

# Just Transition Plan for the **London Borough** of **Newham**

3-6-5: a plan towards 2030

December, 2023

# Contents

3	Introduction and Foreword
9	The Bigger Picture
19	Where Newham Is Now
41	Our Just Transition Plan: 3-6-5
49	3 Principles - 6 Futures - 5 Enablers
105	Conclusion



# Mayor's foreword

Rokhsana Fiaz, OBE

The threat of climate change is greater in Newham than almost anywhere else in the UK. We have already witnessed the devastating effects of extreme heat waves, flooding and soaring living costs on our residents, and these are set to increase as climate change worsens. It is not just our environment on the line, but our livelihoods and our homes. We need to act now.

We are a proudly diverse borough and recognise that climate change impacts are felt disproportionately across our communities. Low income and disadvantaged groups contribute the least to climate change, yet disproportionately pay the highest costs for climate adaptation, and are most vulnerable to the impacts of inaction.

We cannot fall into the trap of looking at climate change as just an environmental issue; it impacts every aspect of Newham's society and economy. That's why we are reframing our approach to climate action and building on our previous strategy to call for a just transition in Newham, across London, and beyond.

Our Just Transition Plan not only accelerates decarbonisation, but also addresses the unequal impacts of climate change and creates better opportunities and health for our residents. Alongside this, the Plan sets out how we will build our capacity to adapt against both current and future climate change impacts that cannot be avoided.



People are at the heart of our Just Transition Plan, which will bring together our residents of all ages, our strong faith and voluntary sectors, educational and cultural institutions, and diverse businesses to build a fairer, healthier, and greener Newham. Our citizens assemblies have already demonstrated an appetite for greater action across our borough and this plan builds on that to create a call to action for all of us in Newham.

Our Just Transition Plan sets a new direction for the Council. It is an ambitious statement of intent for unified climate action across the whole borough. This is our moment to build a better Newham for all our residents.



# What is a Just Transition?

"It isn't just about cutting CO2 emissions: it's about creating a better city for Londoners. It means making homes efficient and warm, tackling fuel poverty and the cost-of-living crisis. It means making neighbourhoods more liveable and walkable, with vibrant local high streets and less traffic pollution, reducing health inequalities. It means good, green jobs with decent wages and conditions."

London Sustainable Development Commission, *London's Just Transition*; London City Hall



# Why do we need a Just Transition in Newham?

→ **We deserve a fairer Newham:** a Just Transition means increasing equality, improving health for our residents and providing opportunities for work and education.

→ **We are vulnerable:** Our residents and businesses have already suffered from extreme weather events, fuel poverty and soaring living costs.

→ **We need to be future ready:** Even small changes to the climate will lead to increased costs of living, migration pressures, and unpredictability and scarcity of supplies, such as food.

**We must act now to reach our climate targets and improve the lives of our residents.**

**This is why we've developed this Just Transition Plan.**

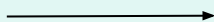


# This plan shifts our approach to climate action planning

Our Just Transition Plan builds on the foundation of our previous Climate Emergency Action Plan, which focuses on reducing emissions. The Just Transition Plan reflects several innovations that guide this next-generation document.

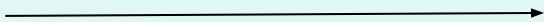
**FROM:****TO:**

Focusing on Council's own greenhouse gas emissions



Focused on creating a **liveable, resilient and just borough** operating within **planetary parameters**

Focus on internal activities



Council **leading, enabling and convening** partners and coalitions of businesses, anchor institutions, empowered citizens and voluntary sector organisations

Transport, waste, energy and housing treated as separate systems



**Integrated actions** including a neighbourhood-by-neighbourhood approach with deep civic participation

Incremental, grant-by-grant financing



Develop **longer-term rolling, blended and strategic investment**



# How does the Just Transition plan work?

## The plan:

### 3

Is guided by three principles, making sure that our focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions goes hand-in-hand with improving equity and helping us get ready for the impacts of climate change.



### 6

Creates desired futures of the kind of place that we want Newham to become. Based on the work of the resident-led climate assemblies and in engaging with many stakeholders, we have developed 6 positive 'Futures' which together make up our vision for a better Newham.



### 5

Will enable us to put in place better ways of working to build our own capacity, draw in resources and work effectively with citizens, businesses and institutions to build a collective effort. We've set out 5 enablers that will make this happen.



**Newham's Just Transition: 3-6-5**

# How does the Just Transition plan work?

## 3 Principles



Increasing equity



Reducing emissions



Future-readiness

## 6 Futures



Our homes, workplaces and schools are comfortable, healthy and efficient



Our energy system is resilient, equitable and not dependent on fossil fuels



We prefer to walk, cycle or use public transport and goods are safely moved without polluting our streets



We increase sharing and reduce waste building a sharing and circular economy



We eat well and sustainably



Our neighbourhoods are resilient, connected and green

## 5 Enablers



Growing the Council's Climate Action capacity and effectiveness



Targeting and increasing investment



Partnering with Newham's Anchor Institutions



Enabling civic and place-based action



Working beyond Newham's borders

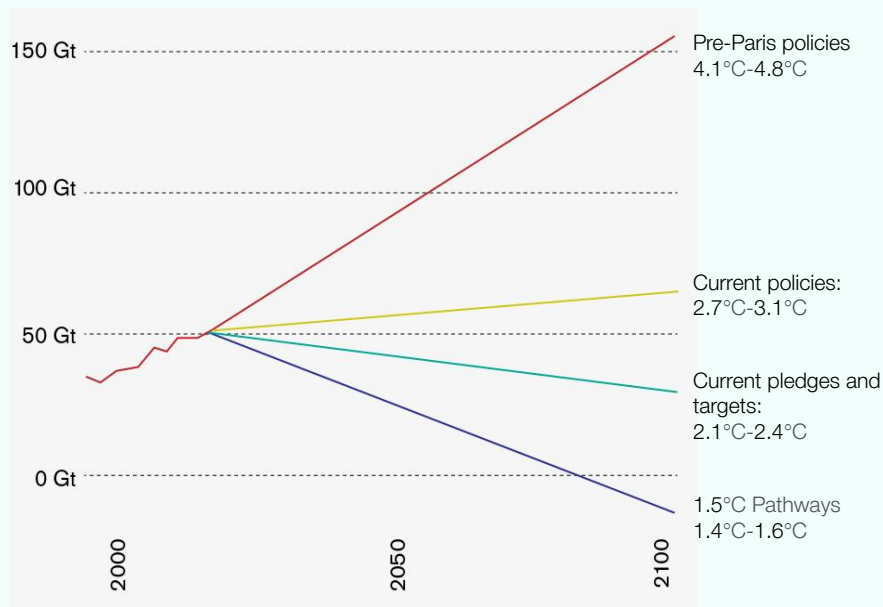


# The Bigger Picture

20% of respondents to the 2023 Global Risks Perception Survey expect that we will reach a polycrisis, *in which global risks compound each other and create impacts greater than the sum of their parts*, within 10 years.

Source: World Economic Forum

# UK policies are currently not on track to tackle the climate crisis and limit warming to 1.5°C



Global greenhouse gas emissions  
in gigatonnes CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. per year

In 2023, we have already exceeded six of nine interlinked planetary boundaries, which represent the safe operating space for humanity.

Delivering on even our most ambitious climate pledges will lead to massive impacts for people in Britain and across the world.

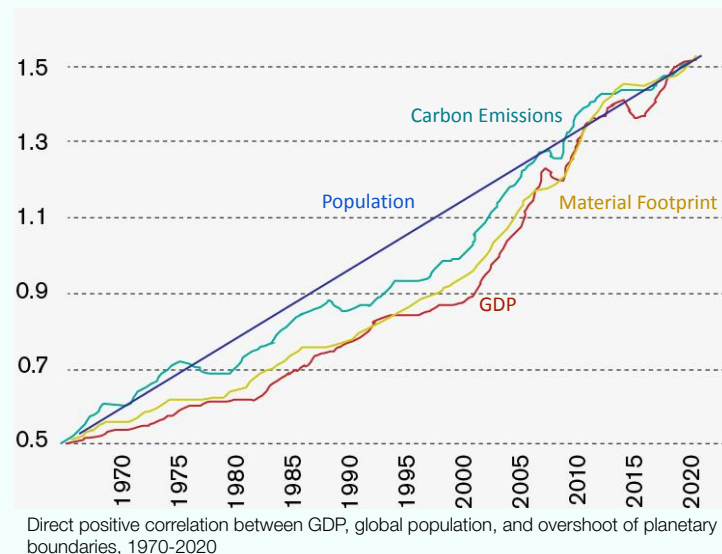
Even if we meet our climate pledges, we will still see significant climate change risks and impacts for Newham's 350,000 citizens, 120,000 households and 14,000 businesses.



# Ambitious climate action must take into account the complex interconnections that define the polycrisis

The stubborn correlation between GDP growth and fossil fuel consumption drives paradoxes in our climate paradigm and lays bare the challenge we face.

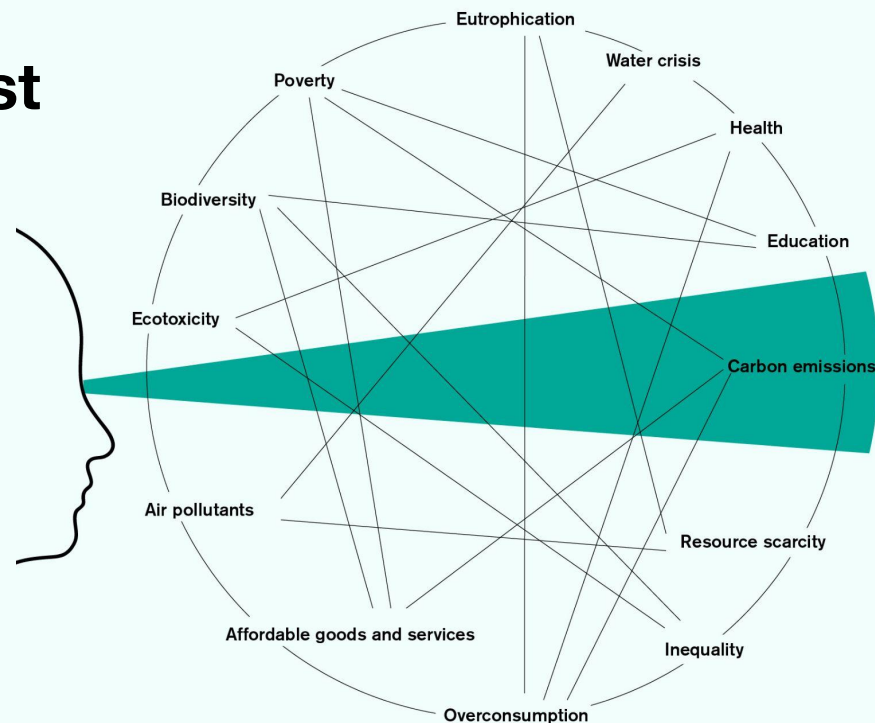
At the same time, vast quantities of fossil fuels are needed to power the transition to renewables. As a result, continually rising material extraction has actually shrunk global circularity in spite of greater awareness of the climate crisis: from 9.1% in 2018, to 7.2% in 2023.



# Leading-edge climate action must look beyond 'carbon tunnel vision', to initiate a Just Transition.

The case for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and the means by which to do so, are familiar, albeit difficult. But the climate emergency comprises a range of factors that impact human and nonhuman life and environments across the globe. Meaningful climate action needs to look beyond 'carbon tunnel vision'.

In attempting to address the climate emergency holistically, Newham can initiate its Just Transition.





# Our urban futures will be defined by resource scarcity and unprecedented impacts on global supply chains.

The cost of doing nothing

Under current policies, costs for climate change damage are projected to increase in the UK from the current 1.1% of GDP to 3.3% by 2050 and >7.4% by 2100.

The need for urgent action now

To limit warming to 1.5°C, lifestyle carbon footprints in developed countries need to be reduced by 80-90% in the next 30 years.

A new landscape of constraints and abundances will shape our economies in the future. Our current development models result in dangerously rapid use of materials, consumption of energy, and greenhouse gas emissions. Even today's most ambitious climate pledges will not untether these metrics from the current global imperative for GDP growth, which is unlikely to change.

The carbon crisis cannot be addressed without reimagining our material and ecological interconnections, and our economic growth and innovation models.

# These effects are not distributed evenly: climate change compounds poverty and structural disadvantage

This moment calls for a long-term and systemic view to address the personal, social and environmental factors that determine the way that climate change will affect people, communities, and places. The combination of these factors makes a strong case for solutions that integrate equity considerations into climate change policy, and vice versa: building climate into our understanding of other areas of governance.

## **Five main forms of climate injustice have been identified in the UK:**

- Lower-income and other disadvantaged groups contribute least to climate change; but are likely to be the most impacted by it
- These communities pay, as a proportion of income, the most towards implementing climate policy responses; but benefit least from these policies
- Their voices tend to go unheard in decision-making

## **The time to act is now**

Now is an opportune moment to reconsider how we position climate goals relative to the economy in the decades to come. In financial terms, as well as in terms of justice, the cost of action will only increase over time.

People of colour in the UK are four times as likely to live in areas at high risk of dangerous heat.

Source: Friends of the Earth

# We can become future-ready by embracing the benefits of accelerated and integrated adaptation alongside mitigation.

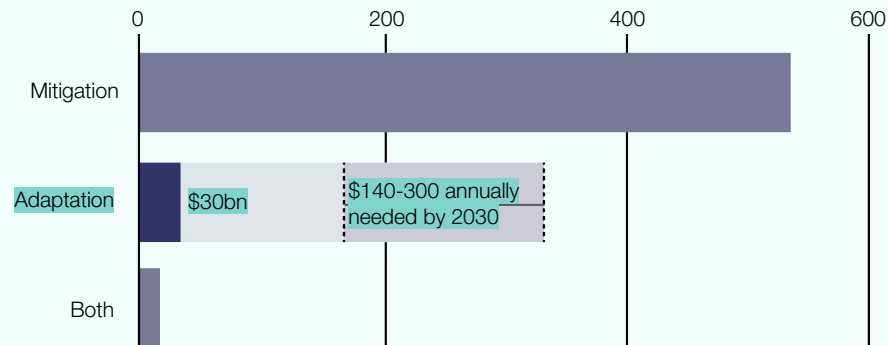
Extreme climate events are hugely costly to cities and damaging to residents' lives; the large bills associated with adaptation save money in the longer-term by considering these eventualities now. Integrated adaptation and mitigation actions are multipurpose and offer quality-of-life benefits for neighbourhoods and communities.

Adaptation goals have the potential to encourage investment and create value, as well as reduce risk, in speaking to the particularities of a place. With these immediate benefits and economic considerations in mind, it's more important than ever for climate leaders to increase their focus on adaptive measures, and its fundamental intersection with mitigation.

Climate investment totalling £1.4trn globally between 2020 and 2030 could generate £5.5trn in net benefits.

Source: Global Commission on Adaptation

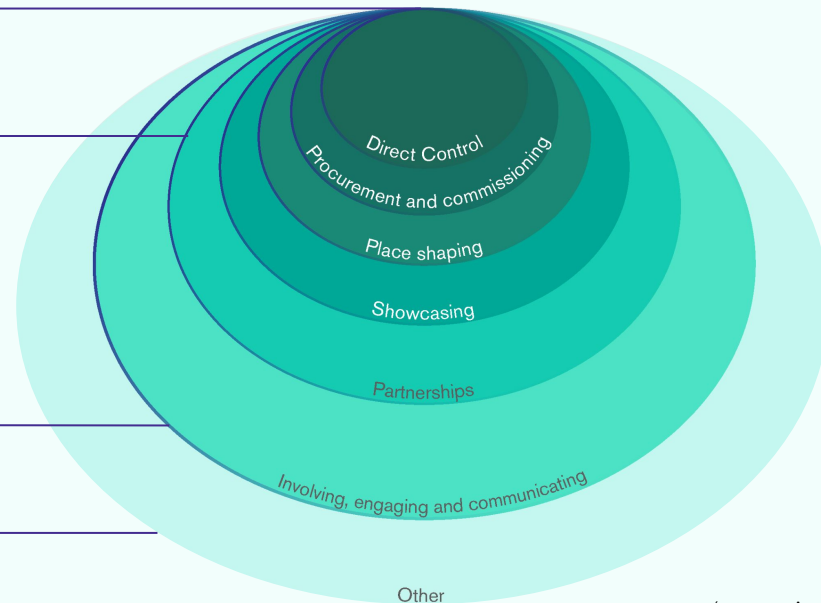
Global investments (\$bn, 2018) in:





# Local authorities must act, but also influence and convene

2-5%	<b>Direct emissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Estate</li> <li>→ Council operations</li> <li>→ Council building energy</li> <li>→ Fleet</li> </ul>
+25%	<b>Indirect control over emissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Procurement (not above sectors)</li> <li>→ Transport policy</li> <li>→ Waste services</li> <li>→ Economic development</li> <li>→ Spatial and energy planning</li> <li>→ New and existing buildings (non Council)</li> <li>→ Land use and planning</li> <li>→ Innovation projects on public estate</li> <li>→ Place-based partnerships</li> <li>→ Jobs and training</li> </ul>
+40%	<b>Some influence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Communications and codesign</li> <li>→ Climate Assemblies</li> <li>→ Community-led delivery and action</li> </ul>
+30%	<b>Very limited / no influence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Central government</li> <li>→ Other market forces</li> </ul>



(source: Arup)

# Recent events show how climate stressors touch down in Newham.

## The climate emergency is here.

In July 2021, 22 areas of Newham had multi-day road closures, due to flooding.

Newham Hospital was left partially underwater and unable to accept A&E patients due to torrential rain.

“Our research ... shows that the poorest people and people of colour are disproportionately impacted by extreme weather in England.”

Prof. Sarah Lindley, University of Manchester School of Environment



# These impacts will grow increasingly tangible to the borough's residents in years to come.

Newham is the **second most at-risk area to extreme heat** in the UK.

