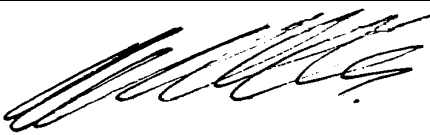


## LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST

Meeting / Date	<b>Cabinet</b>  <b>14 October 2021</b>	
Report Title	<b>Waltham Forest's Response to the report of the Climate Emergency Commission</b>	
Cabinet Portfolio	Councillor Clyde Loakes, Deputy Leader	
Report Author/ Contact details	David Beach, Director of Enforcement <a href="mailto:david.beach@walthamforest.gov.uk">david.beach@walthamforest.gov.uk</a>	
Wards affected	All	
Public Access	Open	
Appendices	<p>Appendix A – Projects recommended to receive funding from the Climate Emergency Capital fund</p> <p>Appendix B – Summary of Climate Emergency Commission's recommendations</p> <p>Appendix C – Climate Emergency timeline; from the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency to present</p> <p>Appendix D – Climate Emergency; Governance arrangements</p> <p>Appendix E – The Council's Climate Emergency reset priorities and alignment to the Commission's report and recommendations</p> <p>Appendix F – The Council's strategic Climate Emergency pledges and alignment to the Commission's recommendations</p> <p>Appendix G - Equalities Analysis</p>	

### 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 Climate change is the single most important challenge facing us all. Our response to the climate emergency will form a key element of the Council's reset post the pandemic, with cross-cutting themes that align with each of the priorities outlined in our Public Service Strategy.

- 1.2 In December 2020, Cabinet received the final report of the independent Climate Emergency Commission. The Commission was established following the Council's declaration of a 'Climate Emergency' in April 2019 and its signalled intention of being net-zero carbon by 2030.
- 1.3 The Commission's report contained 29 wide ranging recommendations as a 'call to action', highlighting areas where the Commission considered the Council could be more ambitious, and interventions more impactful, to achieve its net-zero carbon target.
- 1.4 The Council recognises that the Climate Emergency is a significant threat to our planet and accepts that it needs to both act and provide leadership at the local level to mitigate the effects of what is a global crisis. It is also the Council's ambition to play a key leadership and influencer role at both a regional and national level to ensure that policies are in place to deliver meaningful action at the scale and pace that is required.
- 1.5 We also know that dealing with the Climate Emergency is a significant priority for our residents. Over 4000 residents participated in a consultation exercise that was conducted at the end of 2019; and more than 90% of participants expressed concern regarding the impact of global warming.
- 1.6 Climate Change is linked to increased incidences of extreme weather. The number of floods and heavy rains has quadrupled since 1980 and doubled since 2004. Extreme temperatures, droughts and wildfires have also more than doubled in the last 40 years. Within the current calendar year, we have seen wildfires ravage parts of Australia, North America and Europe. Serious flooding has been experienced in parts of Asia and Western Europe, with the impact felt and seen locally in Waltham Forest.
- 1.7 Responding to the Climate Emergency has been identified as one of the Administration's key priorities for the Council reset post-Covid. The Council has allocated more than £5.5m to fund key initiatives as part of its response to the Climate Emergency and the Commission's recommendations. At the same time, the Council is continuing to develop its 10-year action plan to achieve its longer-term net-zero carbon ambition
- 1.8 Governance arrangements are now in place to deliver on this agenda, including the establishment of a Cabinet Member Programme Board which is responsible for recommending spend in respect of climate-related initiatives.
- 1.9 This report sets out the progress that the Council has made in responding to the Commission's call to action and the next steps that the organisation will take to deliver on the Climate Emergency agenda. The report also seeks Cabinet approval to endorse the spend on

identified initiatives as a key part of its initial response to the Commission's recommendations.

