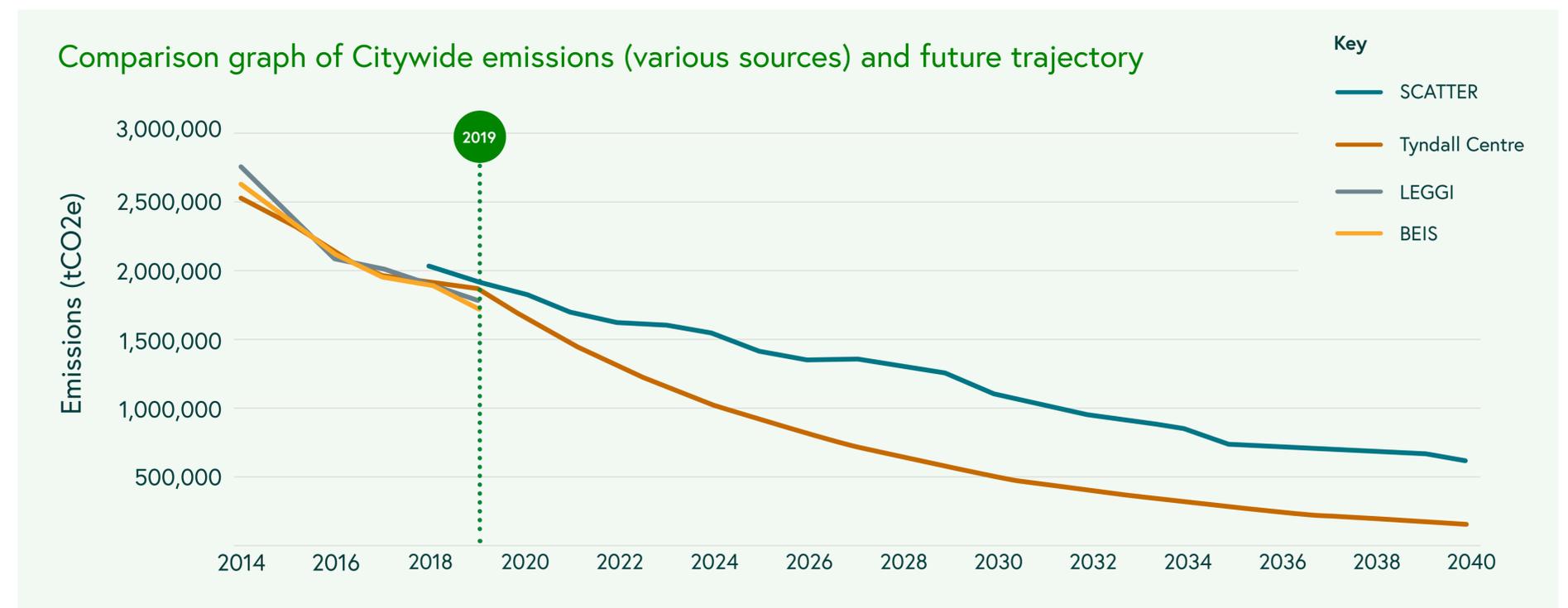
We monitor and calculate Westminster’s citywide emissions using the SCATTER<sup>1</sup> emissions measurement and modelling tool, specifically built to help support low carbon local authorities in understanding and tracking local area emissions.

To achieve Westminster’s net zero 2040 target, the city will need to save over 91,000 tonnes of carbon annually. This is roughly equivalent to eliminating the council’s entire carbon footprint more than twice-over, every year. Based on current performance over the period from 2017, Westminster’s citywide emissions have reduced by 44,000 tonnes.

Over the period 2017 – 2019 (the most recent data available from SCATTER), the City of Westminster’s emissions have decreased by 1.9%.

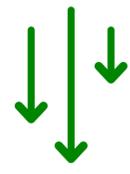
<sup>1</sup> SCATTER (scattercities.com)

Year	Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Change from 2017 baseline
2017	2,274,070	N/A
2018	2,417,333	+6.3%
2019	2,229,001	-1.9%



# Council achievements

# 19%



Installed energy conservation measures within **61 council buildings**, across **135 separate projects**, cutting our corporate property emissions by **19%** (around 1,700 tonnes of CO2 each year)

Assessed the **carbon impact of council-led developments**, helping to cut the amount of carbon from future schemes

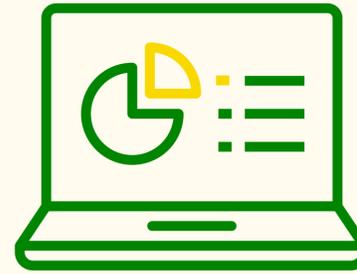
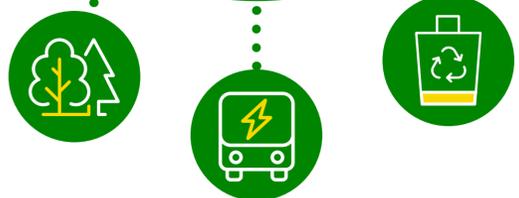


Supported 12 Westminster residents into new green jobs



Since March 2021, improved **council homes** with energy-efficiency measures and clean heating systems [2.8% of our total 12,000 social homes]

Launched an **Environmental Justice Measure** to help communicate and better understand how we can **remove barriers** to residents accessing **green spaces, sustainable transport, and recycling**



Launched our Business Energy Saving Scheme providing **businesses with bespoke energy saving action plans**

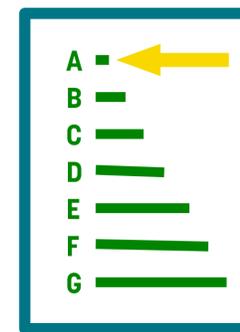
## Pension Fund moving £42m worth of investment

into a Paris-aligned fund as part of wider aim to decarbonise our fund



Signed the Green Finance Institute's Local Bond Pledge in July 2022, in anticipation of launching a Climate Bond in 2023, **helping to fund local climate projects**

**Strengthened our local planning policies and guidance**, by publishing our Environment Supplementary Planning Document (ESPD) with further amendments currently being explored to help us go further



Piloted a new approach to improving energy performance of privately rented homes – **delivering improvements** (Energy Performance Certificate ratings) in **30 homes in the Private Rented Sector**



Developed a **Carbon Impact Evaluation Tool**

to help quantify **the carbon impact** of council projects and activities, an important step in our ambition to develop a net-zero test for all council decisions

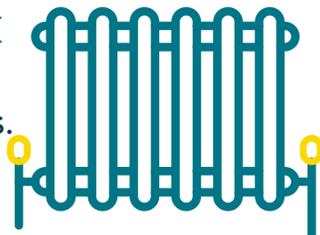
# £58m



Invested £58m (of the £110m committed) from the council pension fund into **renewable energy infrastructure**

# Council achievements (continued)

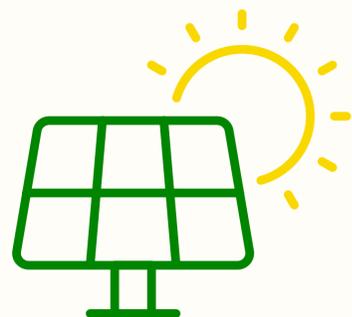
Provided Green Doctors energy advice and support service to help low-income households. We have delivered 82 consultations so far, saving an average of £240 per household



