



CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

THIRD ANNUAL UPDATE REPORT – SUMMARY



In July 2020, our 10-year Climate Emergency Action Plan set out our ambition to achieve ‘net zero’ carbon emissions by 2030 – across Council operations. The plan also sets out our intention to work with residents and stakeholders to influence wider borough emissions. This document is the third annual update setting out the progress made to date on delivering the plan.

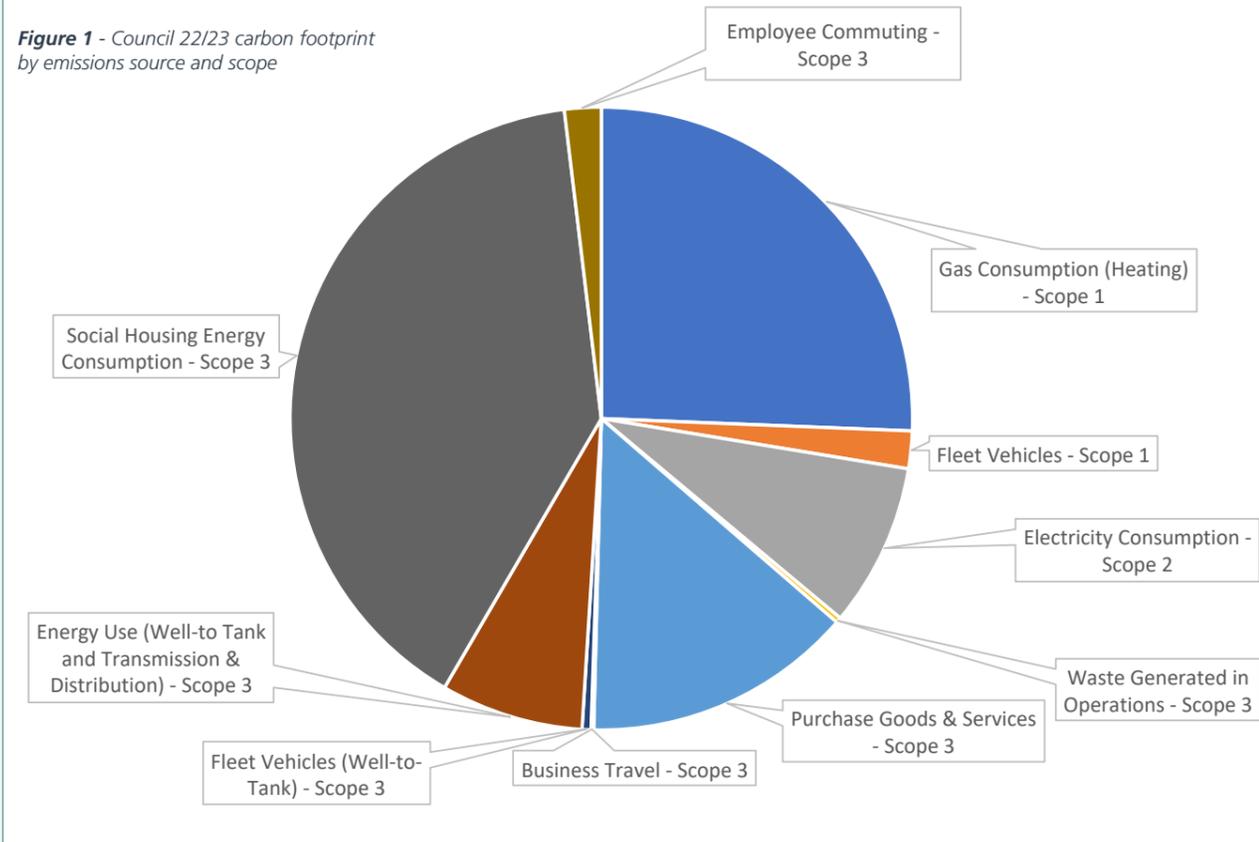
HOUNSLOW COUNCIL'S CARBON FOOTPRINT

Hounslow Council's carbon footprint for 2022/23 is **65,150 tonnes CO₂e.**

Hounslow Council's carbon footprint has reduced by 10% in total since its baseline year of 2018/19, and reduced by 8% since last year (2021/22). This is a result of renewable electricity generation and the retrofit works to decarbonise Council buildings.

Hounslow Council 22/23 Carbon Footprint

Figure 1 - Council 22/23 carbon footprint by emissions source and scope



Retrofit works to Council Buildings



The Council has secured a total of £23.1m from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ). Hounslow Council has undertaken retrofits on 60+ properties since the 2021/22 reporting period. The measures installed under PSDS will result in a CO₂ emissions reduction of 3,363 tonnes and an annual electricity savings of more than 17.5m kilowatts.

