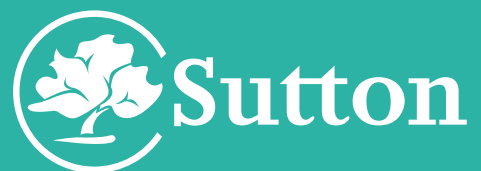
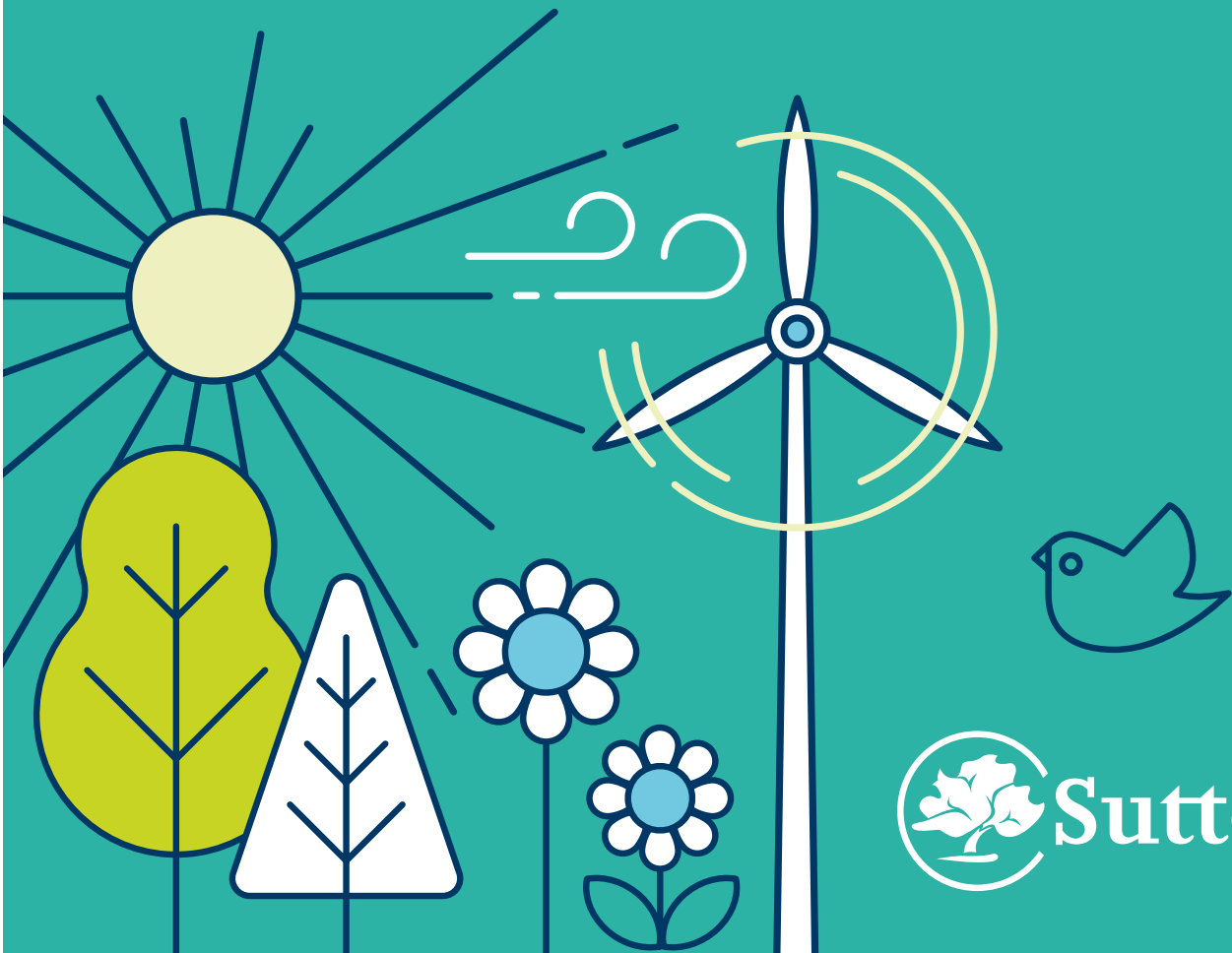


SUTTON'S ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

2019–2025



CONTENTS

Foreword	3
The Vision	4
How Can You Be Part Of This?	6
Cleaner Air	8
A Greener Borough	12
Using Less Energy	16
Creating A Circular Economy	19
Tackling Climate Change	23
Implementation	28

FOREWORD



Councillor Manuel
Abellan, Chair of
Environment and
Neighbourhood
Committee

I am proud to present Sutton's environment strategy that will take us forward for the next five years. Sutton has a well earned reputation for its green credentials but we want to go further by being London's most sustainable borough. Everyone working, living and studying in Sutton has a part to play in protecting the environment in our borough.

We had a fantastic response to the consultation that we held over the summer of 2018, with over 800 people giving their views via our consultation survey or through activities that Community Action Sutton ran. We've made changes based on your comments.

It's heartening to hear the actions many people in Sutton are already taking to make us the most sustainable borough in London. Using the bus and leaving the car at home, taking reusable bags when shopping, growing your own food and saving water - small actions that, if we all do them, will make a big difference.

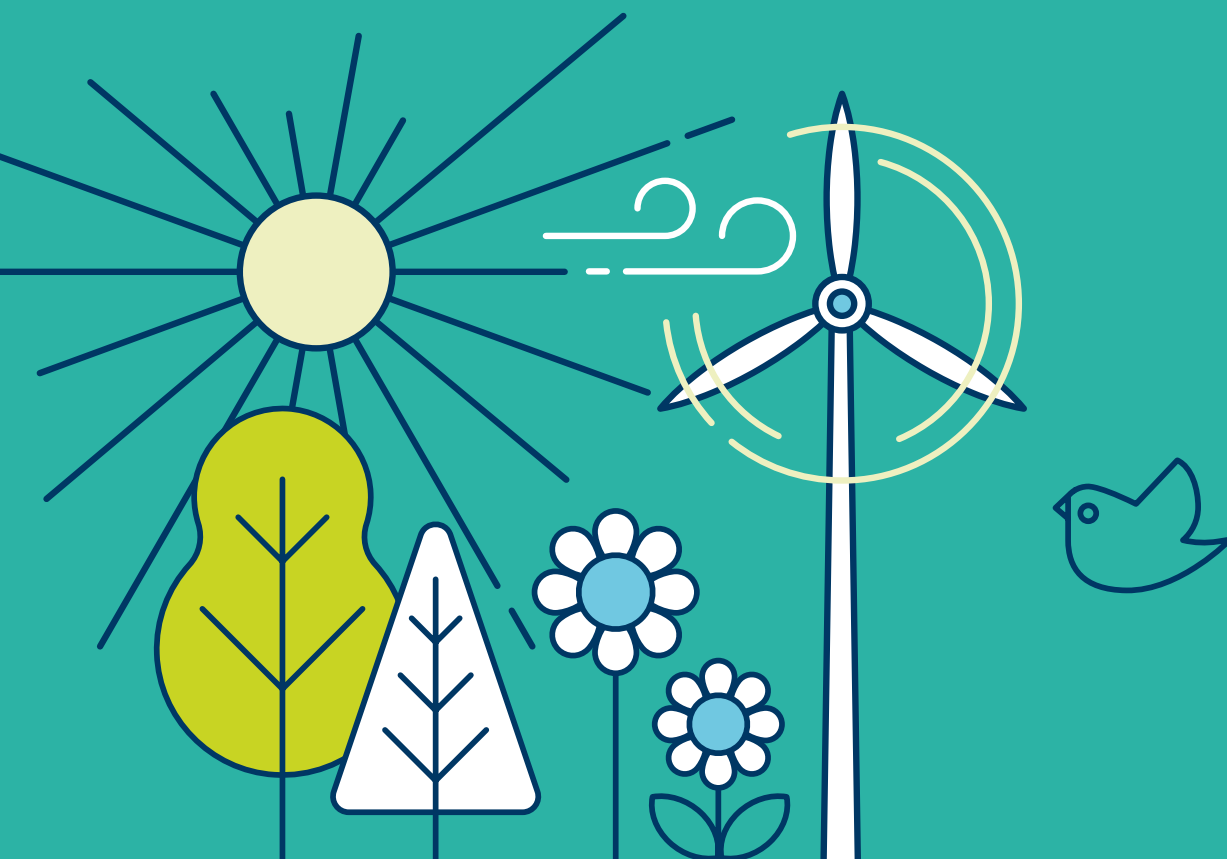
People rightly reminded us in the consultation that Sutton is just one borough and we need to work with our neighbouring boroughs and others to bring changes that extend beyond London. We will continue to push for action from the UK government as well as governments internationally.

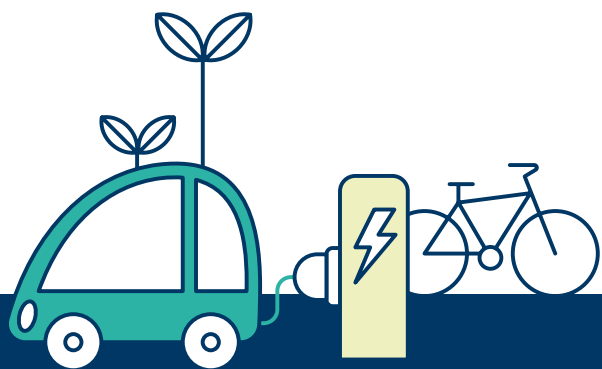
Our efforts have already made a great start with unanimous agreement from councillors to remove single use plastics from council operations and contracts. We'll be ambitious, innovative and involve everyone, helping people to live, work and study more sustainably. Each year we will report on how the actions in this strategy are progressing.

THE VISION

SUTTON WILL BE LONDON'S MOST SUSTAINABLE BOROUGH

The air will be cleaner as more of us will travel by bike, public transport or on foot. The borough's green spaces will be protected and linked to new green spaces, created in areas lacking parks and space for nature conservation. The council's carbon emissions will fall as will energy use per household. More energy will come from renewable or low-carbon sources, such as solar. Fewer people will live in fuel poverty. Sutton will be a testbed for the circular economy; keeping materials in use at their highest value for as long as possible, through reuse, repair or re-manufacturing. Waste will be reduced. The borough and particularly vulnerable people will be resilient to the impacts of climate change including heatwaves, droughts and flooding. We will each use less water. Everyone will play their role in reducing their impact on the environment.