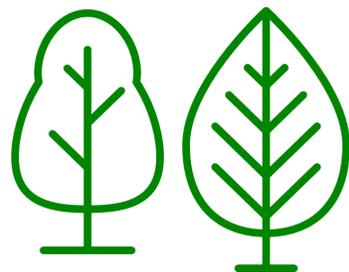
Delivered 53 new secure cycle storage units across the borough in 2022, providing 312 secure spaces for bikes. We have accelerated delivery of the next phase to deliver 50 more units by end of March 2023



Delivered over **1,500** charge points in total across the city achieving a ratio of **one EV resident charge to every 4 electric vehicles** across all wards



Installation of the **largest social housing rooftop solar retrofit in Europe** has begun at Warwick low-rise



Planted **approximately 250 trees** during the 21/22 planting season

Adopted a **Supplier Charter** within the council, putting greater emphasis on sustainability commitments within contracts as part of our overall Responsible Procurement Strategy



Launched a Retrofit Taskforce **bringing together industry experts and local stakeholders to develop solutions** to the challenges of retrofitting buildings in Westminster

Continued the roll out of the **food waste collection service** across the city, to suitable residential properties (set to be completed by March 2023) whilst also maintaining the council's current rubbish and recycling collection frequencies



Hosted **three Climate Community Action Days** across the borough – engaging residents in ways to support climate action

In March 2022, we published our **Responsible Investment Policy**, outlining our commitment to incorporating environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into our investment decisions



**660KWP**

Installed solar panels on **12 council buildings**, generating a combined **660kWp** of clean electricity

## Case study 1: Energy Saving Show Home, Queen's Park

In July 2022, the council opened an Energy Saving Show Home, a one-bedroom terraced council flat in Queen's Park, to encourage residents to make their home more energy efficient. The show home showcased energy saving measures including:

- › Internal wall and underfloor insulation.
- › Thermally efficient windows and doors.
- › An energy-efficient air source heat pump to replace the old, in-efficient gas boiler.
- › An electric hob to replace the gas cooker and eliminate gas use at the property.
- › Solar panels on the roof with battery storage.

Improved insulation, windows and doors have cut the home's heating requirements by over half. Together with the air source heat pump, solar panels and battery storage, the improvements increased the home's

energy performance certificate (EPC) rating from D to B and are expected to eliminate the need for any electricity from the grid. Over 200 visitors viewed the home over summer and are now more likely to insulate, improve their windows and install solar panels.

The show home demonstrated and tested measures that the council is delivering on our estates. Since March 2021 we have installed energy-efficiency and clean heat improvements to over 430 council homes.



Cllr Noble and Cllr Jude at the Energy Saving Home, Queen's Park

## Case study 2: Luton Street and Fisherton Street (NW8)

This year the council completed the construction of 171 new low-carbon homes at Luton and Fisherton Streets. This is the first WCC development with all homes heated by air source heat pumps, and is the start of our green spine, a landscaped pedestrian route connecting Church Street and Marylebone.

We have started to evaluate our entire development portfolio (40 schemes) to identify opportunities to improve their environmental performance. We have also removed gas boilers from our Jubilee, Ashmill and Ashbridge schemes and have started to review all other development schemes to identify further opportunities to improve their environmental performance.



Luton Street and Fisherton Street development

## Case study 3: Sustainable City Charter launched

The Sustainable City Charter was launched in November 2022 at an event attended by over 150 guests from across the property and business sectors in Westminster. The Charter has been developed with the Westminster Property Association and contains eight commitments for participants covering collaboration, energy, procurement, deliveries, construction, transport, waste, and implementation. The Charter is aimed at any organisation that owns or occupies non-domestic property in Westminster, and participants will be required to report annually on their progress in implementing the commitments and on their energy consumption in Westminster.

The Charter will create a strong business partnership on climate change and establish a guiding framework for coordinated local action and the sharing of knowledge and expertise. To underpin all of this, the partnership will continue to develop a toolkit of consolidated advice, guidance, and support to assist participants in successfully meeting their commitments. An important element of the Charter partnership will also be encouraging building owner and occupier collaboration.

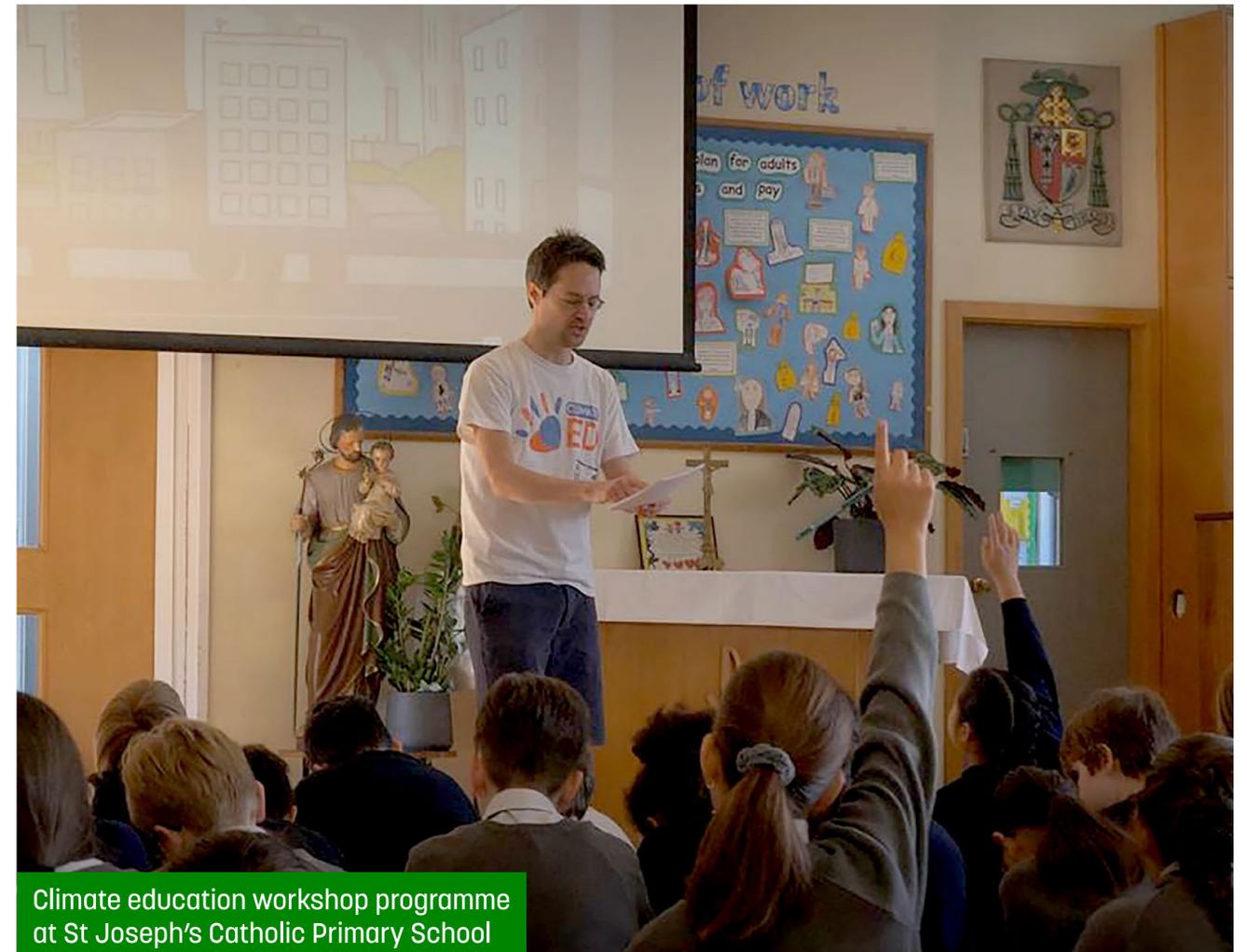


Sustainable City Charter launch on 15 November 2022

## Case study 4: Climate education workshops in primary schools

Following a successful pilot in the autumn term with one primary school, we partnered up with the organisation Climate Ed to deliver a climate education workshop programme (five one-hour sessions). The workshops were suitable for pupils in Year 5 and 6.

