

	<p align="center"><b>Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee</b> 27 February 2024</p>
	<p align="center"><b>Report from the Corporate Director, Resident Services</b></p>
	<p align="center"><b>Councillor Krupa Sheth, Lead Member for Environment, Infrastructure, and Climate Action</b></p>
<p align="center"><b>Climate &amp; Ecological Emergency Strategy Update (Winter 2024)</b></p>	

<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All
<b>Key or Non-Key Decision:</b>	N/A
<b>Open or Part/Fully Exempt:</b>	Open
<b>No. of Appendices:</b>	3: Appendix A – Draft Data Dashboard Appendix B – 2022-24 Progress Update (Table) Appendix C – 2022-24 Progress Update (Pictures)
<b>Background Papers:</b>	None
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## 1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee with an update on the Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Programme. This includes an update on both the borough-wide 2022-24 Delivery Plan and specific Green Neighbourhoods action plans which were agreed by Cabinet in January 2023. The report also includes a high-level timeline for the next phase of the programme.

- 1.2 Also attached as Appendix A is a new proposed draft data dashboard which sets the framework for quantitatively tracking progress against several key 'proxy' datasets, which provide an additional indication of the direction of travel of climate action within the London Borough of Brent.

## **2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider and comment on the content of this report.

## **3.0 Contribution to the Borough Plan Priorities & Strategic Context**

- 3.1 The Climate and Ecological Emergency programme is a strategic and corporate priority for the council. It has links to each of the Borough Plan themes but is most directly reflected in the Borough Plan theme 'A Cleaner, Greener Future'. This theme outlines Brent's ambition to '*ensure sustainability is central to the growth of our borough and local economy*' through working to ensure that our borough is cleaner, healthier plus more climate-friendly and environmentally sustainable.
- 3.2 Linked to the borough plan, the council adopted a [Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy \(2021-2030\)](#) ('the Strategy') in April 2021 which provides the overarching framework and route map to delivering on the council's climate ambitions.

## **4.0 Background**

- 4.1 The declaration of a climate and ecological emergency by the council in 2019 was an acknowledgement of the threat facing all of us from a changing climate. It committed us to do all reasonable in our gift to tackle the climate and ecological emergency as urgently as possible. In the past three years since adopting our strategy, we have had several major instances of flooding relating to severe downpours which has resulted in an emergency response, and this had a detrimental impact on residents/households across 16 roads in Brent. This can only be expected to increase in the coming years. We also experienced the hottest heatwave the UK has ever experienced, with the BBC singling out Brent in an article as being one of [Britain's Hottest Neighbourhoods](#).
- 4.2 However, as well as reducing the risks to Brent's local community from global heating, it must be emphasised that there are considerable opportunities from a continued focus on this agenda beyond just reducing carbon emissions. For example, improved public health outcomes, tackling the cost-of-living crisis and boosting the local economy.

### Brent's Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy (2021-2030)

- 4.3 The council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy (2021-2030) was adopted by Cabinet in April 2021, alongside a first-year delivery plan for 2021-2022. We reported on progress of the [council's 2021-22 delivery plan in June 2022](#).
- 4.4 The development of our Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy considered three main factors in its creation: the evidence base of the greenhouse gas emissions picture in Brent; the priorities set by the Brent Climate Assembly; and the

new London-wide climate workstreams which were borne out of the [climate change declaration](#) made jointly by the London Environment Directors/London Councils Transport and Environment Committee.

- 4.5 The strategy also addresses climate adaptation and as part of our first-year delivery plan, we developed a bespoke [Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan](#) for Brent. We also have a statutory Flood Risk Management Strategy and adaptation is further addressed through the council's new Sustainable Environment and Development Supplementary Planning Document.

#### Refreshing Delivery Plan timelines and shift to a locality-based Green Neighbourhoods model

- 4.6 At its meeting in June 2022, it was agreed by Cabinet to move to two-yearly delivery plans, with a delivery plan for 2022-24 agreed. The new plan was split into two parts (Part A and Part B). The substantive actions set out in Part A were centred around three new areas of focus which would shape and accelerate the council's activity on tackling the climate and ecological emergency for the next two years. These were:

- A placed-based approach, through a) piloting up to three Green Neighbourhoods b) a focus on ensuring the St Raphael's Estate development is as green as possible and c) a review of Brent Local Plan Growth Areas to ensure that sustainability opportunities are maximised.
- Community wealth building, through climate action that supports local economic growth and helps reduce the cost of business for local businesses and other organisations.
- Supporting households with the rising cost of living, through specific climate action that aims to boost household income.