CLEANER AIR

More walking, cycling and public transport: **48 per cent** of journeys by March 2022

Meet the air quality standards as soon as possible

USING LESS ENERGY

Reduce council carbon emissions by **60 per cent** by March 2025

Take action to tackle fuel poverty



CREATING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Develop a programme of circular economy opportunities

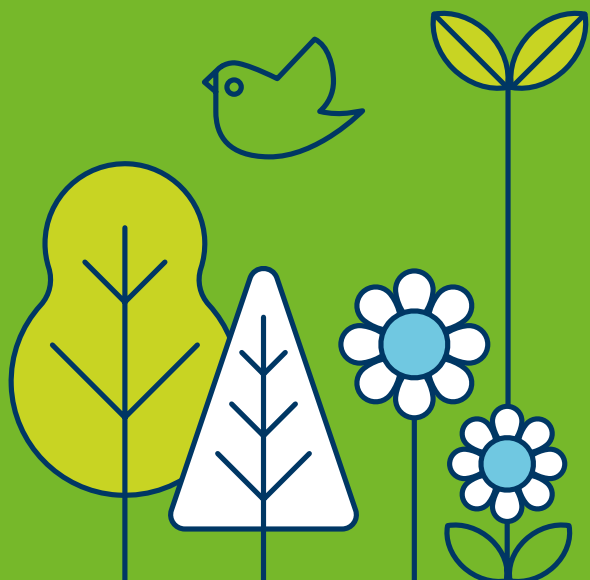
Reduce waste and promote recycling



A GREENER BOROUGH

No overall reduction in green space in the borough

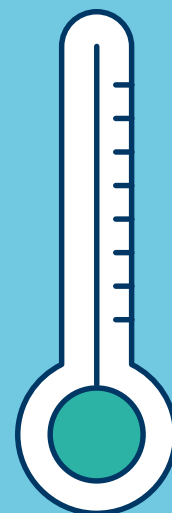
Promote and enhance biodiversity



TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

Help people reduce their water use to **135 litres** per day by March 2025

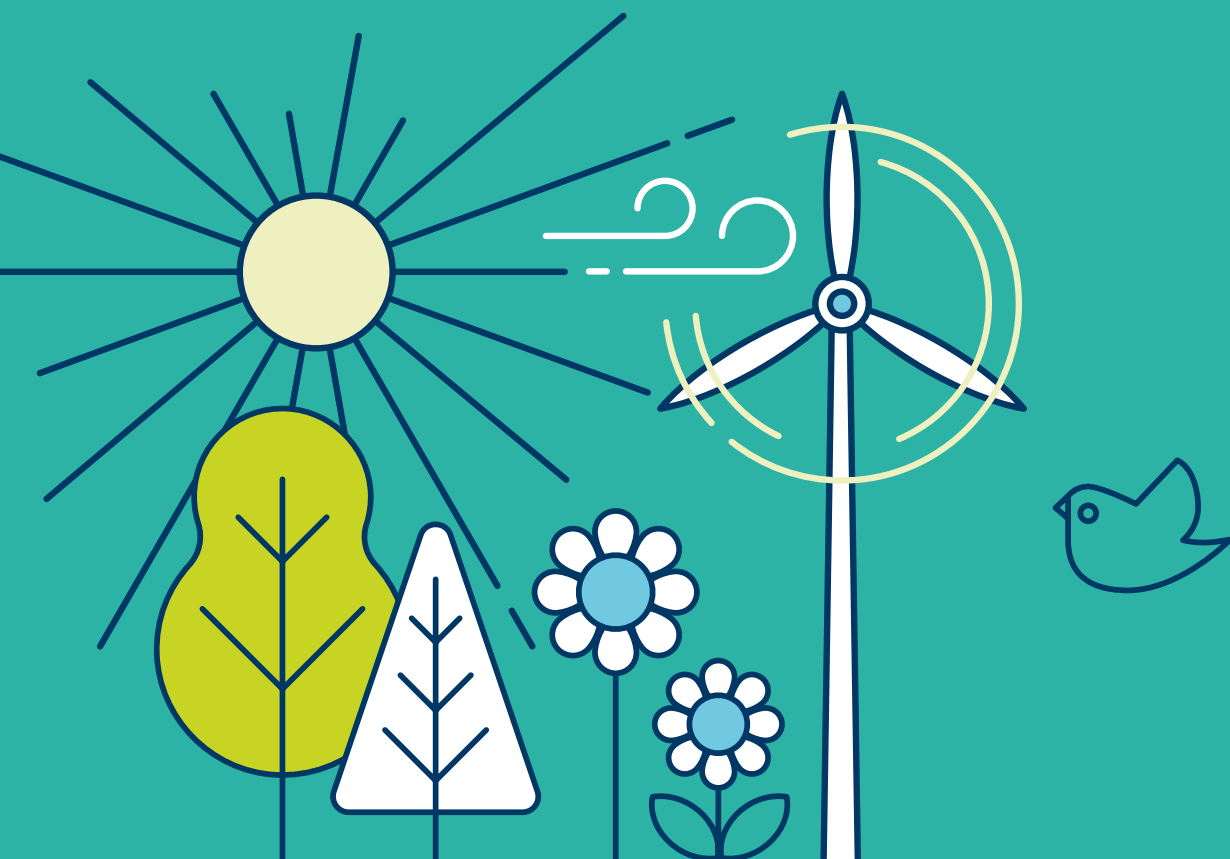
Improve resilience to climate change



HOW CAN YOU BE PART OF THIS?

Everyone living, working and studying in Sutton has a role to play in helping to create London's most sustainable borough. Lots of actions in this strategy will encourage people, including school children, to do their bit. The next page contains ideas from people living, working and studying in Sutton.

Got another idea we haven't included in our action plans that could help make Sutton a more sustainable borough? Want to help us make the actions in this strategy happen? Let us know at sustainability@sutton.gov.uk



ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO CAR SHARE
WHERE POSSIBLE WHEN PUBLIC
TRANSPORT IS NOT SUITABLE

SAVE RAIN WATER
IN WATER BUTTS

USE A REFILLABLE
WATER BOTTLE

I'VE GONE DIGITAL TO
REDUCE MY PAPER
USE EG REQUESTING
ELECTRONIC BILLING
NOT PAPER

I OFTEN PICK UP
RUBBISH FROM THE
LOCAL STREETS

TRY WHENEVER
I CAN TO BUY
LOCALLY

USE HARD SOAP,
BUY IN BULK AND
REFILL WHERE
POSSIBLE, USE
BAR SHAMPOO
TO CUT DOWN ON
PLASTIC BOTTLES

MEAT FREE DAYS

USE LESS WATER
FOR SHOWERS

REDUCE THE
AMOUNT
OF PLASTIC
PACKAGING I USE

INVEST
MY MONEY
ETHICALLY

DO ENVIRONMENTAL
WORK AS A VOLUNTEER

VOLUNTEER
TO CLEAN
UP PARKS

COLLECT COLD WATER FROM TAP
IN A BUCKET WHILE WAITING
FOR IT TO RUN HOT. USE THAT
FOR NEXT LAVATORY FLUSH

DONATE CLOTHES
RATHER THAN
BINNING THEM

TRY TO BUY VEG AND FRUIT
LOOSE, NOT IN PLASTIC
BAGS, AND PUT THEM LOOSE
INTO MY SHOPPING BAGS

RECYCLE EVERYTHING WE CAN,
IE CARD, PAPER, PLASTICS,
TINS, CARTONS, GLASS ETC

GOING TO TAKE
OWN CONTAINERS
TO BUY MEAT,
CHEESE AND FISH

OWN AN ALLOTMENT

USE SUSTAINABLE
PUBLIC TRANSPORT
INCLUDING TRAM,
TRAIN AND BUS

WEAR WARM
CLOTHES AT
HOME TO USE
LESS HEATING

BUY BOOKS AND CLOTHES
FROM CHARITY SHOPS

USE OLIO APP, AND VOLUNTEER
AS A FOOD WASTE HERO

SWAPPED TO
A TOTALLY
SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY PROVIDER

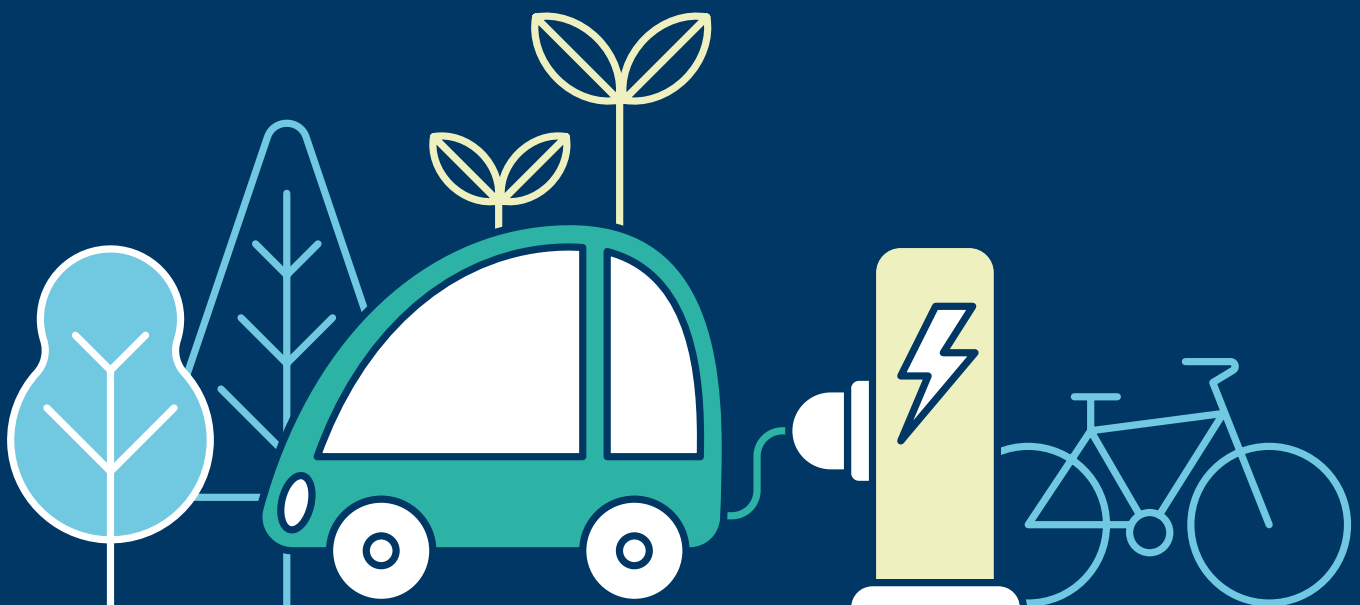
WALK
MORE

USE A BAG FOR LIFE.
AVOID SINGLE USE PLASTICS

CLEANER AIR

THE VISION

Our aim is for Sutton's air to be cleaner and meet the required standards for nitrogen dioxide as soon as possible. The borough will be a place where walking and cycling short journeys is easy, pleasant and safe. People will have access to a good public transport network and infrastructure to enable a switch to low emission vehicles. By March 2022, 48 per cent of journeys in Sutton will be made by walking, cycling or public transport. There will be fewer motor vehicle journeys which will help improve air quality.