**Deaths in London start to increase** when the two-day average maximum temperature exceeds **24.8°C**.

Source: Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health

London could experience **multiple 45°C days** in the foreseeable future.

Source: Interim Climate Resilience Report for London 2023





# Where Newham Is Now





# The Council's own emissions

## As an organisation, we can account for the Council's emissions via:

### Scope 1

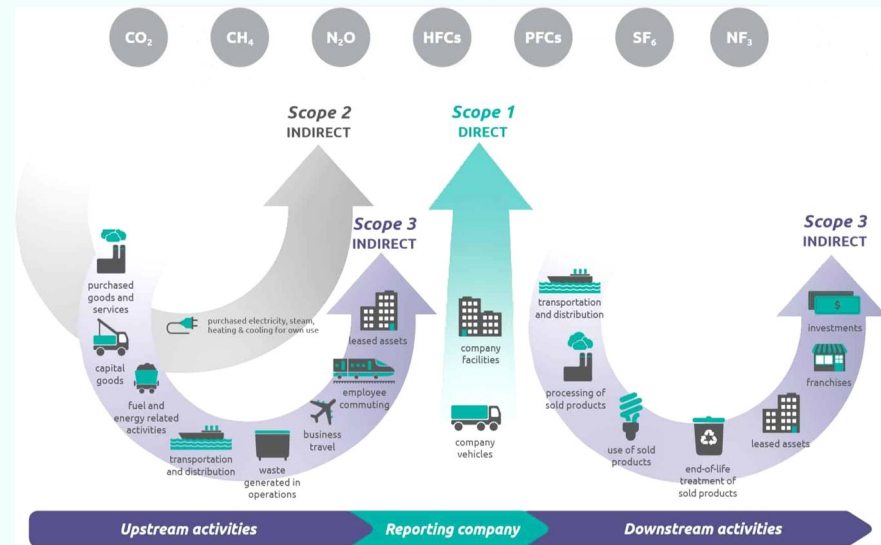
Emissions due to direct fuel consumption in Council-owned buildings and transport fleets

### Scope 2

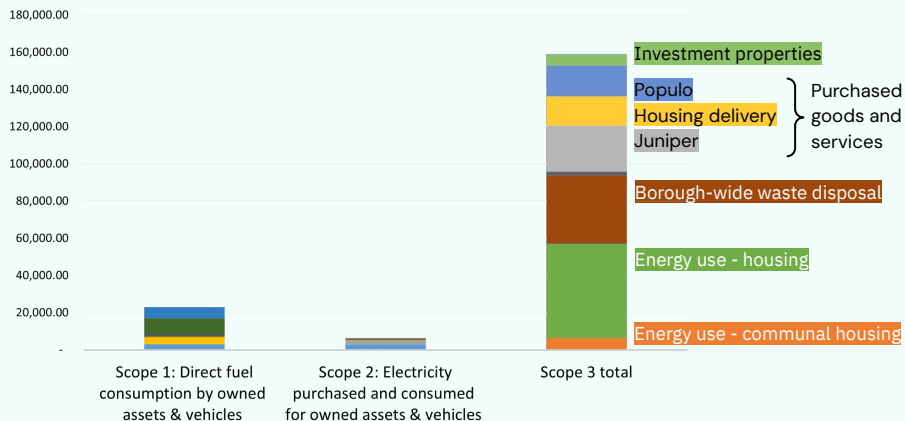
Emissions due to consumption of grid electricity

### Scope 3

Emissions due to materials procured, delivered and disposed of as part of the Council's services (including upstream procurement and downstream consumption)



# The Council's own emissions



- 9.1 Maintained Schools and Nurseries
- 7.2 Populo
- 6.3 Juniper
- 6.1 London Network for Pest Solutions (LNPS)
- 5.3 Adult Social Care: Nursing and Residential Care
- 5.1 Highways (Contractors)
- 4.2 Waste - Council operations
- 2.2 Vehicle use - expense claims
- 1.3 Energy use - street lighting
- 1.1 Energy use - corporate estate
- 8.1 Investment Properties
- 7.1 Housing Delivery
- 6.2 Early Start
- 5.4 Temporary Accommodation
- 5.2 Leisure Centres
- 3.1 Energy use - housing
- 2.1 Vehicle use - Fleet
- 1.2 Energy use - communal housing

**We must understand the full scope of the problem, to deliver the full scope of solutions needed.**

**How can we as a Council lead on conscious consumption across an equitable Newham?**

- We have a radical opportunity to take accountability for scope 3 emissions, and create the environment for everyone else to do the same
- Building relationships, processes and data infrastructure to obtain activity data regularly
- Initiating and resourcing a comprehensive 'GHG Protocol' inventory for future phases of this Plan

# Newham's overall territorial emissions

As a borough-wide community, we account for emissions occurring from our socioeconomic activity via:

## Scope 1

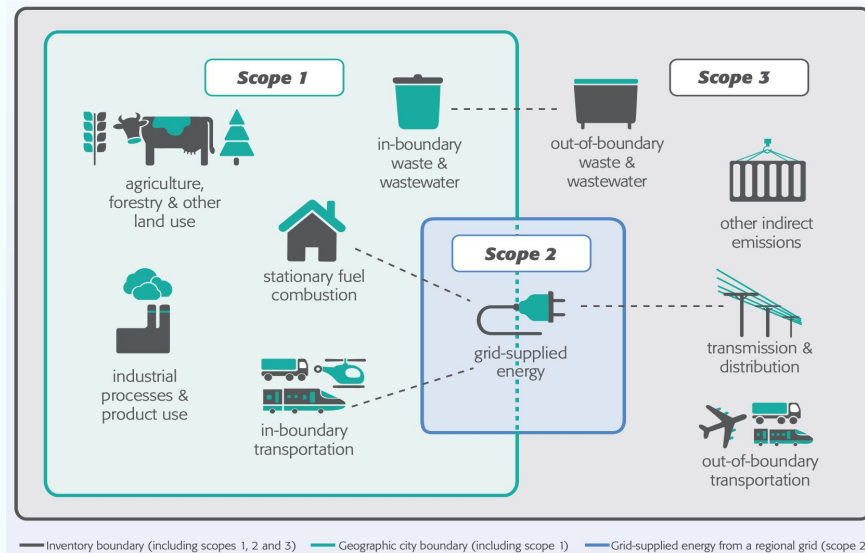
Emissions due to direct fuel use within the borough; in our residential, commercial and industrial buildings, transport modes, and waste management and disposal.

## Scope 2

Emissions due to grid electricity use and supplied heating/cooling within the borough; in our residential, commercial and industrial buildings and transport modes.

## Scope 3

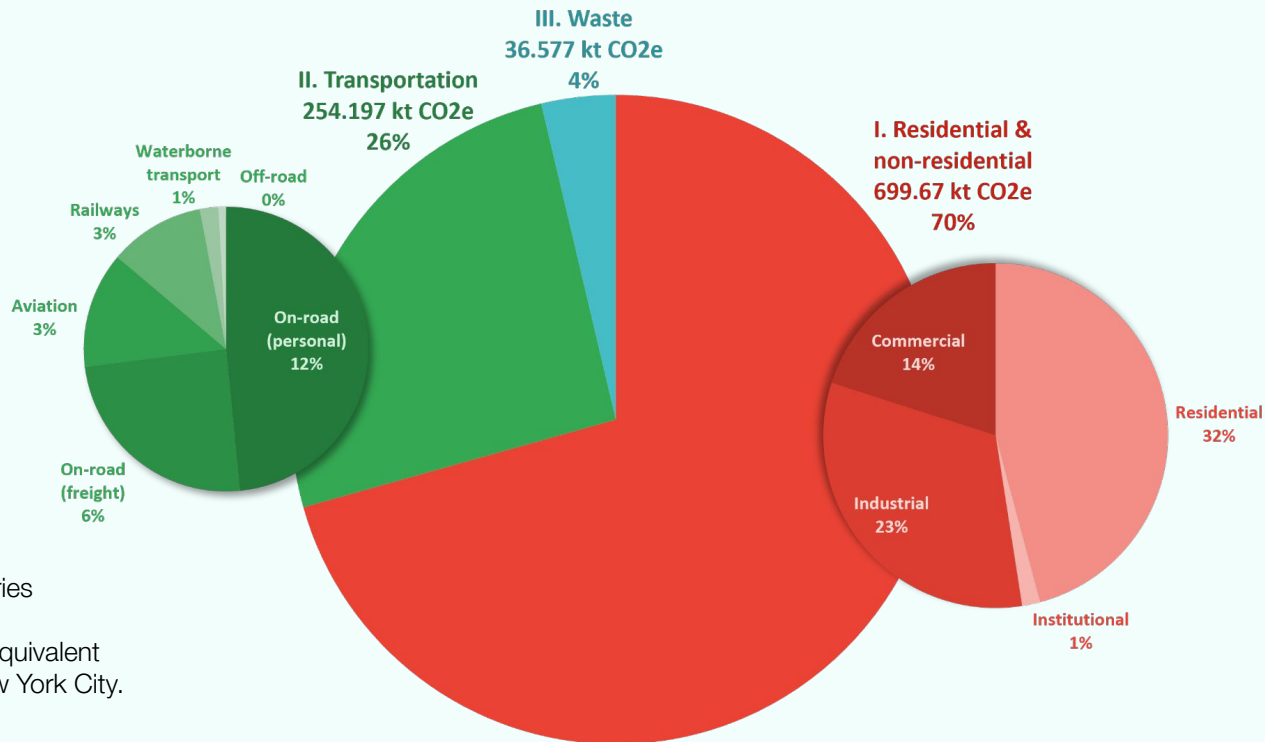
Emissions occurring or originating outside Newham that result from socioeconomic activity within the borough.



Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC)

Source: [GHG Protocol for Cities](#)

# Newham's overall territorial emissions



## Total footprint:

~1 million tCO<sub>2</sub>e for energy consumption, transport and waste within borough boundaries

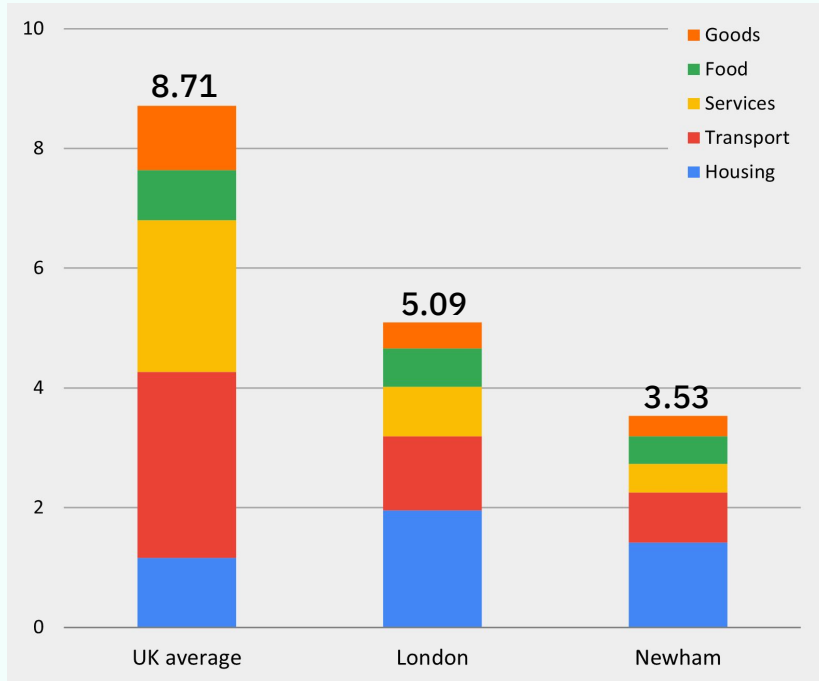
This volume of annual emissions is roughly equivalent to 850,000 return flights from London to New York City.

Source: [Carbon Footprint Calculator](#).

Source: ClimateView inventory baseline for LBN, 2023.



# Consumption emissions per capita



**Consumption emissions measure the emissions that result from the production and distribution of goods and services to end-consumers living in the borough.**

Newham recorded 3.53 kt CO<sub>2</sub>e per resident in 2020, representing the lowest emission per person when compared to London and UK averages.

# Newham climate risk context

## Increasing average temperature

We know the climate is changing and will continue to change over the next century. What we are less certain of is the extent of this change. To manage the uncertainties associated with future emissions, a range of future climate projections are produced by organisations like the Met Office.<sup>1</sup>

In the next few slides, we will refer to the following two scenarios:

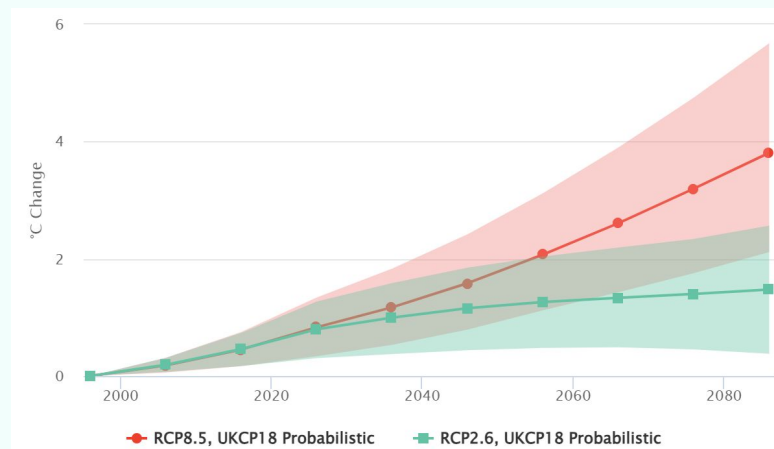
### Low emissions, RCP2.6:

Equivalent to ~1.6°C increase in global average temperatures by 2100

### High emissions, RCP8.5:

Equivalent to ~4.3°C increase in global average temperatures by 2100

Year	Average annual temperature increase	
2050s	0.5-2.0°C	2.1°C
2080s	0.4-2.6°C	3.8°C



**Projected annual average temperature change in Newham, compared to 1981-2010 mean.**<sup>2</sup> This graph shows the 50th percentile (median) projection with 10th and 90th percentile uncertainty bands.

*It is important to recognise that the data presented here is based on the Met Office's UK Climate Projections 2018 Probabilistic Projections. Such models can help consider possible future climate scenarios or outcomes, but no model that attempts to project the future can do so with certainty. Actual events may not occur as projected, and the differences may be material. Climate models are regularly updated and there may be material differences between climate models used at the time of writing and climate models generated later. Sources: [1] [Met Office](#) [2] [Climate Risk Indicators](#)*

# Newham climate risk context

## Increasing heat wave events

The Met Office defines a heatwave event in London as a period of at least 3 consecutive days when the maximum temperature is greater than 28°C.

### 1981-2010

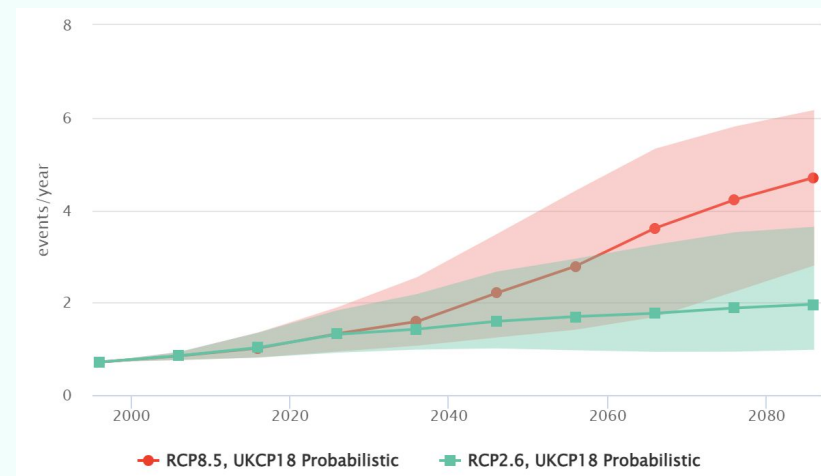
Newham experienced heatwave events in less than once a year (0.7 events/year).

### 2050s

Heatwaves are expected to increase to 1.0-2.9/year under the low emissions scenario, and up to 4.4/year under the high emissions scenario.

### 2080s

This will increase to 1.0-3.6/year in the low emissions scenario, or up to 6.1/year under the high emissions scenario.



### Projected average annual count of Met Office heatwave events in Newham.

The graphs show the 50th percentile (median) projection with 10th and 90th percentile uncertainty bands.

Source: Climate Risk Indicators <https://uk-cri.org/>

# Newham climate risk context

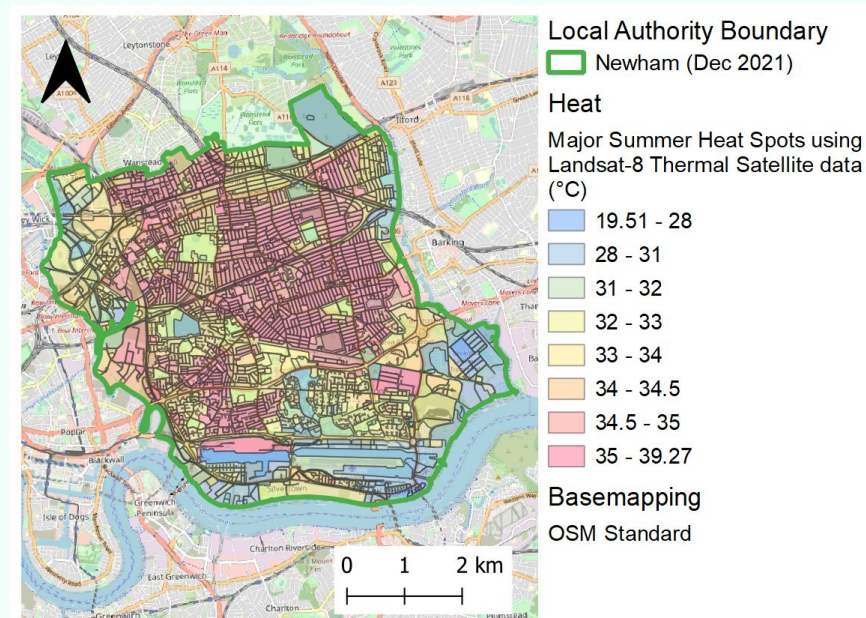
## Urban heat islanding in neighbourhoods

Mapping undertaken for the Greater London Authority identifies 'heat' spots across London, based on summer daytime surface temperatures from 2016-2020<sup>2</sup>.