- 4.7 Part B of the delivery plan included other environmental initiatives that did not necessarily fit into the three new areas of focus but built on activity in the 2021-22 Delivery Plan. The goal of the Green Neighbourhoods pilots is to focus our resources in these smaller areas to test how they can become as environmentally sustainable as possible, thereby informing in practice how the whole borough could be carbon neutral and more biodiverse by 2030. The pilots selected were Church End & Roundwood; and Kingsbury (neighbourhood-led); and St Raphael's Estate and South Kilburn (development-led).

- 4.8 The council is taking a phased approach to the delivery of these pilots and thereby the initial focus has been on the Kingsbury and Church End & Roundwood pilot areas.

#### Monitoring, benchmarking, and target setting

- 4.9 The UK government (Department for Energy Security and Net Zero [DESNZ]) produces an annual breakdown of carbon dioxide emissions by Local Authority area as a subset of its annual inventory of greenhouse gas emissions. The complexity of carbon accounting means that this dataset is made available with an 18-month timelag. The most recent dataset below is for the 2021 calendar year. This dataset is the core overarching measure that progress will be measured against over the coming years. These do not include indirect consumption emissions (offshored

emissions from the production of goods consumed in Brent) which are estimated to be four times as high as these.

<b>CARBON EMISSIONS</b>	<b>% of carbon emissions in Brent</b>	<b>Overall tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>
Domestic (Homes)	41%	387,200
Transport	24%	229,500
Industry	14%	127,600
Public Sector	13%	125,600
Commercial	8%	73,800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>943,700</b>

- 4.10 Demonstrating progress in reducing local authority emissions is a huge challenge for all councils. This is partly down to the time lag of the national statistics for carbon emissions for local authority areas, as mentioned above.
- 4.11 The time lag and lack of granularity to the government’s dataset means that all local authorities are reliant on developing ‘proxy’ datasets to give an indication of progress locally. This is also challenging, partly because a climate benchmarking framework for local authorities does not exist, and secondly, because the level of resources at local authorities’ disposal is way below the level of investment required to achieve local carbon neutral/net zero targets. Moreover, because we are dependent on external funding for many of our programmes, setting realistic targets for our projects and programmes is challenging.
- 4.12 Nevertheless, the council has now developed a new data dashboard for its Climate Strategy which is summarised in section five below. Brent is also working closely with neighbouring boroughs as part of the West London Climate Emergency group and with London Councils in the ongoing delivery and development of the pan-London climate action programme.

## **5.0 Feedback on Scrutiny recommendations from April 2023 meeting**

- 5.1 The last Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy Update was provided to the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee on 25 April 2023. The committee provided four key suggestions for improvement, which have been incorporated into the council’s climate programme where possible.

### Development of a new data dashboard

- 5.2 Officers have now developed a data dashboard for Brent’s Strategy as a largely quantitative means of tracking progress of climate and ecological action in the London Borough of Brent. A draft of the document is provided as Appendix A.
- 5.3 The dashboard provides benchmarking information against neighbouring boroughs who work together as part of the West London Climate Emergency Officers Group; whilst also providing a comparison to Outer London Authorities and Inner London Authorities where it is possible to do so. The creation of the dashboard follows a desktop review of all other London local authorities and substantial research to identify the most relevant and up to date proxy datasets at the current time.

- 5.4 It also sets out a projected target for action against each data measure over the next 12 months and by 2030. It is important to emphasise that developing a tracking tool of this nature and setting realistic targets given the ongoing challenges facing the council and its climate programme (as outlined in section six) remains extremely difficult, and there are some measures where it is not possible to do so. The rationale for these metrics is identified and explained in the commentary column of the document. The dashboard and its metrics/datasets will remain under review and will be treated as live document.
- 5.5 Going forward, it is envisaged that the data dashboard will be re-created as an interactive tool via Microsoft Power BI, and a link to the dashboard will be provided on the council's website, with signposting via the council's climate emergency web pages.

#### Introduction of 'climate implications' into all Cabinet reports

- 5.6 This suggestion was taken forward and there has been a 'Climate Change and Environmental Considerations' section inserted into the report template for all Cabinet reports since its meeting in September 2023.

