

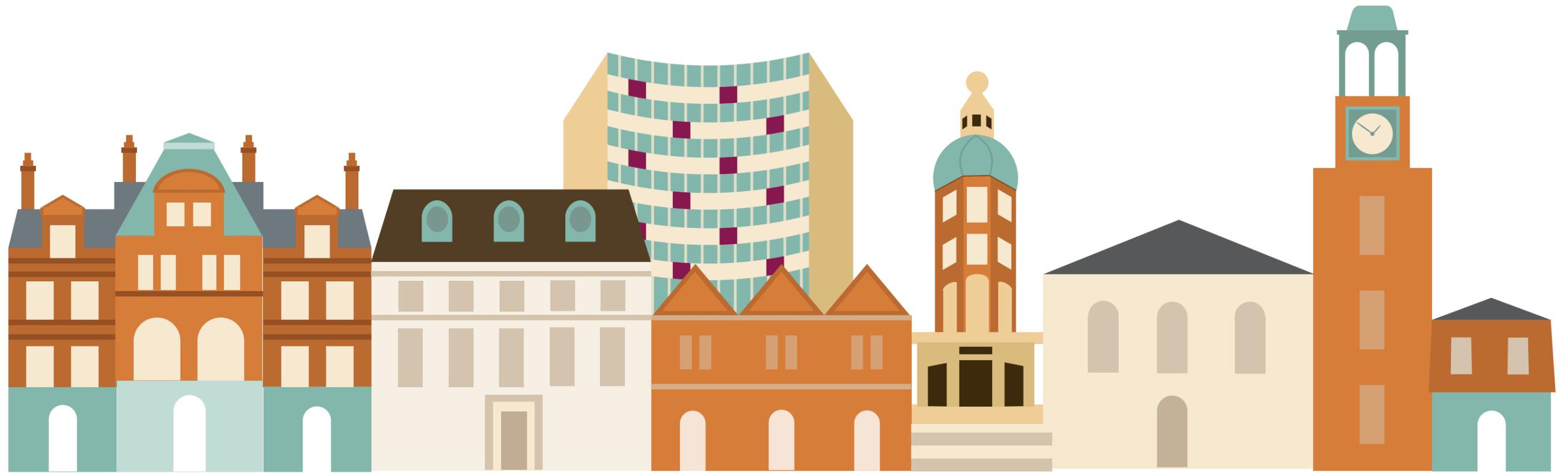
MERTON'S CLIMATE DELIVERY PLAN FOR YEAR 3