The map shows that the majority of Newham is a 'heat spot', in particular around Upton and East Ham.

Newham is at elevated risk to overheating, relative to other London boroughs. This could be due to a lack of green spaces compared to concretised areas and vehicle use on major roads.

Source: map produced using data from:  
[Greater London Datastore - Major Summer Heat Spots using Landsat-8 Thermal Satellite data](#)



Map of summer heat spots in Newham



# Newham climate risk context

## Intensifying rainfall and flash flooding

While no open-source maps of future surface water flood risk are available for Newham, trends in heavy rainfall events can be used as a proxy.

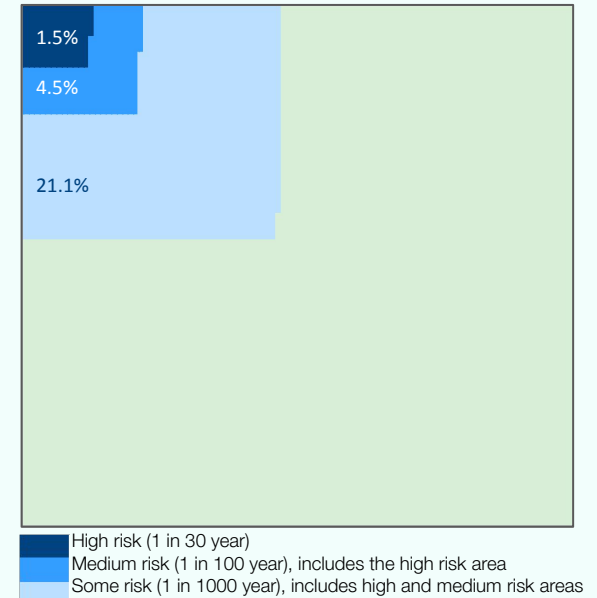
The frequency and magnitude of extreme rainfall events is expected to increase under a warming climate; for example, rainfall events with more than 20mm of rain within an hour are projected to be four times more likely by 2080 than in the 1980s<sup>10</sup>. This threshold was reached during the London July 2021 floods when 40mm of rain fell over three hours at Kew Gardens, flooding the underground and other infrastructure, including Stratford station.

With this intensifying rainfall in mind, the Environment Agency's Risk of Surface Water Flooding maps indicate that:

- 1.5% of the borough's total area is at high-risk of flash flooding (1 in 30 year event)
- 4.5% of the area is at medium-risk (1 in 100 year event)
- 21.1% of the area of Newham is at some risk (1 in 1000 year event)

This means the frequency and intensity of flood events are more likely, with greater number of people, property and infrastructure at elevated risk.

Source: [Using data from Risk of Surface Water Flooding](#)



Visualisation of present-day surface water flood risk in Newham, *percentage of total area of Newham within flood risk areas*

# Thinking about climate change and its impacts from lived experience

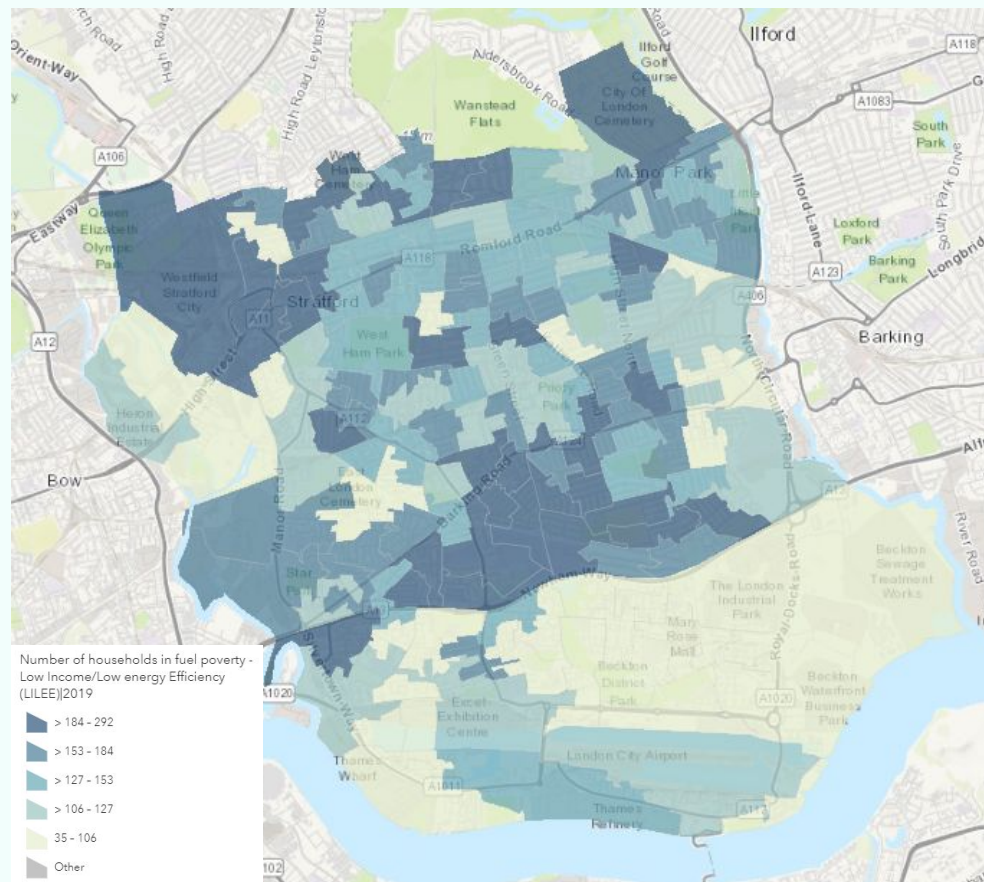
Do we have secure, sustainable and affordable heating and power in our homes?

This map shows that fuel poverty is particularly pronounced in Canning Town, Plaistow and Stratford.

This indicator in consideration with building stock quality (especially around insulation) also gives an insight into which areas need support.

Source:

London Borough of Newham Deprivation map by LSOA,  
<https://www.newham.info/deprivation/map/>



Number of households experiencing fuel poverty according to English Housing Survey (EHS)

# Climate action can alleviate the felt impact of the cost of living crisis

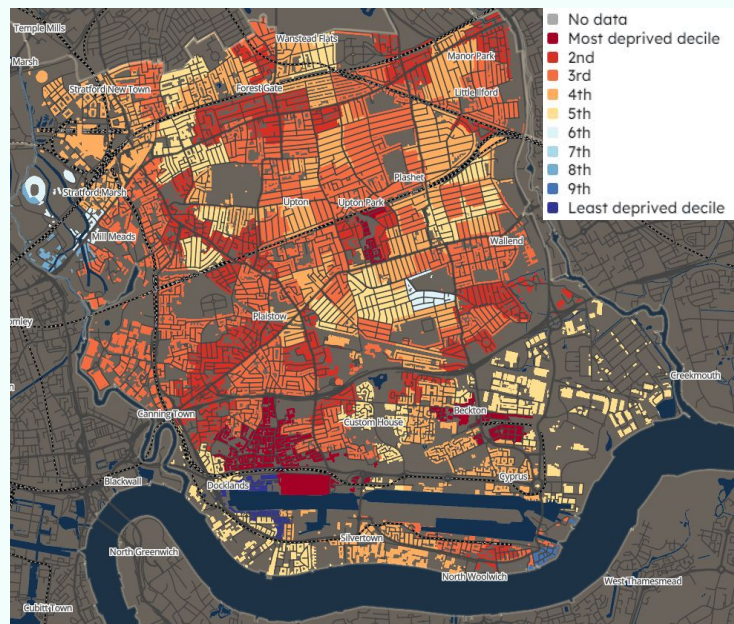
Recent inflation has increased the cost of living for everyone, and is disproportionately affecting Newham residents. Acting on the climate is sometimes positioned as a cost that shouldn't be imposed on citizens who are already financially stretched.

However, there is significant evidence that climate inaction will only increase costs for citizens down the line. For example:

→ Newham has one of the highest rates of private residential renters in the UK. Delaying required improvements to home energy efficiency will increase future bills.

→ Renewable energy is now cheaper than fossil fuels in many cases. Delaying the transition to a decarbonised energy system will lock in higher prices for energy in the long term.

→ Acting on the climate saves future emergency costs for citizens, such as those associated with extreme heat, flooding, unhealthy housing, etc.



Index of Multiple Deprivation Newham - Income

Source: CDRC Mapmaker

# The Just Transition Plan can deliver further co-benefits for our residents.

Potential interdisciplinary co-benefits:

- Electrification of home and school fixtures (from gas) provide direct air quality benefits for children and families
- Reducing and decarbonising vehicles could improve traffic safety and air quality for cyclists and pedestrians
- Increased high street and community amenity participation with better air, traffic and environmental quality

At right: this map (Newham inset) shows air quality data across London. We can see that Newham's major roadways fail annual mean objectives, but that residential neighbourhoods perform significantly better.



Source: 2016 data from Imperial College London,

<https://www.londonair.org.uk/london/asp/annualmaps.asp>



Annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> air pollution for 2016, in microgrammes per meter cubed ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) Source: CDRC Mapmaker



# Lived experience is key to understand the 'why?' behind the statistical 'how much'

Newham's residents do not experience their neighbourhoods - including climate risks and impacts - as a homogenous statistic. A recent study by Arup, Decosm and Social Broadcast with communities of colour in Newham and Thamesmead highlights the lived experience of racialised groups. These provide direct expressions of how systemic inequalities intensify the risks of climate impacts among racialised communities.



## Disconnected from decision making

Research participants did not feel as if their opinions were considered by local decision makers. This can lead to marginalised groups not getting involved and systemic issues remaining unaddressed.

"Whom do I talk to? Where do I go to? [There's] that fear of starting something without the right resources."

— Zinzi, 40-49 years old

"If they tried to get young people involved in the decision making or if they tried to contact me, at first I wouldn't do it. Nothing [has] changed so far. So, until I see change, I wouldn't get involved."

— Zandra, 18-29 years old



## Lack of inclusion and access to green spaces

Research participants highlighted how they might feel unwelcome in green and blue spaces. Lack of access to these areas can increase vulnerabilities to the urban heat island effect.

"I think it's more so about the aesthetic of having a green space in a specific community, as opposed to having a community's green space. [For example,] if it's known for having homeless people sleep there, they'll put little spikes on the floor...it's about moving people on. It's about not making those spaces to be occupied. So it's like you're creating green spaces for no one to use them."

— Hannah, 18-29 years old



## Lower quality built environment

Research participants highlighted experiences of low quality housing amenities and infrastructure. Such elements can leave residents vulnerable to risks resulting from extreme weather events.

"I see there's a difference in the way one park is managed, and the way another park is managed."

And for me, it always does come back down to race. Because if we look at the demographic of these areas where there are nice hospitals, nice parks, nice schools, nice housing, predominantly, you see white people there."

— Jonathan, 18-29 years old

# Climate action in Newham must address the interlinked challenges faced by residents and workers

## Health and wellbeing

Newham residents experience the highest rates of death attributable to air pollution in London (1/7 deaths in 2019).

According to a 2020 British Heart Foundation study, Newham has the worst levels of fine particulate matter pollution (PM 2.5) in the whole of the UK.

726 people in Newham died of Covid-19 between March 2020 and April 2021. Newham's mortality rate was more than double England's average.

## Essential Services

Some 35.5 percent of all homes in Newham are now owned by private property owners. Average rent represents 65% of average wages, compared to 30% across the UK.

Newham has the highest number of households in temporary and non-secure housing in the UK.

Over two thirds of Newham residents are worried about being a victim of crime.

## Economic Prosperity

1 in 2 children in the borough live in poverty.

Over a quarter of Newham residents are paid below the London Living wage. After housing costs, almost half of Newham residents live in poverty.

A quarter of Newham neighbourhoods are in the 20% of most deprived neighbourhoods in the country.

## Planetary Boundaries

Newham is among six London boroughs particularly exposed to extreme flood and overheating risks relating to climate change.

There were 41 callouts to grass fires in Newham during the July 2022 heatwaves: three times as many as in the same month in 2021.

# A shift in practice is needed to address racial inequity

Five key principles can be considered to address racial inequity incorporate anti-racist practice throughout Newham's Just Transition.

Work to build both narratives and realities that **champion, platform and empower** racially marginalised communities.

Be based upon **meaningful representation, genuine decision making powers and agency** for racially marginalised groups.

Act to explicitly **welcome and include** racially marginalised groups, whether through **challenging behaviour or celebrating culture**.

Provide safe, accessible and appropriate provision of places and spaces that **reflect and serve the diversity and requirements** of the community

Establish a system that is both **appropriately resourced and effectively functioning** in its support of racially marginalised groups.

Source: *Racial Equity & the City: Experiences of People of Colour in London*, Arup - to be published early 2024.

# Climate stress in Newham is an intersectional issue

A person's experience of climate change risks, impacts in their neighbourhood, and the benefits of this Just Transition Plan depend on their identities and privileges (or lack thereof). A Just Transition should meet people where they are at to relieve deprivation, manage existing vulnerabilities, and distribute benefits to those who need it most. The following is a sample of the intersectional considerations that inform this Just Transition Plan and any future climate-related policy and planning in Newham.

	<b>Impacted group(s)</b>	<b>Potential climate risk stressors</b>
<b>Income level</b>	In 2021, 23.5% of residents were estimated to be earning below the Living Wage.	The average cost of flooding damage to a home is £30,000, and £82,000 for a business.
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Residents are predominantly Asian (42%), where up to 8% of residents report limited fluency in English.	People of colour are four times more likely to live in areas at high risk of heatwaves. Newham has the second-highest number of at-risk neighbourhoods in the UK.
<b>Seniority</b>	Over 65s represent 7.3% of the population.	Elderly individuals are more susceptible to heat stress and less accessible for emergency communications.
<b>Youth &amp; children</b>	People under the age of 16 represent 20.1% of the resident population.	Extreme weather events can lead to school closures and disruptions in education.

# Engaged council officers are looking for ways to build momentum.

Newham's Climate Action Working Group has identified challenges and opportunities for immediate attention.

These recommendations show how LBN might better organise itself toward change, with the aim of leveraging the council's broader influence.



Newham declares a Climate Emergency, 2019

## Awareness

- Getting everyone to see this as part of their 'day job'
- Increasing climate literacy

## Leadership

- Moving from strategy to operations: evaluating and prioritising decisions
- Moving the agenda up corporate priorities
- Maximising use: Newham's industrial assets

## Network

- Managing conflicts of interest, like cost of living
- Lack of coordination across councils
- Involving young people and institutional partners
- Attaching the right people to the work

## Tools

- Internal capacity and expertise
- Standardising procurement and contracts
- Housing and retrofit: challenge and opportunity

## Governance

- Enabling long-term funding and planning
- Streamlining governance process
- Ability to influence through policy



# Newham's citizens support a Just Transition, and there's space for further engagement.

We can only make this plan a reality by building on previous engagement and growing agency among Newham's residents and businesses.

Both our Young People's Charter and outputs from our 2019 Youth Assembly on Climate feed into this plan.

