

Green Charter Progress Report - January 2013

Task No	Details	Due Date	Achievements so far	RAG
1. Reduce Carbon Dioxide Emissions By reducing our emissions of carbon dioxide (which occurs through the burning of fossil fuels) we will help to reduce the rate of global warming, and improve air quality. Brent Council is affected by the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme, so any reduction in carbon emissions will also lead to financial savings for the borough.				A
1a	The council approaches energy management using its energy strategy's hierarchy of principles: 'be lean, be clean, be green': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy used in each building is minimised by using simple controls and passive features (be lean) • Simple actions such as cleaning and maintaining systems will ensure equipment runs effectively for the length of its anticipated life (be clean) • When demand is reduced to the minimum the use of renewable technologies (be green) is considered building-by-building. This ensures that energy generated by the renewable technologies is not wasted. The aim is to reduce the energy used in each building to its absolute minimum.	Ongoing	Brent's Sports Centres have received a number of energy improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed PIR (passive infrared) sensors to avoid lights being on in vacant areas (corridors, rooms) • Covers installed on both pools to reduce heat loss • Variable speed drives installed for pool circulation pumps to reduce electricity in times of low pool use • Replacement of hot water storage tank with plate heat exchangers to reduce oil consumption • Improvements to building management system (BMS) to help control ambient temperatures more efficiently. Improvements made at Gwenneth Rickus have led to the building's Display Energy Certificate rating being reduced from an E to a C.	A
1b	The council is monitoring and reporting its energy use and carbon emissions in line with the national CRC EES (Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme).	Ongoing	Meter readings from all council property are taken and analysed. Annual energy use submissions are made for CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme.	G
1c	The council aims to reduce its CO2 reductions by 25 % in council emissions by 2014 and encourage and support schools to adopt a similar target.	Ongoing	Council buildings' emissions (excluding from schools) were reduced by 15% from 2009/10 to 2011/12. Schools have reduced CO2 emissions by 7% to date, based on a 2009/10 baseline. Streetlight emissions increased by 1 per cent between 2010/11 and 2011/12 but are still slightly less than in 2009/10.	A

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			<p>For 2012-13 the Council is working on the following projects to further reduce carbon emissions across Brent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RE:FIT and Salix Finance projects • Collaborative Low Carbon Schools programme • A new Carbon Management Programme Communication Plan is soon to be adopted. The programme, developed with the Carbon Trust, will further encourage staff to reduce their energy use, in preparation for the move to the Civic Centre. 	
1d	<p>Behaviour change resulting in reduced energy use is encouraged and monitored.</p> <p>The council uses internal communication channels to encourage all staff to turn electrical equipment when it is not needed or not in use.</p>	Ongoing	<p>The Carbon Management Programme Communication plan is pending Carbon Management Programme Board approval.</p> <p>A seven-week pilot project on key energy efficiency behaviour measures is underway. Information is distributed to staff via the intranet and eSight lite. Green Champions have received more in-depth information and material e.g. posters and stickers, to help reinforce the messages to staff in their areas. The Green Champions have also been conducting energy audits in their local areas in order to monitor the effect of the messages that are being communicated.</p>	A
1e	<p>The council uses alternative sources of renewable energy such as solar panels and continuously analyses the council's use of energy.</p>	Ongoing	<p>Brent's Civic Centre remains on course to meet the standard of BREEAM Outstanding.</p> <p>Energy reduction measures in the building include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • low energy zoned and sensed lighting • natural ventilation measures throughout the building • air source heat pump • 180m2 of green roofs provided above the building cores • bio-fuel powered plant machinery. 	G
1f	<p>The council implements the borough's climate change strategy and action plan which was launched in December 2009 and its environmental policy, which was updated in October 2009.</p>	Ongoing	<p>The Climate Change Strategy Steering Group meets bi-annually, as it continues to lead progress of the strategy. The group consists of representatives from public, private, charity and community organisations from across Brent. Smaller,</p>	A

