

STIMULATING A GREEN RECOVERY

GREEN RECOVERY BOARD - TUESDAY 23RD JUNE 2020

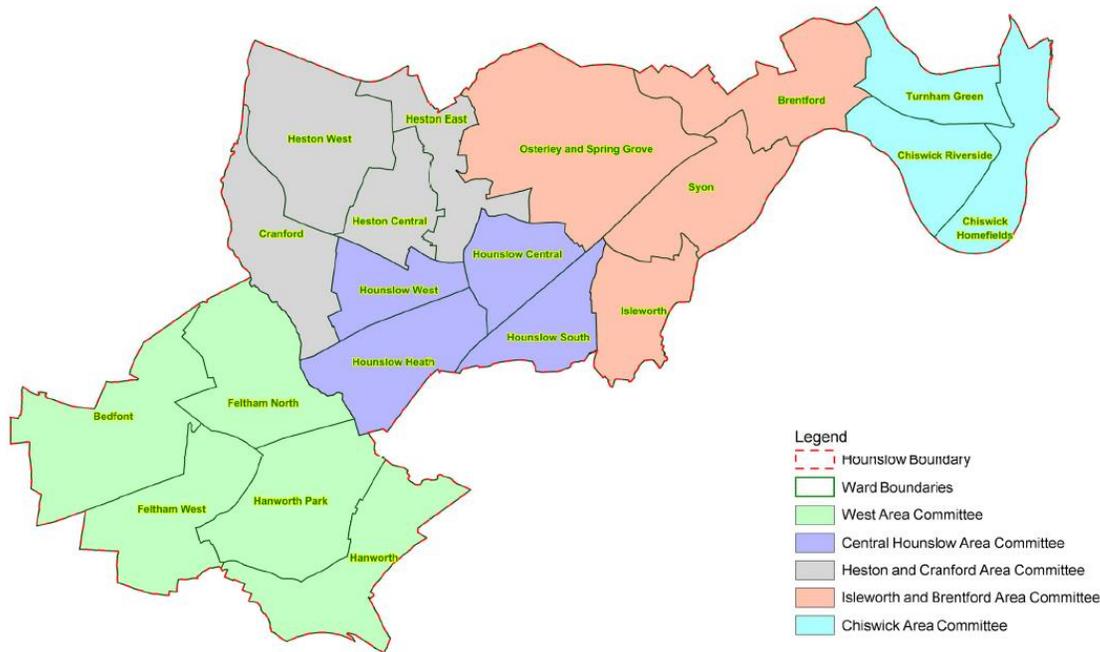


London Borough
of Hounslow

Purpose

- ▶ To inform the Board of the work being undertaken by the Council to understand the economic, ecological, social and community impacts and implications of Covid19 on Hounslow.
- ▶ To understand the importance of ensuring that the Green Recovery is at the forefront of addressing the economic impacts.
- ▶ To assess:
 - ▶ What we know so far,
 - ▶ Where the gaps are and the further analysis that is being commissioned to address the gaps,
 - ▶ The short term wins,
 - ▶ The spaces where we can create innovation and lead in this field; and
 - ▶ The timescales for future actions.
- ▶ To discuss the way forward from here.

Introducing Hounslow



- ▶ The London Borough of Hounslow, geographically situated in outer West London,
- ▶ Is a large borough covering 22 square miles and stretches from Chiswick in the east to Heathrow Airport, the international gateway to London, in the west.
- ▶ The local areas and communities are very different in character and there is a continuing need to plan and cater for the different needs and demands across the different areas of the borough.
- ▶ 5 area committees (West area, Heston and Cranford, Central Hounslow, Isleworth and Brentford and Chiswick) providing a mechanism for engaging with local residents at an area level and providing community leadership, reflecting the demographic and geographic diversity of Hounslow.
- ▶ The borough's population in 2001 was 212,341 (ONS 2001 census). But is now around 270,000.
- ▶ The population is multi-racial and multi-cultural and includes one of the largest Asian communities in London.

Background

▶ BEFORE LOCKDOWN

- ▶ Hounslow declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019.
- ▶ In January 2020 published a draft Climate Emergency Action Plan and adopted the Greener Borough Framework - essentially a strategy for bringing together all aspects of our efforts to create a greener more attractive borough and tackle climate change and environmental degeneration.