We delivered 32 workshop programmes in 23 primary schools in the 2021/22 school year. Over 1200 young people attended and learnt about climate change, its impacts and what we can all do individually to reduce our emissions.



Climate education workshop programme at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

## Case study 5: Public Sector Project of the Year award

Our Corporate Property Sustainability team won the 'Public Sector Project of the Year' at the Energy Savings Awards for their Carbon Management Programme, working with Vital Energi to decarbonise the council's office buildings and estate.

Our Phase 1 Carbon Management Programme, funded by a £13m Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme government grant, completed on

30 June 2022 and is expected to save around 1,600 tonnes of carbon, reducing emissions from council buildings by nearly 20%. The funding has been used to deliver energy saving improvements across 61 buildings, including council offices, leisure centres, libraries, schools, community centres and nurseries.



## Case study 6: Resident charging programme award

Our Parking Team won the EVolution award for our resident charging programme at the British Parking Awards. The award was in recognition of the work we have delivered to increase the number of resident charge points available on Westminster's roads, helping the transition away from fossil fuelled vehicles.

We currently have a network of over 1,500 charging points in Westminster and are looking to grow this to over 2,500 points by early 2023, ensuring an even distribution across the city.



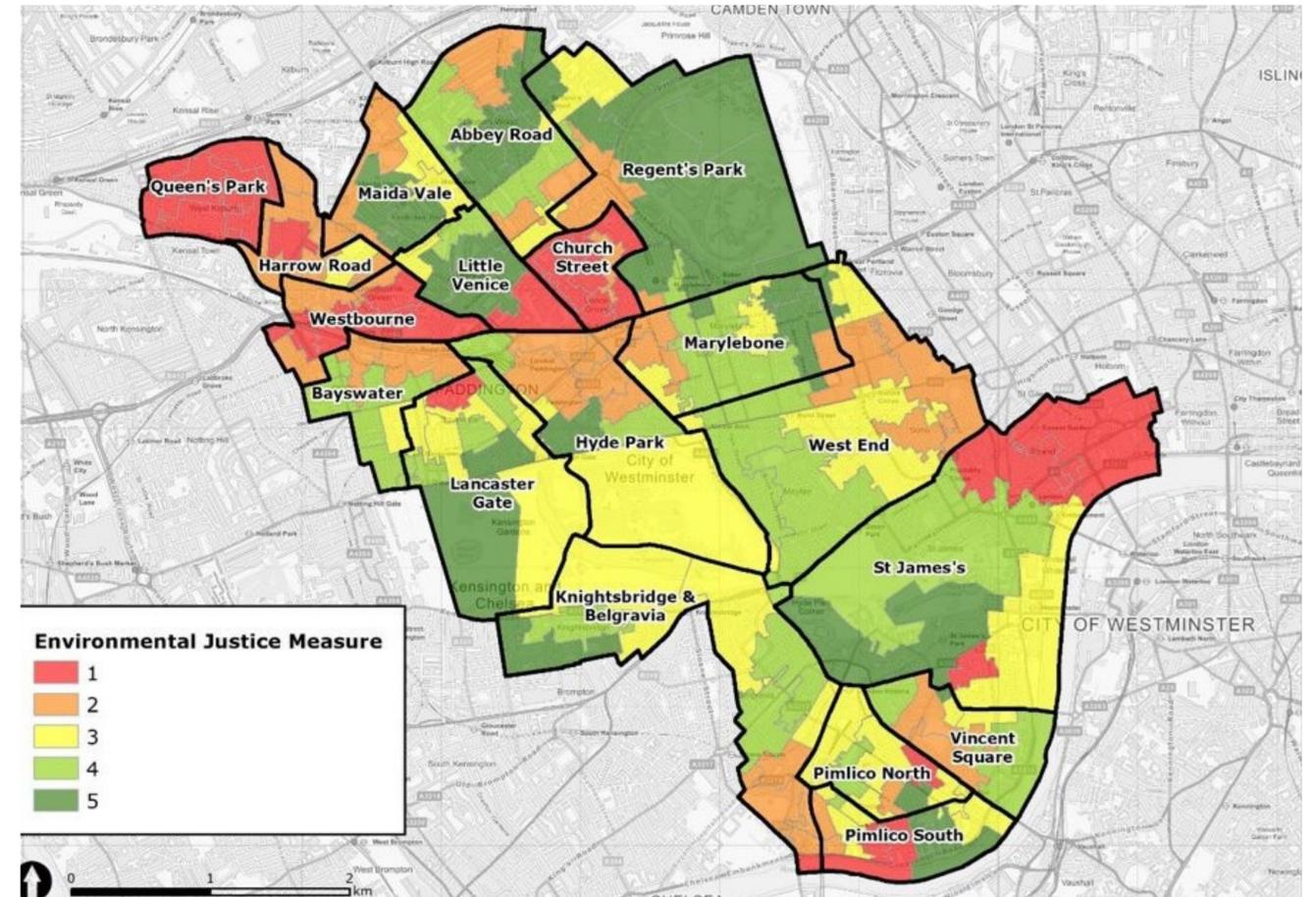
## Case study 7: Environmental Justice Measure

We have developed an **Environmental Justice Measure**, a new public data tool which aims to:

- › Highlight differences in how people are impacted by their environment and climate change.
- › Show the distribution of green, sustainable resources and spaces across the City.
- › Give residents the information they need to act, influence and reduce negative environmental impacts.
- › Inform the council about where and how we invest in the local environment.

To achieve this, we assessed available information on transport, climate resilience, green space and buildings across 10 indicators. We combined these with the Index of Multiple Deprivation to show how poorer social, economic, educational and health outcomes can compound environmental conditions.

The tool is now being used in policy development and service delivery and as a reference point to guide funding allocations, new projects and gauge performance across the borough. It is also a transparent means of engaging communities in joint action on issues such as sustainable transport and retrofitting buildings.