Newham's 2020 Citizens Climate Assembly recommended **six areas of action**:

## **Buildings + Houses**

- Finance strategy for new tech
- Residents' committees
- Deep retrofit support
- Use of old buildings for housing

## **Moving Around**

- Park and ride
- Free EV parking
- EV charging
- Cycle lanes and walkways

## **Food + Recycling**

- More local food
- Reduce plastic waste
- Surplus food redistribution
- Stop waste incineration

## **Technology + Energy**

- Renewable energy
- PV scheme
- Tech R&D

## **Education + Awareness**

- Briefings and events
- Data sharing
- Local institutional partnerships

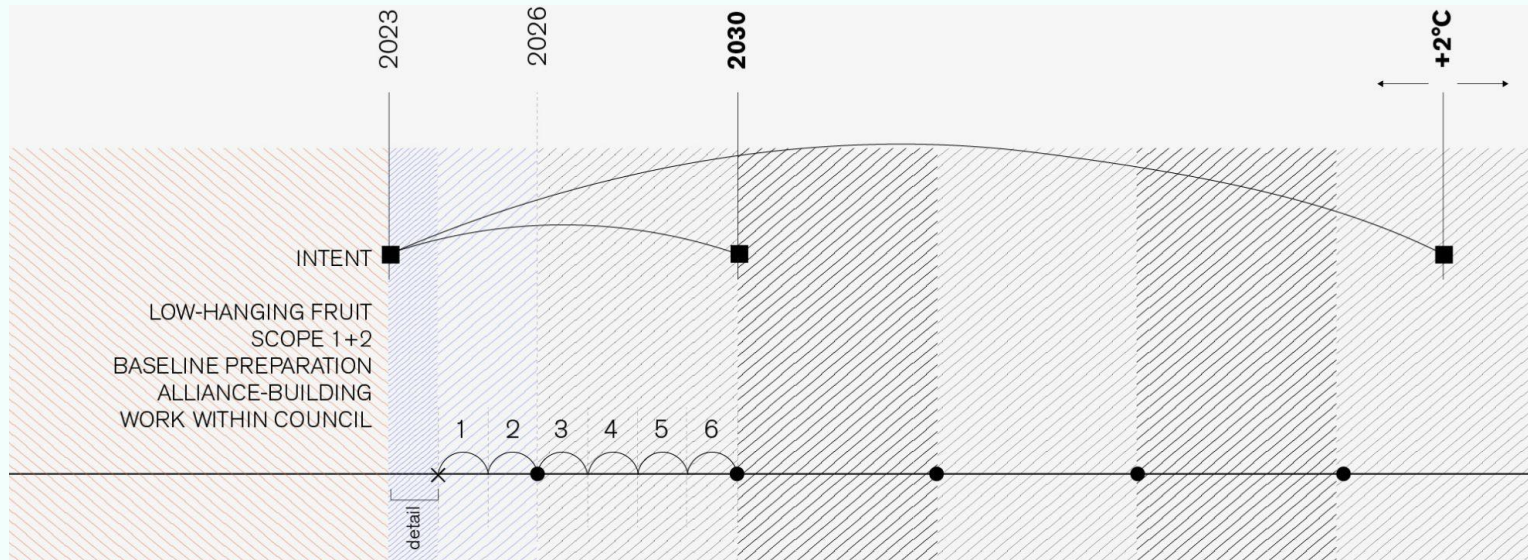
## **Environment + Outdoor Space**

- Biodiversity priority
- Encourage 'greening' in new construction
- Incentivise recycling



# The time to invest focus and resources is now: there are 6 budget cycles until 2030

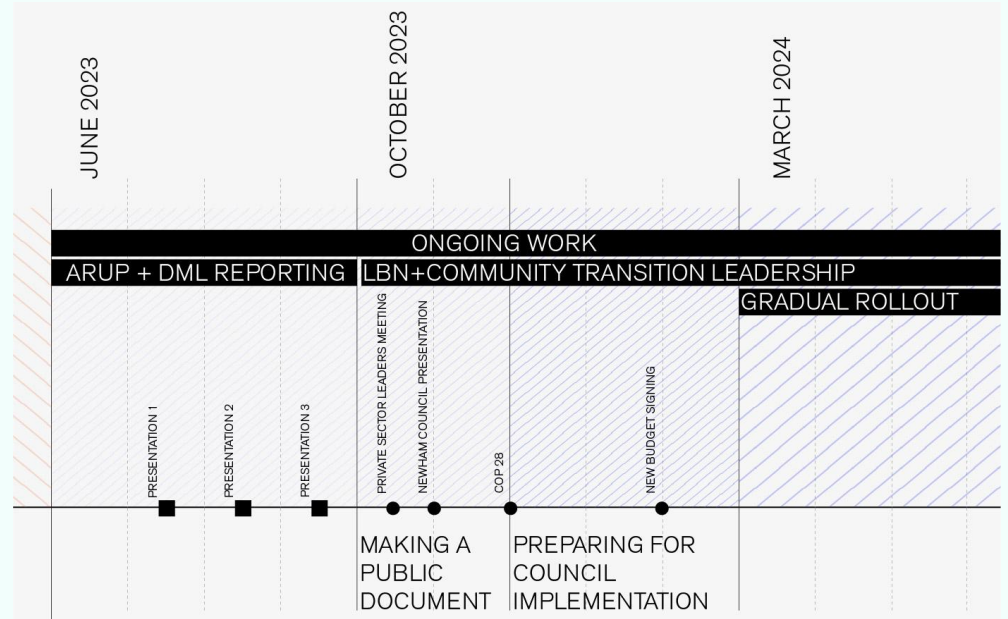
We need to understand, prioritise and develop solutions to be deployed with every budgeting cycle - supported by effective data management, governance, and community co-development.



# A roadmap for the next twelve months will transform ambition into action.

By embedding action planning into budget cycles and elections, we can fully integrate Just Transition principles across our council's operations.

With a plan approved by Newham Council Cabinet this December, the borough will be well placed to present its ambitions publicly, before the end of 2023. In parallel, ongoing coordination with cabinet will align the plan with the development and implementation of the new budget in February 2024.





# Our Just Transition Plan

# Our Approach

Newham's quantitative and qualitative data provided an indicative sense of the possible solutions to deliver just climate action in the borough. This information, in *The Bigger Picture* and *Where Newham is Now* was consolidated towards mapping and demonstrating:

1. The **principles** that inform how any actions are planned and implemented
2. The groups of **futures** that will deliver ambitious and equitable benefits; focusing on areas where we as a Council have significant influence, or need to target additional intervention
3. The supporting **enablers** that ensure the principles and missions are delivered in a transparent, effective and ambitious way

## The proposals are built on considerable and diverse input, including:

- Interviews with 28 Newham officers, stakeholders as well as national and international experts
- Recommendations from our Citizens Assemblies
- Mapping of existing Council strategies, plans, and programmes
- Workshops with and feedback from the Council Officers' Climate Action Working Group
- Workshop at September 2023 Newham Senior Leadership Forum with 150 senior leaders from across all council departments



# We recognise tensions across this work

- There's lots of great work happening in the climate arena
- The local government context is challenging
- To have impact, this plan needs to be our plan and not just be another thing to do

## Working toward:

Certainty

Detail

Specificity

Ambition

## Faced with:

Limited data availability

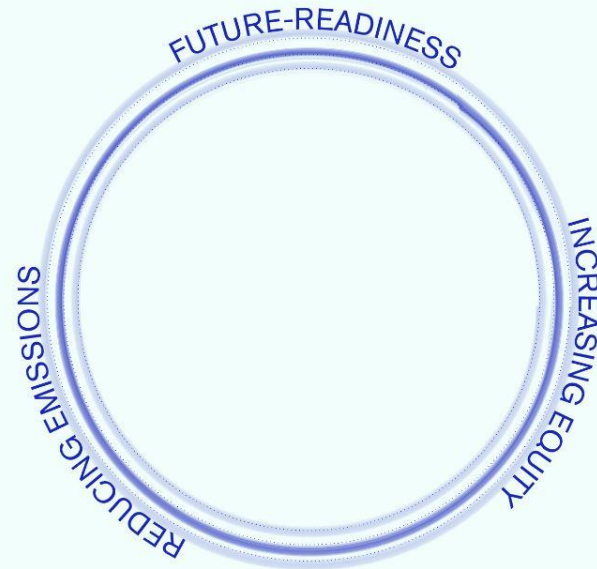
Scope, consistency

Future flexibility

Available resources,  
influence

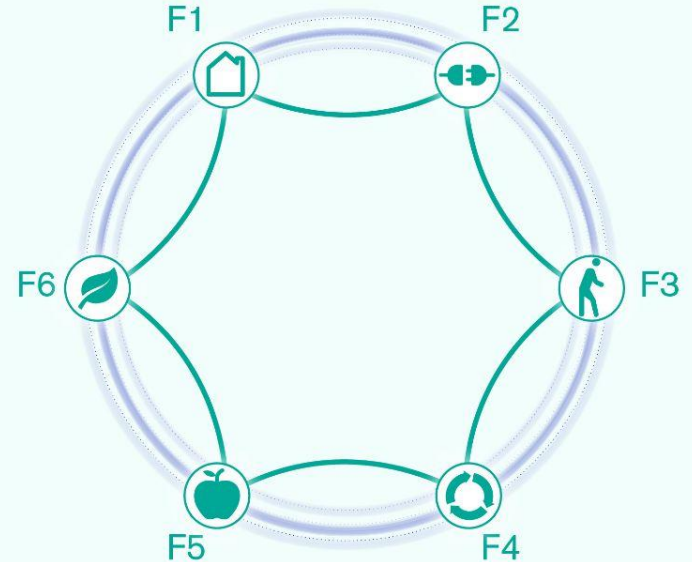
# Our blueprint for Newham's climate transition strategy is structured around:

**3** principles



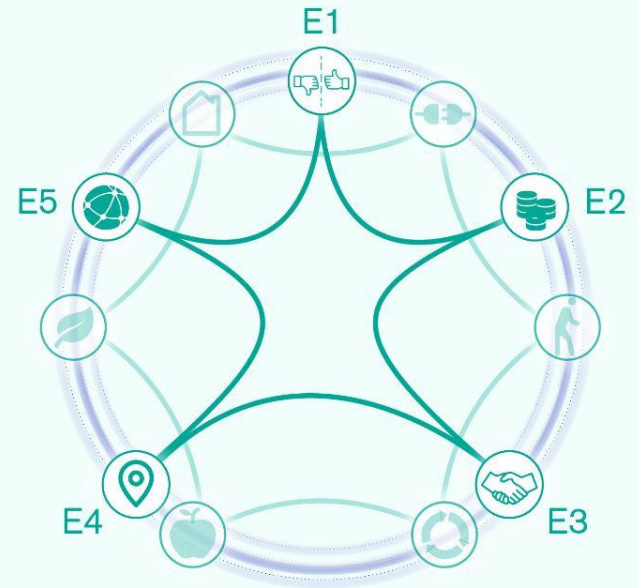
# Our blueprint for a just transition plan is structured around:

**3** principles, which define  
**6** futures



# Our blueprint for a just transition plan is structured around:

- 3 principles**, which define
- 6 futures**, supported by
- 5 enablers**

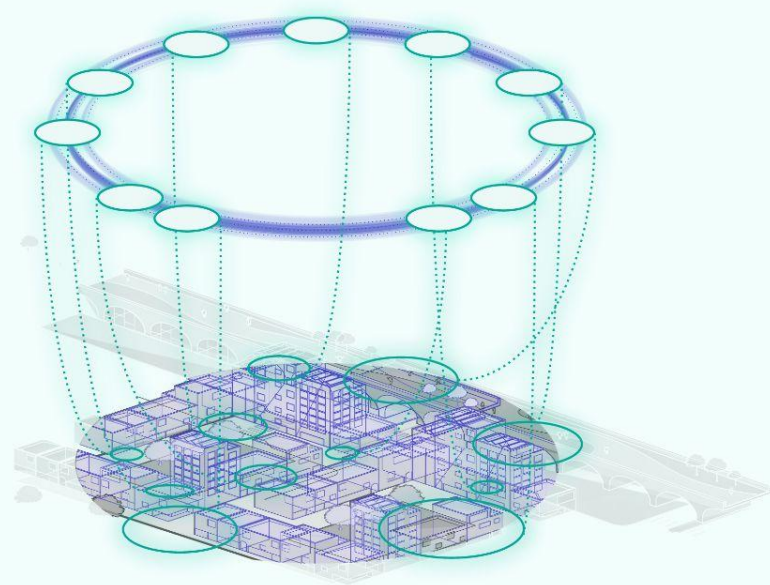


# Our blueprint for a just transition plan is structured around:

**3** **principles**, which define

**6** **futures**, supported by

**5** **enablers**





**3**

**principles**

**6**

**futures**

**5**

**enablers**

each with an associated set of actions

which support delegated authority for experimentation, exploring options, and rapid learning geared toward delivery

**3 - 6 - 5**

**3 Principles**

## 3 Principles

# Three principles shape this plan.



## Increasing equity

- Addressing the unequal impacts of the climate emergency by taking on the inherited imbalance of power
- Leveraging the Just Transition to improve the employment opportunities, living conditions, health and wellbeing of all Newham residents



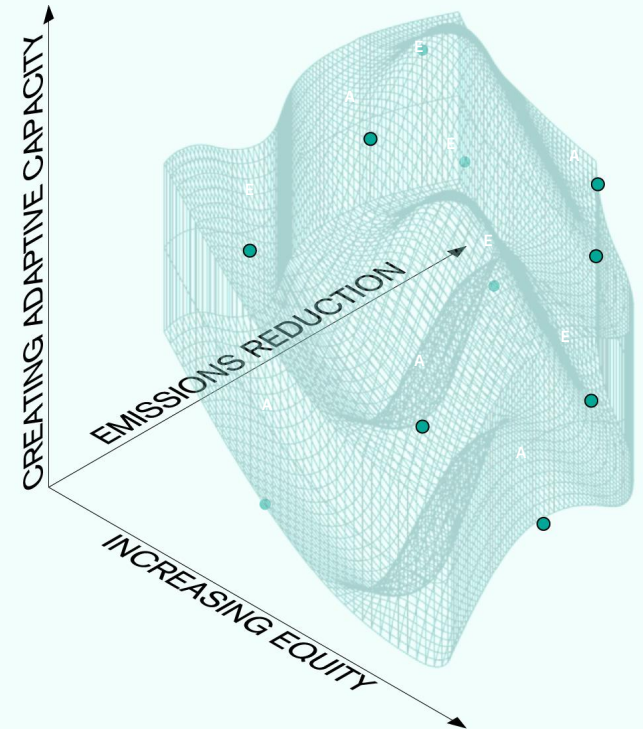
## Reducing emissions

- Accelerating our pathway to net zero within Newham and via the supply chains it engages
- In doing so, we will reduce the externalities associated with resource extraction and economic growth, reflecting a shift in our collective understanding of value



## Future-readiness

- Building Newham's physical, social and organisational capacity, to absorb, adapt and respond to the negative stresses and shocks associated with the climate emergency
- Growing the presence of care across our economies











**3 - 6 - 5**

**6 Futures**

## 6 Futures

## Newham will be a place where:

- F1**  Our homes, workplaces and schools are comfortable, healthy and efficient
- F2**  Our energy system is resilient, equitable and not dependent on fossil fuels
- F3**  We prefer to walk, cycle or use public transport and goods are safely moved without polluting our streets
- F4**  We increase sharing and reduce waste building a sharing and circular economy
- F5**  We eat well and sustainably
- F6**  Our neighbourhoods are resilient, connected and green



## 6 Futures



# F1. Our homes, workplaces and schools are comfortable, healthy and efficient

## Rationale:

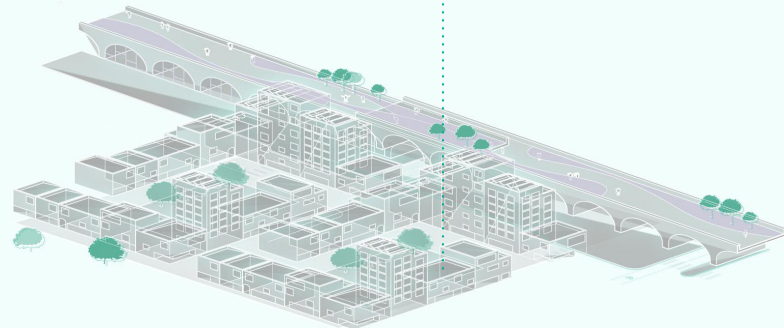
There is an urgent need to address Newham residents' high vulnerability to the effects of climate change and poor air quality and older housing stock, especially where overlapping with high levels of poverty, lack of healthy and safe conditions. Transformation via retrofits and licensing should be supported by deep resident engagement and data collection, diversified funding, and supply chain development.

## Targets:

- Average EPC B or equivalent by 2030 for homes in the borough
- Homes, workplaces and schools should have high safety standards, ensure thermal comfort, and have low pollution

## We propose:

- F1.1 Social housing retrofits for electrification and improved energy efficiency
- F1.2 Development and training for local retrofit value chain
- F1.3 Long-term financing mechanism for retrofits
- F1.4 Fuel poverty database to enable priority targeting



**Future 1: Our homes, workplaces and schools are comfortable, healthy and efficient**

# F1.1 Social housing retrofits for electrification and improved energy efficiency

## What this means

With 17,000 tenant households and 7,000 leaseholders, Newham's housing estates play a critical role in achieving net zero and supporting a just transition. Prioritise, plan and implement retrofits of gas heating and cooking fixtures, lighting, and unit insulation of social housing and temporary accommodation assets. Ensure that social housing meets a high standard for health and safety.

## Impact across our principles

Decarbonisation of home energy consumption, and increasing energy efficiency. Allowing residents to better cope with extreme heat/cold. Improved energy efficiency and reduced expenditure for those in social housing and protecting health through good indoor air quality and adequate ventilation.

## Existing examples

[Newham Council awarded £1.7million SHDF funding to for energy efficient measures in renovation of Hamara Ghar sheltered housing scheme](#), kick starting retrofit of social housing in Newham.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Approx £50k per flat retrofitted. 17,000 social housing flats in Newham resulting in over £800M in retrofits.

## Connected benefits

Decent Homes Scheme ensures housing standard is met. Need to be wary of potential loss of available housing stock to meet borough-wide demand.

F2.1 Assessment and prioritisation of neighbourhoods/buildings

F2.2 Energy masterplanning and whole-systems energy planning

## Prospective next steps

September 2022 report on housing stock energy assessment. Prioritise progress across identified neighbourhood retrofit schemes in line with Just Transition principles.

## Future 1: Our homes, workplaces and schools are comfortable, healthy and efficient

# F1.2 Development and training for local retrofit value chain

## What this means

Promote, support and finance upskilling for local retrofit businesses (including Council enterprises), civic organisations and supply chains. Build knowledge and skills of local contractors and residents. Provide guidance to local businesses in applying for available GLA funding. Ensure technical courses and foundational skills related to energy efficiency and retrofits are taught in local vocational and university courses. Tapping into the strength of Newham's community networks to share energy efficiency solutions to support residents with thermal comfort, cost of living crisis, and rising business costs.

## Impact across our principles

This increases technical capacity for retrofits in the borough. Green economy opportunities for local businesses and residents. This reduces emissions by encouraging efficient energy consumption at the consumer level. Builds the community's knowledge and relationships, contributing to resilience in intensifying climate risks. Energy efficiency knowledge is built within the community and shared within local contexts, languages and settings.

## Existing examples

[Mendip District Council](#)

[Greenworkx](#)

[Carbon Coop](#)

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Requires at least 3 FTE for training of contractors on how to retrofit, training of local residents on the construction and retrofit sector and raising communities awareness of the importance of retrofit. Costs expected up to £400M.

## Connected benefits

Should be implemented in collaboration and alignment with Green Economy sub-actions.

## Prospective next steps

Start mapping local businesses in the retrofit and construction value chain, conduct desk research and interviews to understand their administrative and technical gaps.

## F1.3 Long-term financing mechanism for retrofits

### What this means

Suitable financing is a key barrier for wider adoption of retrofit activities in both the 'able to pay' as well as the social sectors. Newham will work with others to design financing mechanisms that are secure and low-risk for 10-20 year private investment across all tenures. It will also facilitate invest-to-save schemes targeted at Council-owned buildings.

### Impact across our principles

Increases energy efficiency of buildings and enables residential retrofit. Retrofit measures reduce the effects of extreme heat/cold. Reduces upfront costs for residents and allows payback over 20 year period when savings have been made in energy consumption.