▶ COVID19

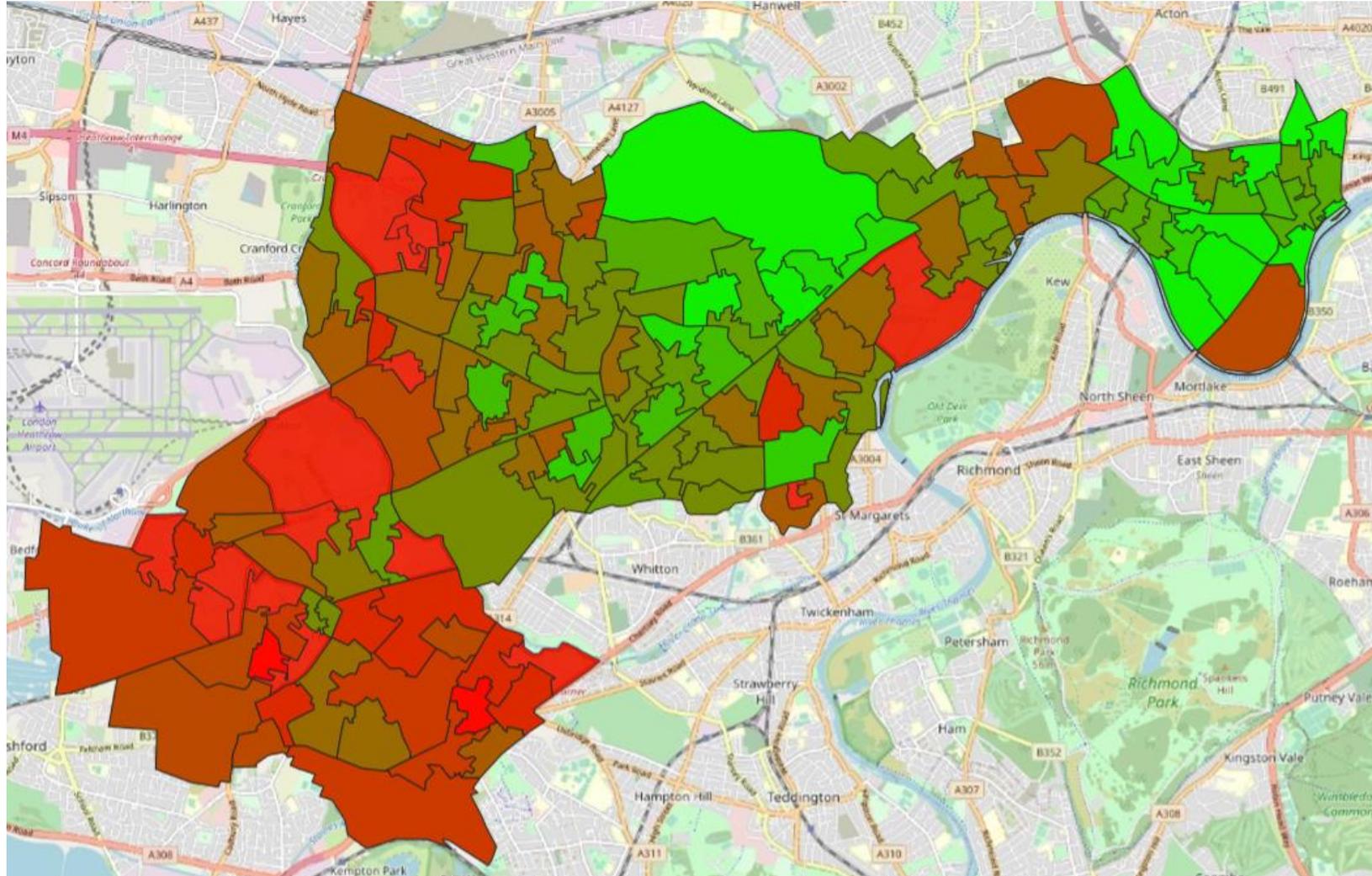
- ▶ The Coronavirus pandemic has obviously taken much focus since February, however, as Hounslow looks to how it can recover from the crisis, the green agenda and green recovery is a key opportunity the borough wants to seize.
- ▶ There is now the requirement to move at great pace given the recent Covid 19 challenges and in recognition of Hounslow's place as the lead for London on the Green Recovery and Green Economy.