SUMMARY 2023



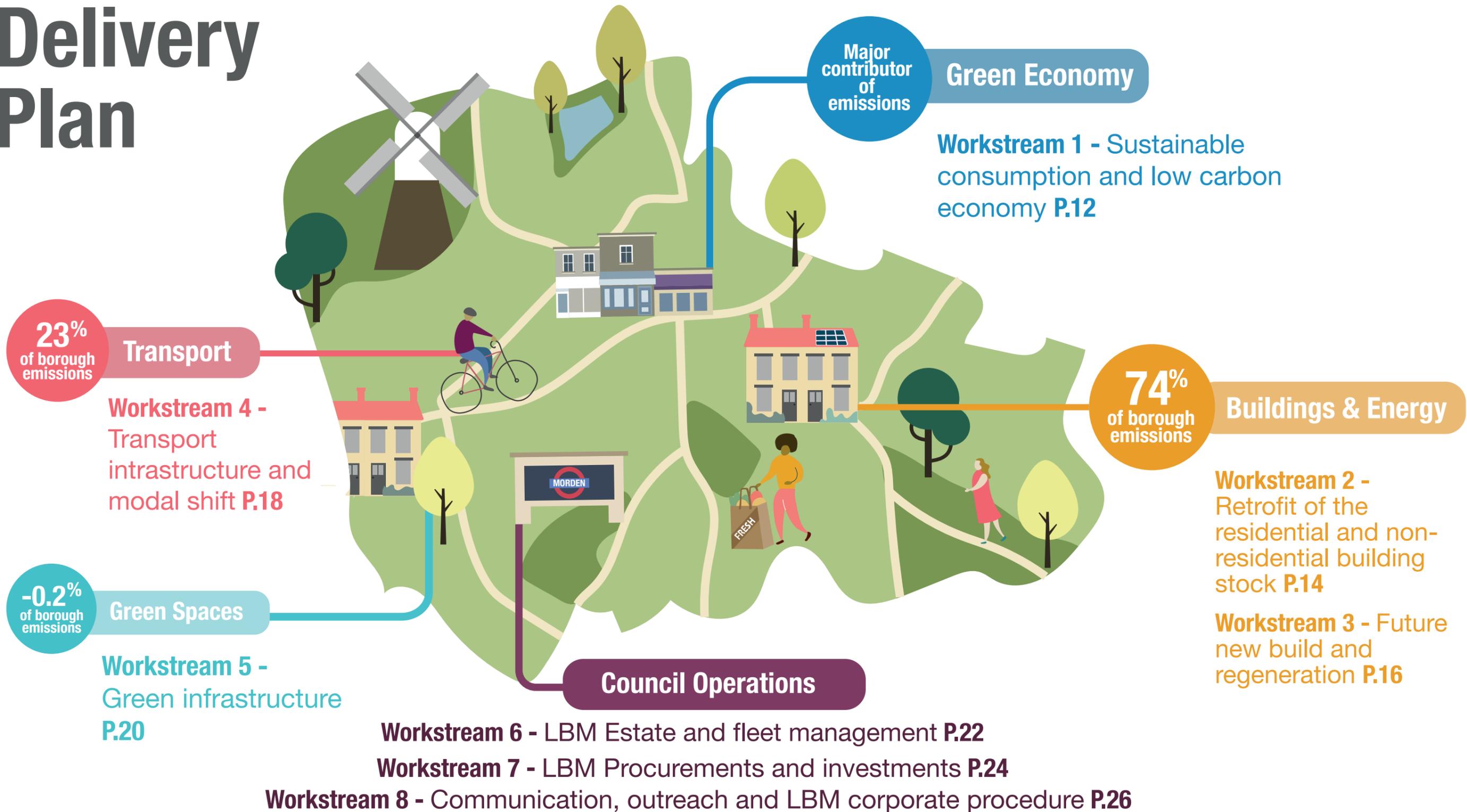
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Merton Climate Delivery Plan

Following the adoption of Merton's Climate Strategy & Action Plan in 2020¹, Merton's annual Climate Delivery Plan monitors how the council is working towards becoming a net-zero carbon council by 2030 and a net-zero borough by 2050, as well as adapting to the effects of climate change. The Climate Delivery Plan for Year 3 provides a review of progress during the second year of delivery (2022), and sets out priorities for the third year of delivery (2023). This includes activities to decarbonise the council's own operations, and enabling actions to support others in tackling climate change across the borough, which are split across 8 workstreams as set out above. This Summary Report provides a high-level overview of the Climate Delivery Plan for Year 3; you can find more details in Merton's full Climate Delivery Plan Year 3 which is available at: <https://democracy.merton.gov.uk/documents/s49361/Appendix%20-%20Climate%20Delivery%20Plan.pdf>



Merton Carbon Emissions - Update

Borough Emissions

Economy: Carbon emissions are generated as products are made and transported for Merton's consumers, and also as products are disposed of. Estimates are uncertain, but those likely to have the most significant impact include construction materials, food production, vehicle manufacture, clothing, electronics, appliances and aviation.