#### Exploring opportunities to use Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (SCIL)

- 5.7 The most identifiable potential opportunity at the present time relates to the Green Corridors project as part of the Church End and Roundwood Green Neighbourhood Action Plan. The first phase of the project, undertaking a feasibility study, is due to complete imminently. Following the receipt of this, officers will meet to understand what elements could be eligible for SCIL. This will also be looked at in conjunction with the Active Travel Plans to ensure they can work in tandem where possible.

#### Engaging with Brent Friends of the Earth and other community partners

- 5.8 The council continues to engage with Brent Friends of the Earth and other community groups. Active engagement with key stakeholders across different sectors of Brent's communities forms an integral part of Brent's Climate Strategy and is part of the overarching delivery of Brent's 2022-24 Delivery Plan and Green Neighbourhoods Action Plans. Recent examples of this include:
- 71 community climate action projects being funded by the Together Towards Zero grant fund
  - Development of a Faith Climate Action Group and subsequent creation of the Faith Climate Action Plan
  - The development of a 'Climate Ambassadors' group of local community leaders
  - The Faces of Climate Change video and photography project
  - The 2023 Climate Showcase which sought to shine a spotlight on local individuals who are leading the way on tackling climate change

- Working with the schools on climate-related projects in the Green Neighbourhood areas and revamping our support offer to all schools in Brent via the Brent School Climate Champions Network
- Engagement with businesses
- A summit with Registered Providers in September 2023 with the aim of working more closely together on climate-related projects and green space utilisation
- Working with Brent CVS to establish a partnership approach to expanding the programme into the community and voluntary sector

## 6.0 2022-24 progress to date

### Overall progress on our combined delivery/action plans

- 6.1 Our delivery and action plans are treated as ‘live’ documents and when considering the total number actions across the three existing delivery/action plans, there are **103** specific actions to deliver across the whole programme.
- 6.2 Progress is monitored internally through the Corporate Sustainability Board (CSB) and the internal cross-cutting climate action workstreams which sit underneath this Board. The actions in the three delivery/action plans are monitored and provided with a ‘RAG’ (Red, Amber, or Green) rating. At the current time, we have also included two additional ratings which include ‘Inactive’ or ‘Unlikely to complete’. A breakdown of the descriptions of each of these ratings is set out below.

<b>Progress Rating</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Complete (G)</b>	The action may either be completed and closed in totality, or that the core aspects are up and running and ongoing.
<b>In Progress (A)</b>	Work on completing the core aspects and actions to the action is underway, with the expectation that the action is on track to complete within the expected timescale.
<b>Minimal Action (R)</b>	Substantive work on completing the action has not yet commenced (this may be deliberate depending on timescales and to manage officer capacity) but as it stands, the action is still expected to complete within the expected timescale.
<b>Inactive</b>	The action is not possible to complete at this stage due to reasons out of the council’s control.
<b>Unlikely to complete</b>	Rationale has been provided from the Lead service area as to why the action is not expected to complete within the original expected timescale. This is likely to be due to challenges unforeseen at the time of adoption of the delivery/action plan.

6.3 The current picture of progress across the entire programme currently as of February 2024 is as follows:

<b>Progress Rating</b>	<b>No. of actions</b>	<b>% of actions</b>
Complete (G)	34	33%
In Progress (A)	61	59%
Minimal Action (R)	2	2%
Inactive	2	2%
Unlikely to complete	4	4%

6.4 A breakdown indication of some of the headline initiatives either completed or making good progress is outline under the specific borough-wide delivery plan and green neighbourhood action plan sections below. A full table of actions with short qualitative updates and outcomes where possible at this stage is provided as Appendix B.

#### Progress on the 2022-24 Delivery Plan

6.5 The current picture of progress for the 2022-24 Borough-wide Delivery Plan as of February 2024 is as follows:

<b>Progress Rating</b>	<b>No. of actions</b>	<b>% of actions</b>
Complete (G)	23	56%
In Progress (A)	18	44%
Minimal Action (R)	0	0%
Inactive	0	0%
Unlikely to complete	0	0%