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			sector-specific action groups meet more regularly to progress actions. Additional groups are to be set up for public sector organisations and schools. A climate change conference will take place in March 2013.	
1g	Schools are investigating /taking advantage of the government's Feed In Tariff and the council is also making enquiries.	Ongoing	As part of the Brent Low Carbon schools programme, Officers give advice regarding the Feed-In-Tariff.	G
1h	Work with schools to assist them to reduce energy.	Ongoing	The Council, with the support of the Carbon Trust, piloted the Collaborative Low Carbon Schools' programme between May 2011 and March 2012. The programme's aim was to reduce the electricity demand of ten pilot schools. A 14% reduction was achieved. Following the success of the pilot the Schools' Forum gave £90,000 to fund a Schools' Behaviour Change Officer and Schools' Technical Officer to deliver a similar energy efficiency programme in schools, from April 2012 to March 2013. The updated programme is being delivered to 13 core schools, the original 10 pilot schools, and provides an interactive website with key information on energy efficiency to all other Brent schools. Mid-year indications show that the programme is developing well, with a 15% energy reduction, which equates to 5% CO2 reduction in the first 6 months of the project. It is expected that this progress will be maintained and the project will achieve further savings by the end of the financial year.	G
1i	The council created sustainable Business and Resident Climate Change pledges for residents and businesses to pledge to take measures to reduce environmental impact.	Ongoing	400 residents' pledges and 50 business pledges have been made.	G

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1j	Work with businesses to be more energy efficient. This includes invitations to free carbon reduction events and offers of free energy checks		Two energy saving awareness raising breakfasts have been held for businesses. Free energy checks were taken up by 7 local businesses.	A
1k	As part of its contract maintenance programme, the council's street lighting contractor is removing the old fluorescent bulbs from street signs and ministry posts, which tend to be lit 24 hours a day, replacing them with photo-cells that only come on as and when are necessary.	Ongoing	The Street lighting upgrade is taking place gradually and will be fully rolled out by 2018. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of fluorescent bulbs from 2751 street signs, 520 ministry posts and 375 bollards • Other energy saving options being assessed include LED, dimmable and part-night lighting; and de-illumination of street furniture. 	G
1l	The Council has had an Air Quality Action Plan since 2005. This helps to control air pollution and improve air quality.	Ongoing	The council's Air Quality Action Plan has been updated (2012-2015). The focus of the plan remains the reduction of nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter emissions to below national targets. Nine fundamental measures were carried over from the previous plan, including continuous air quality monitoring in Harlesden, Neasden and beside the North Circular Road, raising awareness of air quality issues and reducing emissions from industrial installations.	G
1m	Maintain its Green Champions network with updates / awareness schemes for staff.	Ongoing	The Green Champions Network meets quarterly and focuses on five key areas: waste and recycling, energy efficiency, water efficiency, sustainable transport and sustainable purchasing. The group has produced a short film, published on the council's intranet site, to help promote sustainable working. Events are planned to celebrate the work of the Green Champions, empower them for the future and to encourage the recruitment of new Green Champions.	G
1n	Reducing carbon emissions through ITU	Ongoing	'Oneprint' has reduced both quantities of printing and the amount of electrical equipment needed, as only one device is required for printing, scanning and photocopying. Thin Client technology has been introduced, reducing energy	G

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			use because of its lower power consumption, and reducing waste as it has a longer shelf-life and uses less hardware than conventional PCs. This project won the Green Award for Public Sector Project of the Year.	
1o	The Council funds and supports Energy Solutions (North West London) Ltd to provide advice on energy saving, renewable energy and insulation advice.	Ongoing	The Council has renewed its service level agreement and continues to support Energy Solutions to enable them to provide advice to residents.	G
1p	A scrutiny Committee Fuel Poverty Task Group was set up and recommends that Brent Council and its partners, develop an affordable warmth strategy to enable the borough to tackle fuel poverty.	Ongoing	Brent Council and its partners (e.g. Energy Solutions) are working on a Fuel Poverty Strategy to help residents stay warm and healthy through the winter months. A successful bid was made for £150,000 external funding from 'Warm Homes Healthy People Fund' to help reduce fuel poverty in Brent. The funding can be used to provide advice and to pay for new boilers, insulation and related energy-saving equipment.	G
1q	Provide energy monitoring devices for people to borrow from libraries.	Ongoing	The Council envisages adding the energy monitor devices to libraries in the near future.	A
1r	Publish information on the council's website about saving energy and combating the effects of climate change.	Ongoing	The Brent website is regularly updated to provide up-to-date information.	G