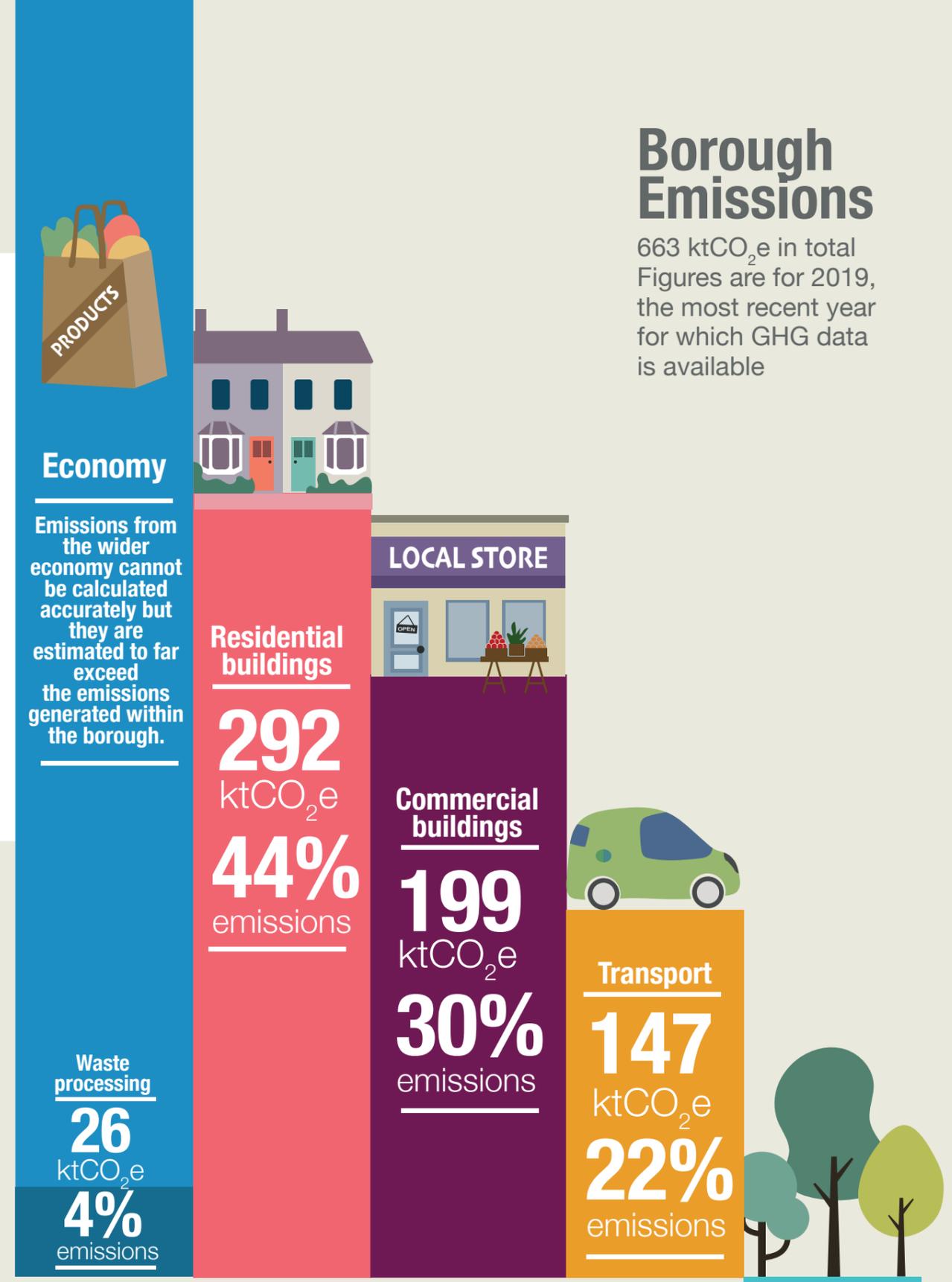
Buildings: Emissions that are generated from Merton's buildings come mainly from the use of gas heating, cooking and the use of electrical lighting and appliances. The production of local renewable electricity avoids the need to use grid electricity which has a higher carbon intensity.

Transport: Petrol and diesel cars and other road vehicles make up the vast majority of transport emissions.

Land use: Land serves as a store of carbon as growing plants absorb carbon dioxide from the air, and can therefore offset emissions elsewhere.