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:
  - 2.1.1 Note the contents of this report and the steps that the Council has taken, and the approach it intends to take, in response to the Climate Emergency Commission's report.
  - 2.1.2 Note the key projects and initiatives that the Council intends to deliver over the next 18 months that will make a positive contribution to the reduction of carbon emissions.
  - 2.1.3 Approve the recommended allocation of monies from the Climate Emergency Capital fund to finance the project programme set out in Appendix A.
  - 2.1.4 Agree the advancement of funds from the consolidated Climate Emergency Capital Fund into 2021/22 to fund the projects referenced in paragraph 2.1.3.
  - 2.1.5 Note the projects that are proposed to be funded as part of the Reset Programme, as detailed in the Financial Monitoring report.
  - 2.1.6 Agree to consider future funding recommendations made by the Climate Emergency Member Board via the regular Finance monitoring report or, if there is a specific Climate Emergency-themed Cabinet report on the agenda, via that report.
  - 2.1.7 Delegate to the Portfolio Lead Member with responsibility for Climate Emergency and the Strategic Director for Resident Services responsibility for developing the Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan.
  - 2.1.8 Agree to receive a future report which sets out the Council's detailed action plan to achieve its ambition of being net-zero carbon by 2030 by Spring 2022.

## **3. PROPOSALS**

Background

*Responding to the Commission's findings*

- 3.1 The overall aim of the Commission was to make recommendations to serve as an evidence-based catalyst to radically change behaviours within the whole of Waltham Forest. The Commission's report was a call to action to the residents of Waltham Forest and other organisations and businesses across the local public and private sector. A summary of the Commission's recommendations is reproduced as Appendix B.

- 3.2 The Council intends to respond to the Climate Emergency in an ambitious and innovative way, informed by the Commission's report and recommendations.
- 3.3 The Council recognises the adverse impact that the coronavirus pandemic has had on people's lives. The pandemic has clearly had a significant negative impact on the health, well-being and economic prosperity of many of our residents and businesses.
- 3.4 However, the Commission's report highlights that the COVID-19 pandemic has also brought about fundamental behaviour change at a scale and pace not seen for generations. It has altered the way residents move around the borough and value their local environment, how businesses operate, and how we all work.
- 3.5 As we recover from the economic impacts of the pandemic, there is the opportunity to 'build back greener', putting climate change and resilience at the centre of decision making. This approach aligns with the Council's vision for delivering public services, as set out in its Public Service Strategy, including the realisation of the 15-minute neighbourhood.
- 3.6 Tackling the Climate Emergency will require effort from everyone, including local businesses, residents, partners and community organisations. The Council though will lead by example, setting a precedent for others to follow.

*Progress since the publication of the Commission's report*

- 3.7 Although the Commission's report was necessarily wide-ranging in its scope and recommendations, the Council has highlighted several key issues that have both shaped its initial response to the Commission's findings and provided the focus for our immediate priorities to tackle the climate emergency. Appendix C sets out the timeline of our Climate Emergency journey to date, from the declaration of the Climate Emergency in April 2019 to the present time.
  - 3.7.1 A key cross-cutting theme of the Commission's report relates to behaviour change and collective action. The Council recognises the need for collective action to be taken by all residents and businesses in order to achieve the net-zero ambition. The Council also recognises that a failure to tackle the Climate Emergency will disproportionately impact on some groups. Younger people are adversely affected by climate change because they will feel the heightened effects of future climate change alongside the current impacts. They are also less likely to be in positions of decision making in relation to the climate, such as in government on policy development. Part of our strategy is to ensure children and young people have the necessary skills and opportunity to make an effective contribution to the climate change agenda.
  - 3.7.2 The report also highlights that 77% of all carbon emissions in Waltham Forest are associated with transport and homes. Whilst the Council has

made progress in these areas, particularly through the implementation of the Enjoy Waltham Forest programme, significantly more needs to be done in order to make impactful reductions in the emissions from these sources.