Context – The Broad Economic Impacts of Covid 19

- ▶ Coronavirus has significantly affected all parts of the economy and resident population in Hounslow. The Office of Budget Responsibility have indicated that potential for a fall in GDP of 35%.
- ▶ The impact is starting to show, with a 27.4% increase in the number of residents in the borough receiving Universal Credit between February and April 2020.
- ▶ The economic effects are, however, still uncertain. The Council has commissioned a detail analysis to provide an evidence base on the impact on residents and businesses.
- ▶ National forecasts suggest a relatively quick recovery, but we should expect a long tail of impacts on business survival, business performance and unemployment levels.
- ▶ If there is a second wave, the outlook is considerably worse.

Wider implications of Covid 19 – Most vulnerable places

The map below shows which areas of the borough are most vulnerable to the impacts of Coronavirus and the related recession. The most vulnerable areas have high proportions of businesses impacted and concentrations of residents with lower skills and insecure employment.



Red areas of the map show communities with low skilled residents and businesses highly impacted by Coronavirus

- Most vulnerable
- Vulnerable
- Least vulnerable

Understanding the Environmental impacts of Covid 19 - positives

▶ **Improvements in air quality**

Air pollution levels down by 20%. Deaths attributed to air quality are down.

▶ **Reduced passenger journeys: air, train, tube and bus**

UK's daily CO2 emissions have gone down by 36% since restrictions started. 85% reduction in public transport usage.

▶ **Reduced Noise Pollution**

Linked improvements in wellbeing, stress related disorders and health implications. Est annual social cost (health and amenity impacts) of urban road noise in England is £7 to 10 billion. This places it at a similar magnitude to road accidents (£9 billion).

▶ **Increases in cycling and walking**

Cities reporting 100%+ increases in recent weeks. Active travel is a valuable form of physical activity. Cost of obesity related diseases for example to NHS in Hounslow estimated to be >£67m/year.

▶ **Flora/Fauna**

Anecdotal evidence that flora and fauna species diversity has increased across our countryside sites, parks and open spaces.

▶ **Increases in local journeys**

Anecdotal local patronage growth for local businesses increase in biodiversity. Less congestion on the network raises productivity of distribution activities. Congestion costs UK economy around £8bn/year in lost productivity. Behavioural change

▶ **Behaviour Change (Non Transport)**

Drop in litter, disorder and crime

▶ **Increases in Recycling**

Food Waste Recycling has increased by an average of 0.5kg per household per collection and recycling of materials anticipated as 10% increase.

▶ **Streetspace and School Streets**

Increasing space for walking and cycling across Hounslow. More "school streets" (allotted time for resident-only access outside school gates to reduce congestion) have been introduced while bus lane hours across the borough are being extended to 24/7. This will help ensure more space for those people, including key workers, who are cycling on the borough's main roads to access jobs and services.

Understanding the Environmental impacts of Covid 19 - Challenges

- ▶ **Expected increase in private transport usage**

Forecast significant increases in private transport use as lockdown eases, as a consequence of a shift away from public transport, leading to increased pollution, congestion and less physical activity being undertaken as part of daily travel.

- ▶ **Expected increases in air quality and congestion**

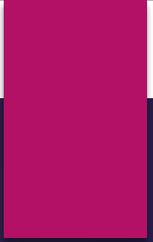
Funding for sustainable transport schemes under question. TfL funding has recently been largely withdrawn for 20/21. Significant problem in west London given twin drivers of Heathrow and gateway to central London + substantial local economy.

- ▶ **Low confidence in public transport**

Huge reduction in public transport use. Public transport capacity reduced to 20% of normal by need to provide for social distancing.

- ▶ **Increased residual waste disposal**

Anticipated 20% increase in Household Waste



Stimulating a Green Recovery

Stimulating a Green Recovery

- ▶ Climate change and sustainability must be one of the key principles for recovery and renewal
- ▶ Bold and ambitious plans needed to support the wider consequences from COVID-19 in Hounslow
- ▶ Public polling suggests that there would be strong resident support for a green recovery. Less than 1 in 10 want to return to the 'old normal', and more than half want to see climate change as a core priority in the recovery

Strong foundations for recovery

▶ The Climate Emergency and the Greener Borough Framework

- ▶ Renewable energy efficiency
- ▶ Transition to electric mobility and fleet
- ▶ Sustainable employee/public transport
- ▶ Investing in and integrating Green Infrastructure
- ▶ Waste Reduction and Recycling
- ▶ Culture change and governance
- ▶ Stimulate Green Economy and Sustainable investment
- ▶ Retrofit Hounslow
- ▶ Develop net zero lifestyles
- ▶ Growing Biodiversity