### Existing examples

[E.on heat pump payment options, spread cost over up to 10 years](#)

Tallarna model of funding for social housing programmes.

Green finance institute work on financing retrofit.

### Indicative feasibility and cost

Requires extensive engagement with corporate and private funders to understand how to structure an investment mechanism that is stable and attractive for them, residents and the Council. Explore partnerships with other councils, GLA and others, including EPC licensing. Requires at least 1 FTE to establish partnerships.

### Connected benefits

- F1.4 Fuel poverty database to enable priority targeting
- F1.1 Social housing retrofits for electrification and improved energy efficiency

### Prospective next steps

Investigate current action funding protocol to understand the entry point and enabling actions to structure private retrofit investment for social housing and PRS sectors.

**Future 1: Our homes, workplaces and schools are comfortable, healthy and efficient**

## F1.4 Fuel poverty database to enable priority targeting

### What this means

Collaborate with community organisations to select and collect data for key indicators, qualitative lived experiences of fuel poverty, and highly-demanded solutions in the community; developing an evidence-base for the Council to focus its actions, capacity and funding.

### Impact across our principles

Data will inform targeted and effective solutions to improve the efficiency of energy consumption. Increased community resilience and adaptive capacity via records of key fuel poverty issues; allowing the identification of intersectional impacts in addition to other climate risks. Articulates the specific context, challenges and impacts faced by Newham residents, allowing systemic issues to be seen and addressed.

### Existing examples

[Residents' views invited on Newham's plans to upgrade social housing](#)

### Indicative feasibility and cost

Capacity needed to go to community and residential level to understand which impacts of fuel poverty can be alleviated. At least 1-2 FTE Council resources are needed to onboard, develop engagement content and facilitate community organisations.

### Connected benefits

- F2.2 Energy masterplanning and whole-systems energy planning
- F2.1 Analyse and map heat and cold risk to pinpoint community and financial aid needed for households
- F2.1 Assessment and prioritisation of neighbourhoods/buildings.

### Prospective next steps

Reflect and note on key communities to be engaged with, what are effective engagement venues and methods. Builds upon and supports the statistics available in the Game Changer Proposal for Energy Efficient Newham.



## 6 Futures



## F2. Our energy system is resilient, equitable and not dependent on fossil fuels

### Rationale:

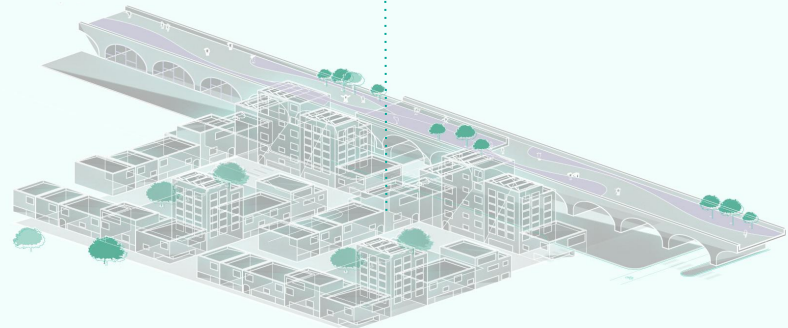
A systematic plan and shift to sustainable and clean energy systems and sources complements the previous action by making energy more secure and affordable for Newham residents - via decentralised generation that is less vulnerable to global fuel price fluctuations. The Council has an opportunity through planning, ownership and working with neighbouring boroughs to decarbonise and de-centralise energy, as well as directly engaging and educating residents.

### Targets:

- Have energy masterplanning and targeted neighbourhood-level interventions in place for maximum decarbonisation in 2030, 2040 and 2050
- Neighbourhood and community organisations are supported and equipped to implement rooftop solar assets and other associated energy programmes

### We propose:

- F2.1 Assessment and prioritisation of neighbourhoods/buildings
- F2.2 Energy masterplanning and whole-systems energy planning
- F2.3 Facilitating community energy assets
- F2.4 Accelerating opportunities for community-led and shared rooftop solar



## Future 2: Our energy system is resilient, equitable and not dependent on fossil fuels

# F2.1 Assessment and prioritisation of neighbourhoods/buildings

## What this means

Conduct assessment of neighbourhoods and buildings, noting where intensifying climate risks and socioeconomic circumstances overlap to exacerbate deprivation and climate vulnerability. If conducted in tandem with Climate Risk Database, collate mapping against neighbourhood income demographics. Results can subsequently feed into energy masterplanning (e.g. LAEP process) and pinpoint community and financial aid needed for households.

## Impact across our principles

Decarbonisation of home energy consumption, and increasing energy efficiency. Ensuring that emissions reduction actions address both climate and socioeconomic vulnerability. Initiating data collection, analysis and mapping to inform sectoral and interdisciplinary actions across Council departments. Mapping can provide evidence-base for prioritisation of targeted interventions on the ground.

## Existing examples

[Data collection and monitoring project in City of Melville, Australia](#)

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Should be done as a set work package with general climate risk assessment. Climate risk and adaptive capacity are inter-Departmental topics that will require data, engagement and inputs from all departments. Detailed analysis, site surveys and mapping will cost £40-50k.

## Connected benefits

- F1.4 Fuel poverty database to enable priority targeting
- F1.1 Social housing retrofits for electrification and improved energy efficiency
- E1.5 Develop a Climate Risk and Co-Benefits Database

## Prospective next steps

Assess current knowledge and data gaps on key climate risk and equity indicators, mapping what analysis and mapping are required as evidence-base for case-making.

## Future 2: Our energy system is resilient, equitable and not dependent on fossil fuels

# F2.2 Energy masterplanning and whole-systems energy planning

## What this means

Prepare for an interconnected energy system through whole systems modelling and flexibility/smart system studies. Including North London LAEPs and preparation for heat network feasibility studies.

## Impact across our principles

Reduces carbon emissions through decarbonisation of the energy system and provides whole systems approach to meeting net zero targets. Enables and prepares for the electrification of heating and transport, reducing grid impact through smart and flexible technologies. Establishes a more connected, innovative system.

## Existing examples

West London LAEP, City of London LAEP, Isle of Dogs & South Poplar LAEP  
London HNZ/AZP pilots([Sample Newport LAEP](#))

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Requires at least 1 FTE to engage with corporate and private funders to understand how to structure an investment mechanism that is stable and attractive for them, residents and the Council. Funding for feasibility studies, flexible/smart studies, pilot studies (studies can cost anywhere between £1,000 to £10,000).

## Connected benefits

- F1.4 Fuel poverty database to enable priority targeting
- F1.1 Social housing retrofits for electrification and improved energy efficiency

## Prospective next steps

Coordinate with other Local Authorities on LAEPs as well as other energy studies and planning, noting where borough boundaries may have critical considerations or action opportunities.

## Future 2: Our energy system is resilient, equitable and not dependent on fossil fuels

# F2.3 Facilitating community energy assets

## What this means

Municipal procurement of energy (and/or renewable energy systems) with secure tariffs. Explore residential shared heating models and the potential for council supported funding. Engage with and encourage community leaders to set up community energy initiatives e.g. through Community Energy London.

## Impact across our principles

Replacement of existing systems with efficient, low carbon alternatives. Prepares for GLA net zero targets and future legislation on removal of gas boilers. Brings community together through community based approach and reduces upfront costs for individuals.

## Existing examples

[Kensa 'heat the streets'](#)

[Community Energy London projects](#)

Replacement of existing systems with efficient, low carbon alternatives: Prepares for GLA net zero targets and future legislation on removal of gas boilers; brings neighbourhoods together through community based approach, while reducing upfront costs for individuals.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

At least 1-2 FTE Council resources are needed to train and facilitate resident groups or community organisations. Look into mechanisms for Council to financially support or subsidise interested communities.

## Connected benefits

F1.3 Long-term financing mechanism for retrofits

## Prospective next steps

Investigate current remits and protocol to understand the entry point and mechanisms to enable community-owned low carbon and renewable energy assets.

## F2.4 Accelerating opportunities for community-led and shared rooftop solar

### What this means

Refer residents and landlords to key enablers for community funded and shared ownership projects, such as Repowering London, ECO4 and Solar Together London. Explore opportunities for council backed investment models for solar installation, e.g. Repowering London model.

### Impact across our principles

Refer residents and landlords to key enablers for community funded and shared ownership projects, such as Repowering London, ECO4 and Solar Together London. Explore opportunities for council backed investment models for solar installation, e.g. Repowering London model.

### Existing examples

Community Energy in Newham through [Repowering London](#)

### Indicative feasibility and cost

0.5-1 FTE Council resources are needed to facilitate matchmaking and conversations between providers and neighbourhood/community groups.

### Connected benefits

- F1.4 Fuel poverty database to enable priority targeting
- F2.3 Facilitating community energy assets

### Prospective next steps

Map neighbourhood organisations or clusters that have capacity or openness to participate.



## 6 Futures



## F3. We prefer to walk, cycle or use public transport and goods are safely moved without polluting

### Rationale:

Reframing transport actions from emission reductions to creating equitable access to health-enhancing, comfortable and non-polluting travel in line with [Newhams Air Quality Action Plan 2019-2024](#). This should facilitate access to socioeconomic opportunities, support local high street businesses, enhance the community cohesion, and reframe spaces as shared with blue and green adaptation.

### Targets:

- NO2 and PM2.5 annual average concentrations of 10g/m3 away from major roads by 2030\*
- Compliance with all relevant national air quality objectives and targets
- 90% of trips made by residents by walking, cycling and public transport
- All residents to live within 400m of a high quality strategic cycleway
- 80% coverage of LTNs (currently 40%)

### We propose:

- F3.1 Cycle mode shift masterplan
- F3.2 Council transport, logistics and freight sustainability plan
- F3.3 Reframing streets as the people's commons
- F3.4 Develop network of low-traffic neighbourhoods
- F3.5 Weekend walking and cycling High Streets programme



\*These targets are based on the Mayor of London's PM2.5 target, as set out in his Environment Strategy, and the World Health Organization 2021 guidelines and interim targets.

**Future 3: We prefer to walk, cycle or use public transport and goods are safely moved without polluting our streets**

## F3.1 Cycle mode shift masterplan

### What this means

Map structural barriers and dedicated highways needed for safe, healthy, and comfortable cycling. Promote cycle training skill sessions such as Bikeability. Expand Newham's network of Brompton Bike Hire docking stations across the borough. Install cycle parking in neighbourhoods and transit nodes. Promote and sponsor diverse community groups such as Cycle Sisters and Newham Cyclists.

### Impact across our principles

Encouraging and incentivising transport mode shift to active mobility. Improves community and business resilience via active mobility modes, if other forms of public transit are affected by climate hazards. Reduces fear and expectations around cycling being only for certain demographic groups. A shift to cycling reduces air pollution, which will be exacerbated in extreme heat events. Health benefits from cycle routes with lower exposure to air pollution. Enables blue-green solutions by freeing up space from car use.

### Existing examples

[Newham Cyclists](#)

[Cycle Sisters](#)

### Indicative feasibility and cost

Ownership of planning and subsequent monitoring, evaluation and reporting (MER) needs to be designated to a specific department and team member for consistency of delivery. At least 1-2 FTE Council resources are needed to lead community engagement, plan drafting, and MER. Installation of cycle parking; £2k-£4k per bike hanger, up to £1M.

### Connected benefits

F3.3 Reframing streets as the people's commons

### Prospective next steps

Plan can be drafted as part of (or a follow-up to) the upcoming Newham Sustainable Transport Strategy.

Future 3: We prefer to walk, cycle or use public transport and goods are safely moved without polluting our streets

## F3.2 Council transport, logistics and freight sustainability plan

### What this means

Conduct baseline emissions analysis, climate risk impact assessment and policy planning for Council and LATCO transport, logistics and freight. The action and learnings from this plan can be shared for engagement with logistic companies operating in the borough.

### Impact across our principles

Emissions reduction via the electrification or fuel efficiency improvements of transport resulting from Council and LATCO activities. Ensures that Council and LATCO operations funded by Newham residents are leading on decarbonisation efforts. Impact analysis will also improve the resilience and adaptive capacity of Council and LATCO operations against intensifying climate risks.

### Existing examples

[DHL](#)

### Indicative feasibility and cost

At least 1-2 FTE Council resources are needed to lead LATCO engagement, plan drafting, and monitoring, evaluation and reporting (MER).

### Connected benefits

The leadership and transparency across all of London that Newham's LATCO activities, goods and services are procured, managed and delivered as sustainably as possible - especially for young people and families. Reduced air pollution as outlined in the Newham Air Quality Action Plan.\*

### Prospective next steps

Plan can be drafted as part of (or a follow-up to) the upcoming Newham Sustainable Transport Strategy. Resolution needed on depot charging infrastructure to support Council electric fleets.

Future 3: We prefer to walk, cycle or use public transport and goods are safely moved without polluting our streets

## F3.3 Reframing streets as the people's commons

### What this means

Where pavement needs to be repaired or made, consider if the pavement and peripheral land-use can be converted to permeable surfaces, tree greening and shading, and/or walking and cycling infrastructure. This action can also be linked to initiatives such as School Streets that manage peak-time road usage with pedestrian safety in mind.

### Impact across our principles

Reconsiders and recovers the pavement from a roadside accessory to a common community space connecting places and people. Encourage mode shift to active mobility by improving the feasibility, comfort and attractiveness of walking and cycling.

Increasing permeable and green surfaces provides water-retention solutions against intensifying rainfall and flood-risk. Tree shading builds adaptive capacity for walking and cycling in increasing temperatures. Improves air quality and vehicle safety, especially around schools. Converting street spaces is also an opportunity to create a biodiverse network for flora and fauna, connecting green pockets to neighbourhoods and parks.

### Existing examples

[Singapore's covered walkways](#)

### Indicative feasibility and cost

Current response procedure for pavement installation and maintenance should be updated with a consideration process if the asset can be made permeable or include planters or facade-shading creepers, piggybacking works that are already required. Installation cost for new pavements. Repair costs for existing damaged pavements. Costs per planters (around £2k, maintenance needed). Costs per facade-shading creepers.

### Connected benefits

F3.1 Cycle mode shift masterplan

### Prospective next steps

Plan can be drafted as part of (or a follow-up to) the upcoming Newham Sustainable Transport Strategy.

Future 3: We prefer to walk, cycle or use public transport and goods are safely moved without polluting our streets

## F3.4 Develop network of low-traffic neighbourhoods

### What this means

Analysis of mapping of potential neighbourhoods and connections that minimise road traffic and incentivise resident walking, wheeling and cycling. Conduct road traffic analysis, facilitating resident visioning processes to get diverse perspectives, creating neighbourhood centres with more opportunities for active mobility.

### Impact across our principles

Direct emissions avoided by encouraging behavioural shift from personal and private vehicles to active mobility. Reducing vehicle traffic improves air quality and traffic safety for people walking, cycling and wheeling. Opens up new possibilities for neighbourhood centres and land-use allocations for roads. Developing a way of interacting with spaces, people and neighbourhoods guided by all residents, instead of the usual voices. Enables blue-green solutions by freeing up space from car use.

### Existing examples

[C40 Cities guidance and examples](#)

### Indicative feasibility and cost

Ownership of planning and subsequent monitoring, evaluation and reporting (MER) needs to be designated to a specific department and team member for consistency of delivery. At least 1-2 FTE Council resources are needed to lead community engagement, plan drafting, and MER.

### Connected benefits

- F3.1 Cycle mode shift masterplan
- F3.3 Reframing streets as the people's commons

### Prospective next steps

Plan can be drafted as part of (or a follow-up to) the upcoming Newham Sustainable Transport Strategy.



## Future 3: We prefer to walk, cycle or use public transport and goods are safely moved without polluting our streets

# F3.5 Weekend walking and cycling High Streets programme

## What this means

Building on previous work, organise weekend days where neighbourhood streets are closed to motorised vehicles; inviting community organisations to use street spaces for other climate action events such as bike repair and circular economy workshops, as well as local community arts and cultural activities.

## Impact across our principles

Encourage mindset and behavioural shift towards walking and cycling being possible and vital to a high street's economy and life. Visioning a high street with high air quality, traffic safety, and vibrant community connections. Providing free public spaces for local organisations to engage with the wider community.

## Existing examples

[Ciclovía in Bogota and Medellin](#)

## Indicative feasibility and cost

1 FTE to organise programme, workshops and community engagement. Engagement of high street businesses are key to ensure both commercial and resident participation. There are administrative costs around traffic orders (£2k per application), as well as resourcing to support communications and coordinate community organisation participation.

## Connected benefits

- F3.1 Cycle mode shift masterplan
- F3.3 Reframing streets as the people's commons
- F3.4 Develop network of low-traffic neighbourhoods

## Prospective next steps

Map and collaborate with similar events and teams in the borough. Consult with relevant governing departments how to schedule optimal weekend days and invite community groups to utilise available space. Integrate actions with upcoming High Streets Strategy.

## 6 Futures



## F4. We increase sharing and reduce waste, building a sharing and circular economy

### Rationale:

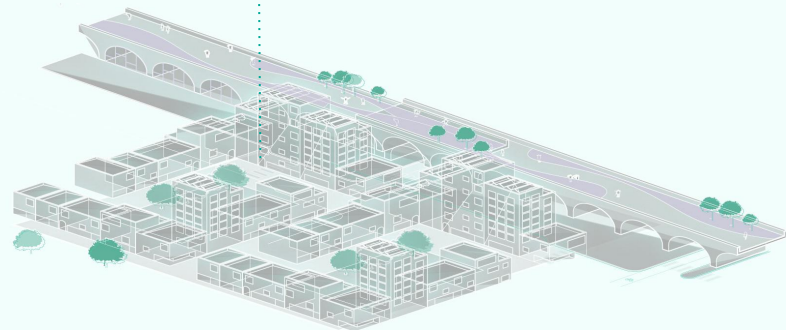
In a context of economic challenge for communities, households and individuals, focusing on circularity to reduce and divert waste from landfill and incineration addresses materials and waste sector emissions on a systemic level. Conscious consumption, sharing resources and good waste sorting practice must be emphasised within communities and neighbourhoods.