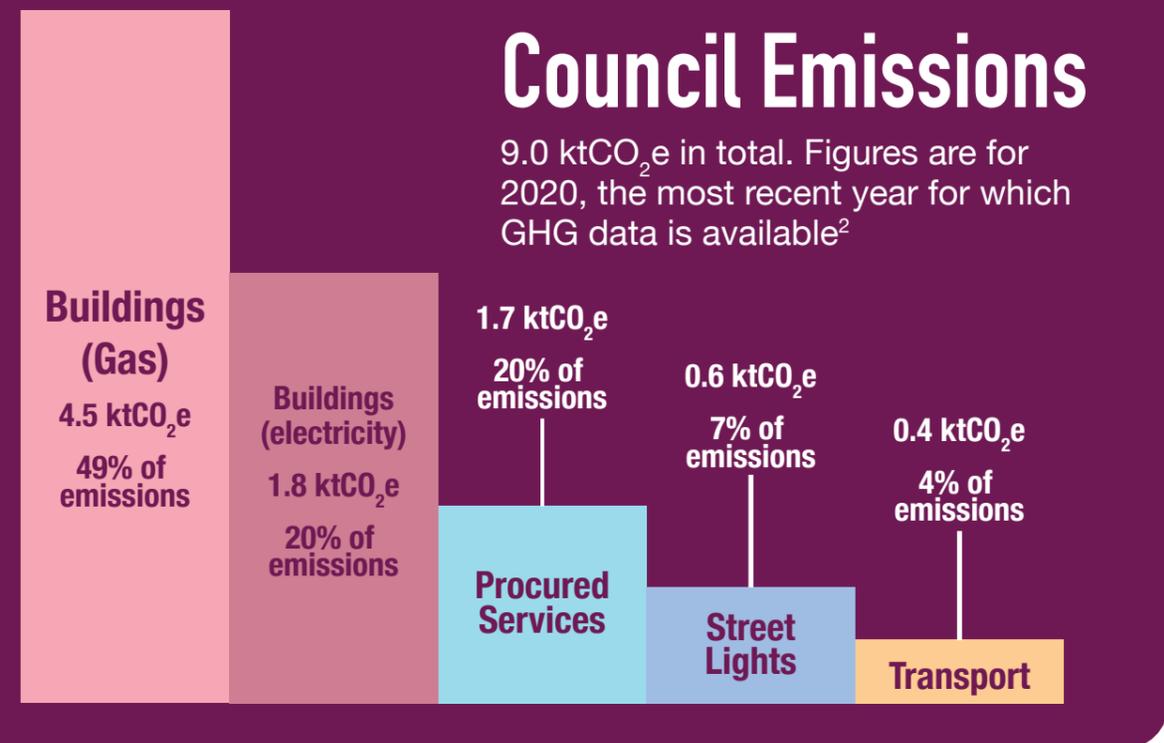
Borough Emissions

663 ktCO₂e in total
 Figures are for 2019, the most recent year for which GHG data is available



Council Emissions

9.0 ktCO₂e in total. Figures are for 2020, the most recent year for which GHG data is available²



Council Emissions

Energy used in the Council's buildings, street lighting and transport fleet makes up the majority of emissions. Emissions from procured services are likely to be higher than estimated, as this represents a limited sub-set of procured services.