THE CURRENT SITUATION

Improving air quality is an international, national and London-wide priority. Reducing air pollution is one of the top three issues residents want the council to tackle.¹ Nitrogen dioxide is the main pollutant in the borough² and we all need to take action to reduce it to safe levels. Particulate matter are tiny solid and liquid droplets suspended in the air and include soot, dust and pollen. Vehicle exhausts and braking release particulates into the air which can cause serious health impacts. There are no safe levels. Sutton already achieves national standards for particulate matter but the council wants to continue to reduce levels.

The biggest source of emissions in the borough is from road transport. This is the main focus for the council. The Greater London Authority has designated three air quality focus areas in Sutton. These are locations with high levels of pollution that people are exposed to. The three areas are: Central Road, Worcester Park; Woodcote Road, Stanley Park Road & Stafford Road, Wallington; Chalk Pit Road, Grove Road, Sutton Court Road & Sutton Park Road, Sutton.

Nitrogen dioxide and nitric oxide are released into the atmosphere when fuel is burned. Examples include petrol and diesel in a car engine, natural gas in a home central heating boiler, and from power stations. High levels of nitrogen dioxide can inflame the airways in our lungs and over a long period of time affects how our lungs work. People with asthma are particularly affected.

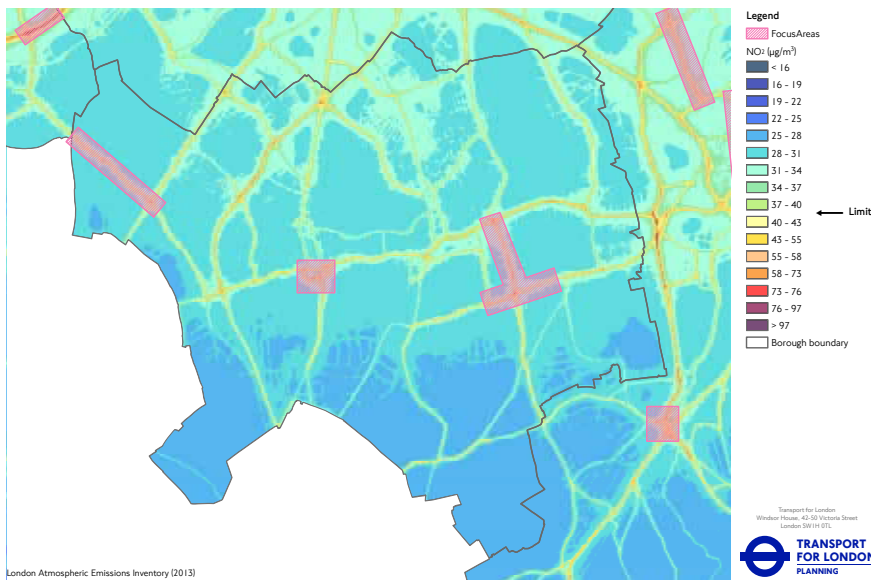
Source: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/assets/documents/reports/ageg/nd-summary.pdf>

Airborne particulate matter is a collection of solid and liquid materials that range from a nanometre in diameter to around 100 micrometres. They come from natural and human sources. Sources include the burning of fossil fuels, trace metals, mechanical abrasion e.g. from vehicle braking and tyres and dust from construction sites and quarrying. People most at risk are those with pre-existing lung or heart disease, the elderly and children. The most severe health impacts are from long-term exposure but there is evidence that short-term exposure can cause illness and even death.

Source: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/assets/documents/reports/ageg/pm-summary.pdf>

¹ London Borough of Sutton survey of residents and businesses on sustainability, February-March 2018

² [Local Plan, 2018, page 119](#)



◀ Map of the borough's three air quality focus areas. Shades of blue are least polluted areas; shades of amber, red and brown are the most polluted areas. The red hatched areas are the three focus areas in the borough boundary.

THE CURRENT SITUATION (CONTINUED)

As well as worsening air quality, too much traffic causes congestion and can create barriers between communities. When people choose to drive rather than walk or cycle, this can mean they don't do their recommended amount of exercise, which could affect their health. The target is for 48 per cent of journeys in the borough to be by walking, cycling or public transport by March 2022. The council recognises that lots of people drive in Sutton because the public transport isn't good enough,³ and the cycle network could be better. The majority of journeys made in Sutton are less than 3 miles in distance,⁴ and the focus will be on increasing the number of short trips people take by foot, bike or public transport, and improving our streets for this.

The council recognises there are concerns about the Energy Recovery Facility at Beddington and its impact on air quality. It is a state-of-the-art facility that has to meet stricter standards for nitrogen dioxide than European Industrial Emissions Directive limits. Compliance with this will be monitored by the Environment Agency on a continual basis. Managing waste at the Energy Recovery Facility rather than landfilling it will save 128,000 tonnes of carbon emissions each year.⁵

³ [Local Plan, 2018, page 125](#)

⁴ [Cycling Strategy, 2017, page 1](#)

⁵ More information can be found on Sutton Council's website: https://www.sutton.gov.uk/info/200449/waste_and_recycling/1445/beddington_energy_recovery_facility/2

As well as from transport, air pollution is caused by devices such as boilers and stoves, emissions from construction sites and bonfires. The council will use its planning powers to make sure new developments do not worsen air quality. This includes during demolition, construction and once operational, for example from vehicles and energy use. The council will continue to work with Transport for London to improve the public transport offer in Sutton, and walking and cycling routes. Longer term plans include a new direct and quicker link initially between Sutton and Merton, with the potential for extension to Belmont to link with the London Cancer Hub site.

THE TARGETS

- ▶ By March 2022, 48 per cent of journeys in Sutton will be made by walking, cycling or public transport.⁶
- ▶ By March 2022, 36 per cent of people will be doing 20 minutes of active travel a day.⁷
- ▶ By December 2021, 24 per cent of Sutton's population will be within 400m of the strategic cycle network.⁸
- ▶ Develop and deliver an action plan for meeting the national air quality standards as soon as possible.
- ▶ Continue to take action to reduce levels of particulate matter (PM10).

WHO'S INVOLVED

- ▶ Transport for London
- ▶ The council – planning, parking, street design, public health, air quality, highways
- ▶ People who live, work and study in Sutton
- ▶ Businesses in Sutton
- ▶ The Sutton Plan partners

STRATEGIES

- ▶ [Air Quality Action Plan](#)
- ▶ [Sustainable Transport Strategy](#)
- ▶ [Cycling Strategy](#)
- ▶ Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Strategy
- ▶ [Local Plan Policy 34 – Environmental Protection](#)

THE ACTION PLAN

The action plan used to monitor this chapter is the borough Air Quality Action Plan. More information is available on the air quality pages of the council's website.

⁶ The baseline for 2014/15-2016/17 is 46 per cent. In March 2022 we will report on data from 2018/19-2020/21. The March 2022 data will be available and reported on in December 2024.

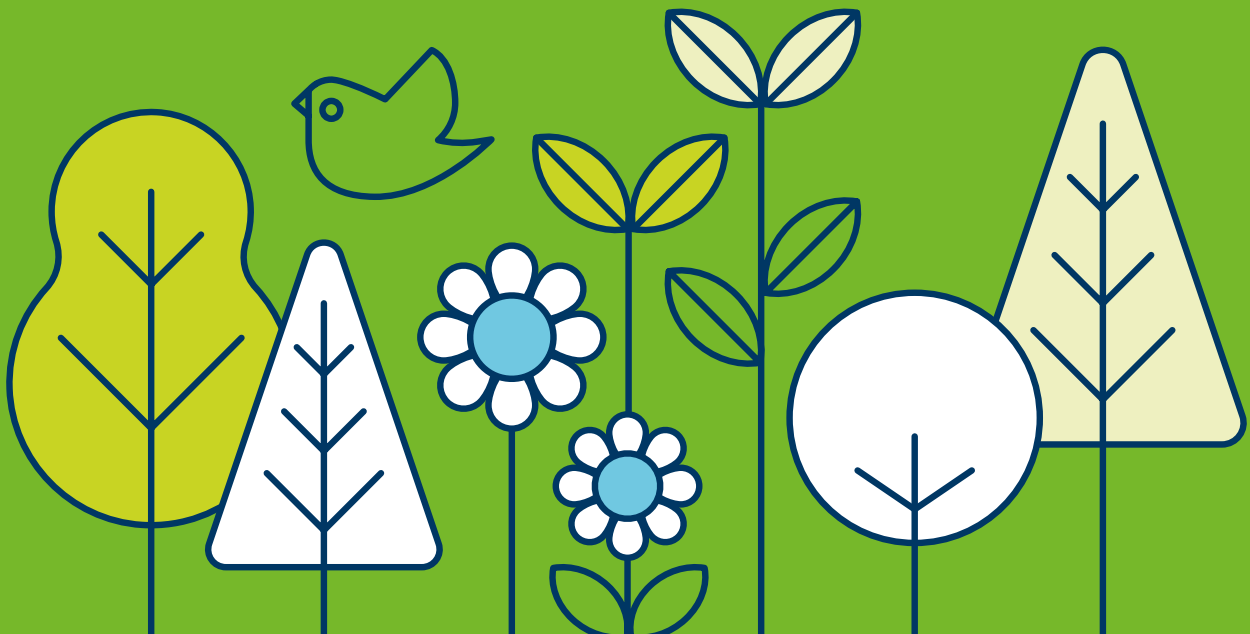
⁷ Active travel is defined by TfL as people undertaking at least twenty minutes of walking or cycling a day, either by two blocks of ten minutes or in a single block. The Sutton baseline for 2014/15-2016/17 is 28 per cent.

⁸ The baseline for 2016 is 0 per cent.

A GREENER BOROUGH

THE VISION

Sutton will continue to be a green borough, and by 2025 our aim is for our trees and green spaces to be better protected and connected through 'green corridors' for people and nature. This includes parks, woodlands, nature reserves, trees, rivers, wetlands, green roofs, green walls, private gardens and grass verges. There will be no overall reduction of green space in the borough. The restoration of the Beddington Farmlands landfill site will be completed by 2023, creating one of the largest nature reserves in London.



THE CURRENT SITUATION

The borough has over 1,146 hectares of protected green space, some agricultural land and 34 allotment sites. There are 57 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and 11 nature reserves. The Wandle Valley Regional Park covers a significant part of the borough. The River Wandle and the network of adjoining parks and open land acts as a green corridor, which extends over much of the north and east of the borough. Sutton has 170 hectares of chalk grasslands. These make up about 12 per cent of London's chalk grasslands and are some of the best examples in London.⁹ Of these, around 40 hectares are managed by the council. The borough has around 145,500 trees in streets, gardens and private land, but is one of London's least wooded boroughs.

The River Wandle runs for 5.9km in the borough. It is one of the finest chalk streams in London and supports several rare species. The River Wandle is slowly regaining some of its character and species, after many years of decline. In the west of the borough is Beverley Brook which joins the River Thames at Barnes. The borough has a number of lakes and ponds, and a small amount of reedbed. Good water quality is important for biodiversity and recreation. The restoration of Beddington Farmlands will include wet grassland, lakes, reed beds, meadowland and heathland and create one of the largest nature reserves in London.