### Targets:

- Reduce overall volume of materials use and waste generated in the Borough
- High proportion of waste diverted to compost and recycling
- 30% reduction in consumption emissions due to purchased goods

### We propose:

- F4.1 A waste contract that incentivises reuse and recycling
- F4.2 Promote sharing, exchange, repair and reuse
- F4.3 Make the best use of existing buildings and spaces
- F4.4 Reducing and diverting food waste



## Future 4: We increase sharing and reduce waste, building a sharing and circular economy

# F4.1 A waste contract that incentivises reuse and reduction

## What this means

In the upcoming and future ELWA waste contract renewals, champion clauses that encourage reuse and waste reduction, and avoid those that result in any volume lock-in. Coordinate across ELWA boroughs to negotiate best deal for waste management, sorting and proper disposal.

## Impact across our principles

Reducing the volume of waste fundamentally avoids emissions due to recycling management, biogenic decomposition, or landfill disposal.

## Existing examples

[Bracknell Forest Council](#) recycling incentive scheme

[Barcelona](#) Green Points Network

Effective waste sorting in [Ljubljana](#)

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Negotiations and coordinating with ELWA boroughs will require Council capacity to advocate for new ways of viewing and managing waste. 1.5 FTE to manage the partnerships that are needed for reuse and reduce initiatives (collaboration with apps such as Too Good To Go). Could implement the use of a community fridge to reduce food waste (£2k).

## Related benefits and adaptive potential

F4.2 Promote sharing, exchange, repair and reuse

F4.4 Reducing and diverting food waste

## Prospective next steps

Map upcoming ELWA contract opportunities, and engage with ELWA on ideas across the boroughs. Track waste data to understand what types of waste and methods of engagement are most effective in reducing waste output volume.

## Future 4: We increase sharing and reduce waste, building a sharing and circular economy

# F4.2 Promote sharing, exchange, repair and reuse

## What this means

There is an opportunity to promote and support existing initiatives and platforms that support sharing, and circular actions. We can also support the development of new spaces and programmes which can serve as local hubs for activities and skills.

## Impact across our principles

There are opportunities to foster skills (sharing and development) as well as employment opportunities (such as those with a distance to the labour market).

## Existing examples

Library of Things across London boroughs

Repair cafe network

ReTuna, circular shopping centre for reused and repurposed goods

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Costs can vary depending on the extent of the ambition of the intervention. In-kind support could be given to local initiatives through providing space in community/public buildings. Larger financial costs and complexity will be related to any physical infrastructure or operations required (such as in the case of a physical reuse/circular hub). Setting up a "Library of Things" locally would start from £360k.

## Related benefits and adaptive potential

Supporting initiatives can support (intergenerational) exchange of skills (like repair, handicraft), and foster local community initiatives and exchange.

## Prospective next steps

Map existing resources across the borough. Explore barriers and drivers of uptake of such initiatives through engagement and research, identify and gaps that LBN can support (e.g. access to space for initiatives, funding for Library of Things and repair cafes). Promote to support awareness and accessibility of such resources. The New Local Plan includes such initiatives for developments.

## Future 4: We increase sharing and reduce waste, building a sharing and circular economy

# F4.3 Make the best use of existing buildings & spaces

## What this means

Across cities, including London, there are a range of buildings and spaces that are underutilised that could still provide function and value, particularly for local community and cultural purposes. Explore all potential levers to support retrofit as default e.g. planning.

## Impact across our principles

Embodied carbon emissions are reduced for long-term spaces that can be adapted according to changing needs, and by avoiding complete rebuilds. Increased adaptation and community resilience by repurposing flexible building spaces.

## Existing examples

[West Midlands Combined Authority](#) - repurposing framework

[Barcelona](#) - [opening](#) underutilised urban sites for community use

## Indicative feasibility and cost

At least 1 FTE to coordinate planning for use and reuse of spaces, also needed to be able to establish partnerships with local stakeholders. Costs will vary based on extent of intervention. Repurposing municipally owned spaces, like car parks (£6,000-£19,000 for an individual parking space to a planted garden or parklet), could forego revenue opportunities but could gain wider benefits (e.g. resilience, local economic activity). Repurposing larger buildings may result in greater scale and complexity.

## Related benefits and adaptive potential

Prioritising existing assets, and associated materials can avoid additional combined impacts associated with new construction, as well as foster a boost in attractiveness in local areas, often through cultural and community activities. The GLA is also considering a 'retrofit first' policy, so opportunities for repurposing are gaining attention.

## Prospective next steps

Map underutilised spaces and buildings to scope potential of Council-owned assets. Engage with potential stakeholders for priority spaces/buildings, collaborating to fulfil the GLAs circularity statement. Explore all tools to support a retrofit by default approach



## Future 4: We increase sharing and reduce waste, building a sharing and circular economy

### F4.4 Reducing and diverting food waste

#### What this means

Nutrient and biogenic materials are important resource flows in cities that can offer opportunities to recover value. There are opportunities to capture and redistribute before it is wasted, as well as making the best use of unavoidable food loss and waste, for example through composting.

#### Impact across our principles

Establishing partnerships between common sources of avoidable food loss and waste - like supermarkets - and community groups, supported by existing platforms and tools. Exploring opportunities with local food cultivation and urban agriculture to foster local and closed nutrient cycles. Collection of organic wastes can also be considered within ELWA contracting.

#### Existing examples

[Amsterdam's](#) Worm Hotels

[Milan](#) local food redistribution

[Singapore](#) Urban Food Production Masterplan

#### Indicative feasibility and cost

Staff capacity needed to support engagement of local small businesses and supermarket chains. Costs of facilitating composting for residents (appropriate bins and managing systems to pick up and manage compost), or affordable community composting (such as a worm hotels, which can take care of the organic waste of 20 to 30 households).

#### Related benefits and adaptive potential

There are direct benefits of redistributing food to those in need, for example through food banks. In addition, there is an opportunity for learning and engagement opportunities relating to connecting with resources and natural systems.

#### Prospective next steps

Develop an evidence base through a study of local food waste flows (and associated embodied emissions). [Build on existing work](#) to establish connections and partnerships with relevant initiatives (e.g. ReLondon, community allotments, food banks, etc.).

## 6 Futures



## F5. We eat well and sustainably

### Rationale:

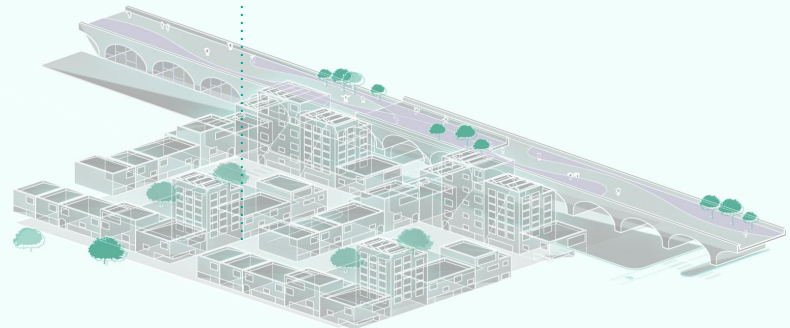
Food has one of the most important health, equity and climate benefits for Newham's residents. The Council will build on its strong track record to extend provision within primary schools to other institutions and support a more systemic approach to better eating across the borough, including more opportunity for local food growing.

### Targets:

- Reduce per-plate carbon emissions by 38% for Council-managed catering by 2030
- Increase share of Newham institutions, such as hospitals, offices and more schools, with climate-conscious catering
- Include food-literacy as a learning objective to upcoming educational plans
- Deliver more local food growing sites and involvement

### We propose:

- F5.1 Become a beacon of a sustainable local food system
- F5.2 Support more local food growing
- F5.3 Extend accessible, healthy, sustainable meals to Newham's secondary schools and other institutions



## Future 5: We eat well and sustainably

# F5.1 Become a beacon of a sustainable local food system

## What this means

Newham will build on the great work already in place (such as Eat for Free, the [Young People and Food Security Strategy](#)) to use all available regulatory, support and procurement powers to support a healthier and more secure food systems and cultures for all. The council will work with the supply chain and communities to increase the share of affordable, healthy and lower carbon impact food readily available to residents across the borough, at outlets from convenience stores to markets, with a focus in areas of poor provision. This work will also seek to reduce material footprint and impacts of packaging and logistics through a programme of interventions.

## Impact across our principles

A diverse, healthy and affordable local food system has a significant impact on all our principles - mitigation, adaptation and in particular supporting a Just Transition to reduce poverty and improve health. There is a great opportunity for educational impact associated with this outcome: improving Newham's food environment as a whole.

## Existing examples

Newham itself has shown significant leadership for example through its [food alliance](#). [Sustainable food places](#) provides a good overview of UK-based initiatives and potential levers.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Mostly revenue costs which will depend on the range of interventions undertaken.

## Connected benefits

- F3.1 Cycle mode shift masterplan
- F4.4 Reducing and diverting food waste
- F5.2 Support more local food growing
- F5.3 Extend accessible, healthy, sustainable meals to Newham's secondary schools and other institutions
- E2.4 Procurement and Pension Investments aligned to Just Transition

## Prospective next steps

Scoping, spatial analysis, stakeholder engagement and cost assessment for strategic interventions, supported by market research and building political support. Build business case for next budget round. Specifically, commission work with convenience stores.

## Future 5: We eat well and sustainably

## F5.2 Support more local food growing

### What this means

Newham can support local food-growing through repurposing of existing green spaces, fruit tree planting, stimulating new business ventures and community engagement. The purpose is to demonstrate lower emissions and more resilient food system in an urban borough, supporting a community that demonstrates climate, nutritional and cultural understanding. Existing groups and projects working in this space will be supported in their efforts to increase access to and understanding of local growing opportunities.

### Impact across our principles

Scaling up local growing will decrease emissions associated with Newham produce, improve mental and physical health and deepen understanding of food systems. At the neighbourhood scale, the impact of food as a social tool can be reinforced with safe and comfortable community spaces for cooking and eating.

### Existing examples

[Sitopia Farm](#) is a new organic vegetable farm established in Greenwich in 2021 which produces over 200 kg of food a week and works with 100s of volunteers

[Edible estates](#) is working across Edinburgh's publicly-owned housing land to increase the provision of local food-growing initiatives

[Incredible Edible Lambeth](#) supports a local food economy that thrives, employs more local people and keeps money in Lambeth

[OrganicLea](#) supports local food growing, training and distribution in Chingford

### Indicative feasibility and cost

The Beckton Parks master plan Community Farm and Green Skills hub should be supported with incentives for new partners, to reach its full potential. 1 FTE to manage and grow local support for local food growing, fruit tree and community engagement, including a provision for training and guidance for groups working in the 8 Council-run allotment sites. Costs of fruit tree planting and maintenance, community engagement (marketing campaigns, in the range of £20k to £50k) and ongoing support for local growing.

### Connected benefits

Partnerships in enterprise zone and with existing institutions might help to agglomerate food leaders in Newham. More benefits associated with Newham becoming a [Sustainable Food Place](#).

### Prospective next steps

Consider how Beckton Parks farm might operate as demonstrator for increased growing potential across Newham. Define a clear approach to support existing food growing initiatives currently funded by PPP, with co-design of guidance agreements, while recognising systemic barriers. Map and identify potential sites - particularly on existing housing estates and work with local people on planning and implementation. Use new Local Plan to enforce site allocations to deliver new growing spaces.

## Future 5: We eat well and sustainably

## F5.3 Extend accessible, healthy, sustainable meals to Newham's secondary schools and other institutions

### What this means

30% of emissions and many health issues are associated with current eating patterns. Universally-accessible school meals offer the chance to have this conversation with future generations in a meaningful way. Through its [Eat for Free school meals programme](#), Newham is already using procurement to reduce carbon emissions, increase nutrition and provide above-living-wage jobs in schools. By extending this program to secondary schools and other institutions, Newham can rapidly affect change.

### Impact across our principles

School meals make up between  $\frac{1}{3}$  and  $\frac{2}{3}$  of meals (depending on whether breakfast is served in addition to lunch) for a high proportion of Newham's young population: this reflects a significant emissions lever and long-term financial commitment. Through an equity lens, school meals are a portal to climate and health education, healthy habit formation and provide a universal, non-stigmatised service.

### Existing examples

Newham's programme for primary education is already a leading light. [Paris](#) - procurement of seasonal food and [Turku](#) - Circular food procurement.

### Indicative feasibility and cost

Council food experts anticipate up to a total £7m of which around half is already secured, dependant on the continuation of Mayor of London funding.

### Connected benefits

Large number of jobs in school kitchens and food supply and delivery can be positively influenced through contracts. Potential to build network of allied boroughs in the wake of Newham's cutting-edge scheme.

### Prospective next steps

Lobby London mayor for further school food commitments. Identify and build case for application of relevant climate budget at London level (c.f. integrated care budget). Phased roll-out, with two or more schools, ready to deliver a radically different way of serving school meals. Audit all of Newham's secondary schools for readiness to provide universal meals.



## 6 Futures



## F6. Our neighbourhoods are resilient, connected and green

### Rationale:

Enhancing green assets not only helps to support the physical safety of Newham residents from climate hazards such as flash flooding and excess heat, but the socioeconomic security and holistic wellbeing of households, local businesses, schools, community organisations and places of play and worship. Parks, squares and gardens facilitate connection with nature and community, as well as encourage biodiversity and lifelong learning.

### Targets:

- 1 green asset, such as a tree, shrub or plant, per Borough resident
- Zero incidences of heat-stress related illnesses
- Every high street and community area to have a flood risk prevention and response plan

### We propose:

- F6.1 Nature-based solutions to address flood risk and overheating
- F6.2 Become more water self-sufficient
- F6.3 Green and Water Spaces Infrastructure Strategy



**Future 6: Our neighbourhoods are resilient, connected and green**

## F6.1 Nature-based solutions to address flood risk and overheating

### What this means

Implement sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) wherever appropriate and feasible, in order to reduce the risk of surface water flooding in highly impermeable areas. SuDS should be introduced in a way that mimics natural processes, slowing the runoff rate while providing wider benefits, such as greening the public realm and reducing overheating. Examples include SuDS tree pits, swales and pervious paving.

### Impact across our principles

Increasing the adaptive capacity for intensifying rainfall and fluvial flood risk via absorbent natural and permeable surfaces. Reduces the embodied carbon of flooding solutions by utilising natural systems and materials. Contributes to the greening, shading and biodiversity of common community spaces and transit ways.

### Existing examples

[Transport for London guide to SuDS](#)

[Global 'sponge cities'](#)

### Indicative feasibility and cost

SuDS will require design costs; project management, planning and supervision costs; clearance and land preparation costs; materials; construction costs; design and planning of subsequent maintenance responsibility; landscaping and planting costs (post construction). Permeable paving at £140-£290/m<sup>2</sup> and swales at £1,100-£2,100/m<sup>2</sup>.

### Connected benefits

- F6.3 Green and Water Spaces Infrastructure Strategy
- F3.3 Reframing streets as the people's commons
- E1.5 Develop a Climate Risk and Co-Benefits Database

### Prospective next steps

Solutions should be informed by needs mapped in climate risk data and assessment. Nature-based flood solutions should not be a standalone project, but integrated with existing maintenance procedures and considerations to make the most of reworks or new builds.

## Future 6: Our neighbourhoods are resilient, connected and green

# F6.2 Become more water self-sufficient

## What this means

Install water butts and other rainwater harvesting methods for watering vegetated areas around the borough, such as on Council building assets, social housing, and community amenities. Assess feasibility of rain and greywater reuse for commercial and industrial buildings and functions.

## Impact across our principles

This is to help reduce demand for piped water during dry spells when water is more scarce, as well as to create water bill savings for households, maintained schools and Council enterprises. This can also help store water during periods of intense rainfall, reducing the risk of surface water flooding. There will be reduced emissions due to water treatment and transport at the public utility level.

## Existing examples

[Castle Community Centre rain garden](#)

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Costs relating to feasibility of rainwater harvesting in different locations, implementation costs as well as operational costs

## Connected benefits

- F1.1 Social housing retrofits for electrification and improved energy efficiency
- F1.2 Development and training for local retrofit value chain
- F1.3 Long-term financing mechanism for retrofits
- F6.1 Nature-based solutions to address flood risk and overheating
- F6.3 Green and Water Spaces Infrastructure Strategy

## Prospective next steps

Make rain harvesting systems a requirement for all new-builds. Add this action to other ongoing and new retrofit projects to consolidate works.

**Future 6: Our neighbourhoods are resilient, connected and green**

## F6.3 Green and Water Spaces Infrastructure Strategy, and priority plantings

### What this means

There currently is no council-led strategy to build the business case for investment for tree planting and maintenance: a key driver toward a greener and more resilient Newham. The deficit of publicly accessible green and water spaces in Newham, and the dearth of infrastructure supporting our ecosystems, will be addressed through connected schemes and commitments under the forthcoming Green and Water Spaces Infrastructure Strategy (GWSIS). Informed tree species selection, planting and maintenance processes, building on the GWSIS, will compound the benefits of this drive to improve and protect Newham's ecological value.

### Impact across our principles

The GWSIS will take a fact-based and interdisciplinary approach to maximising health, community well-being, resilience-based benefits associated with our green and water spaces. Looking further ahead, a tech-enabled, community-led maintenance programme will support the financial case for this scheme, as well as enabling the educational opportunities associated with this space.

### Existing examples

'[Freetown the Treetown](#)', Sierra Leone: \$1.8mil investment followed by \$1mil two years later, self-financed within 3-5 years at 25% revenue against leveraged resources. Successful provision of [Suoi](#) pocket forests, meadows and pollinator corridor by Newham, with door open to further collaboration.

### Indicative feasibility and cost

Ownership of planning and subsequent monitoring, evaluation and reporting (MER) needs to be owned by a specific department and team member for consistency of delivery. At least 1-2 FTE (ecologist) Council resources are needed to lead community engagement, planning, and MER.