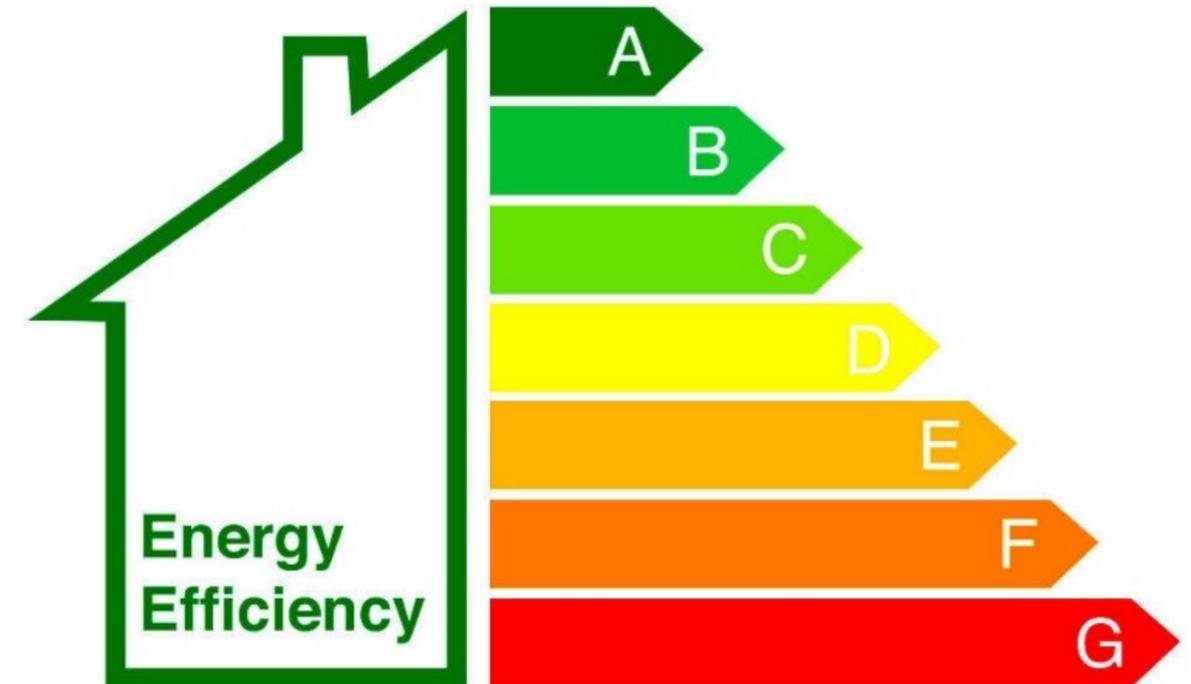
## Case study 8: **MEES Enforcement Pilot**

In 2022, Westminster City Council launched a new combined funding support and enforcement approach to improve minimum energy efficiency standards (MEES) in the Private Rented Sector (PRS).

The MEES enforcement pilot used a data-led approach combining Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) data with land registry records, council tax and tenancy deposit schemes to identify and target swift enforcement action against landlords of properties that were non-compliant with the minimum MEES requirement of EPC E.

The pilot was successfully completed in September 2022, with 28 properties brought into compliance and achieving savings of 51.3 tonnes of carbon per year.

In late 2022 Westminster began work on a second pilot scheme, the MEES Plus Grant Pilot. This scheme will offer practical and financial support to landlords to make energy efficiency improvements beyond those that could be delivered by MEES enforcement alone, delivering additional carbon savings that would not have occurred otherwise. The scheme is in its final stage of review and is due to launch in early 2023.



# 2021/22 Progress Summary

**67**

actions in the CEAP

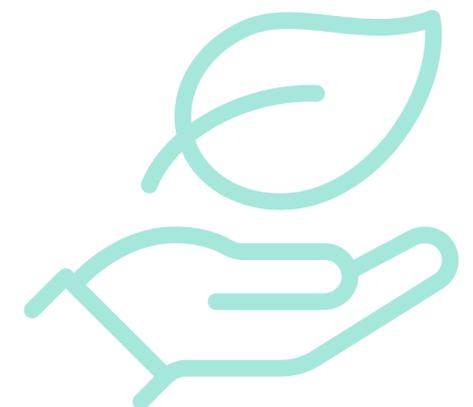
## RAG STATUS

		GREEN	AMBER	RED	BLUE
<b>19 actions</b> Efficient Buildings		14	4	0	1
<b>12 actions</b> Clean and Affordable Energy		9	2	0	0
<b>11 actions</b> Reduced Consumption and Waste		6	5	0	0
<b>15 actions</b> Sustainable Travel and Transport		7	5	3	0
<b>10 actions</b> Green and Resilient City		3	7	0	0

### Action Performance Key:

- GREEN (G)** This action is on track to be delivered as planned
- AMBER (A)** This action is facing some challenges to be delivered on as planned but mitigation is in place to resolve
- RED (R)** This action is facing considerable challenges which will likely see the scope / timelines for delivery impacted
- BLUE (B)** Action is complete

## ACTION COMPLETION STATUS



## Emission Theme: **Efficient Buildings**

### Action 1

By 2040, upgrade our social housing estate, targeting an average Energy Performance Certificate Band B rating.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Between March 2021 and October 2022, energy efficiency and clean heating improvements installed in 430 council homes. We have used Parity Projects tool to cost the measures required to get to SAP B and then to a net zero standard.

**Forward Look:**

Continued delivery of energy efficiency and clean heat improvements in council homes. Further development of delivery plan up to 2040, with strong focus on resident engagement.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 2

By 2022, cut emissions from our corporate estate by retrofitting up to 70 properties, targeting 20% emissions reductions.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Phase 1 of our Carbon Management Programme has now been completed. Over £13m was invested in energy conservation measures, saving an estimated 1,600 tonnes of CO2e each year, reducing emissions from council buildings by nearly 20%.

**Forward Look:**

A measurement and verification plan will be put in place to monitor the energy savings achieved, to prove the effectiveness of energy conservation measures implemented. Phase 2 of the programme is being scoped, with delivery commencing in early 2023.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 3

Complete detailed surveys and develop a low carbon strategy for the upgrade of Westminster's 10 community schools.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

This has been included as part of Phase 2 of the Carbon Management Programme. Site surveys have been carried out to determine the feasibility of installing energy conservation measures within the next tranche of buildings, including schools.

**Forward Look:**

A programme of works for the remainder of 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 will be delivered, ensuring that further carbon emission reductions are achieved. We will continue to utilise external grant funding where possible to support this key programme of work.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 4

In 2022, pilot a new combined funding support and enforcement approach to improve minimum energy efficiency standards (MEES) in the Private Rented Sector.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Piloted an enforcement approach to MEES - the lessons learnt from this are currently being reviewed. Now piloting a grant funding approach via the MEES Plus Grant Policy.

**Forward Look:**

Aiming to obtain and approve 8-12 properties for MEES Plus Grant funding. Works will be undertaken over 12 months - Energy Performance Certificates (EPC's) will be provided at the start and subsequently reviews once the works have been completed to assess the impact. Outputs of the enforcement and funding pilots will help to shape the long term strategy.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 5

Set up a task force with industry experts to develop solutions to the challenges of retrofitting Westminster's historic buildings to net zero.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Our Retrofit Taskforce has been established bringing together industry experts, landowners, property managers, housing associations and resident representatives. The first meeting in October 2022 identified challenges to retrofit and possible solutions to unlock the potential of retrofit in Westminster.

**Forward Look:**

The retrofit taskforce will agree priority actions for supporting large scale retrofitting. The Green Homes Advice & Support offer will be developed and launched in 2023 to support residents and homeowners to retrofit residential properties.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 6

Work with local organisations, landowners and partners to develop a comprehensive programme of support, advice and guidance dedicated to driving large-scale retrofitting of Westminster's built environment.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

See update in Action 5.

**Forward Look:**

See update in Action 5.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 7

Collaborate with London boroughs to deliver the Retrofit London Action Plan as part of London Councils' citywide Climate Programme.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

We remain an active member of the Retrofit London Working Group. We are also participating in a GLA review of our capacity and capability to deliver our social housing retrofit ambitions.

**Forward Look:**

We will continue to collaborate with boroughs across London on developing a comprehensive retrofit approach.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 8

Lobby central Government for further resource to support wholesale retrofitting of Westminster's buildings.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

We continue to review how we can mobilise lobbying opportunities and target government support, including submitting a detailed response to the Government's Net Zero Review Call for Evidence.

**Forward Look:**

We will continue to contribute to joint lobbying efforts to highlight retrofit challenges whilst identifying opportunities to raise attention on Westminster specific challenges.