#### **Headline updates (since June 2022)**

- Developed and launched bespoke action plans for Church End & Roundwood; and Kingsbury Green Neighbourhoods
- Launched a new Library of Things at Willesden Green Library
- Implemented 36 permanent school street schemes
- Installed 30 new bike hangars
- Installed 304 new Electric Vehicle Charge Points
- Worked with Brent schools to achieve an increased accreditation of either Gold, Silver or Bronze as part of the TfL STARS School Travel Plan scheme
- Launched the Brent's Bike for Businesses e-cargo bike scheme
- Installed the borough's first Living Wall on Willesden Green Library
- Installed the first Ground Source Heat Pump on a council building at Northwick Park pavilion
- Delivered the BEE Colourful Community Planting and Engagement Scheme
- Provided targeted support to businesses through energy efficiency grants

- Provided targeted support to businesses through a new carbon footprinting tool
- Provided targeted support to businesses through a new climate charter
- Improve the Brent Environmental Network to make the network more action focused and community-led
- Launched the Faith Climate Action Plan
- Adopted a new Sustainable Environment and Development Supplementary Planning Document
- Completed a new rain garden as part of Kensal Corridor scheme
- Worked with partners to create a new mini forest in King Edwards Park
- Launched the new Green Skills Centre in Willesden
- Launched a new sector-based pathways scheme for unemployed people to take up 'green' jobs
- Launched the Brent Well and Warm Affordable Energy advice service, targeting the most vulnerable households in Brent
- Undertook a Net Zero Schools Retrofit and Engagement Project with at least five local schools
- Developed and continuing to run new sustainability communications campaigns (Junk Kouture sustainable fashion Project; Faces of Climate Change Photography Competition; Eco-Peace Event; Brent Environmental Network Newsletters/Events etc)
- Delivered two rounds of the Together Towards Zero Small Grants Scheme, providing funding to local community projects that contribute to reducing emissions and/or making Brent greener and more biodiverse
- Refreshing the Brent School Climate Champions Network
- Successfully secured £8.1m in external grant funding since June 2022

### Progress on Community-led Green Neighbourhoods Pilots

- 6.6 Following the selection of the first two neighbourhood-led Green Neighbourhood pilots (Church End & Roundwood; and Kingsbury) officers undertook a period of community engagement in both areas and liaison with officers to put together bespoke action plans. This helped crystallise the distinct emerging visions in the pilot areas.
- 6.7 For example, in the Church End and Roundwood area there is significant potential for developing an area-wide focus on 'Green Corridors' to promote the healthy streets agenda, enhancing and linking green and active infrastructure which we are currently working on with Sustrans (an active travel/green infrastructure consultancy).
- 6.8 In Kingsbury, a key factor for the area is the importance of the Kingsbury and Kenton schools cluster who are passionate about environmental sustainability and tackling climate change. There are approximately 16 schools in and around the Kingsbury Green Neighbourhood boundary – which provides a substantial potential for

reaching into the heart of local communities on this agenda and encouraging local action.

6.9 Our aim is to utilise this school grouping as a catalyst for engaging the wider community and reaching numbers of people that the council cannot usually reach on its own via the extended school community.

6.10 The current picture of progress for the Green Neighbourhoods action plans as of February 2024 is as follows:

*Church End & Roundwood Green Neighbourhood*

<b>Progress Rating</b>	<b>No. of actions</b>	<b>% of actions</b>
Complete (G)	6	18%
In Progress (A)	24	71%
Minimal Action (R)	2	6%
Inactive	1	2.9%
Unlikely to complete	1	2.9%

<b>Headline updates (since January 2023)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New permanent School Street Schemes at John Keble, Leopold and St Mary's CofE Primary Schools</li> <li>• New Trees planted on Church Road High Street</li> <li>• Two re-use and repair pop-up events in community settings</li> <li>• New Library of Things at Willesden Green Library (linked to project, estimated 20 min walk from Church End &amp; Roundwood Green Neighbourhood)</li> <li>• Delivery of BEE Colourful community planting project on Craven Park Road</li> <li>• Bespoke STARS School Travel Plan Engagement work and cycle training sessions with schools in the area</li> <li>• Undertaken the first phase of 'Green Corridors' project working with Sustrans and engaging with the local community on potential improvements to active travel routes and green infrastructure in the area</li> <li>• Two new Bike Hangars on Franklyn Road and Essex Road</li> <li>• Two new Electric Vehicle Charge Points on Roundwood Road and Essex Road</li> <li>• Summit held with Registered Providers which explored working together on Environmental Sustainability initiatives in the area</li> <li>• Development of a local Climate Community Action Group</li> <li>• New Green Neighbourhood signage encouraging local residents to take part</li> </ul>