### Connected benefits

F3.3 Reframing streets as the people's commons and improve air quality  
E1.5 Develop a Climate Risk and Co-Benefits Database  
Potential to bundle this measure with educational and data-enabled schemes around F5.2 and E4.1 and E4.2. This lays groundwork for F6.2

### Prospective next steps

Plan can be drafted as part of (or a follow-up to) the upcoming Newham Green and Water Spaces Infrastructure Strategy. We can continue our roll-out of pocket-forests across Newham's schools and public spaces in collaboration with Sugi.








**3 - 6 - 5**

**5 Enablers**

## 5 Enablers

## We will do this by:

- E1**  Growing the Council's Climate Action capacity and effectiveness
- E2**  Targeting and increasing investment
- E3**  Partnering with Newham's Anchor Institutions
- E4**  Enabling civic and place-based action
- E5**  Working beyond Newham's borders



## 5 Enablers



# E1. Growing the Council's Climate Action capacity and effectiveness

## Rationale:

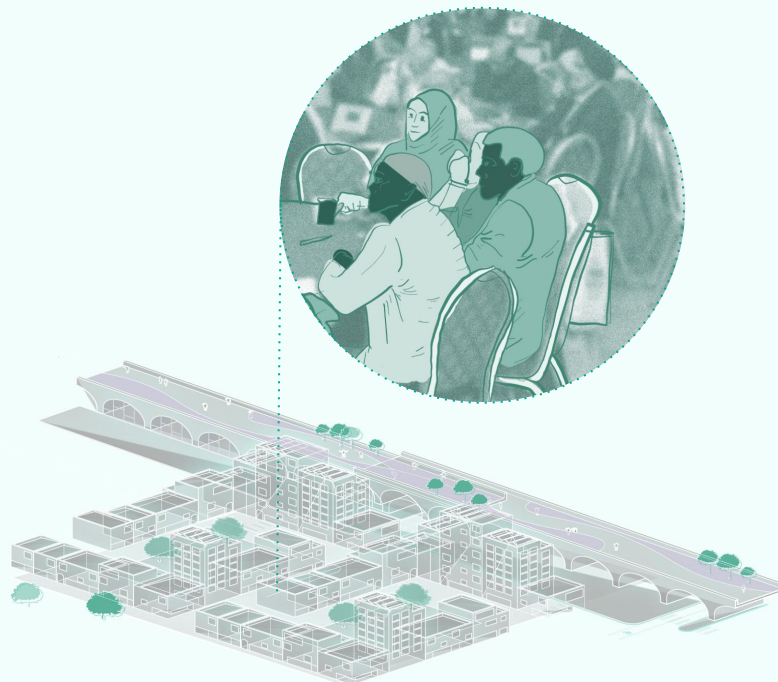
The Council will need to demonstrate leadership in the climate action space. The level of challenge we face requires the creation of a dedicated Climate Action team to provide bespoke support for existing directorates as well as leading some initiatives. We will enhance our ways of working, integrate with existing Council mechanisms as well as explore new delivery routes.

## Targets:

- Climate targets to be reviewed and integrated into corporate management planning
- Greater capacity and wider capabilities to support Just Transition and enhanced governance structures and database in place by Q1 2024

## Actions we propose:

- E1.1 Ensure timelines and targets reflect the urgency of Just Transition
- E1.2 A 'hub and spokes' Just Transition team
- E1.3 Enhanced governance infrastructure
- E1.4 Exploring all delivery routes including new entities
- E1.5 Develop a Climate Risk and Actions Co-Benefits Analysis Database



## Enabler 1: Growing the council's climate action capacity and effectiveness

# E1.1 Ensure timelines and targets reflect the urgency of the Just Transition

## What this means

Updating place-specific Just Transition targets for Newham will enable more accessible climate action language to be normalised, using timelines that support just transition pathways toward meaningful and ambitious goals. There are only 6 budget cycles left to 2030; we can position horizon years that are operationally and politically significant to guide Just Transition action in a meaningful way in order to identify synergies. Some climate targets imposed at the city and national levels can be bettered by greater local specificity.

## Impact across our principles

Potential to redefine targets (away from Net Zero 2030 and scope-based definitions) will enable targets and associated timelines that integrate all three principles. Possible to build inclusive processes into this design.

## Existing examples

[Cornerstone Indicators](#) is an approach that seeks to work with all stakeholders to co-design, streamline and humanise targets.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Requires political effort from Director of Climate Action, and should be supported by informed and updated interpretation of borough-wide data and cooperation from local partners.

## Connected benefits

Can be developed as a cousin document or statement alongside Climate Contract/institutional partnerships. This might be the headline associated with E1.2: a layer of governance recommendations.

## Prospective next steps

New timelines and targets should be data-supported and will require significant engagement with residents and (crucially) local private sector leaders and researchers to craft an informed, whole-place approach.

## Enabler 1: Growing the council's climate action capacity and effectiveness

# E1.2 A 'hub and spokes' Just Transition team

## What this means

The Climate Action team will be represented by champions across the Council rather than being in one department. It will include a small 'hub' with a number of 'spokes' within different directorates. In this way, Newham's Just Transition efforts can combine focused, executive action and expertise with long-term integration.

The core team will also support increasing the availability of data including decision-making tools, maps, citizen data, and supporting protocols where necessary. It will advocate for greater resources in directorates and support upskilling of council employees relevant to achieving Just Transition outcomes.

## Impact across our principles

Dedicated transition leaders will enable the climate justice lens to reach more directorates, making the entire Council co-responsible; with tools and data in the right hands, informed decisions to address emissions and build an intersectional equity picture can be made with confidence. This mode of organising lays groundwork to build adaptive capacity over time.

## Existing examples

London Borough of Waltham Forest: targeted deployment of personnel into key areas of focus (e.g. Housing) builds impact.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Resources depends on scoping where 'gaps' in people, skills or assets are across existing teams and with partner organisations, and mapping this onto the requirements of this plan.

## Connected benefits

This group of ideas has the potential to grow sectoral actions across directorates. Further opportunities for cross-over adaptive measures are likely to emerge.

## Prospective next steps

Identify the areas where the spokes would be most impactful, building on the Climate Officers Group and then build flexible team resources. Identify existing databases and procure technical support for building this platform, with a view toward equity-informed picture. Prepare an assessment of existing and required skills across LBN, and integrate these to possible outcomes in the context of existing workstreams. Identify where existing funds could be used to support deployment.

## Enabler 1: Growing the council's climate action capacity and effectiveness

# E1.3 Enhanced governance infrastructure

## What this means

Newham will streamline and enhance existing arrangements at three levels:

1. We will implement a Just Transition-specific review and input into all cabinet and other relevant papers would support integration, accountability and early engagement.
2. We will explore a specific cabinet-level responsibility for future generations, giving greater platform to those most likely to be affected by the climate crisis over time.
3. We will redesign or streamline existing governance arrangements to ensure both appropriate oversight and the inclusion of suitable expertise around Just Transition decisions and programmes.

## Impact across our principles

Governance is a powerful tool in shaping activities, behaviours and investments across the Council to support mitigation, adaptation and equitable benefits.

Directing action toward future generations and the interests of engaged experts can align the LBN with more nuanced goals and a network of new leaders.

## Existing examples

Wales Well-being of Future Generations Act and Commissioner Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change has introduced a shadow board pairing external experts/stakeholders with LBN staff and initiatives to build accountability around actions and reduce risk.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Modest revenue costs might be associated with establishing a Shadow Climate Board.

## Connected benefits

This layer of action will implement and reinforce the ideas and initiatives promoted throughout the action plan. Potential for Shadow Board (if progressed) to tie into innovation networks and other new entities across Newham.

## Prospective next steps

We will identify the permissions and approvals that would be necessary to support this initiative including within the Council's [Scheme of Delegation](#).

## Enabler 1: Growing the council's climate action capacity and effectiveness

# E1.4 Explore diverse delivery routes including new entities

## What this means

Newham Council will need to explore new ways of delivering the major investment and innovations required to support a Just Transition across the actions set out in this plan. New entities (either arms-length or through partnerships with others), like a Newham Transition Bank or a Newham Retrofit Company, could open doors to additional financing and delivery opportunities.

## Impact across our principles

This area of work will require innovative thinking around the types of institutional infrastructures, resources, skills and access to finance that would best support Newham's Just Transition. This also opens up opportunities for different forms of stakeholder and community involvement, as well as investment and new ways of working. Identifying the most significant structural challenges maps pathways toward the reorganisation of resources and a more delivery-oriented approach.

## Existing examples

Bristol City Leap public-private partnership to deliver heat networks and retrofitting. LB Waltham Forest has established a borough-owned retrofit agency. Many European cities have established One Stop Shops to support home owner retrofit journeys. Public Commons partnerships are another model for local ownership with public sector support.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

A full business case would need to identify feasibility and cost.

## Connected Missions and Enablers

This layer of action will implement and reinforce the actions across the rest of the plan. Potential to explore cross-borough partnerships in enabler E2.

## Prospective next steps

Identify which actions would considerably benefit from different delivery models or additional external resources. Understand how to 'bundle' actions appropriately to ensure deliverability, capitalise on appropriate scale and avoid cherry picking.

## Enabler 1: Growing the council's climate action capacity and effectiveness

# E1.5 Develop a Climate Risk and Co-Benefits Database

## What this means

Creating a full Climate Risk Analysis Database with an initial round of assessment and mapping will enable the Council to better understand (and monitor with long-term and sustainable data reporting) the most pressing risks to the borough, how these risks might impact the borough's future, and the best opportunities for action that would result in savings or other benefits.

## Impact across our principles

A climate risk and actions co-benefits analysis lays the groundwork for the most effective long-term actions across Just Transition principles in the future. Results of the analysis will provide a credible evidence base for strategic decision-making, goal-setting, and capital raising opportunities.

## Existing examples

[eThekweni Municipality Climate Story Map](#)

[Kuala Lumpur Climate Action Plan 2050](#) climate risk evidence-base

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Approximately £60k, on the basis of comparable studies, though this number might vary greatly on the basis of the type and depth of assessment conducted. We will develop the CRA as a long-term living document with supporting data infrastructure.

## Connected Missions and Enablers

- F1.4 Fuel poverty database to enable priority targeting
- F2.1 Assessment and prioritisation of neighbourhoods/buildings
- F3.3 Reframing streets as the people's commons
- F3.4 Develop network of low-traffic neighbourhoods
- F5.2 Support more local food growing
- F5.1 Improving Newham's food environment and life-cycles
- F6.1 Nature-based solutions to address flood risk and overheating
- F6.2 Become more water self-sufficient
- F6.3 Green and Water Spaces Infrastructure Strategy

## Prospective next steps

Collate data available on average temperature and heatwaves, pluvial and fluvial flood risk, and air quality, as well as available GIS topographic and demographic maps. Mapping of co-benefits to support case-making.



## 5 Enablers



## E2. Targeting and increasing investment

### Rationale:

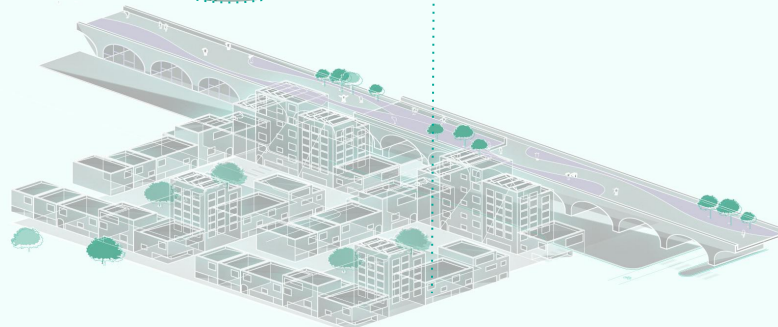
Although the Council already spends in excess of £300m per year, there is a significant mismatch between the existing resources available and that required to effect a Just Transition. We will maximise effective use of existing budgets and look to significantly expand total resources from all viable sources.

### Targets:

- To provide annual carbon budgeting and procurement strategy starting in FY24/25
- To establish a borough-wide Just Transition fund in the next 2 years

### We propose:

- E2.1 Annual carbon budgeting
- E2.2 Exploration of borough-wide carbon insetting
- E3.3 Newham Just Transition Fund: philanthropic and external partnering
- E4.4 Procurement and Pension Investments aligned to Just Transition



## Enabler 2: Targeting and increasing investment

# E2.1 Annual Carbon Budgeting

## What this means

The Council can integrate climate action that supports carbon mitigation into our annual corporate planning by linking each budget line with carbon equivalent emissions. This annual carbon budget, to be approved in tandem with the overall council budget, will demonstrate trajectory over time and identify where further actions or trade-offs are required.

## Impact across our principles

This action will directly link to reducing carbon emissions in line with its current targets and ensure that the broad pathway is understood.

## Existing examples

Oslo has been implementing and refining the [carbon budgeting cycle](#) for a number of years.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

The Council has already undertaken an initial assessment of each department's carbon emissions. This would need to be resourced and iterated each year with data quality improvements. The Council would need to support each directorate with suitable tools and human resource to assess carbon emissions.

## Connected benefits

This action supports the other actions in the plan. A robust assessment of carbon emissions each year will help decision-making.

## Prospective next steps

Build from existing work to establish annual protocols and identify any additional tools, methodologies or learning support required  
Develop an internal dashboard to support dissemination

## Enabler 2: Targeting and increasing investment

# E2.2 Exploration of borough-wide carbon insetting

## What this means

Newham already requires developers to provide funds if their developments do not meet required environmental standards. However there are [increasing investments](#) taking place in the voluntary and statutory carbon markets. The market is likely to shift due to a demand for increased regulation. High quality local insetting allows purchasers to connect more directly with, and have greater assurance of the impact of their credit.

## Impact across our principles

This has the potential to increase funding to support carbon mitigation activities and a more just transition if the funds are applied to the actions across this plan.

## Existing examples

[HACT](#) has established a retrofit carbon credit that supports businesses and individuals to offset locally using verified approaches.

[Anthesis](#) has established a voluntary area-based insetting platform to provide additional crowdfunding for carbon mitigation projects

## Indicative feasibility and cost

The main costs are associated with establishing the programme and monitoring the carbon outcomes.

## Connected benefits

Such a fund could support local initiatives and co-funding of existing programmes such as social housing retrofit.

## Prospective next steps

Explore potential options with external parties. Consider partnerships with other anchor institutions and adjacent boroughs.

## Enabler 2: Targeting and increasing investment

# E2.3 Newham Just Transition Fund: philanthropic and external partnering

## What this means

This action positions Newham as a potential site for philanthropic ventures and demonstrator projects on the basis of its particular intersection of needs and openness to innovation.

## Impact across our principles

Significant potential for additional support to deliver against our three principles. Partner engagement and design of appropriate programmes provides ample opportunities for inclusive processes and intersectional thinking. KPIs should be developed to balance outcomes across mitigation, adaptation and Just Transition.

## Existing examples

Several UK-based philanthropic funds have [announced](#) plans to pay down their endowments in order to create faster pathways to a more just future.

There is increasing [interest in](#) and evidence for in charitable partnerships investing in long-term place-based or organisation-based relationships.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Feasibility of this action will be determined through effective business case development. A holistic initiation of the transition, including initial steps across this plan, will build confidence and support future philanthropic partnering. Some costs might be associated with establishing the Fund.

## Connected benefits

A Newham Just Transition Fund can enable long-term, meaningful progress across even the most ambitious transition goals. In particular, it could be used strategically to match with other investments and finances including carbon in-setting.

## Prospective next steps

We will explore this proposal with possible philanthropic partners and use the Just Transition plan to begin building a case for Newham as a location for sustained investment.

## Enabler 2: Targeting and increasing investment

# E2.4 Procurement and Pension Investments aligned to Just Transition

## What this means

Procurement is a strategic lever representing hundreds of millions of pounds to support and generate a market around desired activities and principles. The council will build on its work around social value to incorporate a broader mission-based approach to procurement that supports the principles and actions in this plan.

The Council administers its own pension fund which was recently valued having assets valued at £1.7bn. It already has an ESG policy that supports the transition away from fossil fuels. The council will continue to explore how the pension fund could be used to increase local impact in line with the principles in this plan.

## Impact across our principles

Considerable potential for impact across climate mitigation, adaptation and a Just Transition.

## Existing examples

Impact Investing Institute has described multiple examples of public sector pensions investing in clean energy and decarbonisation

LB Camden/UCL IIPP Policy Studio work on mission-based public procurement

Multiple councils have progressed on this agenda including Design for disassembly - Brummen Town Hall.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Procurement can still follow the Most Economically Advantageous Tender, and while working with local potential suppliers can help to establish what criteria are more/less likely to be achieved. Pensions strategy is likely to require some specialist technical support to understand the options.

## Connected benefits

Procurement can be an effective tool to promote and support the market for certain products and services, creating a demand for those that align with a Just Transition. This can also help to promote skills and competitiveness in the local economy.

## Prospective next steps

Establish a cross-departmental working team around procurement opportunities. Establish criteria and KPIs (e.g. utilising guidance).

Engage with potential suppliers to understand the local context and opportunities for meeting proposed criteria. Pilot in one service area before expanding to other areas. Explore potential to use pension fund effectively.