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2.	<p>Lower Waste Waste has a significant impact on the environment. Waste sent to landfill results in resources being lost; potent greenhouse gases (methane) being released into the atmosphere, contributing to further climate change; and it is a very expensive option for waste disposal. Recycling and composting reduces the environmental and financial impact, as resources can continue to be used and materials are kept from biodegrading in landfill. The best option, however, is avoiding any waste in the first place – in addition to the environmental benefits, this will save individuals money, as they no longer buy items they do not need; and will save vital council finances, as less waste will have to be paid for to be sent to landfill.</p>			G
2a	<p>The council's waste strategy aims to reuse, recycle and compost 40 per cent of household waste by 2011/12, rising to 50 per cent by 2014/15, and to divert 60 per cent of waste from landfill by 2014 /15.</p> <p>Introduce a new and improved waste collection service to all residents in Brent from Autumn 2011 designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the range of materials • Expand and improve the food waste collection service • Expand the recycling service to include all suitable blocks from flats. <p>Communicate effectively to ensure residents understand the purpose and operation of the new waste collection service</p>	Ongoing	<p>A new waste collection service for street level properties and blocks of flats was introduced in Brent in October 2011. This has resulted in an increase of 13% in recycling performance from 34% in September 2011 to 47% in September 2012.</p> <p>As part of the successful bid to DCLG communal food waste collections will be introduced in suitable blocks of flats. A new recycling service for flats above shops will also be introduced.</p> <p>A new One Council Project focusing on reducing waste sent to landfill and includes a programme of targeted face to face engagement with residents living in low participation areas is being implemented.</p>	G
2b	Reduce waste and increase recycling internally.	Ongoing	<p>Recycling and waste bins are centrally located; individual bins are being removed. Old IT equipment is sent to a charity to be re-used and/or recycled. Council buildings have recycling facilities for paper, cardboard, glass, cans, tins, cartons and plastics. Toner cartridges are recycled. (Toner cartridges are being phased out under the multi-functional devices roll-out, which</p>	G

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			will use colour cube technology.) WEEE recycling is provided, located at Brent House, the Town Hall and Mahatma Gandhi House. Battery recycling points are provided for staff and the public at numerous council sites across the borough. There will be a new waste and recycling scheme at the Civic Centre.	
2c	Have in place an internal communications plan to increase the council's own recycling levels.	Ongoing	Recycling information is located by each kitchen bin and further information is available on the intranet. Communicating waste and recycling information will form one of the elements of BREEAM In-Use and needs to be prepared prior to moving to the Civic Centre.	A
2d	Reduce waste and recycle 95 per cent of green waste from parks and sports' facilities.	Ongoing	Bridge Park CLC has implemented a food recycling scheme for functions. China crockery is used for customers staying in Willesden SC and Vale Farm SC's cafés, leading to a reduction in polystyrene and cardboard waste. Recycling bins given an increased prominence in Brent's sports centres, to further encourage recycling. Reduced use of paper and outreach material as a result of the development of virtual online tours and greater use of web-based marketing materials and booking systems. Herbaceous perennials have replaced bedding plants, reducing organic waste produced. Soil and vegetation is re-used on site for landscaping purposes.	G
2e	The Council has phased out paper towels and is replacing towels with hand dryers.	Ongoing	Most paper towels have been replaced with hand dryers. There will only be hand dryers in the Civic Centre.	G
2f	Provide an effective network of recycling bins in public places located across the borough.	Ongoing	This service is still being provided.	G