Tackling Climate Emergency and cleaning our air		Greener Borough - Enhancing our Green Spaces, Greening Urban Areas and Enhancing Biodiversity		Creating a Green Economy and using less	
Achieve Net Zero emissions by 2030	Achieve compliance with EU limit values for clean air as soon as possible	Over 50% of Hounslow Green To plant one Tree/Shrub for every child born in the borough	All Nature Conservation sites (SINCs) are being actively managed. Enhanced management trialled at five key sites	To build awareness of the green economy and develop green economic growth in the borough	Achieve 65% recycling rate by 2030 through creating the circular economy
Climate Emergency Action Plan (Approved Dec 2019)	Air Quality Action Plan (approved Sept 18)	Green Infrastructure Plan (Autumn 2020) Greening the borough Action Plan (Summer 2020)	Biodiversity Action Plan (Summer 2020)	Green Economy Action plan (Summer 2020)	Waste Reduction and Recycling Action plan (Approved by GLA Feb 2020)



Strong Foundations - Established Outcomes

GREEN ECONOMY

- Low carbon development
- Supporting our businesses e.g. reduce energy bills, active travel increase efficiency and circularity
- Circular Economy
- Green aviation
- Green business
- Green growth funding
- "Destination" Hounslow

SOCIAL & CULTURE DEVELOPMENT

- Upskilling, green skills and training for community benefits digital, social capital building
- Inclusive growth
- Green energy, fuel, food supply
- Green procurement & supply chains
- Culture Partnership and Green culture development
- Health and Wellbeing

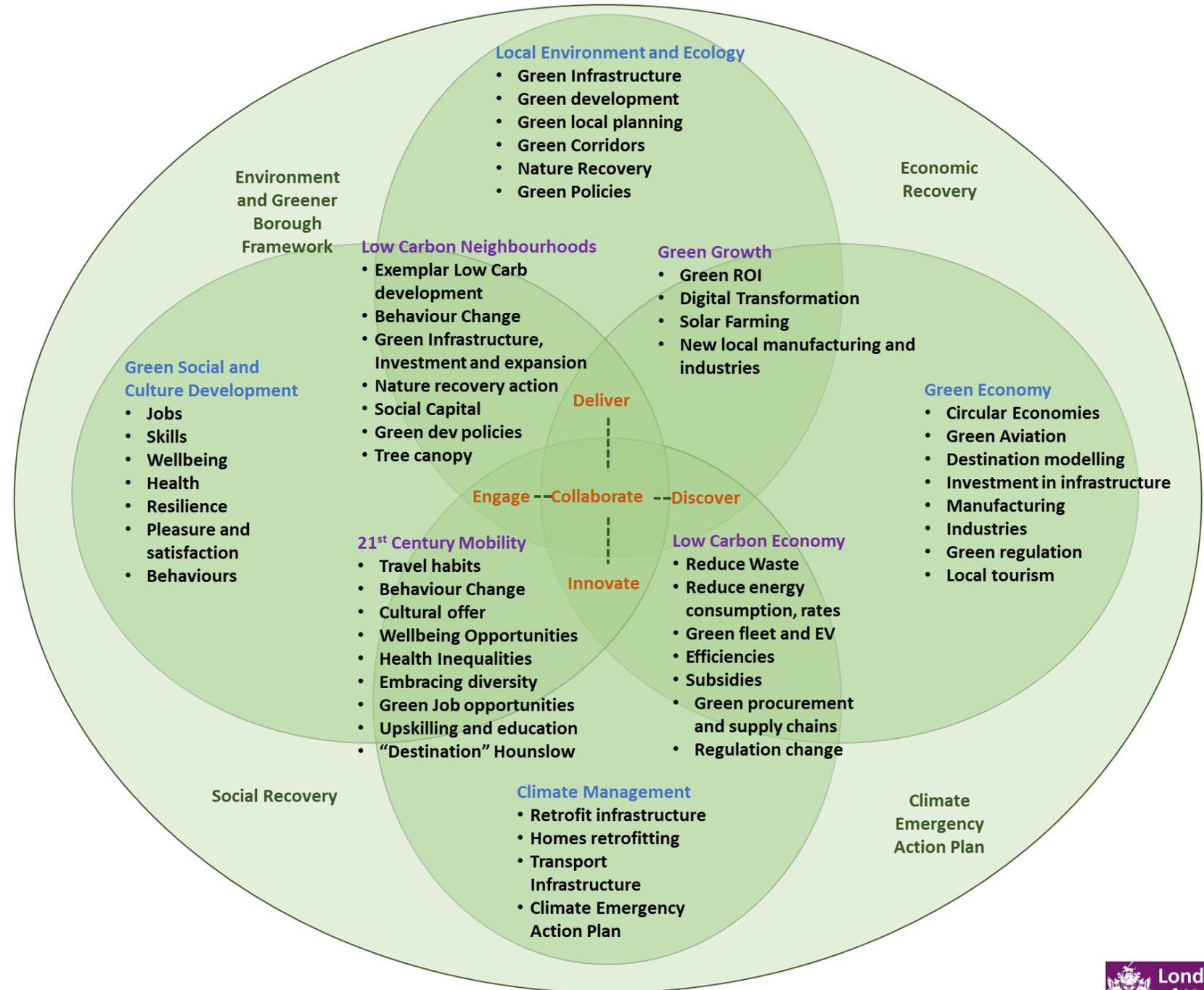
LOCAL ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