Green spaces are important for the borough's natural environment and quality of life. They support wildlife habitats and biodiversity, provide places for leisure and recreation, and promote

health and wellbeing. 89 per cent of residents use the borough's parks and open spaces.¹⁰ The 'open feel' of the borough and areas rich in native biodiversity will be protected through the Local Plan. High biodiversity means a variety of plants and animal species. The benefits include human wellbeing, food growing, soil structure, carbon capture, helping keep urban areas cool during heat waves¹¹ and providing flood protection. Biodiversity is increasingly being shown to have significant positive impacts on physical and mental health. Native trees are important for biodiversity, whilst the right trees in the right places can improve air quality.

It can be difficult to recognise the benefit of green spaces because they typically do not have a financial value. 'Natural Capital Accounting' is changing this, by putting a financial value on the benefits green spaces provide, including flood protection, absorbing carbon dioxide, and supporting biodiversity, as well as the benefits to people of having space to play and relax. By using natural capital accounting, the council aims to recognise the true value of green assets within the borough, so it can weigh this against the cost, for example of tree maintenance. The Natural Capital Accounts for London indicate that for every £1 spent by councils on green spaces, there are £27 worth of benefits, for example through physical and mental wellbeing.¹²

⁹ **[Sutton Council Biodiversity Action Plan](#)**

¹⁰ *London Borough of Sutton Residents Survey (2017)*

¹¹ *The urban heat island effect occurs when urban areas are much warmer than surrounding rural areas. This is because of the waste heat from buildings, people, vehicles and construction. Night-time temperatures remain warm because the heat is trapped between buildings.*

¹² *Natural Capital Account for London, November 2017, https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/nca_supplementary_document.pdf*

THE CURRENT SITUATION (CONTINUED)

Sutton has a good amount of green space but not all green spaces have equal benefits; for example well-managed chalk grasslands or wood pasture offer more for biodiversity, shade and flood protection than large areas of short grass with few trees. Sutton has lots of small green spaces and we need to improve the links between them. 'Green corridors' are positive for nature and shaded continuous routes can offer pleasant corridors for walking and cycling, especially during heat waves. Not everyone in the borough has a local park or green space nearby they can use. We want to improve this access. Over 20 per cent of the borough is an area of nature conservation deficiency.¹³ We will prioritise improvements where people don't already have access to green space and there is a deficiency of trees.¹⁴ This is our contribution to helping London become a National Park City, which is an aspiration of the Mayor of London.¹⁵

Space to create large new parks, nature reserves and green open spaces is limited, so we need new green spaces to be created in the form of green walls or green roofs, or through creative approaches like pocket parks, community tree planting and food growing spaces. We need to build new homes in the borough, so Sutton's planning policies seek to achieve this whilst retaining the existing total amount of open space in the borough and increasing the amount of green space in new developments.¹⁶

THE TARGETS

- ▶ No overall reduction of green space in the borough.¹⁷
- ▶ Plant 2,000 trees between 2018 and 2022.

FOCUS AREA

- ▶ Maintain and enhance the biodiversity value of the borough.



¹³ See Table 8.12 in **Authority Monitoring Report 2016-17**

¹⁴ See Map 8.8 in the **Authority Monitoring Report 2016-17**

¹⁵ For more see the National Park City website: <http://www.nationalparkcity.london/>

¹⁶ **Local Plan, Policy 25, page 88 and Policy 33, page 114**

¹⁷ The baseline for this is the **Authority Monitoring Report 2016-17**. This sets a baseline of 605.9 hectares of green belt, 529.1 hectares of Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) and 518 hectares of Public Open Space (which includes some land designated as Green Belt or MOL).

WHO'S INVOLVED

- ▶ Sutton Housing Partnership
- ▶ Housing associations
- ▶ Sutton Nature Conservation Volunteers
- ▶ South East Rivers Trust
- ▶ Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust
- ▶ Sutton Council - biodiversity, parks, trees, highways, planning and sustainability
- ▶ People who live, work and study in Sutton
- ▶ Businesses
- ▶ The Sutton Plan partners

STRATEGIES

- ▶ Local Plan Policy 5 - Wandle Valley Renewal
- ▶ Local Plan Policy 13 - Housing and Garden Land
- ▶ Local Plan Policy 25 - Open Spaces
- ▶ Local Plan Policy 26 - Biodiversity
- ▶ Local Plan Policy 33 - Climate Change Adaptation
- ▶ Parks and Open Spaces Strategy
- ▶ Biodiversity Action Plan
- ▶ Tree Strategy



USING LESS ENERGY

THE VISION

By 2025 there will be more people living in Sutton, but carbon emissions will not increase. We aim to avoid this by generating and using more renewable, local and community energy in Sutton. The borough's carbon emissions will fall by 40 per cent compared to a 2007 baseline. We will help people use less energy, through efficient appliances and insulating buildings. We will tackle fuel poverty amongst Sutton's most vulnerable households. All of the council's energy will come from renewable sources by March 2021. The council's carbon emissions will fall by 60 per cent by March 2025 compared to what they were in 2010/11.



THE CURRENT SITUATION

Energy use is the dominant contributor to climate change¹⁸ and homes and businesses in Sutton are reliant on energy sources that largely contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. Over time, the national grid is decarbonising as more energy comes from renewable sources, with 29 per cent of the UK's electricity coming from renewable sources in 2017.¹⁹ Sutton has a growing population, and as new homes are built the demand for energy will increase. We need to generate low carbon and renewable energy locally, so that more demand for energy doesn't have a negative impact on carbon emissions and climate change. This means solar panels on buildings, heat pumps which take heat from the ground, or using local waste heat sources like the Energy Recovery Facility in Beddington. Sutton Decentralised Energy Network Limited has been created to supply low carbon heating and hot water, using the waste heat from the Energy Recovery Facility in Beddington. Once established, this network could be extended to supply more businesses and homes in the borough and potentially beyond.

Encouraging a switch to renewable energy, such as solar and wind power, is part of the solution. Uptake of solar power is low in London and Sutton, and to begin to address this, the council has installed solar panels on suitable buildings it owns. In 2018 residents were offered the opportunity to take part in two reverse collective auctions for solar panels organised by the Mayor of London. Over 600 households registered and 126 have progressed with solar panel installation. The end of the Feed-In Tariff makes solar panels a less attractive

investment, but the council will continue to promote opportunities for community and local energy generation when funding is available.

Three factors combine when households are in fuel poverty: low income, poor energy efficiency in homes, and high fuel costs. A household is considered to be in fuel poverty if their energy costs are above the national average, and were they to spend that amount, they would be left with an income that is below the official poverty line.²⁰ Around 10 per cent of households in Sutton are thought to be in fuel poverty, just below the national average.²¹ The council will continue to work with the community and voluntary sector to support households at risk of fuel poverty to access funding to make their homes more energy efficient in order to reduce energy bills. Energy companies have obligations to help improve the energy efficiency of homes where people are living in fuel poverty, or have certain medical conditions. The council has published its Statement of Intent²² which extends the criteria of those eligible, to ensure as many as possible vulnerable people in Sutton can benefit. We are working closely with our neighbouring boroughs on fuel poverty and energy usage.

¹⁸ <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/energy/>

¹⁹ [London Environment Strategy, page 210](#)

²⁰ [GOV.UK, Fuel Poverty Statistics](#)

²¹ [Fuel poverty strategy, 2014, page 3](#)

²² [Sutton Council Statement of Intent](#)

THE TARGETS

- ▶ The council's carbon emissions will reduce by 60 per cent by March 2025 from a 2010/11 baseline.
- ▶ The council will get all of its energy from renewable sources by March 2021.
- ▶ More of the borough's energy needs will be met from renewable, community or local sources of energy, helping the borough's carbon emissions to reduce by 40 per cent compared to a 2007 baseline.²³

FOCUS AREA

- ▶ Take action to tackle fuel poverty.

WHO'S INVOLVED

- ▶ Sutton Housing Partnership
- ▶ Housing associations
- ▶ Energy companies
- ▶ Voluntary and community sector
- ▶ Sutton council – energy, regulatory services and sustainability
- ▶ Sutton Decentralised Energy Network
- ▶ Organisations building new homes
- ▶ People who live, work and study in Sutton
- ▶ Businesses
- ▶ The Sutton Plan partners

STRATEGIES

- ▶ Local Plan Policy 31 – Carbon And Energy
- ▶ Fuel Poverty Strategy
- ▶ Town Centre Masterplan

²³ Renewable, community and local sources include district heating systems, solar, wind and energy produced from waste, including from anaerobic digestion or in-vessel composting of food waste. Reduction is compared to a 2007 baseline.
Data source for carbon emissions reductions.

CREATING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

THE VISION

A circular economy keeps products and materials in use at their highest value for as long as possible; for example returning items for repair when broken or at the end of their useful life, rather than being thrown away. Our aim is to work with Sutton's businesses to harness the potential of the circular economy and undertake circular economy pilot projects by 2025. Being a circular economy will benefit the borough through long-term resilience, business and economic opportunities and environmental and societal benefits. In the shorter-term, we will aim for Sutton's recycling rate to be 50 per cent or higher.



THE CURRENT SITUATION

In 2017 the four south London boroughs of Sutton, Kingston, Merton and Croydon commissioned a study looking at the potential for the circular economy in south London. This work forms the basis of the circular economy programme. The circular economy is being implemented internationally, but is fairly new in Sutton. Sutton will transition towards a circular economy over time, in two ways. New businesses will generate new opportunities through circular economy principles; existing businesses will decide to transition all or part of their operations towards circular principles. This is something that will be led by businesses at a pace they are comfortable with. In moving towards a circular economy, Sutton can draw upon the expertise of the Greater London Authority and the London Waste and Recycling Board as they champion the circular economy in London. By 2036, the circular economy could provide London with net benefits of at least £7 billion every year in the sectors of built environment, food, textiles, electricals and plastics, as well as 12,000 net new jobs in the areas of reuse, remanufacturing and materials innovation.²⁴

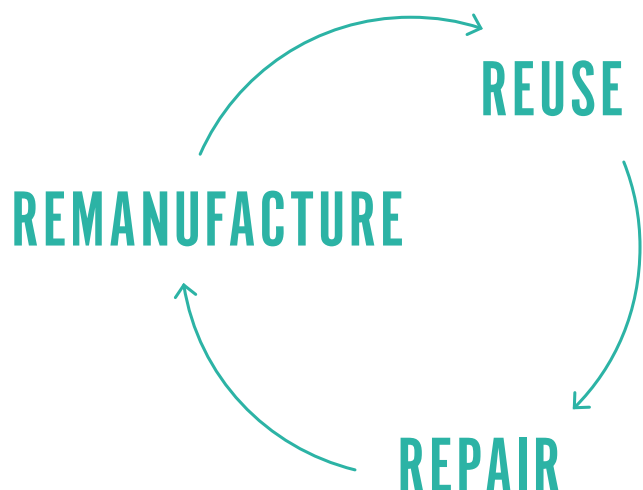
As we move to a circular economy, reducing and recycling our waste becomes less important, as waste is designed out. In the shorter-term, it will still be important for Sutton's residents and businesses to reduce waste, including avoidable food waste, and recycle as much as possible, saving money and the planet. National and international action is needed to help reduce waste, and manufacturers have an important role to play. The government's Resources and Waste Strategy supports the circular economy concept and has raised the standard for both

local authorities and manufacturers. The council has pledged to remove single use plastics from its operations and contracts. Part of this includes calling on supermarkets and other organisations to change to recyclable packaging materials. Advance London can provide support to existing and new businesses in the borough about how they could adopt circular economy principles.²⁵ The council, its public sector partners and the organisations it works with will play their part to support Sutton's local economy and environment through sustainable procurement. In the choices people living, working and studying in Sutton make, we can move towards a circular economy, for example by hiring products we use infrequently or reducing waste by reusing water bottles and coffee cups.