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2g	Continue to provide a Christmas tree recycling service.	Ongoing	This service is being provided. Christmas trees must be contained within the green bin.	G
2h	Increase the amount of items reused in Brent whether through charity shops, re-use schemes or recycling.	Ongoing	The material collected has increased. Residents are encouraged to take up membership of the Re-Ward Club run by West London Waste Authority (WLWA), which incentivises residents to use local shops and charity outlets that sell re-used items, and to repair items to extend their lifetime.	G
2i	Provide a StreetWatcher scheme, including training and days out.	Complete	This programme has now come to an end.	C
2j	Make home compost bins available to residents.	Ongoing	Every household in Brent is entitled to receive one free bin (subject to a £5.49 delivery charge), through the Council's partnership with Even Greener.	G
2k	Increase resident awareness of the amount of food waste that is thrown away.	Ongoing	The Council works with its partners, such as the West London Waste Authority, to raise awareness of food waste.	G
2l	Promote the Mailing Preference Service and encourage people to return unwanted junk mail to sender.	Ongoing	The Council website encourages residents to sign up to the Mailing Preference Service (MPS) to limit the amount of unwanted mail residents receive.	G
2m	The Council offers to collect up to 5 bulky items of household waste free of charge up to 3 times a year.	Ongoing	This service is still provided.	G
2n	Increase awareness and use of the Reuse and Recycling Centre at Abbey Road.	Ongoing	These services are regularly advertised.	G
2o	Prosecute those who litter and fly-tip.	Ongoing	Since the beginning of this financial year, the council achieved the following results in prosecuting those who litter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 172 Fixed Penalty Notices issued for various offences • 420 Legal Notices issued • 6 Prosecutions • 11 Cautions issued. 	G

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<p>3. Sustainable Development and Regeneration It is important to develop and rebuild infrastructure and buildings as sustainably as possible, to help the population to live within environmental limits; ensure a strong, healthy and just society; and to achieve a sustainable economy.</p>				<p style="font-size: 24pt; color: orange;">A</p>
<p>3a</p>	<p>The council uses the new Placemaking Guide's aims to achieve a safe, attractive, accessible and inclusive environment by setting out public realm policy and design guidelines and specifications for materials, street furniture and the layout of streets and spaces that fall within the control of the council. Sustainable development is promoted by planning for mixed use development in growth areas where there is good public transport provision. We will ensure new development is accompanied by supporting facilities such as school places, open space and community facilities.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>In the year 2011/12, 39 major proposals were approved by the council including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 residential schemes at CSH4 • 6 residential schemes at CSH3 • 7 non-residential schemes at BREEAM Excellent • 3 non-residential schemes at BREEAM Very Good • 8 schemes included proposal for CHP • 2 schools were extended at BREEAM Excellent level. 	<p style="font-size: 24pt; color: green;">G</p>
<p>3b</p>	<p>The council reduces the carbon footprint of new development by requiring high levels of energy efficiency and renewables beyond current building regulation standards, particularly in growth areas.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Policy CP19 of the Council's Core Strategy (adopted in 2010) states "Within the growth areas, major proposals are required to achieve a minimum rating of Code for Sustainable Homes level 4 rating, subject to scheme feasibility. Within the Wembley growth area, proposals will be expected (relative to their scale) to connect to, provide or contribute towards Combined Heat and Power plant, unless it can be demonstrated that such provision is not financially feasible." To achieve the 50% minimum score, the council's sustainability checklist for major development applications aims for new developments to exceed current standards. Over the past year, the Wembley Area Action Plan has been developed and consulted on, with the social, environmental and economic aspects of related site proposals having been appraised.</p>	<p style="font-size: 24pt; color: green;">G</p>