- 50% of Hounslow Green
- Green Infrastructure Centre of Excellence and exemplar development
- Reduce consumption, reuse, recycle to 65%
- Parks for London and Urban Greening
- Green corridors
- Behaviour change

EFFECTIVE CLIMATE MANAGEMENT

- Net Zero by 2030
- Invest in homes: retrofit, energy efficiency
- Reduce consumption, reuse, recycle to 65%
- Parks for London and Urban Greening
- Low carbon transport and green routes
- Behaviour change
- EV charging
- Road environment e.g. wider roads, eco-highways

Bold
Ambitious



Discovery

Low Carbon Neighbourhoods

Low Carbon Economy

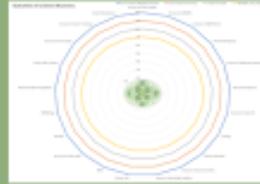
Green Growth

Mobility for 21st Century

Ideas for the Approach

DISCOVERY Space

- Discovery Team
- Discover Unmet Need
- Data Modelling, Predictive Analytics, Intelligence forming
- Networking
- Green Recovery (London and National)



INNOVATION Space

- Innovation Labs (iLABS)
- Innovation Incubation
- Hypothesis Formulation and Validation
- Rapid Iterations
- Send to Delivery



COLLABORATE Space

- Green Recovery and Economy Task Force
- Cleaner/Greener, Climate, Culture Task Forces and Networks
- Community Reference Groups

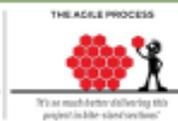
ENGAGEMENT Space

- Defining Customers
- Virtual POP Up Innovation Space (For all Stakeholders)
- Green Recovery Blogs – Discovery, Delivery, Innovation
- Citizen Space
- Area Forums and Consultation
- Conversation