NOW A LINEAR ECONOMY

MAKE → USE → DISPOSE

WHERE WE WANT TO BE A CIRCULAR ECONOMY



²⁴ London Waste and Recycling Board, [Circular Economy Routemap](#)

²⁵ [Advance London](#)

FOCUS AREAS

- ▶ Undertake circular economy pilot projects.²⁶
- ▶ Maximise opportunities to procure goods and services sustainably.

THE TARGETS

- ▶ Promote recycling and keep Sutton's recycling rate at 50 per cent or higher.
- ▶ Help people throw less away and achieve year on year reductions in the amount of rubbish (residual waste) produced by each household.²²
- ▶ Help people reduce the amount of avoidable food waste they throw away by 20 per cent by 2025.²⁷

WHO'S INVOLVED

- ▶ Businesses
- ▶ Business Improvement Districts
- ▶ Advance London programme
- ▶ Sutton Council – economic development, waste and sustainability
- ▶ People who live, work and study in Sutton
- ▶ The Sutton Plan partners

STRATEGIES

- ▶ [Local Plan Policy 14 - Industrial Land Use and Waste Management](#)
- ▶ [South London Waste Plan](#)

²⁶ This programme is based on project concept notes delivered as part of the 'circular economy scan - waste and resources mapping for South London' report commissioned on behalf of the South London Waste Partnership in October 2017.

²⁷ The baseline for household residual waste is 434.18kg per household in 2017/18, the food waste baseline is 7,392 tonnes in 2017/18 and Sutton's recycling rate is 50 per cent in 2018.



WASTE HIERARCHY

IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE

1

ZERO WASTE

AVOID WASTE IN THE FIRST PLACE

2

**REUSE / REPAIR /
REMANUFACTURE**

3

RECYCLE

4

ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY

GET ENERGY FROM WASTE

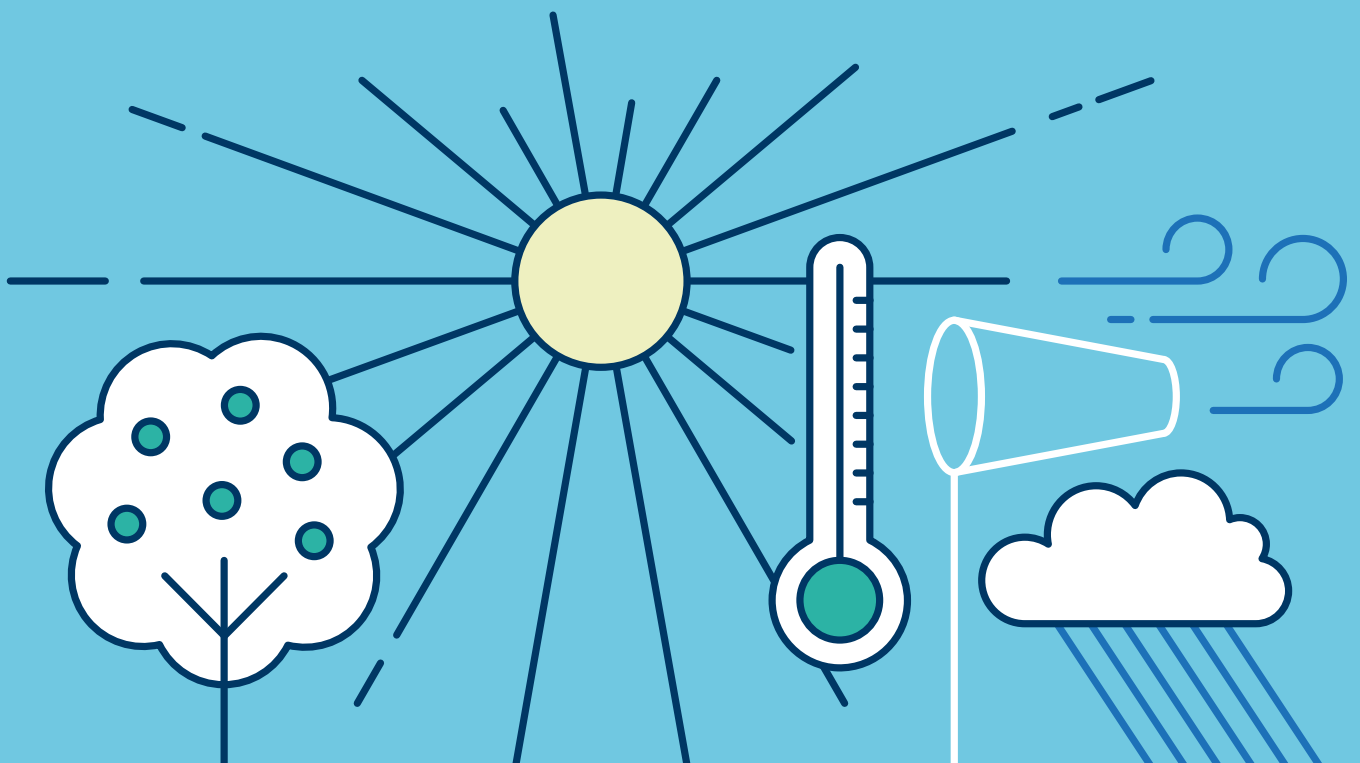
5

LANDFILL

TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

THE VISION

By 2025 our aim is to better understand the key challenges facing the borough from climate change and the impacts on vulnerable people, public health, biodiversity and the local economy. We will make best use of our green spaces and rivers to reduce flood risk, protect biodiversity and improve quality of life. Our long-term aim is to have a healthy, cool environment during heat waves so people can enjoy their lives, and travel comfortably on public transport or when walking and cycling. Sutton's people, public services and infrastructure will be prepared for extreme heat and cold events and flooding. We will help people use less water, with average use per person falling to 135 litres per day by 2025, reducing the need for emergency restrictions.



THE CURRENT SITUATION

Sutton needs to prepare for changing weather patterns caused by climate change. The latest evidence from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change indicates the world must keep global temperature rises below 1.5°C to avoid catastrophic impacts from climate change.²⁸ The borough needs to be prepared for heavy rainfall, high temperatures and drought. The most vulnerable people living in the borough are the priority. Actions in the 'Using Less Energy' and 'A Greener Borough' chapters will also help Sutton tackle climate change.

According to the latest climate projections,²⁹ the UK will still get some dry winters, but wet winters will become wetter. Summers will be drier, but when it rains, rainfall will be more intense. We need to be prepared for greater variability in our rainfall as flooding causes major disruption and can have economic impacts when homes, schools, businesses and infrastructure such as roads, railways and substations flood.

Surface water flooding happens when heavy rainfall is unable to soak into the ground or drain into sewers but instead runs over land, causing flooding. 4,827 homes and 220 businesses in the borough are at low to medium risk of surface water flooding; with a further 2,860 homes and 220 businesses at high risk.³⁰ Sutton is ranked the 30th area in England most susceptible to surface water flooding.³¹ The council has identified 12 areas where geography and multiple sources of flooding combine to create a risk of localised flooding. Of these, the four priority areas for flood alleviation schemes are Beddington Gardens,

Worcester Park, Wallington Station and South Beddington. The next stage is developing detailed designs, and establishing whether there are schemes that are financially viable.

With extreme storms likely to become more common in future, it is important that through the planning process new developments are designed to minimise all sources of flood risk and the impact on the surrounding area. Sustainable drainage is one way to reduce the impacts of heavy rain. It works by slowing down the flow of water, storing it and releasing it to the drainage network at a later time, to avoid overwhelming drains and causing flooding. This can be done by storage tanks but also planting and natural features. Sustainable drainage can improve water quality and create greener spaces. 3.7 per cent of the borough, about 2,900 properties, are at medium or high risk of flooding from local rivers.³² The areas most at risk are those along the River Wandle, Pyl Brook and Beverley Brook.



How SuDS 'slow the flow'. Credit: Jane Porter

²⁸ https://www.ipcc.ch/news_and_events/pr_181008_P48_spm.shtml

²⁹ The latest **UK climate projections (UKCP18)** were released in November 2018.

³⁰ **Local Plan, 2018, page 107**

³¹ **Local Plan, 2018, page 107**

³² **Local Plan, 2018, page 107**

THE CURRENT SITUATION (CONTINUED)

Drought conditions are also expected to increase as summers become drier. London and the South East are already classed as seriously water stressed, meaning more water is taken from the natural environment than is sustainable in the long-term. Increased drought conditions will affect water supply and habitats in the borough by reducing river levels, damaging water supply infrastructure and increasing demand. With less ability to continue to draw water from deep in the ground, we need to aim to reduce the amount of water we use to just 110 litres per person per day.³³ This will help make Sutton a more sustainable place.

AVERAGE WATER USAGE PER PERSON, PER DAY

▶ Sutton currently	160 litres
▶ London	156 litres
▶ UK	139 litres
▶ New development standard in Sutton	110 litres

Summers are expected to become hotter over the next few decades. At the moment the likelihood of a hot summer is between 10 and 20 per cent each year, which is already an increase due to climate change. With future warming, by 2050 the likelihood of a hot summer could be 50 per cent.³⁴ With climate change, built up areas are particularly vulnerable to higher summer temperatures and localised heat waves.³⁵ Addressing the impacts of excess heat will become increasingly important. Excess heat

can particularly be a problem in places where people cannot easily reduce the temperature, for example because they are in hospital or live in a care home. The council has an emergency planning role to make sure that timely advice is circulated. Planning powers can ensure buildings are not too hot to be habitable and have adequate ventilation. Actions to reduce the impact of excess heat on journeys people take whilst out and about are set out in the action plan for 'A Greener Borough' chapter.

Extreme cold can also be deadly, and the actions on fuel poverty in the 'Using Less Energy' chapter will help. In the same way as for extreme heat, people are more vulnerable if they are homeless or in a care home or hospital where it is harder to control the temperature. In developing plans around extreme heat, we will also consider extreme cold.