**Progress and RAG status:**



## Emission Theme: Efficient Buildings

### Action 9

By 2026, update key planning policies in our City Plan with stronger requirements for new developments, including prioritising whole-life carbon and circular economy statements.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

The timelines to update the City Plan are being bought forward. Consultation was launched in October 2022 for a partial review of the City Plan, including proposals to include a new 'retrofit first' policy.

**Forward Look:**

The next step will be evidence gathering and informal engagement with stakeholders as policies develop, with a second formal public consultation on draft policies targeted towards the end of 2023.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 10

Target Passivhaus or equivalent standards for all new council-led developments, where viable.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Consultant procured to review the carbon impact of all of the council's current-led development schemes. Gas boilers have been removed from plans for all remaining schemes. 171 new low-carbon homes delivered at Luton and Fisherton Streets using air source heat pumps.

**Forward Look:**

Review of current (and selected recent) schemes to be completed in December 2022. This will inform optioneering to reduce the carbon impact of our current schemes, as well as targets and processes for all future developments.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 11

Implement our new Environment Supplementary Planning Document (ESPD), which requires major new developments to be built to net zero standards. Review the ESPD in 2022 to identify opportunities to go even further.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

The Environment SPD was adopted in February 2022. We are reviewing the document to explore where it can go further to support a stronger position on net zero standards.

**Forward Look:**

Public consultation on a revised draft is expected in autumn 2023, after evidence gathering and internal engagement has taken place.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 12

In 2022, publish our new Planning Obligations SPD and guidance on Section 106 offsetting payments, raising the local cost of carbon to incentivise on-site emissions savings rather than emissions offsetting in new developments.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

The Planning Obligations SPD was published for consultation in 2022, the document is now being revised in response to the feedback received.

**Forward Look:**

A second round of consultation will take place by March 2023. Adoption of the document to follow pending final updates and approval.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 13

Invest in our staff to build capacity and capability on the climate agenda, becoming a recognised net zero leader across Town Planning and wider built environment services.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

The Town Planning service has boosted by the addition of two Senior Sustainability Officers. Internal workshops and training sessions being delivered to help upskill wider teams.

**Forward Look:**

We will continue to review the capacity and capability of key departments within the council to ensure that the required expertise is in place, either via recruitment or additional training.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 14

Promote the use of smart technologies and digital tools to improve data and understanding of energy saving opportunities for residents and organisations.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

CleanTech solutions are being actively promoted to small and medium businesses via the Business Energy Saving Scheme.

**Forward Look:**

Delivery of air quality use case as part of Smart City Operating System programme, providing transparency and encouraging innovation in use of air quality and wider environmental data. Piloting and promotion of innovative CleanTech approaches to reduce emissions or influence behaviour change.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 15

In 2022, establish a dedicated online platform for residents to provide information and advice on climate change, energy efficiency and wider sustainability opportunities.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Challenges with data protection means an online portal separate to the council's website is not possible. Therefore, enhancements are under way to improve the council's climate pages and create an online 'hub' for all climate related information.

**Forward Look:**

A full refresh of the council's climate pages is underway and set to be delivered in 2023.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 16

By 2023, launch an expanded 'Green Homes' advice service to provide direct support to residents, prioritising the vulnerable and those in fuel poverty, to help improve the energy efficiency of their homes and cut energy costs.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

We have extended the use of the Green Doctors service to provide assistance to low-income residents and households vulnerable to fuel poverty. We are currently in the process of recruiting a dedicated energy advice officer to provide further support in this area.

**Forward Look:**

Continue to develop the approach for the Green Homes Advice Service and what this will include, ahead of procuring and launching the service in August 2023.

**Progress and RAG status:**



## Emission Theme: Efficient Buildings

### Action 17

Work in partnership with organisations to drive demonstrable climate action through sustainable practices and investment, building on the council's Responsible Business Network and partnership working with landowners and developers, Business Improvement Districts and wider stakeholders [cross-cutting action across all emissions themes].

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

External funding secured for the Business Energy Audit Scheme, which was launched in May 2022. The scheme has capacity to deliver energy audits and action plans to up to 1,000 businesses by March 2023.

**Forward Look:**

Communications and application process for the energy audits are being improved to increase awareness and take-up of the scheme. An additional incentive including an online carbon calculator platform and one-to-one support has been launched for 100 businesses.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 18

Develop and implement a Westminster Sustainable City Charter to promote city-wide business commitments to reducing carbon through operational activities and to reporting [cross-cutting action across all emissions themes].

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

The Sustainable City Charter was launched in November 2022, in partnership with the Westminster Property Association (WPA).

**Forward Look:**

We will work with the WPA and key business partners to establish the Charter Steering Group, comprised of senior representatives from key signatories, to provide ongoing support to participants.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 19

Monitor and publicly report on Westminster City Council's corporate emissions performance each year.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

We continue to publicly report our emissions, with annual reports available on our website. We are reviewing how we can enhance our public reporting of emissions.

**Forward Look:**

Continue to review and improve data collection and reliability, with a desire to automate the data processing to speed up reporting process. In 2023, will provide an improved reporting platform on our website.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 20

From 2025, prohibit new installation of fossil fuel energy systems in our council-owned housing and corporate operational buildings (where feasible and within the constraints of the building).

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Phase 1 of our Carbon Management Programme saw Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHP) installed in a number of corporate buildings. Gas boilers have been removed from plans for all remaining WCC housing development schemes.

**Forward Look:**

Review of current (and selected recent) schemes to be completed in December 2022. This will inform pioneering to reduce the carbon impact of our current schemes, as well as targets and processes for all future developments.

**Progress and RAG status:**



## Emission Theme: Clean & Affordable Energy

### Action 21

In 2022, develop and agree a Clean Energy Strategy for the Pimlico District Heat Undertaking (PDHU), and for our social housing estate by 2023.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Work progressing on decarbonisation plans for PDHU. Installation of the largest social housing rooftop solar retrofit in Europe has begun at Warwick low-rise.

**Forward Look:**

PDHU decarbonisation strategy to be finalised early 2023, followed by a business case in summer 2023.

Clean & affordable energy strategy for the entire social housing portfolio to be progressed over 2023.

With both decarbonisation strategies, there are significant technical and financial challenges to overcome.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 22

By 2030, deliver our PDHU and social housing estate Clean Energy Strategies, achieving significant carbon savings.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

The delivery of this action is dependent on the PDHU, and Clean & Affordable Energy Strategies being finalised - both are currently under review.

**Forward Look:**

Action to be delivered upon the finalisation of the respective strategies.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 23

Deliver viable on-site renewable energy generation across our operational buildings and assets.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Included in Phase 2 of our Carbon Management Programme. Site surveys have been carried out to determine the feasibility of installing energy conservation measures within the next tranche of buildings. Scope of works will be finalised by December 2022.

**Forward Look:**

A programme of works for the remainder of 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 to be delivered, ensuring further carbon emission reductions are achieved.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 24

Identify any viable roof-space (council or community-owned) that can be used for community-owned solar powered renewable energy generation.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Additional roof space on council owned buildings has been limited as opportunities for solar PV have been incorporated within other council retrofit programmes. Work has begun to identify non-WCC community buildings as part of the wider efforts to identify projects to be supported through Westminster's Local Climate Bond.

**Forward Look:**

Aiming to have a shortlist of potential sites finalised by the end of 2022, before beginning to reach out to building users and owners to assess their viability.