DELIVERY Space

- Agile Delivery
- Product Backlog Creation
- Sprint Backlog Creation





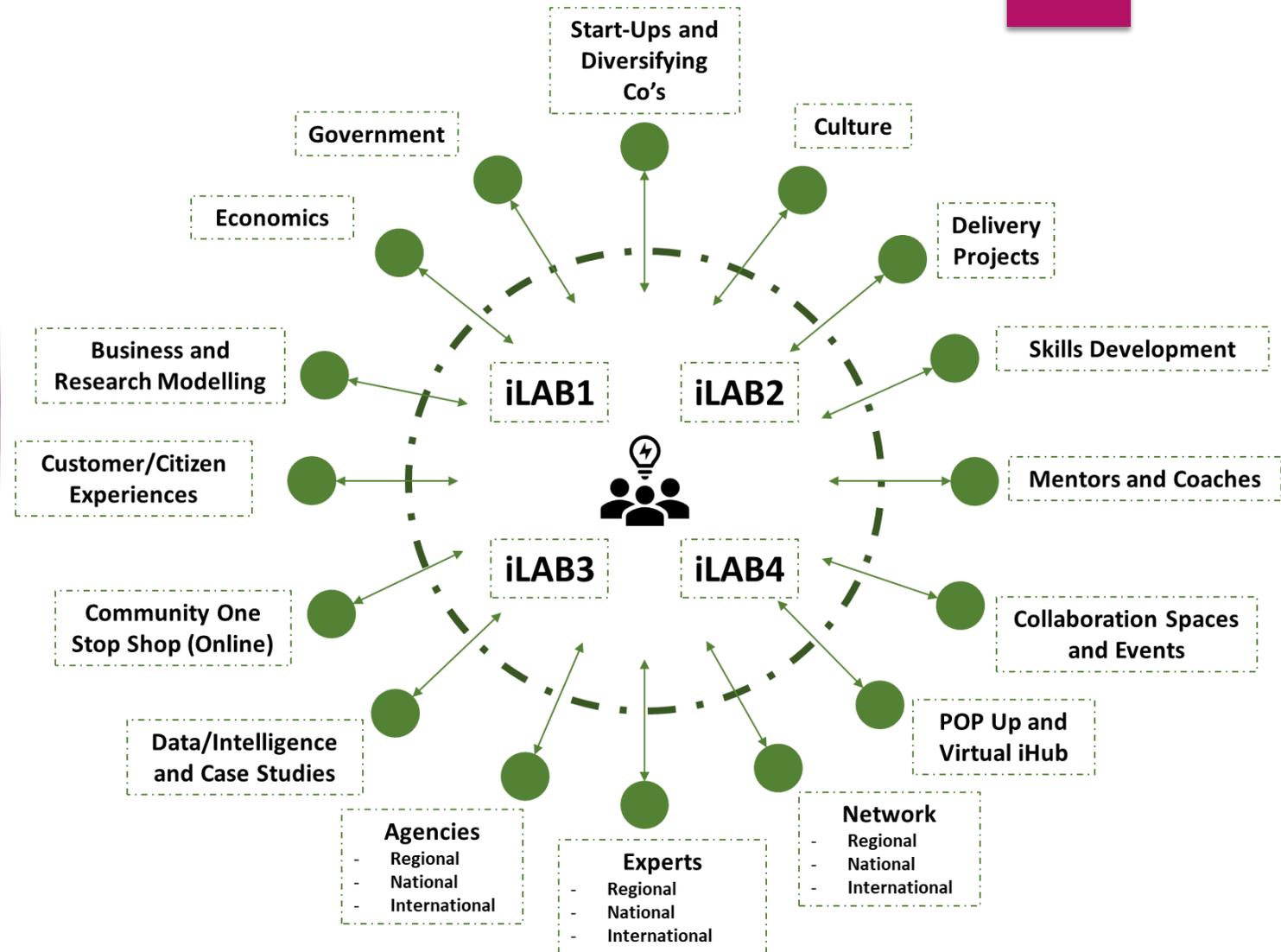
What further discovery is required and what further insights are available from your respective fields?

Where shall we collectively prioritise our next steps to maximise impact?

Collaboration

The iHUB

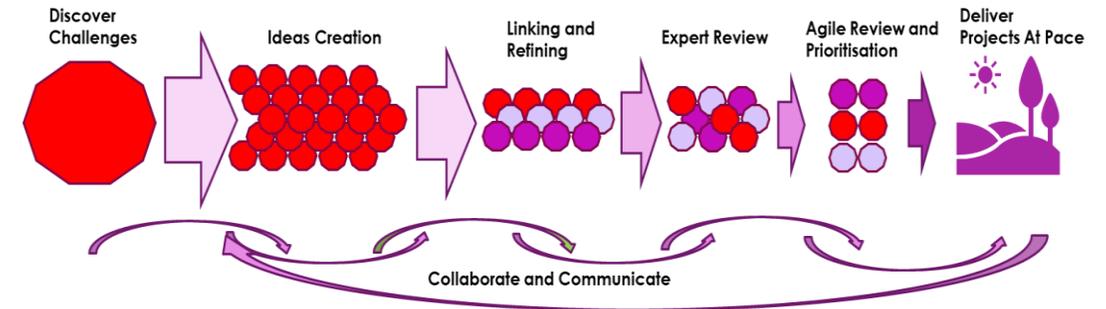
- ▶ Utilise collective intelligence of different individuals, teams, organisations and provide a unique way of conversing with our plethora of stakeholders
- ▶ Enable new insights to be captured and formed, new ideas to be incubated and innovative solutions to be found
- ▶ Proactive way to engage, converse and feedback on the actions that form; demonstrating equitable progress based on inputs



Innovation

Our aim is to stimulate the innovation needed to deliver systemic change that helps nature and our economy recover for the benefit of all and our communities, recognising the solutions to some of these issues are new.....