³³ Water usage: Sutton [SES Water Annual Report 2017, page 3, aim 5](#), London and UK [Draft London Plan, 2017, new developments Local Plan, 2018, Policy 33, page 114](#)

³⁴ The latest [UK climate projections \(UKCP18\)](#) were released in November 2018.

³⁵ This is due to the urban heat island effect which occurs when urban areas are much warmer than surrounding rural areas. This is because of the waste heat from buildings, people, vehicles and construction. Night-time temperatures remain warm because the heat is trapped between buildings.

THE CURRENT SITUATION (CONTINUED)

Climate change could mean we need to change our approach. For example, we may need to make roads from different materials or plant drought resistant species in parks. Our native biodiversity could be challenged by the introduction of invasive (non-native) species which are more suited to warmer weather, and falling river levels could have impacts for biodiversity as well as water use. Agriculture makes up 10 per cent of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions.³⁶ There are two main ways people in Sutton can help reduce this. Growing food locally and buying locally grown food helps reduce emissions from agriculture. There will always be some waste, for example vegetable peelings and bones, but using as much as we can of what we buy, and reducing the amount of food that goes mouldy before we are able to eat it, also helps reduce emissions. This strategy includes actions on both.

FOCUS AREA

- ▶ Increase Sutton's resilience to the effects of climate change.

THE TARGETS

- ▶ Improve Sutton's score on the Good Food for London report from 18th in 2017 to being in the top quarter of boroughs by 2025.
- ▶ Help people reduce their daily water use from 160 litres in 2018 to 135 litres by 2025.
- ▶ Achieve a year on year reduction in council water consumption, against a 2016 baseline.

WHO'S INVOLVED

- ▶ Sutton Housing Partnership
- ▶ Housing associations
- ▶ Hospitals
- ▶ Care providers
- ▶ Sutton Council – emergency planning, flood risk management, regulatory services, sustainability and planning
- ▶ Environment Agency
- ▶ SES Water
- ▶ Thames Water
- ▶ People who live, work and study in Sutton
- ▶ Businesses
- ▶ The Sutton Plan partners

STRATEGIES

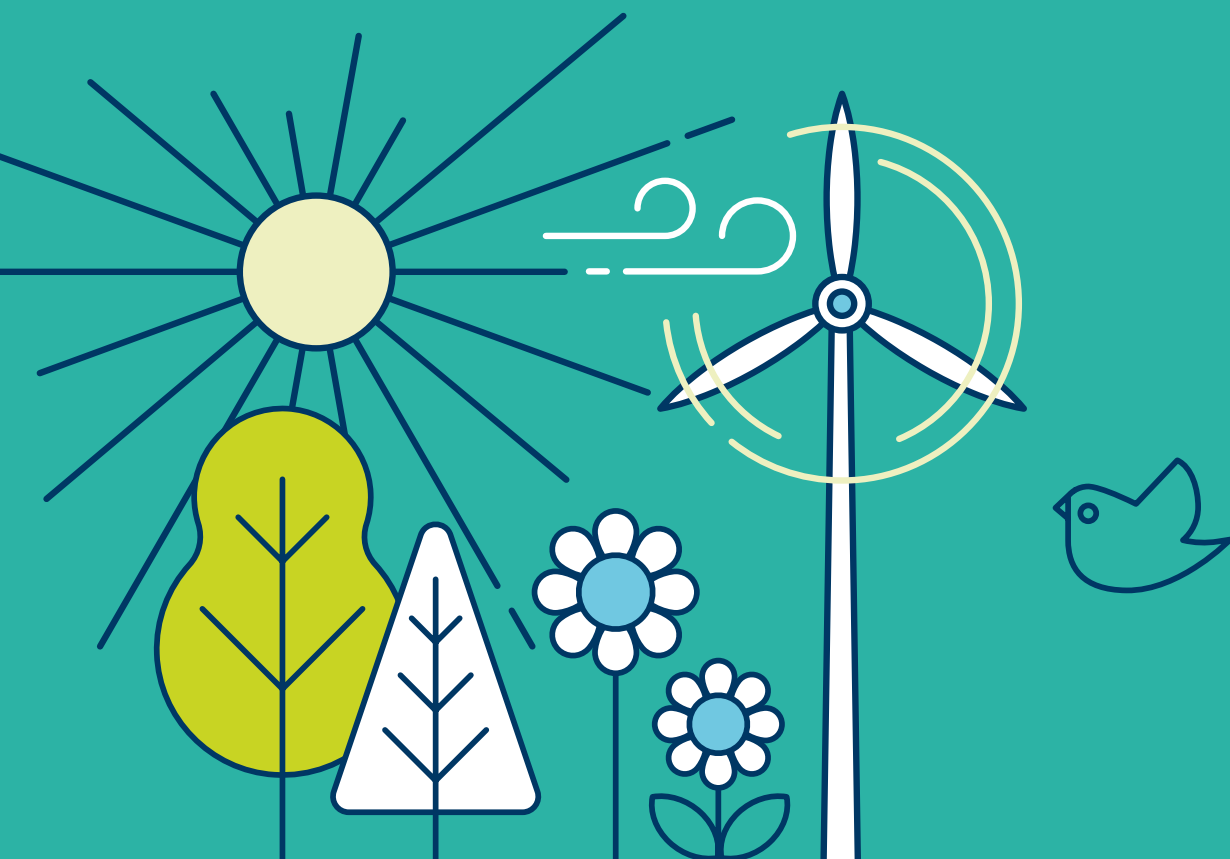
- ▶ Flood risk management strategies
- ▶ Local Plan Policy 12 – Housing and Garden Land
- ▶ Local Plan Policy 31 – Carbon and Energy (includes energy insulation and ventilation)
- ▶ Local Plan Policy 32 – Flood Risk and Sustainable Drainage
- ▶ Local Plan Policy 33 – Climate Change Adaptation

³⁶ Department for Business, Skills and Innovation: latest data 2016: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/680473/2016_Final_Emissions_statistics.pdf



IMPLEMENTATION

Sutton Council remains committed to ensuring that the borough of Sutton continues to lead London in its green credentials. Nevertheless, this comes at a time of continued pressure on council budgets, and a need to be more creative and innovative about funding and who delivers the actions.



CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The environment strategy supports the London Borough of Sutton to achieve all four of its corporate priorities.

FUNDING AND RESOURCING

This strategy will be delivered by:

1. Internal resources/staffing

Delivering the strategy will involve a 'whole council' approach, with officers across the council working on the actions. Major changes to the council's estate, such as the redevelopment of the Civic Offices and the construction of new council homes, will be used as an opportunity to demonstrate Sutton's sustainability commitments.

2. Grants/funding applications/partnerships

The council will bid for available funding, sometimes in partnership with other organisations, or work with organisations who have their own targets and funding for sustainability initiatives or are best placed to deliver a project. We will also work with the 23 Sutton Plan partners. Technological and digital changes may bring new opportunities that we need to adapt to.

3. Investments that cover their own costs

The council will explore options to fund sustainability schemes through an 'invest to save' model, or to invest in assets in a way that provides income in the future. The carbon offset fund, paid by developers when they are unable to offset some of the carbon emissions of a development on the site, will be used for sustainability projects, particularly those related to energy and fuel poverty.

PRIORITY AREAS WHERE WE THINK THERE IS LIKELY TO BE FUNDING TO BID FOR:

- ▶ Tackling food waste.
- ▶ Circular economy initiatives.
- ▶ Drinking water fountains.
- ▶ Energy e.g. district heating systems.

PRIORITY AREAS WHERE WE THINK FUNDING WILL BE HARDER TO SECURE:

- ▶ Greening and food growing.
- ▶ Sustainable transport.
- ▶ Air quality (because there are other parts of London with much worse air quality).
- ▶ Flood risk management (because match funding is required).

PRIORITY AREAS WHERE PARTNERS OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS WILL BE BETTER PLACED TO ACCESS FUNDING:

- ▶ Tree planting (community groups).
- ▶ Solar power (residents and businesses).
- ▶ Community energy (community groups).
- ▶ Uptake in smart meters (voluntary and community sector).

A greener borough – Action Plan (April 2019 to March 2023)

Action	Timescale	Who's involved	What will this cost and how will it be funded?	How will success be measured?	
Target: No overall reduction of green space in the borough.¹					
1	Monitor implementation of Local Plan policies 26c (biodiversity) and 33b (climate change adaptation) ² .	Ongoing from April 2018	Sutton Council	Existing planning officer time.	The aim is to maximise the number of developments complying with the policies. Performance against this will be published in the council's annual Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) as the percentage of developments which comply with each policy.
2	Run or commission a behaviour change campaign raising awareness about the impacts that paving over front gardens has for biodiversity and flood risk, and encourage a return to gardens.	Run every two years, could link to Sutton in Bloom.	Residents, Sutton Council, SES Water, voluntary organisations, South East Rivers Trust.	Design costs £1,000. Using council communications will keep costs low. Commissioning a campaign would require additional funding.	Reach of campaign activity. A baseline will be set in year one.
3	Identify areas without green open spaces and trees, and work with local people to develop plans to change this.	From 2020/21 to end of strategy	Sutton Council, residents, businesses, community groups, voluntary sector, Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust, Local Committees.	The Local Plan provides information about areas lacking green space and nature habitats. Developing the plans with local people is additional officer time. Public realm funding could be used to support this.	Plans produced and implemented.
4	Maximise opportunities to exceed Local Plan requirements for increasing overall green space coverage and improving the Green Space Factor score by including green space, habitats, landscaping, planting, trees and sustainable drainage retrofit etc: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ in private developments, through the planning process, ▶ as part of major investments e.g. Sutton Town Centre, estate regeneration projects; ▶ in estate renewal projects and council housing schemes; ▶ in transport / Local Implementation Plan schemes; ▶ in relevant Business Improvement District projects; ▶ in flooding schemes; ▶ in other council-led schemes e.g. schools; ▶ and in the Public Realm Design Guide. 	Ongoing	Sutton Council, voluntary and community groups, Business Improvement Districts, Transport for London, South East Rivers Trust, Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust.	Include greening and sustainable drainage measures as part of overall scheme costs. Public realm funding could be used for schemes that residents want to implement.	The aim is to maximise the number of developments which are exceeding the requirements. Performance will be reported in the council's Authority Monitoring Report (AMR): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Percentage of developments where green roofs are included; ▶ Percentage of developments which have met the green space factor requirements; ▶ Percentage of sites meeting the greenfield run-off rate. The Public Realm Design Guide includes advice on SuDS.
5	Support community groups interested in transforming spaces into pocket parks, community gardens or food growing spaces, maintained by local people. These could replace car parking, be on abandoned land or be a 'meanwhile use' on development sites. This could link to action 3.	From 2020/21 throughout the lifetime of the strategy, as the council is approached by residents, businesses or community groups.	Residents, businesses, voluntary and community organisations, Sutton Housing Partnership, housing associations, Sutton Council.	Organisations such as the Mayor of London / GLA may offer funding that community groups and residents can bid for; or sponsorship may be available. Public realm funding through Local Committees could support this. Sites should be fully maintained by residents, businesses or community groups.	A cumulative increase in the total area used in this way each year.
6	Write a new Parks and Open Spaces Strategy.	November 2017 - November 2019	Sutton Council, friends of parks groups, park users and local people, Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust.	Existing officer time, already in progress.	New strategy published online.