**Progress and RAG status:**



## Emission Theme: Clean & Affordable Energy

### Action 25

Increase investment in UK renewable energy generation through Power Purchase Agreements via council spend and by influencing contractors to explore these opportunities.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

We have formed a working group with 4 other Local Authorities to conduct an options appraisal of a joint PPA. In partnership with University College London, we undertook deep dive interviews with 10 renewable electricity developers to obtain current market intelligence and perspectives.

**Forward Look:**

A consultant has been appointed to undertake the PPA options appraisal, to be concluded by February 2023 – options will be consulted with councillors on how we then move forward.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 26

Mobilise our council pension fund to increase investment in renewable energy infrastructure, targeting £110 million investment by the end of 2022.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

As of November 2022, £58m of the £110m committed has been invested in renewable energy infrastructure.

**Forward Look:**

Appointed fund managers continue look for appropriate investment opportunities but is dependent on suitable assets & projects being identified.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 27

By 2023, undertake a feasibility assessment of clean and renewable energy opportunities across Westminster to inform a Local Area Energy Plan, enabling local low carbon energy expansion.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

We have appointed a consultant to help deliver the Local Area Energy Plan for Westminster, with work set to begin in early 2023.

**Forward Look:**

The Local Area Energy Plan is set to be delivered by autumn 2023.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 28

Drive innovation in emissions reduction activity and our approach through delivery of the council's Smart City CleanTech Strategy.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Highlights of the CleanTech Strategy implementation include:

- › Smart City Operating System Programme: Prototype dashboard built to support air quality mapping
- › Pilot project utilising sensors at selected schools to encourage behaviour change in travel habits
- › Use of the 'Smogmobile' and urban lab to raise awareness of idling

**Forward Look:**

Delivery of the air quality use case as part of Smart City Operating System Programme. We will be conducting a further review of the CleanTech strategy to align with the Fairer Westminster strategy, incorporating learnings from earlier projects.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 29

Maintain strategic partnerships with leading academic institutions (including Kings College London, University College London and Imperial College London) and international partners ensuring access to leading climate change, air quality and environmental research, analysis and expertise.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Partnered with Kings College London to provide internship opportunities within the Climate Emergency team. Supported Masters dissertation projects from University College London centred on the potential use of hydrogen in Westminster and the viability of Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs).

**Forward Look:**

Continue to review how to develop further links with universities by utilising and expanding the council's 'Urban Lab'. Identifying new opportunities to partner with universities to provide internships and research opportunities.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 30

Lobby Government to mobilise funding for the decarbonisation and expansion of local low carbon heat networks, enabling a transition from natural gas to low carbon (electrified) heat sources.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

We continue to review how we can mobilise lobbying opportunities and target government support. This includes working with organisations such as Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, London Council's and the Local Government Association to highlight challenges that local authorities currently face.

**Forward Look:**

We will continue to contribute to joint lobbying efforts to highlight retrofit challenges whilst identifying opportunities to raise attention on Westminster specific challenges.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 31

Mobilise funding and support to enable residents, organisations and local communities to install and use renewable energy technologies.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

We have extended the use of the Green Doctors service to provide assistance to low-income residents and households vulnerable to fuel poverty. We secured £1m of carbon offset funding to go towards the Community Energy Fund and the delivery of community energy efficiency works.

**Forward Look:**

An initial £950k worth of works have been identified and will be progressed through to investment grade proposals in early 2023. Further development of the Green Homes Advice Service underway, ahead of procuring and launching the service in August 2023.

**Progress and RAG status:**



## Emission Theme: Sustainable Travel & Transport

### Action 32

Provide cross-borough leadership on sustainable travel innovation by delivering the ‘Low Carbon Transport’ programme of London Councils’ citywide Climate Programme, in partnership with the Royal Borough of Kingston.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 – November 2022): Together with the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, we have continued to co-lead the London Councils’ Low Carbon Transport Programme.

**Forward Look:** Subject to discussions over onward resourcing of the programme, the participating boroughs will continue to explore the next challenges in decarbonising London’s transport network via the programme.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 33

Enhance and implement our new Air Quality Strategy and Action Plan by 2024, delivering outcomes that strengthen climate and air quality co-benefits (e.g., school streets, schools Clean Air Fund, and Clean Air Villages).

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 – November 2022): A redraft of the current 2019-24 Air Quality Action Plan has been proposed. This document will have close linkages and synergies to the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

**Forward Look:** Scoping work is being undertaken internally, ahead of wider public engagement, participation and consultation.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 34

Deliver a rolling programme of cycling improvements across the City to improve and connect to the London-wide Cycleways network (including 23km of new additional cycle lanes between 2024-26).

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 – November 2022): To date, 53 new secure cycle storage units have been delivered across the borough in 2022.

**Forward Look:** A further 35 hangars are scheduled for installation by the end of calendar year. Funding bids to the City Council’s Capital Programme and TfL’s Healthy Streets Delivery Plan process have been submitted for 2023/24.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 35

- Promote all forms of healthy and active travel by:
- expanding the roll-out of street improvements (including new wayfinding signs, safer road crossings, new dropped kerbs, pavement repairs and new seating areas) between 2022-2026
  - increasing the availability of affordable secure cycle storage
  - exploring and testing new innovations in sustainable transport (including evaluating our local e-scooter pilot and formalising our dock-less bike management approach in 2022)
  - improving school grounds and infrastructure (e.g. cycling and scooter parking) in line with School Air Quality Audit recommendations.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 – November 2022):

- Our Vision Zero/ Local Safety Scheme Feasibility Studies continue to be developed and funding has been secured for a start on our mass action Dropped Kerbs programme from 2022/23 onwards to support improved citywide accessibility.
- Our Residential Cycle Hangar programme has been reviewed and upscaled. For 2022/23 to date, we have implemented 33 new hangars and the objective is to add a further 35 by the year end.
- We have created a Dockless Bike recovery service for inappropriately parked Dockless Bikes and will be considering how we set up agreed parking bays for them, working with the bike providers.
- Due to TfL funding challenges, progress on this has reduced slightly but we are still implementing on/off street cycle and scooter parking at some schools. This work should grow as more funding returns in 2023/24.

**Forward Look:** A start on the Dropped Kerbs programme will commence in 2023/24 if not sooner. The Strategic Review of our future development of the City Council’s participation in the TfL E-Scooter rental scheme and a potential multi operator procurement agreement with Dockless Bike companies will be developed into 2023 and beyond.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 36

Expand the availability of and access to car clubs in the city, ensuring all car club vehicles are fully electric by 2030.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 – November 2022): Procurement of future car club providers is underway. This is considerate of expansion of the service and aims towards complete transition to electric vehicles.

**Forward Look:** The procurement process will complete in March 2023. New contracts are expected to start from April 2023.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 37

By 2022, expand the roll-out of EV charging infrastructure to 1,500 charge points in total across the city (including 30 additional rapid chargers for delivery vehicles), maintaining a long-term ratio of one EV charge point to 7-8 electric vehicle across all wards.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 – November 2022): As of November 2022, we have met the target of 1500 charge points in total across the city. The ratio of EV resident charge points to electric vehicles is 4:1 across all wards.

**Forward Look:** Aiming to have 2000 to 2500 on-street charge points by November 2023 and we are looking to upgrade our legacy charge point network.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 38

In 2022, deliver charging infrastructure at our Landmann Way Depot to enable electrification of Westminster’s waste fleet vehicles (powered by Westminster’s own waste), upgrading the residential waste vehicle fleet (40 vehicles) to electric by 2022 and the remaining (commercial) waste fleet by 2025.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 – November 2022): The project was delayed due to ongoing negotiations with landowner regarding the council’s lease of the site. Negotiations have progressed and charging equipment is ready to deploy as soon as the lease position is finalised.