### Kingsbury Green Neighbourhood

Progress Rating	No. of actions	% of actions
Complete (G)	5	18%
In Progress (A)	19	68%
Minimal Action (R)	0	0%
Inactive	1	4%
Unlikely to complete	3	11%

#### Headline updates (since January 2023)

- Working closely with the Kingsbury and Kenton Schools cluster on embedding the 'whole school' approach to Environmental Sustainability in the area. Activities so far have included:
  - 12 school visits undertaken, informal environmental audit undertaken through discussions with school staff/sustainability leads
  - 'Love Your World' assemblies with guest speakers
  - Masterclass webinar on setting up a student-led eco-committee
  - School involvement in Climate Showcase 2023
  - Training being delivered by Earth Warriors on embedding climate education into the curriculum
  - Sustainable Fashion workshops with Junk Kouture
- New permanent School Street Schemes at
- New green infrastructure improvements to Leybourne Open Space
- Delivery of the first re-use and repair pop-up event in Kingsbury which took place at the Kingsbury Temple in July 2023
- Bespoke STARS School Travel Plan Engagement work and cycle training sessions with schools in the area
- Development of a local Climate Community Action Group
- New Green Neighbourhood signage encouraging local residents to take part

#### Progress with the 'Development-led' Green Neighbourhoods for South Kilburn and St Raphael's Estate

- 6.11 It is the intention for the South Kilburn and St Raphael's Estate programmes to be delivered on a timeline up to the end of the 2025-26 financial year. Officers have begun to define the scope of these schemes and how they could complement the council's existing plans for both areas. The scale and scope of the action plans for these areas will be dependent on the availability of funding and officer capacity.

### 7.0 Ongoing Challenges/Risks/Lessons Learned

- 7.1 The key identifiable challenges which remain in the delivery of this strategy are **funding, supporting data and enacting long-term behaviour change.**

#### Funding:

- 7.2 Retrofitting homes – retrofitting remains prohibitively expensive at scale. Whilst we have secured some funding (£1.3m) from the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, our best estimate for retrofitting council housing stock up to an average is EPC B is that it would cost £60m, and it is likely with current inflationary pressures

that this figure would be even higher. We are continuing to monitor an approach Hounslow are looking at which centres on institutional investment in retrofitting to unlock capital over a 20–30-year period, and are linked into London Councils' work with 3Ci, the Cities Commission for Climate Investment. 3Ci is a partnership aimed at unlocking investment in local areas at the scale necessary for financing net zero in the long-term and to create robust business cases and investment models that address issues of scale, longevity and confidence. There is also the issue of green skills and having enough individuals and providers operating with the relevant expertise in this area if/when funding does become available. We are proactively seeking to address this through the creation of the Green Skills Centre at the College of North West London in Willesden.

- 7.3 Retrofitting non-domestic premises – Similarly, there is an increasing demand from businesses to improve their carbon footprint, much of which comes down to improving energy efficiency on premises, however there is very little central funding for this, and businesses often look to local authorities for financial incentives to undertake this work. Whilst we have been able to provide some support via the Brent for Business Energy Efficiency Scheme, again, it is not at the scale required. Similarly, whilst we have made good progress on energy efficiency improvements to our corporate estate, bringing the schools, which we have responsibility for, up to a gold standard (PassivHaus) for energy efficiency would cost an estimated £100m.
- 7.4 Active travel planning/car usage – Whilst we are making good progress on the number of electric vehicle charge points in the borough, the council is also committed to improving active travel in the borough and encouraging more people to transition away from cars where possible. This is not only beneficial for air quality, reduces carbon emissions but is also positive for public health and the council's wider aims to reduce road traffic collisions. However, the council is very dependent on funding from Transport for London (TfL) for active travel infrastructure improvements that would have a genuinely transformative effect. Enhanced strategic links to other West London boroughs on active travel infrastructure between boroughs and understanding of collective routes and plans would be beneficial. The resident reaction to the planned implementation of Healthy Neighbourhoods in 2020 also resulted in four out of five schemes being removed. However, there are new Healthy Neighbourhood schemes under consideration as part of the Green Corridors scheme in Church End & Roundwood, Queens Park and Kilburn.
- 7.5 Green (Natural) Infrastructure – similarly, whilst a Green Infrastructure Vision and associated high level long-term action plan has been drafted, the associated potential capital costs to deliver potential schemes could be between £5-10m and we would be heavily reliant on external grant funding to be able to implement this. Environmental sustainability improvements will be made wherever possible within the council's new Grounds Maintenance contract.