3.8 Whilst the Council continues to develop its detailed Climate Action delivery plan, and despite the considerable disruption arising from the national Covid lockdown at the beginning of the year, it has taken a number of steps in the meantime to respond to the Commission's report and findings:

- Establishing governance arrangements to oversee the Council's response
- Identifying a series of key projects and pledges to implement in the short term as part of that response
- Identifying opportunities to fund the initiatives linked to the climate agenda

#### *Governance Arrangements*

3.9 The Climate Emergency touches upon all services across the Council and the governance arrangements that have been established recognise that all Directorates must play a full part in developing and implementing a cross-cutting agenda that reaches all parts of the organisation. Cabinet will have overall oversight of our Climate Change work programme and will receive regular updates.

3.10 Three Climate Emergency Boards have been established. The membership and functions of the **Cabinet Member Programme Board**, **Strategic Working Group** and **Operational Working Group**, and how these align with existing Council structures, are set out in Appendix D.

#### *Senior Climate Emergency lead role*

3.11 In order to put the Council on the best possible footing to respond to the Commission's recommendations and to implement an ambitious programme of transformational change, we will be appointing to a senior director to oversee our ambitious agenda. The officer appointed to this key role will act as an advisor to Cabinet and Management Board and will be responsible for delivery to the Deputy Leader as the Cabinet lead for the Climate Emergency. At the time of writing this report, this position is at the recruitment stage.

#### *Key projects and pledges - Schools and Young People*

3.12 The Suntrap facility has undergone a multi-million-pound refurbishment to become a model of sustainability, including eco pods to enable all year residential visits and new communal space. This facility will be re-imagined as the primary campus/centre for Climate Emergency action that will deliver a movement and curriculum for climate change across the borough and London - the first of its kind in London. The revamped curriculum will ensure Climate Emergency is incorporated across all educational programmes, ensuring that Climate Emergency and the link to the impact on the world is understood. The delivery plan also includes

an outreach offer and programme of events delivered across Waltham Forest, supported by online resources and activities so that Climate Emergency education is accessible to all.

3.13 The four key aims are:

- To encourage young people to take responsibility for their impact on the environment
- To empower young people to take action by ensuring activities, content and messaging is relevant to their own lives
- To engage young people with memorable experiences and messaging they feel inspired to share by word of mouth
- To create a movement for change in young people, schools and families

3.14 A dedicated Climate Emergency Outreach Officer has been in post from September 2021, following July Cabinet agreeing to allocate funding as part of the Reset Programme. This officer will lead all Climate Emergency Outreach work, including the Young Peoples Summit and supporting schools to reduce their carbon emissions using the Eco school's framework. This includes developing a network of climate leads in schools. As of 1 September 2021, there were 35 climate leads across 33 schools.

*Key projects and pledges - Climate Emergency Summit*

- 3.15 The Climate Emergency Summit is taking place 8-12 November, coinciding with the second week on COP26. Its strapline is 'A week-long programme of speakers, resources and local learning opportunities for inspiring collective action and climate leadership'.
- 3.16 The summit is being co-created by educators from Suntrap and a dedicated Climate Emergency Teachers panel, with teaching representatives from primary and secondary schools, across all key stages.
- 3.17 The Summit content is organised across key themes relevant to young people and schools. Each themed day will have an associated action that young people can take part in.

*Key projects and pledges - Behaviour change strategy and Nurturing individual Actions.*

- 3.18 The Council will deliver a themed communications campaigns to support actions under the Climate Emergency agenda whilst developing & delivering a behaviour change programme driving measurable and impactful behaviour change, including:
- Undertaking short term campaigns and communications to support projects to promote the Council's short-term response to the

Climate Emergency aligning with key dates identified between now and the end of March 2022.

- Developing a research and an insight driven behaviour change programme, to support activity and actions over the next 10 years, developed by experts in behavioural science with clear call to actions, audience segmentation and branding that will lead to measurable change in a diverse audience.
- Launching innovative and measurable themed campaigns, creating a local movement for climate action, based on behaviour change strategy.
- Developing a new food waste strategy.