¹ The baseline for this is the **Authority Monitoring Report 2016-17**. This sets a baseline of 605.9 hectares of green belt, 529.1 hectares of Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) and 518 hectares of Public Open Space (which includes some land designated as Green Belt or MOL).

² **Local Plan, 2018** Policy 26 is found on page 91 and Policy 33 on page 114.

Action	Timescale	Who's involved	What will this cost and how will it be funded?	How will success be measured?
7 Create new wildlife habitat as part of the planned restoration of Beddington Farmlands, part of the Wandle Valley Regional Park.	Ongoing to 2023	Viridor, Sutton Council, Beddington Farmlands Nature Reserve.	Viridor is funding the restoration as part of its planning condition for the Energy Recovery Facility.	Habitat restoration complete by 2023.
8 Run a 'Sutton in Bloom' competition each year to celebrate Sutton's gardeners.	Annually during the summer, for the lifetime of the strategy.	Sutton Council	Costs and officer time come from existing resources.	Increase in the number of entries received each year in relevant categories. New categories that promote biodiversity.
9 Promote opportunities for businesses, community groups, residents and the council to install green walls, green roofs, sustainable drainage ³ and solar panels on public and private sector buildings when there are maintenance and/or replacement opportunities, and highlight any available funding.	From 2021/22 to end of the strategy	Sutton Council, public sector in Sutton, businesses, Business Improvement Districts, residents, community and voluntary sector, GLA.	Promoting opportunities is existing officer time. The costs of installing can be included as part of building repairs, as opportunities arise. Public realm funding could be used for this. For the council's own buildings, commissioning a study of roofs and locations suitable for solar panels, sustainable drainage and green roofs would cost circa £15,000.	Cumulative increase in the number of funding opportunities identified. It is up to these organisations whether they choose to install. Maximise the surface area of roofs etc. draining into a SuDS ²⁵ feature across council buildings.
10 Explore whether a 'reverse collective auction' or other funding models are feasible for green roofs or other types of sustainable drainage, to encourage residents, businesses and the public sector to install biodiverse green roofs on suitable buildings.	2020/21	Sutton Council, GLA, SES Water, Thames Water.	Existing officer time. Commissioning this work would require additional funding, circa £25,000.	Feasibility report produced.
Focus area: Maintain and enhance the biodiversity value of the borough				
11 Deliver the Biodiversity Action Plan.	2019/20 to 2024/25	Sutton Council, Sutton Nature Conservation Volunteers, idverde.	Some projects can access agri-environment funding but others (e.g. river restoration) require funding applications.	The targets in the Biodiversity Action Plan are met.
12 Provide biodiversity education for children and adults.	Ongoing	Sutton Council	These events are self-financing.	5,000 people attending biodiversity events each year, of whom 3,500 are school-aged children.
Target: Plant 2,000 trees between 2018 and 2022				
13 Promote organisations that want to encourage wildlife gardening, making space for nature and opportunities for volunteering.	Ongoing from start of 2019/20	Sutton Nature Conservation Volunteers, Sutton Volunteer Centre, Sutton Council, Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust.	Use existing council communication to keep costs low.	Details of promotion undertaken and the approximate number of people reached on each occasion. Number of volunteer hours given through Sutton Nature Conservation Volunteers and approximate financial value.
14 Produce a list of tree species, that are good for biodiversity and suitable for a range of locations, to guide developers in selecting appropriate trees.	2019/20	Sutton Council.	Additional officer time.	Species list published on council's website.
15 Identify opportunities for planting 2,000 new trees, including creating woodland and planting in new developments. Create a way to make the most of free trees being offered to community groups by organisations, by harnessing the community's ability to apply for and plant trees.	From 2019/20 to end of strategy.	Voluntary and community sector, Sutton Council, residents and businesses, Business Improvement Districts, Community Action Sutton, Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust, friends of parks groups, Local Committees.	This is additional officer time, but it would help the council in the longer-term achieve its targets. The Mayor of London runs tree planting programmes most years. Public realm funding could be used for this.	Mapping work complete, identifying where trees can go. We will report with case studies how we have worked with the community to achieve this and whether they have been successful at bidding for and planting trees.

³ Sustainable drainage helps reduce the impacts of heavy rain, by slowing down the flow of water before it overwhelms the drainage network. Examples include rain gardens, drainage ponds and green roofs.

Using less energy – Action Plan (April 2019 to March 2023)

Action	Timescale	Who's involved	What will this cost and how will it be funded?	How will success be measured?	
Target: The council's carbon emissions will reduce by 60 per cent by March 2025 from a 2010/11 baseline.					
1	Use the carbon offset fund ¹ to deliver energy saving, renewable energy and community energy projects that reduce carbon emissions.	Ongoing from April 2019	Sutton Council, community and voluntary sector.	The carbon offset fund will grow over time. This could be supplemented by applying to other funding opportunities.	The total tonnes of carbon reduced as a result of the projects.
2	Continue to replace street lighting with LED / low usage bulbs.	Ongoing rolling programme.	Sutton Council	Annual funding is already secured.	Percentage of street lighting converted to low energy usage. In 2018, around 50 per cent of the lighting stock had been converted.
Target: The council will get all its energy from renewable sources by March 2021.					
3	Complete three solar panel projects on council buildings.	By May 2019	Sutton Council	Funding is in place for these projects.	Projects complete.
4	Switch the council's energy supply to a company or tariff that guarantees the energy is generated from renewable sources.	Contract ends 2020/2021.	Sutton Council	There is usually an additional cost to switch to a renewable tariff.	The council's energy supply is renewable.
5	Explore options to introduce battery storage from the solar canopy and solar panels with electric vehicle charge points at the council's Civic Offices and Gibson Road car park in Sutton town centre.	Throughout the lifetime of this strategy.	Sutton Council	Costs unknown but could be considerable. Could be funded using an invest to save model. Progress will depend on costs.	Feasibility study complete. If batteries are installed, the usage of the charge points will be monitored.
6	The council will sign up to be a Smart Energy GB Employer and run campaigns to encourage staff to reduce their energy use at work.	Sign up in 2019, then an annual campaign.	Sutton Council, energy provider, Smart Energy GB.	Using internal council communications will keep costs low.	Reach of campaign activity. A baseline will be set in year one.
Focus area: Take action to tackle fuel poverty.					
7	Promote the take-up of smart meters by all residents, particularly the households who would benefit the most.	Ongoing to 2020 (current deadline for all homes to have been offered a smart meter)	Voluntary and community sector, Sutton Council, Sutton Housing Partnership, residents.	Using council communications will keep costs low. There is ad hoc funding available for organisations who can reach hard to reach groups e.g. people who are not online or have a disability.	Reach of campaign activity. A baseline will be set in year one. It is not possible to report on the number of homes in Sutton with a smart meter as this data is held by the energy companies and they are not obliged to share it.
8	Deliver energy efficiency improvements planned as part of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan.	Ongoing.	Sutton Housing Partnership, Sutton Council.	Funding is set out in the HRA Business Plan.	The HRA Business Plan is refreshed annually with performance reported annually.
9	Refresh the borough's fuel poverty strategy.	From April 2022 to March 2023	Sutton Council, Sutton Housing Partnership, voluntary and community services.	Existing officer time to write the strategy. The strategy refresh will include funding options for the actions it proposes.	Fuel poverty strategy published online.
Target: More of the borough's energy needs will be met from renewable, community or local sources of energy, helping the borough's carbon emissions to reduce by 40 per cent compared to a 2007 baseline.²					
10	Deliver district heating networks across the borough, based on modelling and feasibility studies.	Ongoing	Sutton Council	Grant funding / funding bids are options here, as well as investment / income models.	Number of domestic properties connected or number of kilowatt hours supplied for commercial properties connected to a district heating network.

¹ **Policy 31 (Carbon and Energy) of the Local Plan** (page 104) requires major residential developments to achieve zero carbon standards, by offsetting at least 35 per cent of emissions on site and offsetting the remainder to 100 per cent by a section 106 contribution to the council's carbon offset fund to deliver carbon offsetting measures elsewhere in the borough.

² Renewable, community and local sources include district heating systems, solar, wind and energy produced from waste, including from anaerobic digestion or in-vessel composting of food waste. Reduction is compared to a 2007 baseline. [Data source for carbon emissions reductions.](#)

	Action	Timescale	Who's involved	What will this cost and how will it be funded?	How will success be measured?
11	Ensure that all major residential developments achieve 'zero carbon' standards (Local Plan Policy 31).	Ongoing	Sutton Council	Existing planning officer time.	The aim is to maximise the number of developments meeting the required standard. This will be reported in the council's Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).
12	Promote opportunities for residents, businesses and community groups to generate their own energy locally e.g. through solar panels or other energy mixes, as well as options to reduce energy use or improve carbon emissions, for example through boiler replacement schemes.	Ongoing throughout strategy, as opportunities arise.	Sutton Council, voluntary and community sector, businesses, residents, GLA, government and other funders.	Additional officer time. External funding may be available.	Number of opportunities promoted each year. It is up to organisations if they choose to apply.
13	Replace all domestic boilers in Sutton Housing Partnership properties for low energy ones, where they are not already.	2016-2026	Sutton Housing Partnership	This is part of a planned improvement programme.	Percentage of SHP properties with a low energy domestic boiler. In 2018 20 per cent of eligible boilers have been replaced.