Retrofitting involves insulating buildings, improving efficiency of heating systems, and opting for electric and renewable sources of energy wherever possible. Through retrofitting these properties, total energy consumption has decreased by 23%.

Onsite Renewable Electricity Generation



The installation of onsite renewables is a key step to reducing both reliance and strain on the National Grid. As of 2022/23, Hounslow Council has an installed solar PV at 50 sites.

In 2022/23, the first full year of their operation, these sites have generated 3.5m kWh of electricity, saving of 910 tonnes CO₂e. As a result, Hounslow is now generating 18% of its electricity, an increase of 1% from last year.

WIDER BOROUGH CARBON FOOTPRINT

In 2021, the wider borough emissions totalled 1,014.4 kilo tonnes per year. See figure 2 for breakdown of wider borough emissions.

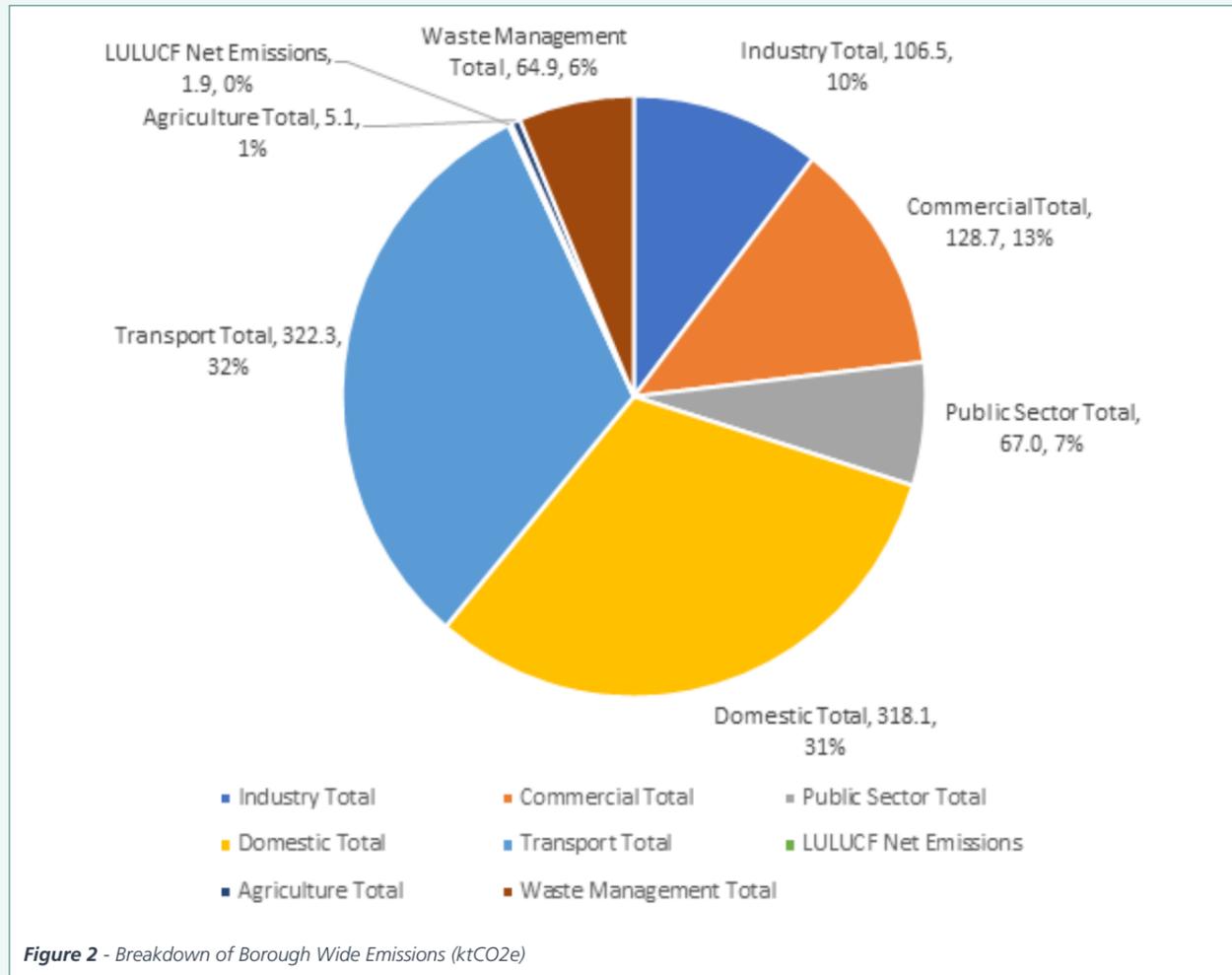


Figure 3 illustrates that compared to 2020 (Pandemic Year), emissions across the borough have increased by 7.2%. This increase is seen across all sectors in London and is not specific to just Hounslow. However, when compared to 2019 levels, the borough wide carbon footprint has decreased by 8%.