- 3.19 'Bee friendly Streets' launched in September 2021 to support biodiversity. Residents in Waltham Forest can volunteer to create Bee Friendly Streets in their local area by hand weeding their street so that chemical sprays are no longer used, creating greener streets for pollinators. To create a Bee Friendly Street, at least five households from each street will need to apply to volunteer. We provide successful applicants instructions, equipment, and guidance on how to control the weed growth on their streets and roads and introduce #BeeFriendlyStreet logos on street signs, and street furniture to raise awareness. This initiative builds on the banning of chemical pesticides, especially the widely used weed spray Glyphosate, in our parks, open spaces and other locations that was introduced in 2019.
- 3.20 Every child in the borough has been offered a free tree to plant locally during National Tree Week 26 November - December 2021. If young people do not have access to a garden, the Parks department have been in contact with Housing and Education services to find suitable locations. Applications for trees closed in 31 July, to enable small trees (whips) to be ordered. This year, the Council will be planting more than 8000 new trees.
- 3.21 A trial mattress recycling scheme over Summer in partnership with the North London Waste Authority (NLWA) has recycled nearly 1,800 mattresses, diverting 50 tonnes of waste from incineration in just 10 weeks. Plans are now in progress to make the scheme permanent.
- 3.22 Damaged and old wheelie bins are now being recycled by council contractor Urbaser and being sent for recycling into new plastic pellets for reprocessing. To date an average of 3 tonnes of bins are recycled each month.
- 3.23 The Council will now be able to offer collections of large items for reuse. Residents can book a 'reuse collection' through the council's website. These will be taken to TCL's Reuse Centre in Ilford, where they offer good quality second-hand furniture at affordable prices.
- 3.24 Our Waste Team is constantly working with others like the NLWA on developing opportunities to make it easier for our residents to recycle

more by identifying new recycling streams such as for the following materials:

- Polystyrene recycling at South Access Road CA site but collected at all of our high performing CA sites.
- Trial of coffee pod recycling with Podback for kerbside collections for street level properties. A London first.
- Blister packs via pharmacies through the Teracycle scheme. The Deputy Leader has written to all pharmacies to join the scheme and promoted on social media business already part of this scheme.

#### *Key projects and pledges - Sustainable Transport*

3.25 Two new 'school streets' went live on 4 October 2021, Connaught School for Girls and St Saviours C of E School.

3.26 To support modal shift to cycling, we have or are in the process of delivering:

- 42 new bike hangars installed across the borough by Christmas.
- Cycling training completed for 1,324 adults and children up to 31 August 2021
- Four new cycle hubs at stations (Blackhorse Road [x2], Highhams Park and Chingford) installed by January 2022.

3.27 To support the Ultra-Low Emissions Zone (ULEZ) extension we have:

- Installed a further 65 new EV charging points, which will be commissioned and operational in October. We will double our network of EVCP's by 31 March 2022, by installing 206 new charging points.
- Contacted electric and hybrid car dealerships to provide details of local infrastructure improvements for electric vehicles and to determine if they are offering any incentives or promotions to support residents to switch to EVs.
- Communicated with residents regarding the introduction of ULEZ in line with Transport for London's communications plan on social media.

#### *Key projects and pledges - Greener Buildings*

3.28 Insulation measures have been installed to more than 150 residential homes this calendar year:

- 49 properties have been insulated through the first phase of Green Homes Grant funding and further funding has been secured for subsequent phases of the scheme



- Cavity wall and loft insulation measures have been installed at 112 properties at no cost to the residents as part of the Energy Company Obligation delivered locally by EON. These installations will deliver savings of 1407 tonnes of carbon, and £473,060 in lifetime energy bills. Currently, 48 further installations are in progress under this scheme and are due to be completed by March 2022
- The deep retrofit of a Council-owned Victorian property in Greenleaf Road Walthamstow has been completed, moving from EPC rating of E to A reducing heat demand from 17,219kWh to 7461 kWh and producing zero tonnes of carbon. The property is being used as an Eco Show Home and opened as part of the London Open House Festival in September with 131 people visiting. A marketing and open day events for residents and stakeholders is currently in progress. Full details of the technology and videos are available at [Eco Home - 47 Greenleaf Road | Waltham Forest Council](#)

3.29 Work continues on the refurbishment and conversion of EMD Cinema/Granada Theatre to a 950-seat theatre. This is a listed building, best in class retrofit, and includes air source heat pumps and solar photovoltaics panels of the roof. Due for completion Summer 2022 and will save 425 tonnes of carbon annually.