Creating a circular economy – Action Plan (April 2019 to March 2023)

Action	Timescale	Who's involved	What will this cost and how will it be funded?	How will success be measured?	
Focus area: Undertake circular economy pilot projects.					
1	Deliver a series of circular economy projects, taking forward the most viable ones from the South London circular economy study.	From 2019/20 to 2021/22.	Sutton Council, Advance London, businesses, Business Improvement Districts, Sutton Housing Partnership, housing associations, voluntary and community organisations, South London Waste Partnership.	Existing officer time.	Case studies will be produced about the project impacts. Where possible, the tonnage of materials reused or diverted from waste will be recorded.
2	Explore the feasibility of running a Community Repaint initiative ¹ at Kimpton recycling centre, allowing the exchange of unwanted paint with people and projects who can use it. Options could include the community payback scheme and other community reuse organisations.	By March 2020	Sutton Council, South London Waste Partnership, Veolia, community groups and voluntary sector, businesses, London Waste and Recycling Board.	Unknown at present. Existing officer time.	Tonnage of paint reused, number of people using the scheme, number of businesses involved with scheme.
3	Map existing upcycling schemes in the borough and apply for funding to support these schemes or create new opportunities when available.	Ongoing throughout strategy.	Community and voluntary sector, businesses, Sutton Council, funders.	This is additional officer time but will be achieved together with existing upcycling schemes.	Sutton has a range of upcycling initiatives that people can use.
Focus area: Maximise opportunities to procure goods and services sustainability.					
4	Update Sutton Council's sustainable procurement guide, with circular economy principles in mind, and provide training for staff.	By March 2020	Sutton Council, suppliers.	Existing officer time.	The guide is published and training for staff delivered.
5	All council committee papers will include a consideration of the environmental impacts of the policy or decision being made.	By April 2020	Sutton Council	Existing officer time.	Committee papers include consideration of the environmental impacts.
6	Review existing and new contracts and implement circular economy principles and sustainability improvements in those with the most potential for this.	From 2020/21 to 2021/22.	Sutton Council, suppliers	Existing officer time.	Measuring the number of contracts that are taking a circular economy approach and produce case studies of the impact of the changes.
7	When the council refurbishes or moves buildings, reuse as much office furniture, stationery and building fabric as possible, either elsewhere in the council or by offering it to others, and apply the 'circular office' approach. Explore links to the 'library of things'.	Ongoing as appropriate.	Sutton Council, Mitie, London Waste and Recycling Board	The value of the item may allow costs to be recouped, or some reuse platforms are free.	Tonnage of materials diverted from landfill or reused. This will be reported when these opportunities arise.
Target: Promote recycling and keep Sutton's recycling rate at 50 per cent or higher.					
Target: Help people throw less away and achieve year on year reductions in the amount of rubbish (residual waste) produced by each household.					
Target: Help people reduce the amount of avoidable food waste they throw away by 20 per cent by 2025.²					
8	Write a new waste minimisation strategy and waste reduction and recycling action plan, in conjunction with the South London Waste Partnership.	March 2020	Sutton Council, South London Waste Partnership, Veolia.	Existing officer time.	Waste strategy published online.

¹ <https://communityrepaint.org.uk/>

² The baseline for household residual waste is 434.18kg per household in 2017/18, the food waste baseline is 7,392 tonnes in 2017/18 and Sutton's recycling rate is 50 per cent in 2018.

Action	Timescale	Who's involved	What will this cost and how will it be funded?	How will success be measured?
9 Map out how to offer a comprehensive textiles recycling service across the borough (e.g. kerbside collection, textile banks, reuse shops); and recommission the textile banks service.	August 2019	Sutton Council, South London Waste Partnership, Veolia, textile bank providers, voluntary sector representatives.	Some additional and some existing officer time. Textile bank income will cover the costs.	The tonnage of textiles recycled in kerbside collection, at Household Reuse and Recycling Centre (HRRC) and at each textile bank site.
10 Continue to offer a business waste and recycling service in Sutton. Explore options to consolidate collections, particularly in areas with large numbers of businesses, to reduce vehicle movements and increase recycling.	During 2019/20	Veolia, Sutton Council, Business Improvement Districts, businesses, South London Waste Partnership, London Waste and Recycling Board, waste companies.	Part of existing waste contract; financial benefit to signing up more businesses.	The tonnages of business waste and recycling collected.
11 Secure funding to run projects and campaigns to help people reduce the amount of waste they produce and throw away, including avoidable food waste.	Throughout the strategy as opportunities arise.	Sutton Council, GLA and other funders, London Waste and Recycling Board, South London Waste Partnership.	Existing officer time. Funding will be secured towards the costs of campaigns.	The reach of the campaign. Waste composition analysis could be undertaken before and after the project / campaign to assess success, but this comes with additional cost.
12 Work with schools to introduce cost-effective food waste recycling.	From 2019/20	Schools, Sutton Council, waste providers, students, South London Waste Partnership.	Existing officer time.	Number of schools involved in the scheme and tonnes of food recycled.
13 Implement the single use plastics motion passed at full council. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Undertaking an audit of single use plastics in council services and contracts; ▶ Through the sustainable procurement guide (above), avoid the use of single use plastics in new contracts or services where alternatives are available; ▶ Calling on supermarkets to introduce a plastic-free aisle, reduce their packaging and use recyclable materials; ▶ A 'Refill Sutton' campaign where local businesses and organisations will refill water bottles for free; ▶ Installing 7-10 drinking fountains in outdoor high-footfall locations in the borough. 	2019/20 - 2020/21	Sutton Council, contractors and suppliers, local supermarkets and businesses, GLA, SES Water, Thames Water.	This is additional officer time as part of existing contract management. The council can apply to a Mayor of London scheme for funded water fountains including installation and maintenance.	The actions set out in the motion are delivered.
14 Review existing waste arrangements for the council offices, and run an annual campaign to encourage staff to reduce their waste and recycle more.	Review arrangements by September 2019. Campaign run annually from April 2019.	Sutton Council, Mitie	Include as part of existing communication channels to reduce costs.	The tonnage and percentage of council waste and recycling produced, plus case studies about the campaign and waste changes introduced.

Tackling climate change – Action Plan (April 2019 to March 2023)

The action plans for 'A greener borough' and 'Using less energy' will also contribute to tackling climate change.

Action	Timescale	Who's involved	What will this cost and how will it be funded?	How will success be measured?	
Focus area: Increase Sutton's resilience to the effects of climate change.					
1	Use the Climate Just framework to understand and map climate change vulnerabilities and adaptation opportunities across the borough. Use this to work with people identified as being vulnerable, as well as with the community and voluntary sector and places such as care homes and hospitals to build knowledge and action when there is a risk of heat waves or flooding.	From 2022/23	NHS Clinical Commissioning Group, voluntary and community services, Sutton Council.	This is additional officer time. Use existing networks and communications channels.	We will report using case studies on how this work is progressing.
2	In the borough's four flood risk priority areas, produce detailed designs and test financial viability to identify options to address flooding.	2018/19 - 2019/20	Sutton Council; interested parties may include the Environment Agency, South East Rivers Trust, local residents and local businesses.	The council can apply for funding from the Environment Agency for flood risk work.	If scheme are viable, they are implemented. The number of properties at reduced flood risk will be reported.
3	Deliver the 'SuDS ¹ in Sutton Schools' project, which will introduce natural drainage features to reduce flood risk in playgrounds as well as the local area. The project will provide educational resources for learning.	Construction 2019/20 - 2020/21	Sutton Council, South East Rivers Trust, Environment Agency.	Estimated total cost is £1.7 million, predominantly externally funded. The council has committed £344,000 towards the project.	4.3 hectares of school roofs, playgrounds etc. will drain into SuDS ¹ features to 'slow the flow' and reduce flooding risk in Hackbridge and Carshalton. 46 properties will be better protected from flooding.
4	Develop ways to build community resilience, including learning from Flood Warden pilots in south east London.	From 2022/23	Environment Agency, community and voluntary organisations, Sutton Council.	Unknown at this stage, learning from the pilots will include this.	We will report on progress towards developing options.
5	Support the delivery of the River Wandle Catchment Plan to achieve Water Framework Directive targets.	Ongoing.	South East Rivers Trust, Sutton Council, SES Water, Environment Agency.	There are a variety of projects with associated costs. This strategy doesn't provide any additional funding.	We will report on the ways the council has been involved in delivery of the Catchment Plan.
Target: Improve Sutton's score on the Good Food for London report from 18th in 2017 to being in the top quarter of boroughs by 2025					
6	Deliver the Local Plan policy ² on allotments and promote allotment plot availability.	Ongoing	Sutton Food Forum, community groups, Sutton Council, idverde.	This is additional officer time.	This will be reported through the Authority Monitoring Report.
7	Retain borough Sustainable Food City status through the Sutton Food Forum and producing an action plan that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ makes healthy and sustainable food a defining characteristic of the borough; ▶ maps where in the borough local food is grown and sold and identifies the support (if any) these initiatives need; ▶ addresses food poverty including holiday hunger. This may link to action on fuel poverty; ▶ improves Sutton's score on the Good Food for London report. 	From 2019/20 onwards.	Sutton Food Forum, community groups, Sutton Council, food growers and sellers e.g. Wallington farmers market, Carshalton Community Allotment and Sutton Community Farm.	This is additional officer time.	Sustainable Food City status is retained each year.

¹ Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) help to reduce the impacts of heavy rain, by slowing down the flow of water before it overwhelms the drainage network. Examples include rain gardens, drainage ponds and green roofs.

² [Local Plan Policy 25, page 88](#)

Action	Timescale	Who's involved	What will this cost and how will it be funded?	How will success be measured?
8 Extend sustainable catering commitments to the meals on wheels contract and other food outlets the council lets contracts for e.g. library and parks cafes. This will form part of the contracts review in the circular economy chapter.	2021/22 onwards	Sutton Council, providers, residents who use these services, Sutton Food Forum	This is additional officer time.	All of the council's contracts for catering services include sustainable sourcing requirements.
Target: Help people reduce their daily water use from 160 litres in 2018 to 135 litres by 2025.				
9 Promote ways people living and working in Sutton can reduce their water use by promoting water efficiency visits and increasing the number of homes in Sutton with water meters from 55 per cent in 2018 to 60 per cent by 2020 and 80 per cent by 2025.	Each year of the strategy (may be weather dependent).	SES Water is the lead; organisations that could promote are Sutton Council, Sutton Housing Partnership, housing associations, voluntary and community groups.	Using council and other organisations' communications will keep costs low. Dedicated campaigns could be run with SES Water, which would require additional funding.	Reach of campaign activity. A baseline will be set in year one. 60 per cent of homes will have a water meter by 2020 and 80 per cent by 2025. The number of water efficiency visits undertaken annually by SES Water. In 2017/18 there were 320 visits.
10 Reduce water leakage on the SES Water network, and promote action residents can take when they have a leak.	Ongoing	SES Water is the lead; organisations that could promote are Sutton council, Sutton Housing Partnership, housing associations, voluntary and community groups.	Water companies are required to invest in their network and this is part of their business plan.	A reduction in the litres of water lost through leakage. In 2017/18 10.16 million litres were lost a day.
Target: Achieve a year on year reduction in the council's water consumption, against a 2016 baseline.				
11 Identify if there are cost-effective options to improve the council's water efficiency in its buildings (e.g. toilets, taps) and for services that use large amounts of water e.g. in parks. Promote water efficiency messages e.g. washing items before recycling.	2020/21	ADSM (the council's water provider), Sutton Council, SES Water	Funded by AquaFund, operated by council water provider ADSM. Service review is additional officer time.	A year on year reduction in the council's water use, against use in 2016. We will report on the findings of the reviews and where there is the potential for water efficiency.
12 Encourage council staff to reduce their water use at work and at home and encourage smart metering. This will link to the energy campaign as using less hot water uses less energy.	Annually, may coincide with borough-wide activity (action 9).	Sutton Council, SES Water, South East Rivers Trust.	Use existing internal council communications.	The campaign reach amongst staff. A baseline will be set in year one.



 **Sutton**