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3c	Achieve exemplar low carbon schemes such as promoting combined heat and power district heat networks in Wembley and South Kilburn.	Ongoing	<p>Housing Stock improvement work for energy efficiency in 2011/12 has involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 54 homes with single glazed windows received new double glazed windows • 45 homes benefitted from additional loft or flat roof insulation • 116 homes had cavity wall insulation installed • 232 homes were fitted with a new, efficient condensing boiler <p>These improvements enable homes to be more energy efficient, reducing carbon emissions and residents' energy bills.</p> <p>Brent Civic Centre received BREEAM outstanding. It is the greenest public office building in the UK and the fourth greenest building worldwide, out of only ten that have received BREEAM Outstanding rating.</p>	G
3d	Reduce waste from demolition and construction by requiring all development to comply with the ICE demolition protocol and set targets for reuse and recycling.	Ongoing	A sustainability checklist has been produced to help developments achieve these targets.	G
3e	Reduce the risk of flooding by steering development away from areas at risk and ensuring new development includes measures to minimise rainwater runoff such as green roofs and permeable paving.	Ongoing	This policy is also reflected in the sustainability checklist.	G

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4.	Sustainable Transport and Streets Sustainable transport lowers carbon emissions; reduces congestion; gives health benefits; and can often result in reduced travel times. Improved streets make walking easier, safer and more enjoyable.			G
4a	The Council encourages low carbon modes of transport to reduce emissions. The council has recognised that for more people to walk and cycle around the borough, they need to feel confident doing so, for which it is necessary to design safer streets. Work focuses on cycling, walking, public transport and electric vehicles.	Ongoing	<p>To improve the walking and public realm, Brent aims to make areas look, feel and actually be safe. Improvements in sports centres include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 new car club bays developed • 26 cycles stands installed • 27 white light emitting lamp columns installed • 166 trees planted • 5% of parking spaces removed. <p>The Council has worked with Temple staff to introduce real-time train, tube and bus departure information screens to facilitate the increased use of public transport to/from key locations in the borough.</p> <p>To help encourage cycling in the borough, the following have taken place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two new TfL funded cycling projects commenced (Brent Biking Borough and Bike It) • 47 new cycle parking stands (94 spaces) installed in the Kensal Rise cycle hub and designs completed for an additional 53 cycle parking stands (106 spaces) to be installed • Two heavy goods vehicle (HGV) cyclist awareness courses have taken place, 'Safe Urban Driving' and 'Exchanging Places' • Six cycle security events were held in partnership with the Metropolitan Police • Five cycling themed travel awareness events held 	G

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 159 individual (adult) trainees attended Bikeability • 35 school sessions were held, enabling 382 children to receive cycle training. 	
4b	Improve air quality and health outcomes by emissions based permit parking where high emission cars pay more.	Complete	Emissions based permit parking has now been implemented and is a working policy.	C
4c	The council will pay £200 to residents who do not have a car and surrender their parking permit.	Ongoing	This service continues.	G
4d	Provide electric car infrastructure by providing electric vehicle charging points.	Ongoing	There are four electric vehicle charging points (EVCPs) in Brent's public car parks. Two further charging points are to be installed by the end of 2012. It is anticipated that there will be a total of eight EVCPs in Brent by early 2013.	G
4e	Promote car clubs.	Ongoing	Car clubs are widely promoted in the borough and are available at many locations.	G
4f	Make it easy to travel in a way that is sustainable, safe and efficient.	Ongoing	Recent public transport improvements in the borough include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new sustainable transport map available by end 2012 • The infrequent and unreliable PR2 was withdrawn • The 206 now runs to Wembley Park to serve the Civic Centre and route 223 was amended to take it closer to the Civic Centre • Following completion of TfL/London Underground's Jubilee Line upgrade at the end of 2011, there are now up to 30 trains per hour • New air-conditioned trains on the Metropolitan Line • Wembley Central station became step-free (7th out of 29). 	G
4g	Provide new sustainable transport facilities, such as cycle parking.	Ongoing	47 new cycle parking stands (94 spaces) installed in the Kensal Rise cycle hub and designs completed for an additional 53 cycle parking stands (106 spaces) to be installed during 2012-13.	G