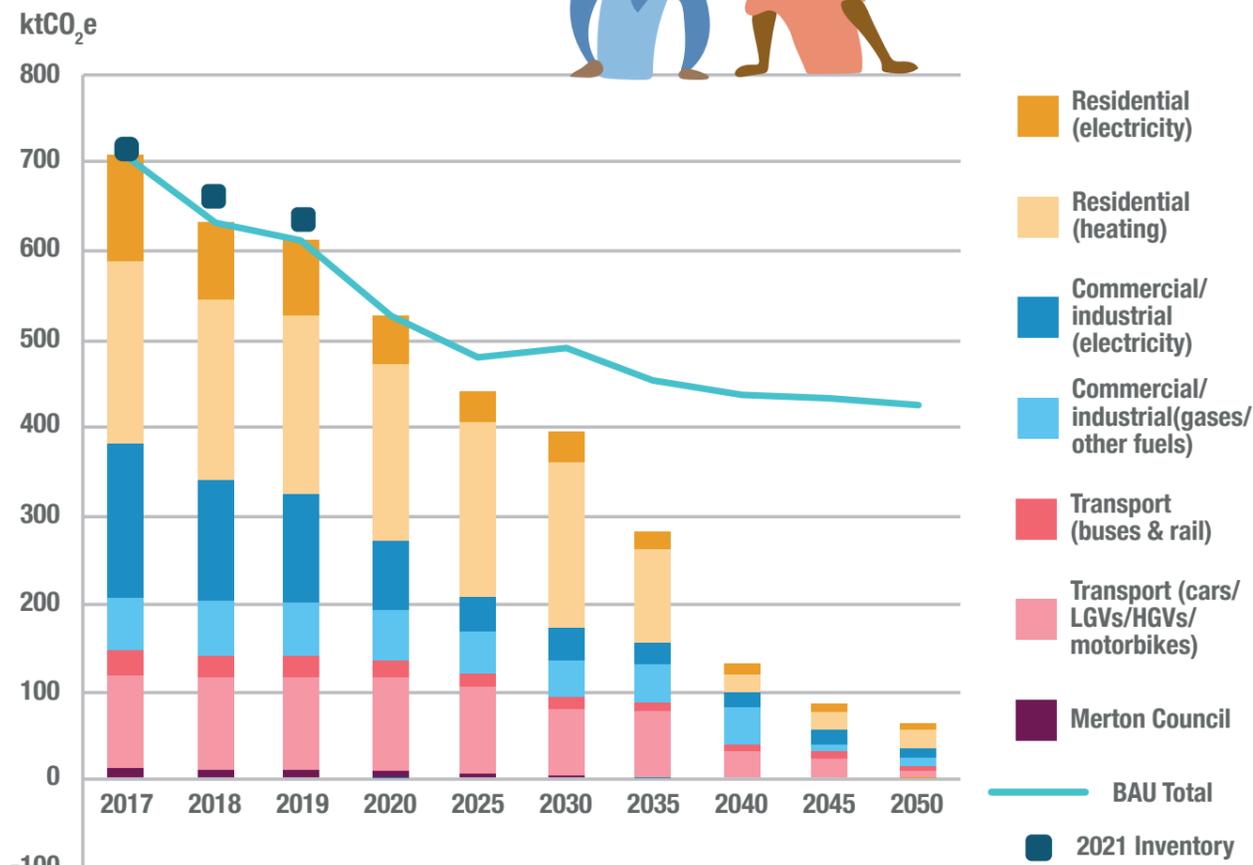
Progress against our decarbonisation pathways

In 2020, the council commissioned a consultant to baseline Merton's greenhouse gas inventory and to develop decarbonisation pathways for both our borough (2050) and council (2030) net zero targets. The graphs below show how we're progressing against these projections based on our latest greenhouse gas inventory update which was carried out in 2021.

It's worth noting here that there is a lag between the delivery of carbon reduction projects and reported emissions reductions due to delays in national and local data-sets becoming available. We last updated our greenhouse inventory in 2021 and the latest data available at the time was from 2019 for the borough target and 2020 for the council target.

You can find out more about how these figures are calculated and what they mean in our latest greenhouse gas inventory report from 2021³.

Decarbonisation pathway for Merton Borough, 2017-2050



Decarbonisation pathway for Merton Council, 2017-2030



Key challenges

- Limited capacity to progress climate projects across the Council, accentuated by recruitment challenges in finding suitably qualified candidates.
- Supply chain and skills gaps due to wider macro-economic circumstances (e.g. Covid, Brexit, etc.).
- A complex and evolving national and regional policy and funding landscape. The short timescales of current funding schemes also require shovel-ready projects in order to meet bidding timescales.
- Lack of resident and business awareness of the benefits of climate action.
- Challenges in recruiting new volunteers for Merton's Climate Action Group to develop new community-led climate action projects.
- Challenges in engaging with underrepresented groups, or residents, businesses and others who aren't already engaged in the climate agenda.