## 5 Enablers



## E3. Partnering with Newham-based Institutions

### Rationale:

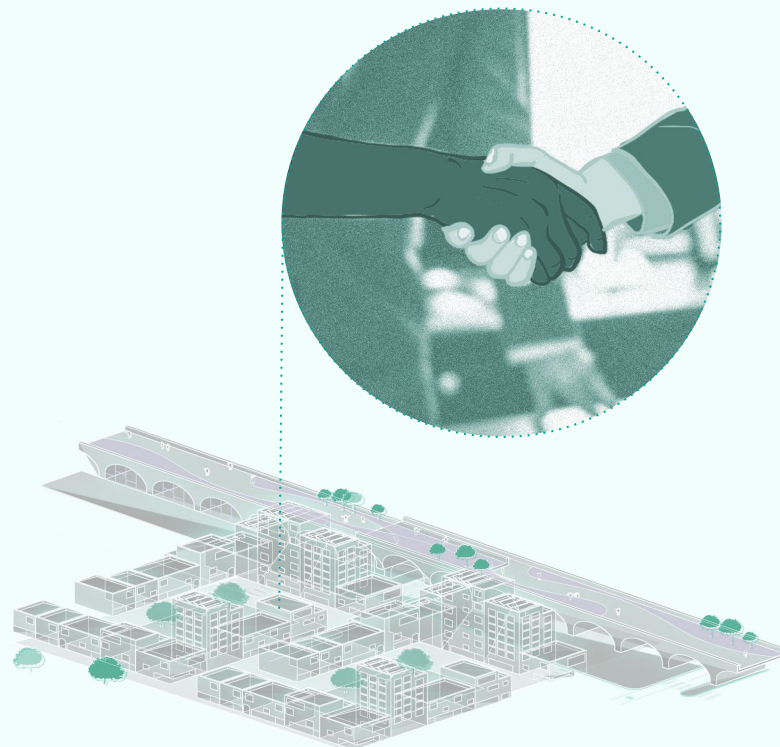
Newham has a strong higher education sector, a vibrant business sector and a growing number of local and national anchor institutions located in the borough. The council will convene multi-actor coalitions to effect more substantial territorial changes and deal with complex entangled challenges of effecting a Just Transition.

### Targets:

→ Structured engagement and increased commitments from coalition of Newham-based large emitters & other key partners by Q2 2024

### We propose:

- E3.1 Implementing a Newham Climate Contract with partners
- E3.2 Just Transition business, skills and supply chain programmes





### Enabler 3: Partnering with Newham's anchor institutions

## E3.1 Implementing a Newham Climate Contract with partners

### What this means

Many of Newham's key partners are already committed to net zero transitions over the coming years. A Climate City Contract (CCC) is a governance innovation tool to help city administrations work with key partners, civic, private and anchor institutions to coordinate action, learn from each other and address their barriers to reaching climate neutrality by 2030.

The CCC is the documented result of an iterative, co-creation process identifying all the key actions to achieve 2030/45 climate neutrality, and the ways and means to implement them. It remains a live document and is reviewed each year.

### Impact across our principles

A Newham Climate Contract will lower emissions by convening partners with significant influence over a range of levers, separately and collectively. Furthermore, a Contract will have diffuse but far-reaching impacts in increasing equity and building adaptive capacity, through the specific contents of the document and which partnerships it draws on for delivery.

### Existing examples

Net Zero Cities Programme in the EU has implemented 112 Climate City Contracts with partner councils. This is based on the Viable Cities work in Sweden.

### Indicative feasibility and cost

There is some revenue cost associated with establishing and managing the programme.

### Connected benefits

Deeper partnership working with others. Potential for achieving economies of scale. Communications opportunities.

### Prospective next steps

Bring in learnings from existing processes. Explore potential with existing strong partners and civic groups. Establish scope and approach to climate contracting.

### Enabler 3: Partnering with Newham's anchor institutions

## E3.2 Just Transition business, skills and supply chain programmes

### What this means

The Just Transition will require the development of skills and establish career pathways for jobs across the borough, from remanufacturing to retrofit assessment, among many others. We will help to establish partnerships, programmes and opportunities through Our Newham Work, Our Newham Business and Enterprise, Adult Learning and Skills, suppliers, partners as well as community engagement for enterprise training and support.

### Impact across our principles

Such skills programme can establish strong links with other themes, departments, and industry stakeholders.

### Existing examples

London skills programme and circular economy [jobs and skills](#) [Carbon Coop](#), [Retrofitworks](#) and [B4Box](#)'s work on supply chains in the retrofit sector are useful pointers.

### Indicative feasibility and cost

Costs will be associated with base funding for establishing connections with relevant education and industry partners. There could be opportunities to tap into existing green skills initiatives and facilitate new education-industry partnerships.

### Related benefits and adaptive potential

Developing skills and opportunities for careers in green activities and industries. Such opportunities can be locally focused and link to local institutions and organisations in the borough.

### Prospective next steps

Map skill needs, opportunities and learning institutions across the borough. Collaboration with other teams and priorities, e.g. decarbonisation/housing. Connect to form links and partnerships between education and industry to nurture skills.

## 5 Enablers



## E4: Enabling civic and place-based action

### Rationale:

The Council can only help deliver a Just Transition by unlocking the potential of our diverse communities and local businesses to be involved at every stage, across all missions and actions. By focusing within each neighbourhood the Council can support specific opportunities and compound the benefits of retrofit, greening and other activities.

### Targets:

- Establish a pilot future-ready neighbourhoods programme by Q3 2024
- Develop and implement enhanced citizen participation and enabling approaches around climate action by Q1 2024

### We propose:

- E4.1 Citizens Participation embedded across all actions
- E4.2 Future-ready neighbourhoods programme



## Enabler 4: Enabling civic and place-based action

# E4.1 Citizens Participation embedded across all actions

## What this means

Newham Council has conducted several Climate Citizens' Assemblies since declaring the Climate Emergency. Effective climate action will require even deeper participation across all the missions and actions in this plan to really understand the issues, unlock latent capacity, build trust and connect to all members of the community. In particular, enabling the participation of racially marginalised groups and young people will be critical to the success of this work.

By reviving, calibrating, and enabling the assembly programme in community settings and complementing with other actions such as repair cafes (see Future 4) and community energy ownership (see Future 2), the borough can better understand on-the-ground impacts of the climate emergency, and enable resident-led buy-in, ideation, action and ownership around the Just Transition.

## Impact across our principles

Citizen participation, when conducted according to best practice, can bring diverse voices together, increasing the equity impact. It is a fundamental requirement for effective climate mitigation and strengthens capacity to act and adapt.

## Existing examples

Newham's own assemblies provide a starting point. [Ashden](#) has set out an effective guide and set of case studies across climate action.

London Councils has [reported](#) on best practice and case studies for community powered retrofit.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Ongoing revenue funding required.

## Connected benefits

Resident buy-in and demand is a key requisite to successfully implement many of the changes and actions set out in this plan.

## Prospective next steps

Explore existing community engagement programmes across the action areas in this plan and identify potential civic partners. Establish a revised methodology for undertaking and managing Just Transition action in partnership with community groups.

## Enabler 4: Enabling civic and place-based action

# E4.2 Future-ready neighbourhoods programme

## What this means

Newham's neighbourhoods have great diversity. As a result, the impacts of the climate emergency are not evenly distributed within the borough. Place-based approaches to climate mitigation and adaptation are more effective when tailored and integrated at the local level, and further enable our existing work on 15-minute neighbourhoods. We will establish a place-based approach to the Just Transition, working with local communities, developing neighbourhood-level approaches, and levering and stacking funding to outline and demonstrate what's possible in a Future-Ready Neighbourhood.

## Impact across our principles

Future-Ready Neighbourhoods would support all three of our core principles through the inclusion of actions present elsewhere in this plan, and as sites for demonstration of existing Newham climate- and justice-led strategies.

## Existing examples

The Net Zero Neighbourhoods programme and business case produced by [30i](#) sets out place-based approaches for innovative forms of funding to support change.

[Brockmoor](#) in Dudley has been funded as a pathfinder by West Midlands Combined Authority

Notting Dale in Kensington and Chelsea and Somers Town in Camden have been [funded](#) as 'Future Neighbourhoods' by the Greater London Authority.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Existing pilot programmes involving hundreds of households have indicatively cost from £1.5-£3m each. However, the actual cost will depend on the numbers of homes, duration and scope of activities.

## Connected benefits

- F1.1 Social housing retrofits for electrification and improved energy efficiency
- F3.1 Cycle mode shift masterplan
- F6.3 Green and Water Spaces Infrastructure Strategy
- E4.1 Citizens Participation embedded across all actions

## Prospective next steps

Establish aims of programme and undertake analysis of spatial data. Develop a typology and prioritisation of neighbourhoods based on the principles of this plan. Commence research and participation with local communities. Build prospectus and funding strategy.

## 5 Enablers



## E5. Working beyond Newham's borders

### Rationale:

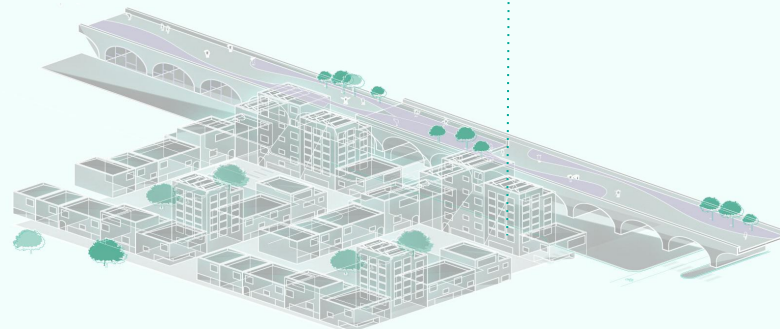
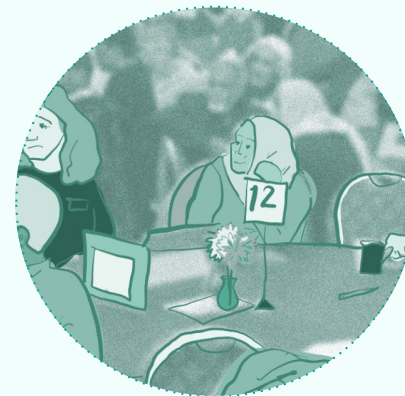
Emissions and climate risks do not stop at territorial boundaries. We will work collaboratively with other boroughs, Mayor of London, institutional stakeholders and central government in building innovative approaches and campaigning for a substantiation shift in the resources required to successfully deliver a Just Transition. Newham's context, based on the relationships and affinities held by its residents, is truly global. The Just Transition will look to address the structural inequalities that define our borough's relationship with the places across the world to which our residents have ties.

### Targets:

- Scope and establish wider partnerships by mid 2024
- Set up and deliver communications and campaigning opportunities

### We propose:

- E5.1 Next generation Local Authority cross-borough partnerships
- E5.2 Building a London-wide Just Transition innovation coalition
- E5.3 A Climate Campaigning Council





## Enabler 5: Working beyond Newham's borders

# E5.1 Next-generation Local Authority cross-borough partnerships

## What this means

Opportunities exist to build on or establish multi-borough partnerships in key sectors such as waste, retrofit, air quality and energy planning. In pursuing these partnerships, LBN can advocate for a deeper and broader Just Transition

## Impact across our principles

Partnering with other boroughs increases the likelihood that emissions reductions at territorial scale will take hold and that economies of scale can appropriately be achieved.

## Existing examples

London Councils [cross-borough working](#) around climate change within thematic areas.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

Costs will be associated with base funding for new, cross-borough initiatives, but will be shared. Costs are lower where an entity already exists and can be scaled.

## Connected benefits

Partnerships create lobbying base for future funding at city and national levels. Cross-borough alignment has potential to reduce burden of risk and provide platforms to integrate other equity concerns and adaptive priorities.

## Prospective next steps

A map of potential shared interests among neighbouring boroughs, and convening of leaders to sketch formats and priorities of partnerships. Pilot approach in local energy planning.

## Enabler 5: Working beyond Newham's borders

# E5.2 Building a London-wide Just Transition innovation coalition

## What this means

A number of major institutions with a base in Newham have a London-wide footprint and regional innovation potential. Structuring these partnerships and aligning goals will identify shared innovation goals, enabling Newham to tap into and strengthen a city-wide just transition ecosystem. It is likely to provide funding opportunities through InnovateUK or others.

## Impact across our principles

Targeted innovation can greatly increase effectiveness of mitigation measures, while creating opportunities for engagement with residents and long-term accountability.

## Existing examples

Helsinki Smart & Clean Foundation, Vienna Climate Lab, Leuven 2030, Amsterdam Doughnut Coalition, UCL IIPP and LB Camden.

## Indicative feasibility and cost

The main requirement at outset will be officer time. There may be matched funding requirements as this programme develops.

## Connected benefits

The benefits will depend on the domain of innovation.

## Prospective next steps

Shortlist and engage with key potential stakeholders. Design partnership working with others.

## Enabler 5: Working beyond Newham's borders

### E5.3 A Climate Campaigning Council

#### What this means

Newham will need to use its convening powers to influence others. In particular, its ability to affect change within and beyond its borders is limited by the lack of funding and devolution from central government. Working with London Councils, GLA and others, Newham should grow its procedures and capacity for advocacy for support.

Areas of particular focus:

- Additional support and policy clarity in key areas, e.g. home retrofit.
- Campaigning for greater devolution to a regional and sub-regional level to allow for better targeting of resources and nuanced implementation of relevant policies.
- The wider benefits of acting now in saving current and future liabilities

#### Impact across our principles

Meaningful funding and devolution from central government would provide Newham with greater ability to make long-term investments, and apply innovative policy and operational changes to meet the most urgent needs.

#### Existing examples

Greater Manchester Combined Authority and [West Midlands Combined Authority](#) Trailblazing Devolution deals allow for ring-fenced retrofit funding and locally enhanced regulatory frameworks. [Eindhoven-Helmond](#) are two adjacent cities working together closely in the Mission, driven by a strong 'triple helix' partnership.

#### Indicative feasibility and cost

This work could be integrated into existing teams' work.

#### Connected benefits

All the actions in this plan would benefit from greater certainty over long-term funding and the ability to apply locally relevant regulations.

#### Prospective next steps

Decide which elements of this plan could benefit most from a public policy campaign, identify key stakeholders and develop and implement the strategy.

# Looking Forward

The background of the slide is a blurred photograph of a person walking away from the camera on a path. The person is wearing a dark jacket and a hat. The path is surrounded by trees and foliage, and the overall scene is out of focus, creating a sense of depth and movement. The colors are muted, with a mix of greens, greys, and browns.



# Recap: what is the Just Transition Plan?

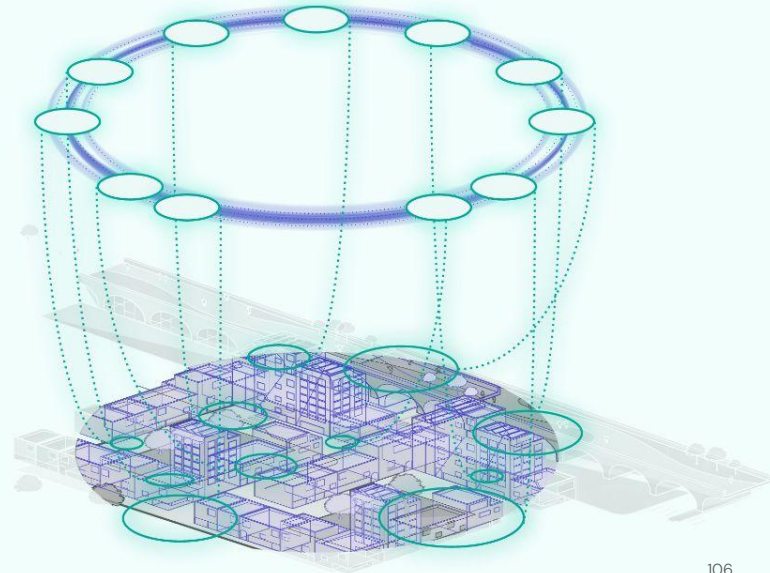
- An **adopted strategy** of the Council
- An **ambitious statement of intent** setting out high-level targets and actions, and laying the groundwork for future plans, studies and strategies
- **Bringing together** related actions from existing and emerging strategies to deliver a coordinated approach across the borough
- **Prioritising** where we focus our energies and our resources
- **Expanding** on the previous Climate Action Plan (2020)
- A **commitment to partner** with residents, our strong faith and voluntary sectors, educational and cultural institutions, and diverse businesses.



# Establishing the Principles, Futures and Enablers of Just Transition in Newham

In the face of intensifying vulnerabilities in Newham's neighbourhoods, communities and households amidst the climate polycrisis, Newham Council has committed to addressing its carbon footprint, climate risks, and inequities.

This Just Transition Plan builds upon the existing plans and achievements of the Council's departments, creating a network of practitioners and programmes to define actions further and meet residents' needs.





# Annex: supplemental studies

# Climate commitments by major Newham stakeholders

<b>Westfield Stratford City</b>	Cut emissions throughout value chain by <b>50% by 2030</b> + operations changes, including waste management
<b>London City Airport</b>	' <b>Net zero by 2030</b> ' + community contributions to Newham
<b>Newham College</b>	<b>Net zero 2030</b> , according to Climate Action Roadmap for FE colleges
<b>Lendlease</b>	<b>Scope 1 and 2 at zero by 2025</b> , scope 1, 2 and 3 <b>absolute zero (using no offsets) by 2040</b>
<b>Transport for London</b>	Well-defined targets, including zero carbon emissions across <b>operations and head offices by 2030</b>
<b>UEL</b>	<b>Net zero 2030</b> , in partnership with Siemens. Through a three-phase plan.
<b>LLDC</b>	<b>Net zero 2030</b> : this detailed plan compares London Plan with LLDC local plan
<b>UAL / LCF</b>	UAL as a whole: <b>net zero scopes 1 and 2: 2030, scope 3 2040</b>
<b>Tate and Lyle</b>	<b>2030: 30% reduction scopes 1 and 2</b> (and 20% by 2025). 15% absolute scope 3. Eliminate coal by 2025.
<b>Populo Living</b>	Whole-life thinking, <b>strategy for decarbonisation by 2030, on-site zero carbon by 2030</b> .
<b>Sadler's Wells</b>	Net zero greenhouse gas emissions by <b>2050</b>
<b>UCL</b>	Net zero carbon <b>buildings by 2024</b> , net zero carbon <b>institution by 2030</b> .
<b>V&amp;A</b>	Net zero, <b>scopes 1, 2 and 3, by 2035</b>

Other large emitters with less-considered, or no climate targets:

- HMRC
- Midwifery Council
- West Ham FC
- Expressway
- Buhler Sortex
- Gallions Reach Shopping Park

**Over 90% of Newham's businesses are SMEs.** The Green Economy framework should address this important aspect of Newham's stakeholder ecology.