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4h	To deliver free cycle training for Brent's residents for three years.	Ongoing	See Update 4a.	G
4i	Publish travel advice on the council's website.	Ongoing	This information is widely available on the council website and Visit Wembley Visit Brent website.	G
4j	Improve the public realm to make walking more attractive.	Ongoing	New pedestrian way-finding signage implemented in the Neasden area to better guide visitors to the Hindu (Mandir) Temple. 36 new signs introduced without adding any additional posts, keeping in line with Brent's Placemaking Guide. 'Legible London' pedestrian way-finding signage introduced along Wembley Central-Wembley Park corridor.	G
4k	Assist and support school travel plans.	Ongoing	This service continues. Information is made available on the website and via the Brent Transportation team.	G
4l	Assist and support business travel plans.	Ongoing	This service continues. Information is made available on the website and via the Brent Transportation team.	G
4m	Consult residents and businesses on improving the Grand Union Canal environment around Alperton.	Complete	Consulted residents and businesses when producing the Alperton Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document. Developments adjacent to the Canal will be required to improve the canal frontage. All the new developments proposed so far have identified the canal as an asset and attraction.	C
4n	The council provides an Animal Welfare Service that will educate, encourage and enforce responsible animal/dog ownership.	Ongoing	Achievements during 2011-12 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 dogs were microchipped • Six patrols were undertaken by BARK (Brent Action for Responsible K9s), London's first multi agency approach to tackle dangerous dogs and irresponsible dog owners • A Dog Control Order was introduced in 2012, limiting the number of dogs able to be taken into open spaces by one person to a maximum of six, and setting out areas of the borough's open spaces where dogs must be kept on a lead. 	G

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In October 2011 Brent Council was awarded RSPCA Gold footprint award for procedures for dealing with stray dogs. 	
4o	In partnership with Mayhew Animal Home provide free neutering for bull breeds and low cost neutering for all other breeds to prevent over-population of dogs.	Ongoing	The Council has given out 20 low-cost neutering vouchers since October 2011.	G
4p	Provide free poop scoops to encourage dog owners to clean up after their dogs.	Closed	The Council handed out 100 free bags. This project is now closed.	C
4q	To undertake regular hot spot dog fouling areas and educate owners and where necessary enforce fixed penalty notices.	Ongoing	The Council carried out 75 patrols and will continue to check hot spot areas.	G
4r	Provide free reward packs to those owners seen clearing up their dog's mess.	Ongoing	The Council has rewarded four owners so far.	G
4s	Provide educational events in Parks about animal/dog ownership.	Ongoing	The Council has held 20 events, including three BARK patrols (Brent Action for Responsible K9s) and events with the Mayhew Animal Home in Brent Parks, offering free microchipping and neutering.	G

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5.	Sustainable Food & Purchasing By purchasing fresh, local, seasonal food and other goods that have been produced in a sustainable way we can reduce the environmental impact of production, transportation and purchasing, and improve our health.			G
5a	The council will explore the issue of food growing in Brent.	Ongoing	Brent's Food Growing and Allotments Strategy was introduced in September 2012. The aims of the strategy are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide efficiently managed allotment sites that provide good value for money and are accessible to all • develop and broaden the range of food growing opportunities available through increased partnership working • promote benefits of food growing as part of a healthy lifestyle. Achieved closer working relationships with food growing groups such as Transition Towns and the Brent Sustainability Forum.	G
5b	The Council provides allotments to residents and local groups.	Ongoing	The Food Growing and Allotment policy was recently ratified and the action plan is being implemented.	G
5c	Commit to provide and improve allotments or other food growing projects, including a survey on the use of allotments.	Ongoing	Brent's Allotment Strategy promotes a range of food growing opportunities accessible to all parts of the community.	G
5d	Provide information sessions on growing your own food in an urban setting through the Brent Sustainability Forum.	Ongoing	The Forum has run a programme on growing your own food with its partner 'Capital Growth'. Information is available on the Brent Council website and www.sustainablebrent.org.uk .	G
5e	Promote Farmers' market events.	Ongoing	Information on Farmers markets are provided on the Brent Council website.	G
5f	The council supports the Brent Fairtrade Network (BFN). The Council has produced a food sustainability	Ongoing	BFN is provided with premises for meetings. A Scrutiny Committee Task Group was set up to assist the Brent Fairtrade Network in its work. Fairtrade Borough status was awarded to Brent in March 2012.	G