Our iLABs are spaces, virtual or otherwise, where discovery happens, ideas are **examined** and **incubated**, where these new ideas are developed into tangible solutions. **Solutions** are then **developed and spring boarded** into tangible deliverables that physically deliver a green recovery



iLAB 1:- Low Carbon Neighbourhoods

- **Objectives** - Establish new approaches to behaviour change, building social capital, investment in neighbourhoods and green expansion; creating agile projects and seeing through to delivery.

iLAB 2:- Low Carbon Economy

- **Objectives** - Transform local industries and economy, building new local economies such as solar farming and EV, creating and expanding local circular economies, creating new forms of seed funding new businesses; creating agile projects and seeing through to delivery.

iLAB 3:- 21st Century Mobility

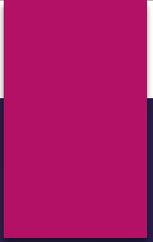
- **Objectives** - Establish new approaches to building educational opportunities and upskilling, putting Hounslow on the destination map, reducing health inequalities, servicing new green economies, maximising the benefits of diversity, transforming travel habits; creating agile projects and seeing through to delivery.

iLAB 4:- Green Growth

- **Objectives** - Establish new approaches to maximising ROI in green infrastructure, maximising digital transformation, breaking down regulatory barriers to growth; creating agile projects and seeing through to delivery.

Funding Innovation

- ▶ To create a Green Recovery Innovation Fund of £250,000, funded from the Council's Environment Fund delegated to the Executive Director of Environment, Culture and Customer Services to prototype projects as arising from the Council's Green Recovery and Climate Emergency activities.
- ▶ Each will require support to progress and by undertaking initial prototyping will maximise value for money and minimise the risk of abortive cost.
- ▶ The Council needs to be **bold and ambitious** in how it responds to the climate emergency and how it develops a green recovery
- ▶ The fund will support innovations that enable us to advance more quickly in trialling, testing and piloting initiatives. It will support us to advance the Climate Emergency Action Plan in line with the Corporate Plan and pledges.

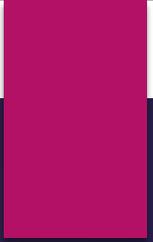


How can we collaborate?

How can we collectively maximise
output and benefits from our
iHUB and iLABs?

Engagement

- ▶ We believe that the community are at the heart of delivering a Green Recovery
- ▶ A large number of people have expressed a strong desire to be involved
- ▶ We have environmental focus groups of residents with broad environmental skills and knowledge.
- ▶ We are committed to delivering a high-quality environment and green infrastructure for Hounslow that is shaped by in-depth engagement with residents to understand their needs, culture and customs.
- ▶ We need to foster and galvanise assistance from communities in delivering the scale of transformation required.
- ▶ We need to engage our communities in developing ideas for delivery and for encouraging their active participation in managing solutions.



How do we galvanise our
communities to best support a
green recovery?

Next steps - timeline

Immediate focus

- Understand impacts further
- Immediate support provision
- Engage with consultants
- Review of local data during the pandemic on the environment, emissions and air quality
- Develop priorities to maximise impact
- Working with Centre for London and LEDNet to fully understand the short, medium and long-term impacts of this crisis on local transport in London

2-4 months focus

- Agree interventions and green economy strategy
- Mapping of current provision to areas of need
- Green infrastructure discovery complete and action plans out for consultation
- Develop green economy framework
- New culture partnership task force in operation
- Discovering the Value of our Green Infrastructure
- Modelling Cost Benefits of the Green Economy

4-12 months focus

- Support to minimise impact of the withdrawal of Government schemes
- Funding sources identified and utilised
- Tangible new jobs, apprenticeships and training opportunities created.
- Implementation of agreed interventions especially those ready or easy to repurpose
- Implement action plans: Nature recovery
- Nature recovery
- Tree planting – 5000 new trees
- Masterplans for green travel and green infrastructure expansion

12+ months focus

- Interventions to support longer term structural changes
- Interventions to maximise opportunities for all
- Collective focus on sustainable and inclusive green recovery and growth
- Low carbon development policies and retrofiting
- Renewable power for Hounslow
- Reduce consumption emissions
- Creating a London Green Centre of Excellence in Hounslow
- Continued sustainable delivery of plans