3.30 Building on the on-going Corporate Energy Efficiency annual programme, the Council has successfully bid for over £2.2m from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS). This has enabled the retrofit of energy efficiency measures into 12 corporate buildings, saving 287 tonnes of carbon annually and 1.54 GWh of energy. Buildings retrofitted through this programme, which will be completed in March 2022, are:

- The Junction E11
- Suntrap Education Centre
- WF Resource Hub South (90 Crownfield Road E15)
- Chestnuts House E17
- 313 Billet Road E17
- Leytonstone Library E11
- Community Centre / Sure Start Queens Road E17
- Leyton Cricket Pavilion E10
- Walthamstow Assembly Hall E17
- Leyton Library E10
- William Morris Gallery E17
- 35 Sutherland Road E17

#### *Funding Climate Action initiatives and the reset programme*

3.31 The Council recognises the significant financial investment that is required, alongside an equally significant change in behaviour, in

order to meet our net-zero ambitions. We will explore and exploit all possible opportunities to identify funding to deliver key climate-related projects. In this regard, we have secured/allocated:

- Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funding to retrofit energy efficiency measures in 12 of our civic buildings
- Mayor's Energy Efficiency Fund (MEEF) funding to provide 'best in class green retrofit' for the EMD Cinema
- Government Green Homes Grant funding to insulate some of the most poorly insulated residential properties across all tenures
- Carbon Offset Funding (COF) to fund the planting of new street trees

3.32 In addition to securing/allocating external funding, the Council is continuing to make its own financial investment to secure a net-zero carbon future. The Council has established a Climate Emergency Fund of £5m to fund climate-related capital projects. In July 2021, Cabinet approved the reset priorities and delivery programme that set out the Council's major activities for the next 12 months. Responding to the Climate Emergency was identified as one of eight key delivery areas, with key programme themes within this delivery area reflecting the priorities detailed in paragraphs 3.12 to 3.20 above around engaging with young people, nurturing positive behaviour change and proving more sustainable transport. Recommendations of this report, if agreed, will commit the Council to further investing in these key climate-related programmes. Appendix E sets out how our key Climate Emergency reset programme themes align with the Commission's themes and recommendations.

3.33 Through the reset process, the Council is also prioritising investment in other programmes that will make a positive contribution to meeting the net-zero carbon targets

- Creating a jobs academy as part of our delivering a dynamic jobs programme will help the Council to 'build back greener' after the pandemic. The Council is working to develop green jobs and training in borough and have nurtured the formation of the Green Energy Skills and Training Alliance (GESTA) with local skills providers. This puts the Council in a good position to bid for future skills funding to support the retrofit agenda. We have worked to develop 60 green kickstart placements in the sector across 3 organisations, IZ Energy Services, London Energy and the Council. We are holding the first Green Jobs Fair in partnership with the London Wildlife Trust in October, aimed at 16-25-year olds.
- The realisation of the 15-minute neighbourhood concept in Waltham Forest, whereby most of the facilities that residents require are within a distance of a short walk or bicycle ride from their homes, will significantly reduce the need for journeys in

motorised vehicles with a consequent positive impact on carbon emissions.