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	checklist and only buys Fairtrade tea, coffee, milk, sugar, fruit for council meetings and events.		A fairtrade art display made up of over 1,000 bottle tops was unveiled at Kensal Green in October 2012, to show Brent's commitment to Fairtrade and celebrate its status as a Fairtrade Borough. Pre-qualification questionnaires request information from suppliers on Fairtrade when applicable. All staff are required to serve Fairtrade products for all internal and external meetings. Fair trade coffee and tea available at Willesden and Vale Farm Sports Centres. Fairtrade food will be sold in all outlets in the new Civic Centre.	
5g	Promote Fairtrade events throughout the borough.	Ongoing	Fairtrade is widely promoted, through stalls at community events, talks at Westminster University campus, special events during Fairtrade Fortnight, and the commissioning of a Fairtrade artwork.	G
5h	The council implemented the Wellbeing and Healthy Living Strategy.	Ongoing	Following the update of the Brent Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), a revised Health and Wellbeing Strategy has been developed (http://www.brent.gov.uk/localdemocracy.nsf/JSNA/LBB-425). A new action plan for the strategy is also to be written.	G
5i	Provide information on healthy living via the Council's website.	Ongoing	A link to an NHS website on healthy eating is provided on the council's website.	G
5j	The Council offers evening cooking classes via BACES in order to enable residents to learn basic skills in this area.	Closed	This project has now come to an end.	C
5k	The Council supports the Brent Sustainability Forum to help raise the profile of sustainability across the borough.	Ongoing	The Brent Sustainability Forum meets quarterly and focuses on key areas: sustainable transport, waste and recycling, energy efficiency, food growing and water efficiency. In 2011, the group created its own interactive website www.sustainablebrent.org.uk . The group continues to enable residents to engage with environmental issues in Brent and surrounding boroughs.	G

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5l	The council replaced bottled water dispensers with mains water in public areas of council offices.	Complete	The project is complete.	C
5m	Sustainable purchasing of material for the construction of the Civic Centre.	Complete	Sustainably sourced building materials were used during the construction phase of the Civic Centre (e.g. the concrete mix used in the building (50 per cent ground granulated blast furnace slag with Portland cement) will give a 33 per cent reduction of embodied CO2. The saving of 2392 tonnes of embodied CO2 is calculated to be the equivalent to nearly seven years' operation of the building.	C
5n	The council only purchases peat free products.	Ongoing	This policy remains in place.	G

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6. Sustainable Water We face the threats of increased flooding, and a scarcity of drinking water in the near future. To address these, we need to be aware of and respond to flood risks, and use water more efficiently.				A
6a	The council considers flood risks for any infrastructure, building or transportation work.	Ongoing	<p>Brent Council works with partners such as the Environment Agency and Thames Water to alleviate flooding in high risk areas.</p> <p>The Council has developed a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Severe weather plan • Multi-Agency Flood Plan • Flood plan for the Welsh Harp and aqueduct. <p>These all run as annexes to our Major Incident Plan, all of which are currently being updated.</p> <p>When designing new highway schemes, consideration is given</p>	G

