

Sustainability Strategy Framework Executive Summary

Appendix A - Overview of Commitments

Net zero ambitions

The Sustainability Strategy Framework sets out how the Council intends to respond to climate change and the agreements reached at COP26. It sets out ambitious targets for Barnet, including:

- Barnet Council as an organisation to be net zero by 2030
- Barnet as a place to be net zero as soon as possible following this, and by 2050 at the latest.

Sustainability Strategy Framework commitments

As noted within the framework, the below provides a high level summary of the actions already taken to address sustainability, as well as future commitments. It outlines the key themes that will form the basis of the draft Sustainability Strategy, including areas related to both the Council and its supply chain, and Barnet as a place. Please refer to the Strategy Framework for further information. The fast pace of change in both technology and available funding means that delivering on the ambitions of the Strategy Framework will require further work to develop delivery plans.

| | We have | We will work to |
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| Barnet (place) leadership | | |
| Housing and buildings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secured over £1m through the Green Homes Grant • Made a commitment that the new Brent Cross Town development will be net zero carbon by 2030 • Adopted Growth Strategy 2020-2030 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the draft Local Plan and other planning documents through the Examination in Public process • Retrofit Barnet’s existing social housing stock to EPC B by 2030, and net zero as soon as possible • Ensure new housing developed on behalf of the council is built to at least EPC B, using sustainable methods where possible • Ensure, with development partners, that new build developments are net zero by 2030 • Ensure new build council commissions from 2025 will be planned for net zero |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist residents within private sector housing to make their homes more sustainable • Retrofit commercially let Barnet owned buildings up to EPC B, in order to significantly reduce emissions • Commission projects to improve and collate organisational and boroughwide data • Make schools more sustainable |
| Transport | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed over 150 electric vehicle charge points to date • Experimental road resurfacing using over 240 recycled tyres • Implemented the first tranche of school streets • Implemented cycle schemes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring forward an Electric Vehicle Strategy in 2022 that will detail how we will implement a comprehensive charge point network by 2030 • We have recently secured 75% funding of over £3.5m to trial a discrete charging solution to support Barnet's growing electric vehicle ownership – the second highest in London • Bring forward investment in orbital travel with TfL and other partners • Install further school streets wherever appropriate • Implement active travel improvements • Reintroduce a car club and work to ensure it is comprised of low or zero emissions vehicles by 2025 |
| Renewable energy and waste | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Converted the entire streetlighting network to LED • Implemented waste policies for maximising waste prevention and recycling • Begun work on the North London Heat and Power Project | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a proposal to install and generate electricity from solar panels on Barnet's buildings, we will also explore alternative energy generation • Assess the potential for the implementation of district heating |
| Business, skills and partner organisations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secured external funding to trial the implementation of e-cargo bikes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install and implement a 'library of things' so residents can borrow items they may only occasionally require |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begun addressing wasted food through the Barnet Food Hub in partnership with Barnet Together, and the 2021 Entrepreneurial Barnet competition • Made use of sustainable temporary classrooms for bulge classes • Implemented Green skills training | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to strengthen our education sector, particularly the skilling and reskilling of green skills • Ensure, through continued working with West London Business (WLB) and the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) that all Barnet businesses have access to the information and support required to develop and implement net zero plans |
| Natural environment and biodiversity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planted 3,700 trees over the past three years and invested in woodland creation • Became members of Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL) • Silk Stream Flood and Resilience Innovation (SSFRI) project | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a Biodiversity Action Plan and work to improve ecology • Gain a better understanding of the boroughs canopy cover to allow us to increase cover by 10% by 2050, with an emphasis on creating street shade to mitigate the heat island effect. • Implement appropriate 'greening' and biodiversity improvements within the built environment • Improve water and flood management |
| Communication activity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched new webpages to advise residents on how they can become more sustainable • Raised awareness of sustainability, using COP26 as a hook • Issued a strong statement from the Leader of the Council confirming the Council's commitment to tackling carbon emissions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with residents, businesses, interested groups, schools, and children and young people • Ensure that residents have access to the information they need to make sustainable choices |
| Barnet as an organisation | | |
| Supply chain | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a Social Value Policy to secure environmental benefits through procurement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the Procurement Strategy to take account of sustainability criteria by the end of 2022 • Improve data collection and monitoring of our supply chain by 2024 |

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| <p>Council operations</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the RE:FIT project, installed energy saving measures on the corporate estate • Secured £1.38m grant to decarbonise Council buildings from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme • Upgraded our fleet to be fully ULEZ compliant • Reduced CO2 emissions under Carbon Reduction Commitment by 59% between 2014/15 – 2018/19 • Reduced the corporate estate • Agreed 30% of the pension fund to transition to sustainable investment and a 50% reduction in exposure to fossil fuel reserves | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all our corporate estate buildings are net zero by 2030 • Switch to a REGO renewable energy supplier by the beginning of financial year 2023/24 • Transition to a fully electric fleet by 2030, where technology allows • Improve the sustainability of staff travel • Ensure the responsible investment and sustainability of staff pensions. • Refocus treasury management and influence our sustainability objectives through our investments and treasury management. |
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