Supporting data:

- 7.6 The existing challenges with monitoring and supporting data are set out in paragraphs 4.9 - 4.11 above.

## Enacting long-term behaviour change

- 7.7 Achieving net zero will require all of Brent's communities to act within their day-to-day lives to support the goal. For example, Brent's recycling rate like most other authorities has plateaued and contamination levels here are very high. These are deep-rooted behaviours that are likely to take time to address, although it is hoped that the recent changes to Brent's waste and recycling services and a food waste caddy roll-out next year will lead to improvements.
- 7.8 Significant behaviour change is also required for modal shift from polluting vehicles, adopting energy efficient behaviours in homes and buildings, and protecting the natural environment through a reduction in littering and fly tipping. The presence of flytipping and litter has created a damaging perception of the council and the local area more widely when trying to engage with residents on climate/environmental issues.
- 7.9 We have not yet reached a point where widespread community climate action is self-sustaining without the council's input. There are positive signs, and pockets of activity, with a number of individuals and groups doing fantastic work (as outlined in paragraph 5.8 above) but, as it stands, the significance of the council's leadership and coordination role remains unchanged as achieving a significant 'reach' into the community remains an ongoing challenge. We also acknowledge that there are some sectors that require further engagement with from a council perspective, such as other public sector bodies (for instance the NHS) and registered providers of social housing.

## **8.0 Looking Forward**

- 8.1 The delivery plan for 2022-24 will run until the end of the 2024 calendar year. Key milestones for 2024 include:

<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
Delivering and completing actions within Green Neighbourhoods Action Plan	Present-End of 2024
Delivering and completing actions within 2022-24 Delivery Plan	Present-End of 2024
Reviewing and developing plans for South Kilburn and St Raphael's Estate	Present-April 2026
Review of current Green Neighbourhoods Programme	Spring2024
Development of the next Delivery Plan (2024-2026)	Spring/Summer 2024

## **9.0 Stakeholder and ward member consultation and engagement**

- 9.1 Ward members in the Green Neighbourhood areas are always invited to any sustainability-related events taking place within the Green Neighbourhoods and are regularly communicated on project developments or additions to the programme.

9.2 We have also held several Member Learning and Development sessions and provided factsheets for ward councillors in relation to the climate and ecological emergency.

9.3 Engagement with stakeholders within the wider Brent Community takes place under the umbrella of the Brent Environmental Network.

## **10.0 Financial Considerations**

10.1 Detailed financial implications are provided as part of the June 2022 and January 2023 Cabinet reports, when the 2022-2024 Delivery Plan and the Green Neighbourhoods Action Plans were approved respectively.

10.2 The climate emergency team has an annual revenue budget in 2023/24 of approximately £920k, comprising £370k core revenue budget, £350k funding from the borough-plan fund and £200k from reserves earmarked for the climate emergency team.

## **11.0 Legal Considerations**

11.1 The Climate Change Act 2008 (the Act) is the statutory basis for the UK's approach to tackling and responding to climate change. The Act places a legal duty on central government to set legally binding targets to reduce UK greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2050.

11.2 The data provided from those who sign up to the Brent Environmental Network is managed in accordance with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and other relevant Data Protection legislation.

11.3 In delivering the Brent Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy, the Council continues to have regard to internal governance procedures and the Public Contract Regulations 2015 in respect of any procurement.

## **12.0 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Considerations**

12.1 The council, as a public authority exercising public functions, is subject to a public sector equality duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (EqA). A full Equalities Impact Assessment was provided upon the adoption of the Climate and Ecological Strategy in 2021 and has been published on the council's website. This EIA forms the basis of the development of the action plans as part of this project.

## **13.0 Climate Change and Environmental Considerations**

13.1 Climate change and environmental considerations are integral to the purpose, content and recommendations in this report.

## **14.0 Human Resources/Property Considerations (if appropriate)**

14.1 There are no HR implications arising from this report.

14.2 Property wise, the council is working towards a decarbonisation strategy for Brent's estate as noted within the 2022-2024 delivery plan.

## 15.0 Communication Considerations

15.1 Communications and engagement are integral to the Council's climate emergency programme. We utilise the council's corporate communication channels with most of our communications and engagement being via the Brent Environmental Network and its various bespoke segments.

**Report sign off:**

***Peter Gadsdon***

Corporate Director of Resident Services