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			to installing permeable paving instead of traditional block paving or tarmac, and introducing landscaped areas and trees for rain water to absorb into ground.	
6b	Reduce flood risk by keeping urban areas green and reduce drought risk by using plants that are drought resistant.	Ongoing	When designing new highway schemes, consideration is given to installing permeable paving instead of traditional block paving or tarmac, and introducing landscaped areas and trees for rain water to absorb into ground and replenish water table. Tree planting and urban greening are included in planning conditions for housing and commercial developments. Parks use drought-resistant plants in their flower beds.	G
6c	When planning new buildings, incorporate SuDS (sustainable urban drainage systems) whenever possible.	Ongoing	All new developments will be required to submit sustainable drainage details from October 2013.	A
6d	Tackle local flooding and watercourse pollution.	Ongoing	Waste water from properties must not be connected to surface water system. Inform residents about flooding and water pollution via local papers and Brent Magazine.	G
6e	Use water more efficiently.	Ongoing	Tap water is used increasingly at meetings. Push taps have been installed in toilets in numerous council buildings to reduce water wastage. The Civic Centre will have the following sustainable measures relating to water: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low flow aerated or spray taps for wash basins • Dual flush toilets • Urinals will be waterless or fitted with presence detectors • Showers with a flow rate of less than 9 litres/min or less • Sub-metering • Rainwater storage tank to use in flushing WCs and for irrigation. 	G

Task No	Details	Due Date	Achievements so far	RAG
7.	Sustainable Land use and Wildlife It is important to ensure that land is used for social and economic development that recognises, protects and enhances the value of the natural environment, so that it can continue to be enjoyed and benefited from by future generations.			G
7a	The council preserves and enhances Brent's existing parks and open spaces and aims to increase these as opportunities become available.	Ongoing	The following developments have taken place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drought resistant plants mean plants will survive during dry summers. • Brent Council was awarded eight Green Flags in 2011, compared to just two in 2008. • Brent won four awards at the London in Bloom Awards 2012: gold for Mapesbury Dell in the Small Park of the Year Award; silver gilt for Fryent Country Park in the Country Park Award; third prize in the prestigious Biodiversity Award and silver gilt and second place in the Large City Award category. 	G
7b	The council conserves and enhances biodiversity	Ongoing	The council assesses its 62 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs). Since 2011, the percentage of sites in an improved condition increased from 66% to 67.7%	G
7c	Make sure the planning system protects and enhances open spaces and biodiversity and does all it can to protect and promote trees and woodland and promoting wildlife.	Ongoing	A Sustainability Checklist has been created and is being applied for planning projects. This list is updated regularly.	G
7d	Support and fund the work of the Welsh Harp Environmental Education Centre.	Ongoing	External funding has been secured to enhance the current programme. The council has funded improved facilities at the centre.	G
7e	Protect our SSSI (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) at Welsh Harp, and our local nature reserves such as Fryent Park.	Ongoing	The Brent Reservoir was assessed as being in a good condition by Natural England in July 2011, with a good number of breeding birds on both the open water and the lowland fens.	G
7f	Create wildlife corridors where possible (e.g. Fryent Park to Roe Green Park and along railway lines).	Ongoing	Wildlife corridors are part of the planning strategy together with urban greening.	G

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Task No	Details	Due Date	Achievements so far	RAG
7g	Brent Council is a member of the Pesticide Action Network and has reduced its own pesticide use to a bare minimum.	Ongoing	The council's policy of reduced pesticide use is being adhered to.	G
7h	Greater biodiversity and open spaces contribute to improved environmental quality and wellbeing.	Ongoing	New urban spaces, such as a park in Chalkhill, have been created.	G
7i	The council's parks contribute to improved air quality, both locally and globally.	Ongoing	Parks used sustainable planting (use of perennials and drought-resistant plants) in 2012 to help combat climate change. Vegetation improves the air quality locally and contributes to reducing global CO2.	G
7j	Parks provide walking routes for local journeys.	Ongoing	Brent Council is encouraging people to walk rather than use motorised transport, in order to reduce carbon emissions and to create a healthier population.	G
7k	Brent in Bloom.	Ongoing	Brent in Bloom is held annually, giving local people the opportunity to show off their gardening skills and to make the borough more attractive	G