**Forward Look:** Deployment activities will commence as soon as the lease position is agreed.

Progress and RAG status:



## Emission Theme: Sustainable Travel & Transport

### Action 39

Lobby vehicle manufacturers and central Government to address barriers to the take-up of electric vehicles and explore opportunities for collaborative working.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

We continue to review how we can mobilise lobbying opportunities and target government support.

**Forward Look:**

We will continue to contribute to joint lobbying efforts to highlight retrofit challenges whilst identifying opportunities to raise attention on Westminster specific challenges.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 40

In 2022, promote the adoption of zero tailpipe emissions vehicles for deliveries to and from licensed premises through the new Licensing Charter and our Licensing Policy.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Upon further review, this action is not achievable. The council can recommend the use of cycles or zero emission vehicles but cannot make it a requirement. We have made reference to this in the Licensing Policy, but we cannot legislate this.

**Forward Look:**

This action is to be removed from the action plan moving forward.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 41

Work with Government to develop legislation for commercial waste franchising/zoning and, subject to enabling legislation, review and rationalise commercial waste collections.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Consultation response from Government is not out yet - as a result, this action has been cancelled for the time being.

**Forward Look:**

This action is to be removed from the action plan moving forward.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 42

Deliver the ambitious actions set out in our Freight Servicing and Deliveries (FSD) Strategy and Action Plan to help cut congestion and reduce carbon emissions, including:

- a. identifying further suitable sites in Westminster for consolidation centres and pick-up and drop-off points to reduce last-mile deliveries
- b. working with landowners and delivery companies to investigate transition of last mile deliveries to low emission transport modes.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

The FSD continues to be delivered whilst undergoing a review of priority areas. The Sustainable City Charter launch will support the FSD strategy by ensuring local consolidated delivery services are used. The Cargo bike pilot was launched October 2022 at 3-4 sites.

**Forward Look:**

We are currently considering the governance structure and the deliverables for the next 12 months of the FSD programme.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 43

In 2022, pilot eCargo bike share schemes across Westminster to promote best practice and incentivise wider take-up.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

In October 2022 an agreement was signed with a provider to design the four proposed sites at Harrow Road, Maida Hill, Church Street and Tachbrook, for which consultation has commenced.

**Forward Look:**

The ambition is to launch the Westminster Cargo Bike rental scheme in December 2022 / January 2023.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 44

Lobby Government to ensure the use of cleaner hybrid-powered trains at Marylebone Station, in line with the renewal of the rail franchise contract in 2022.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

This lobbying action and activity was undertaken in first half of 2022, with public affairs work completed as planned.

**Forward Look:**

Since the rail contract has been awarded, there is limited further action for the council to take. Chiltern Rail were awarded the contract with no specific target for switch to hybrid trains - the council will continue to monitor.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 45

Work with Transport for London and stakeholders to influence the design and delivery of the Transport for London Central London Zero Emission Zone, planned for 2025-2030.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Meetings were held with the Greater London Authority and TfL in July 2022 to determine a path forward for the set-up of a central London Zero Emission Zone. There are challenges around the best strategy, centred on either a borough by borough or pan-London approach.

**Forward Look:**

Continuing to follow up with TfL and the GLA to see how discussions have gone with other boroughs and seek the views of other central boroughs to try and form a unified response.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 46

Encourage residents, employees and visitors to prioritise sustainable travel modes for travel beyond the city of Westminster

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Engagement activities have been delivered throughout the year, including WCC climate community action days, community events and pop-up stalls. We have recently recruited specialist engagement officers to strengthen our long-term engagement plan.

**Forward Look:**

This action to be reviewed as part of the longer-term climate engagement strategy and approach.

**Progress and RAG status:**



## Emission Theme: **Reduced Consumption & Waste**

### Action 47

In 2022, adopt and implement our new Responsible Procurement Strategy to cut supply chain emissions, prioritising those from our top 10 highest-spend contracts, and bring together suppliers, partners and our business community to share our learning and promote the approach.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

The Council's Supplier Charter was developed in 2022. More ambitious targets have now been included to align with Fairer Westminster objectives and the new iteration is due for approval, alongside the new Responsible Procurement & Commissioning Strategy, in December 2022. We have commenced work with the London Responsible Procurement Network (LRPN) to create a pan-London Charter on Supply Chain Carbon, to standardise reporting and reductions requirements set by Local Authorities for suppliers. We are working with our 'Top 10' contracts to baseline their Scope 1 & 2 emissions by the end of the year.

**Forward Look:**

Upon approval of the Supplier Charter, it will be integrated into the council's standard supplier selection process. Those bidders who do not commit to these carbon baselining and reduction requirements will not be allowed to tender. For the pan-London Charter, sign off from the LRPN and partners to be obtained in 2023.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 48

Trial and showcase innovative circular economy projects, building on local exemplars including Caulibox and Westminster Wheels, to help drive sustainable consumer behaviours.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Reviews are underway to set a clearer strategic direction for Circular Economy in Westminster. We have recently joined the UK Green Building Council (UKGBC) to consult with other local authorities and experts on best practice. We have hosted two cross-borough workshops on the topic for London LAs, the first of their kind.

**Forward Look:**

Internal workshops planned for December 2022, where we are aiming to commission a more in-depth strategy. At the individual level, we will continue to support engagement activities around the Library of Things installation in Westminster.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 49

Maintain our first-class refuse collection service while exploring new approaches to sustainable, low carbon waste management, through:

- a. Expanding the residential food waste collection across the whole borough in 2022
- b. Replacing some household non-recycling waste collections with additional recycling and food waste collections
- c. Improving our data on recycling trends, trialling new technologies, innovations and behaviour change techniques
- d. Expanding our recycling streams to include soft plastics by 2026/27.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

The food waste rollout was launched in 2022 - this was periodically delayed, and waste collections were reinstated where previously substituted. Further rollout has now recommenced. The replacement of household waste collections with additional recycling food/recycling collections has been cancelled at request of Members.

**Forward Look:**

The food waste roll-out set to be completed by March 2023, whilst other strands of the strategy continue to be reviewed.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 50

By 2023, support the Government's plans to introduce a national deposit return scheme for drinks containers by identifying appropriate sites in Westminster.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

We are currently waiting for a government consultation to be able to progress this action.

**Forward Look:**

It's likely that this action will be delayed until 2024, as we are dependent on further government consultation.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 51

Work with Westminster's schools to embed climate change in the curriculum, inspire sustainable behaviours and cut waste through our Climate Action Classrooms programme.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Working with training provider Climate Ed, we delivered 32 workshop programmes in 23 primary schools during the 2021/22 school year, with a total of 1243 young people attending. We also organised a primary school competition and library exhibition, aimed at promoting sustainable behaviours.

**Forward Look:**

We're currently reviewing our future plans for engaging schools and young people on the climate emergency. Two engagement officers recently joined the Climate Emergency team and will be developing a long-term strategy.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 52

Embed carbon impact assessments into all our capital-funded project proposals, to maximise the climate benefit of council investments and limit new sources of emissions wherever possible.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

We have developed a Carbon Impact Evaluation Toolkit (CIET) to baseline the carbon impact our capital programme for 22/23. This toolkit was launched in August 2022 as part of our capital bidding process and is now embedded into the organisations process. We have incorporated carbon impact as a requirement into all Cabinet decision papers.