### *Climate Emergency Action Plan*

- 3.34 The Council is in the process of developing a comprehensive action plan, setting out its detailed response to the findings and recommendations of the Climate Emergency Commission. Individual actions will, as far as possible, be costed. A carbon mapping exercise will also be undertaken to identify the likely impact of each measure on carbon reduction.
- 3.35 Whilst the detailed action plan continues to be developed, **five overarching strategic pledges** have emerged which will frame the Council's delivery of its climate change ambitions:

#### **Waltham Forest Council as a Leader**

*We will be best in class, in tackling and adapting to the climate emergency by ensuring our services and operations are sustainable, have a zero-carbon impact with a continued strive for innovation. We will make and influence change at a local, regional, national and international level.*

#### **People, Communities and Climate**

*We will put people and communities at the heart of tackling climate change. We will ensure that everyone who lives, works, studies, and visits the borough will be well informed and empowered to play their part in tackling the climate crisis.*

#### **Greener Buildings**

*We will create and transform buildings to reduce the demand for energy and water and be adaptable to a changing climate*

#### **Sustainable Transport**

*We will create pleasant streets and neighbourhoods in which people can more easily walk and cycle. We will create a cleaner, greener, and healthier borough for all.*

#### **Adapting to the Future**

*We will shape the future to ensure residents live safe, prosperous and healthy lives, in a local natural environment with diverse wildlife that thrives. We will prioritise green recovery through low carbon and circular economy and fostering skills for careers of the future so that business can grow.*

Appendix F sets out how these pledges align to the Commission's themed recommendations

- 3.36 The strategy will provide the required actions to reach carbon neutrality by 2030. To manage the constantly changing nature of the climate emergency, we have insured that our approach is iterative, with an adaptive action plan that will evolve as we move forward. This will also allow for continual long-term engagement with our communities.
- 3.37 The Council is committed to moving forward with this agenda at pace. The Council recognises that the Climate Emergency is a priority for our residents, and it intends to demonstrate its commitment to tackling this issue with a series of short-term actions.
- 3.38 The Public Service Strategy sets out how we will focus on the most pressing challenges we face, to allow us to quickly respond to issues of COVID but also includes new responsibilities and bold actions to support our residents while remaining focussed on the long-term positive future of Waltham Forest. Resident insight shows that over a quarter of residents think the Council should focus on the environment and the climate emergency in the longer term.
- 3.39 Tackling the Climate Emergency will require a common sense of purpose and effort from everyone, be that local businesses, residents, partners and community organisations. The Council though will lead by example, setting a precedent for others to follow.
- 3.40 As we move into the recovery phase of the COVID-19 response, we will recognise the borough's many strengths. We already have a strong track record of combatting climate change and are now ready to turbo charge our response with borough wide initiatives that can be delivered immediately over the next 12 months and that link with the strategic priorities of the Public Service Strategy.

*Regional and National Leadership*

- 3.35 The Council recognises that there are currently significant factors wholly or partly outside of its direct control which, if not addressed, will prejudice its ability to achieve its net zero carbon target. These factors include available and sustained funding to deliver change to the scale that is required and the continuing need to identify technological solutions to identified issues. The Council is leading the London wide Retrofit Programme, with Enfield Council and this puts us in a strong position to influence and shape the pan-London delivery of what would be by necessity a hugely ambitious and challenging programme to improve the energy efficiency of London's housing stock.

We will:

- Work closely with central and regional government to inform and shape policy in relation to the Climate Emergency agenda
- Identify funding gaps and lobby government to adequately resource identified solutions to implement carbon-reducing initiatives.

- Work with government to identify areas where the existing regulatory framework needs to be adapted to better support Climate Emergency interventions.
- Collaborate with government and stakeholder organisations to pilot innovative solutions to identified challenges through beacon projects.
- Work collaboratively with other local authorities and with government to share good practice and identified solutions.

#### **4. OPTIONS & ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 The Council could have decided not to act upon the findings and conclusions of the independent commission; however, it is a priority of the Council to tackle the Climate Emergency and 'doing nothing' is not considered to be a viable option.

#### **5. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY PRIORITIES (AND OTHER NATIONAL OR LOCAL POLICIES OR STRATEGIES)**

- 5.1 The Public Service Strategy will support the delivery of all Council priorities. Its aim is to support recovery from the pandemic, whilst considering the future needs of our borough, establishing a Council that works within the context of increasing uncertainty and reimagines the role of public service. The Climate Emergency is integral to the Public Service Strategy and is integrated throughout the key immediate priorities and action points.