DESNZ reports that the main driver of the increase in emissions in 2021 was largely due to Covid19 restrictions easing and colder temperatures increasing the use of heating in buildings. Regardless of the increase in emissions compared to 2020, we are on the right trajectory in terms of our CO2 emissions reduction (see dashed red line in figure two).

Annual Borough Wide Emissions (ktCO2e)

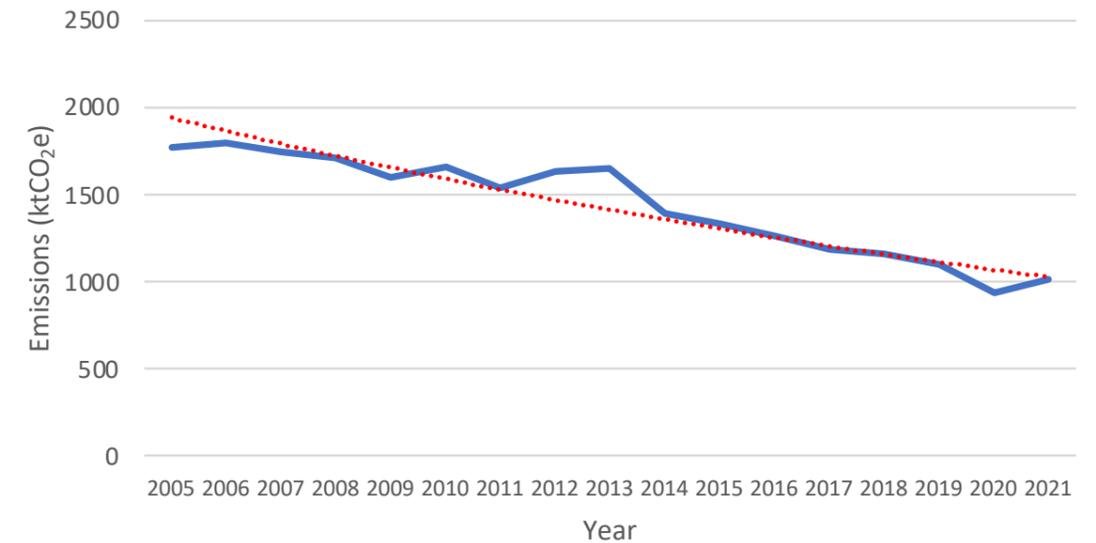


Figure 3

A SNAPSHOT OF PROGRESS MADE TO DATE



Retrofitting and decarbonisation of buildings and homes

- ✓ **£4.6M - AWARDED** from the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) to retrofit council owned stock.
- ✓ **£9.3M - INVESTED** by the Council in fabric first measures to improve energy efficiency of social housing.
- ✓ **62 TONNES – ESTIMATED CARBON SAVINGS** from installed cavity wall insulation in council owned assets.
- ✓ **45+ RESPONSES RECEIVED** for the Council's consultation on the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Supplementary Planning Document, released for consultation in June 2023 alongside the Character, Sustainability and Design SPD.
- ✓ **6 LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS AWARDED FUNDING** via the Hounslow Community Energy Fund to design and develop projects that will improve the energy efficiency of community buildings, with more funding to be awarded in 2023.
- ✓ **300+ ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES INSTALLED** in homes across the borough through the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme (GHG LAD).

A SNAPSHOT OF PROGRESS MADE TO DATE (CONTINUES)



Electrify the vehicle fleet

The Council has begun to roll out of the first phase of the fleet replacement programme.

- ✓ Hounslow Highways introduced a **FULLY ELECTRIC 7.2 TONNE CLEANSING VEHICLE** into its existing fleet of six other electric supervisor vans already in use. By the end of 2023, the electric fleet will grow massively with further additions including: one grab lorry, two graffiti vans, two Highways vehicles, and one additional cleansing van.
- ✓ **200 ELECTRIC AND HYBRID VEHICLES** being procured and leased to provide flexibility to change vehicles as electric vehicle technology and the charging infrastructure develops.



Sustainable transport

Promotion of active travel over the use of private vehicles and support of electric vehicle infrastructure is ongoing.



- ✓ In partnership with Peddle My Wheels, the Council is trialing a **NEW BOROUGH-WIDE E-BIKE RENTAL SCHEME**. This will help residents and businesses to utilise different forms of active travel and address bike ownership.
- ✓ **1,148 ADULTS TRAINED** via the Council's free cycle training.
- ✓ **1,568 CHILDREN TRAINED** via the Council's free cycle training.
- ✓ **475 ATTENDEES TRAINED** via the Council's all-ability training.