**Forward Look:**

CIET outputs will be used to inform cabinet decisions on budget approval in February 2023. There is ongoing work to review the outputs of the toolkit and identify areas to improve for the next assessment. In addition, our Development service is working to produce an in-depth carbon assessment by Dec 2022. If successful, a similar approach will be used across Housing and Corporate Property.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 53

By 2030, require the use of low-carbon methods and materials across all WCC highway maintenance and public realm projects.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

All projects being delivered via Zero Carbon approach. Public Realm Strategy is being drafted for Cabinet Member sign off by the end of 2022.

**Forward Look:**

Creating a public realm team is the next key deliverable. Paving Materials Guidance is being drafted to promote the carbon agenda, encouraging sustainable materials options, sourcing and operating models.

Progress and RAG status:



## Emission Theme: **Reduced Consumption & Waste**

### Action 54

Use our new Code of Construction Practice to ensure major development sites re-use, recycle or recover 95% of construction, demolition and excavation (CDE) waste.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022): A proposal to extend the Environmental Sciences Team and train officers to be able to take on the additional monitoring of waste management on construction sites has been prepared and is awaiting a decision.

**Forward Look:** If approved, the proposal will be implemented by employing additional staff and training all officers who deal in Environmental Sciences with proactive construction site monitoring. This will allow effective monitoring of waste management on construction sites and follow up on sites that don't reach the set 95% target.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 55

By 2022, develop a Green Economy Strategy to help accelerate the transition to a low carbon circular economy.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022): We are developing a Fairer Economy Strategy, which will include specific Green Economy themes and focus, due to be delivered in 2023. External funding secured and a Green Economy Programme Manager has been appointed.

**Forward Look:** Green Economy to feature as a key theme within the council's wider Economic Development Strategy, to be published in 2023.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 56

Through our Green Economy Strategy, develop low carbon jobs and skills in the local workforce to support a sustainable economy and low carbon transition.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022): See update in Action 55. Delays to the development of the Green Economy Strategy has impacted the delivery of this action.

**Forward Look:** See update in Action 55.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 57

Utilise our new Westminster Investment Service to attract, retain and expand net zero businesses in Westminster, and consistently grow the size of Westminster's green economy.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022): Westminster Investment Service has been established, with Green Economy and Low Carbon as key sector focus. In October 2022, Westminster hosted a delegation of German Clean Tech companies exploring investment in London, through collaboration with London and Partners.

**Forward Look:** Westminster Investment Service approach will be guided by the forthcoming Fairer Economy Strategy and sector approach which is in development. Further opportunities for partnership and profiling of Westminster for a location for Low Carbon companies will continue, and investment success tracked.

Progress and RAG status:



## Emission Theme: **Green & Resilient City**

### Action 58

Maintain, plant and protect council trees to support a long-term increase in tree canopy cover, targeting a 10% increase of existing cover by 2050 (in line with Greater London Authority targets).

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022): Our work to support council trees in line with the GLA target continues. We planted approximately 250 trees across Westminster in the 2021/22 planting season.

**Forward Look:** Planting for 2022/23 planting season (Oct- March) has begun. The current target to plant 150 trees in the 22/23 planting season.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 59

Inspire residents, communities and organisations to increase tree planting on private land in support of the 'Queen's Green Canopy' campaign for the Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022): Many of the funding opportunities available are not suitable for Westminster as they require a large space for tree planting, whilst we also face constraints on space for tree planting in the City.

**Forward Look:** We will continue to share appropriate funding opportunities for resident and community planting via our Environment Newsletter.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 60

In 2022, create a Public Realm SPD setting out detailed guidance on greening within public realm schemes to help enhance carbon sinks and provide climate resilience benefits (e.g., shading and flood alleviation) as well as biodiversity co-benefits.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022): With the uplift of the City Plan being brought forward, the Public Realm SPD timelines have changed. Uplifts are being made to the current draft, which will go out to consultation soon. This action will now be delivered in early 2023.

**Forward Look:** Public consultation will be launching before the end of 2022 for a 4-week period. Following subsequent uplifts and approval, the new Public Realm SPD will be published in early 2023.

Progress and RAG status:



### Action 61

By 2023, undertake an assessment of Westminster's green and open spaces to inform a Green Infrastructure Strategy.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022): We are currently preparing to go out to tender to find an appropriate consultant to help deliver the Green Infrastructure Strategy assessment.

**Forward Look:** Upon the appointment of a consultant, work is set to begin in early 2023.

Progress and RAG status:



## Emission Theme: Green & Resilient City

### Action 62

Leverage local investment to expand the network of local green spaces and enhance biodiversity, building on the successful 'Wild West End' model.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Three projects delivered since November 2021 have benefited from OSGP funding. Through these applications over £135,000 in partnership funding was secured to deliver these greening projects. We are looking at how best to use the Open Spaces Greener Places Fund (OGGP) to expand the network of local green space, enhance biodiversity and support resilience.

**Forward Look:**

Programme was due to relaunch in November 2022; however, this is on hold whilst seeking further clarification on the feasibility of delivering community projects and how community groups can be better supported to deliver greening projects under the OSGP.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 63

Explore and trial innovative technologies and approaches (e.g., living lampposts) to support the expansion of green infrastructure in the city.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

16 living pillars (a hanging basket on lampposts or column structures which use solar power to water the vertical planting systems) have been installed in the City.

**Forward Look:**

The effectiveness of living pillars to assist with reducing local temperatures, air pollution and encouraging fauna to be assessed, to determine whether they can be utilised across the network and adopted by the tree maintenance team. The next review is due by May 2023.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 64

By 2023, develop a Climate Adaptation Plan, based on an understanding of climate-related risks, and local and national climate adaptation activity, to protect Westminster's vulnerable people, businesses, services and assets from changes in climate and extreme weather events.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Work to deliver this action is yet to start - the Climate Emergency team are currently aligning the appropriate expertise to conduct this activity.

**Forward Look:**

Work set to commence in 2023 to deliver this action.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 65

Proactively work with relevant stakeholder to manage the impact of local flood risk in line with our statutory responsibility as Lead Local Flood Risk Authority.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

The Independent Flood Review was published 12th July 2022, the council have had subsequent meetings with Thames Water and Cabinet Members to discuss the outcomes, with a further discussion planned before the end of 2022 on the Section 19 report.

**Forward Look:**

Our Local Flood Risk Management Strategy will be updated and published in 2023.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 66

Engage and enable residents and organisations to understand and increase their resilience to local climate impacts and extreme weather events.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

Engagement activities have been delivered throughout the year, including WCC climate community days, attending community events and market pop-ups. We recently recruited specialist engagement officers to strengthen our long-term engagement plan.

**Forward Look:**

This action to be reviewed and updated as part of the long-term engagement strategy in 2023.

**Progress and RAG status:**



### Action 67

From 2022, establish a Westminster Climate and Air Quality Alliance; a representative group of volunteers to help shape our climate emergency and air quality approach, facilitate local activity, and review overall progress.

**Delivery Update** (November 2021 - November 2022):

The approach to a Climate and Air Quality Alliance has been re-reviewed and we will instead deliver a Citizen's Climate Assembly in 2023. We are currently procuring a consultant to support.

**Forward Look:**

Upon recruitment of a consultant, a Citizen's Climate Assembly will be delivered in 2023. Several other strands of engagement to be introduced to encourage collaborative action and discussion between the council and the Westminster community.

**Progress and RAG status:**





**ZERO  
CARBON  
2040**  
Westminster Climate Action



City of Westminster

**FAIRER**  
WESTMINSTER