#### **6. CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 The Report of the Independent Climate Commission has been consulted upon with the 10 commissioners at sessions of the Commission and through written feedback. In addition, Cabinet members, key officers together with 13 independent expert witnesses provided evidence to the commission.
- 6.2 Wider resident consultation and engagement have supported this report. The evidence presented to the Commission included a resident's survey of over 3,000 people conducted in late 2019 and evidence from the youth consultation of over 1400 young people in the same period.

#### **7. RESET**

- 7.1 In July 2021, the Council approved its Strategic Reset priorities and delivery programme to recover from the pandemic and build a bright future for all in Waltham Forest.
- 7.2 The activities referred to in this report are key themes under the *Tackling the Climate Emergency* Reset delivery area and directly reflect the Council's commitment to work with residents to act locally to fight the climate emergency and build a cleaner future.

## **8. IMPLICATIONS**

### **8.1 Finance, Value for Money and Risk**

8.1.1 Cabinet approved an initial targeted budget of £1m capital funding per annum over 5 years, commencing from the 2020/21 financial year, to deliver identified actions as part of the Council's response to the Climate Emergency Commission's recommendations. Provision has been made for the funding allocated from the financial years 2022/23 to 2024/25 to be made immediately available, as necessary, as a consolidated £5m Climate Emergency Fund. This budget is held in corporate contingency and any allocations from this budget for individual proposals are approved by the political lead for Climate Emergency and the s151 officer. Additional funding will be considered as part of our formal response to the recommendations.

8.1.2 A key priority for a wide range of organisations within Waltham Forest, including the Council is to secure external funding to respond to the recommendations. We would also expect the range of organisations in Waltham Forest to identify funding, service and behaviour changes within their own organisations including the Council's directorates. The Council has a good track record in previous bids for external funding, in particular the funding secured for the Enjoy Waltham Forest programme. More recently we have secured funding from BEIS' Green Homes Grant: Local Authority Delivery programme to improve the energy efficiency of the borough's worst performing housing stock.

### **8.2 Legal**

8.2.1 Section 1 of the Climate Change Act 2008 ("the Act") sets out the Government's target for reducing emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050. The Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019 no. 1056 amended section 1 so that the target is for at least net zero greenhouse gas emissions (following any adjustment for trading in carbon units). This statutory instrument increases the required percentage reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from at least 80% to at least 100%. The instrument retains the words "at least" as those remain appropriate in a net zero context, in recognition of the fact that it is possible to overperform against the updated 2050 target, by achieving net negative emissions. The Council's target of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2030 meets the legal target that the Government has set to tackle climate change and aims to do so in a much shorter timeframe.

8.2.2 Where the projects proposed require the procurement of goods, services, supplies or works these will be procured in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the Public Contract Regulations 2015.

### **8.3 Equalities and Diversity**

8.3.1 Our strategy for tackling the climate emergency, when fully realised, is expected to impact every resident of the borough in numerous ways. The strategy is expected to lead to policy changes in wide ranging areas

including transport, housing and business. The strategy recognises that although the impacts of the climate emergency will be felt by all, it will be felt more significantly by particular groups. An Equality Analysis is at Appendix G.

**8.4 Sustainability (including climate change, health, crime and disorder)**

- 8.4.1 The response and actions of the Council set out in this report will have significant positive benefits on sustainability and climate change, with the purpose being to reach a zero-carbon borough by 2030. Carbon emission savings and the impact in terms of tackling Climate Change will be quantified for each individual project as it is developed, delivered and monitored. Further Cabinet reports will, wherever possible, quantify the savings and impact as appropriate in respect of future identified actions.

**8.5 Council Infrastructure**

- 8.5.1 None specifically as a result of this report

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION (as defined by Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985)**

Not applicable