- ✓ **645+ BIKES REPAIRED** by Dr.Bike.
- ✓ **87 RESIDENTS** signed up for the 'TRY BEFORE YOU BUY' bike scheme.
- ✓ **180+ RESIDENTS CONSULTED** on the Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy which considers how the council can support the electrification of car club vehicles in the borough. Adopted in November 2022.
- ✓ **220 NEW RESIDENTIAL CHARGE POINTS** installed since 2021.
- ✓ **79 PUBLIC CHARGE POINTS** installed across the borough.
- ✓ **12 SCHOOL AIR QUALITY AUDITS CONDUCTED** across the Borough to assess air quality stressors affecting the children's health in and around the school gates. Audits will continue to be rolled out across Hounslow in the upcoming year.
- ✓ **27 SCHOOL STREETS** introduced across the borough since 2020 with a further ten due to be implemented by end of 2023.



Green Dragon School

- ✓ **£28,700 FUNDING** secured to deliver a **SCHOOL SUPERZONE** pilot at Green Dragon School to improve air quality and the health and wellbeing of pupils and families. A further £57k has been awarded to the Council to deliver a further two School Superzones at Rivers Academy and Westbrook Academy.

- ✓ **SEVEN NEIGHBOURHOOD PARCEL LOCKERS** installed within the three pilot postcode areas, with an additional 15 locations to be installed in early Autumn.



Waste Management

- ✓ Hounslow House recycling and waste minimisation plan has restarted. **FOOD WASTE RECYCLING HAS BEEN INTRODUCED** in Hounslow House on 6th floor, members area and Coffee Republic.



Heston in the Loop

- ✓ This Spring, the Council launched the **HESTON IN THE LOOP** circular economy behavioural change campaign.
- ✓ **24,000 FLATTED HOUSEHOLDS** that now have access to **COMMUNAL FOOD WASTE RECYCLING** service, a total of 75% of all purpose-built flats in the borough. The roll out will continue to 100% of purpose built in the borough (c. 8,000 properties) by end of 2023.
- ✓ **738.5 TONNES FOOD DIVERTED TO ANAEROBIC DIGESTION**, a direct saving of £67k in disposal costs to date.

A SNAPSHOT OF PROGRESS MADE TO DATE (CONTINUES)



Employment and Skills

- ✓ The **GREEN ECONOMY ACTION PLAN** was adopted in June of 2022.
- ✓ London Borough of Hounslow has supported launch of the **LONDON WEST INNOVATION NETWORK (LWIN)** which officially commenced activities in early 2023.
- ✓ **10 HOUNSLOW RESIDENTS TRAINED VIA THE COUNCIL'S GREEN SKILLS BOOTCAMP** focusing on land management and arboriculture to provide training, work experience and guaranteed interviews for employment. Further bootcamps to be run in 2023.



London West Innovation Network



Community Engagement

- The Greener and Climate and Clean Air Community Reference Group were refreshed and relaunched in Summer 2022, along with a Youth Climate Action Network which will provide insight from young persons aged 18-25 and encourage environmental action across the borough.
- ✓ **85 ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPIONS** signed up to the programme.
 - ✓ **54 ECO-SCHOOLS** in Hounslow, with two schools achieving green flag status.



Environmental Champions



Greener and more resilient borough

- ✓ The Council participated in the **GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN 2023**.



Great British Spring Clean 2023

- ✓ **8,228 TREES AND WHIPS PLANTED** by the Council across the borough as part of the Council's commitment to plant 20000 trees by 2026.
- ✓ **948 TREES GIVEN OUT TO RESIDENTS** as part of the council 2022/23 Free Trees for Hounslow initiative.
- ✓ **203 TREES HAVE BEEN PLANTED ON THE KERBSIDE**.
- ✓ **£5M TO BE INVESTED IN IMPROVING THE BOROUGH'S PARKS AND OPEN SPACES** from creating habitats and encouraging nature conservation, improvements to visitor facilities and developing masterplans.
- ✓ **100% UPTAKE RATE OF ALLOTMENTS** in the borough last year.



WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT TO HOUNSLOW

The impacts of climate breakdown are already causing serious damage around the world. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report into the science of climate change published in August 2021, describes the enormous harm that a 2°C average rise in global temperatures is likely to cause - compared with a 1.5 °C rise. The report also confirms that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from government, civil society and the private sector.

Action needs to be taken and everyone has a duty to act. By implementing our Climate Emergency Action Plan – improving air quality, lowering carbon emissions, and providing leadership in switching away from high-carbon ways of working, travelling, doing business, and

living - we can build a Greener Hounslow. This is central to improving residents' quality of life and plays an important part in a London-wide drive to tackle the global climate emergency for the benefit of this and future

LOOKING AHEAD WE WILL:

- ➔ Continue to retrofit council housing and corporate buildings
- ➔ Make it easier for residents to utilise active travel measures
- ➔ Plant more trees and enhance nature recovery across the borough.



London Borough
of Hounslow

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HOUNSLOW

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September 2023