MEASURING SUCCESS

By updating Merton's greenhouse gas inventory and Merton's Climate Delivery Plan, progress is monitored with measurable outcomes where possible. The table below shows the main measures and other useful indicators used to track progress against our net zero targets:

	Indicator	Baseline Measurement	Latest data available
Overall	Borough Greenhouse Gas emissions	767 ktCO ₂ eq (2017)	663 ktCO ₂ eq (2019)
	Council spend on Climate projects	£2,115,900 (FY19/20)	£2,330,862 (FY21/22)
Green Economy	Local Authority Collected Waste	67,987 t (2018)	70,124 t (2020)
Buildings & Energy	Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive accredited installations	11 installations (2018)	43 installations (2022)
Transport	Car vehicle traffic in Merton	516 million km (2018)	476 million km (2021)
	Merton ownership of vehicles	76,159 vehicles (2018)	73,385 vehicles (2021)
	Merton ownership of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles	1,078 vehicles (2018)	2,798 vehicles (2022)
	Merton ownership of battery Electric Vehicles	220 vehicles (2018)	1,625 vehicles (2022)
	EV Charge points	71 charge points (2018)	239 charge points (2022)
	EV or hydrogen bus routes	0 routes (2018)	3 routes (2022)
	School Streets	0 schools (2018)	30 schools (2022)
	Cycle hangars	1 cycle hangar (2018)	21 cycle hangars (2022)

	Indicator	Baseline Measurement	Latest data available
Greening Merton	Sustainable urban Drainage System Features	6 SuDS (2018)	11 SuDS (2022)
	Streets participating in Merton Garden Streets	92 streets (2021)	124 streets (2022)
Council Operations	Council emissions	11 ktCO ₂ eq (2018)	9 ktCO ₂ eq (2020)
	Council operational building emissions	3.7 ktCO ₂ eq/ yr (2018)	2.8 ktCO ₂ eq/ yr (2021)
	Community school building emissions	4.1 ktCO ₂ eq/ yr (2018)	3.2 ktCO ₂ eq/ yr (2021)
	Council Fleet Petrol Vehicle Mileage	41,090 km/ yr (2018)	66,709 km/ yr (2021)
	Council Fleet Diesel Vehicle Mileage	828,478 km/ yr (2018)	771,251 km/ yr (2021)
	Council Fleet Petrol Hybrid Mileage	8,896 km/ yr (2018)	11,051 km/ yr (2021)
	Council Fleet EV mileage	5,427 km/ yr (2018)	5,195 km/ yr (2021)
	Petrol and diesel grey fleet mileage claims	282,702 miles/ yr (2018)	190,181 miles/ yr (2021)
	Weighted Average Carbon Intensity of Merton's Pension Fund	219 tCO ₂ /\$m sales (2018)	97 tCO ₂ /\$m sales (2022)
	Individuals signed up to Merton's Climate Action Newsletter	3,847 people (2021)	9,314 people (2022)

Note: Please see Climate Delivery Plan Year 3 for more indicators and all data sources

WS1: Sustainable consumption and low carbon economy

Key areas of progress in 2022

Recruiting a new Climate Engagement Officer to lead on climate engagement and promote sustainable behaviours in Merton.

Launching Merton's adult education programme for green skills.

Securing funding for the delivery of relevant initiatives in 2023.



Supporting Merton's Climate Action Group⁴ in developing community-led climate action projects which promote sustainable behaviours and a circular economy (e.g. The Wheel: Merton's circular economy hub⁵).

Developing a number of green skills training opportunities and employment pathways through Merton's Towards Employment programme.

Securing funding through the Net Zero Innovation Programme to investigate how small and medium enterprises on our highstreets can become more resource efficient⁶.



Working with the South London Partnership (SLP) to support the development of green jobs and skills through the Green Skills Academy, the South London Careers Hub, Phase 2 of the Green Jobs and Skills London Report, the South London Knowledge Exchange project, etc.

Identifying opportunities to embed a green recovery from Covid-19 through the SLP and the London Councils programmes on climate change⁷.

Launching the Merton Local App⁸ which encourages residents and businesses to reduce their carbon footprint and shop local.

Launching Merton's 'Business support for Cost of Living and Climate Action' web page⁹.

Continuing the roll-out of town centre dual stream bins to minimise waste and promote recycling.

Key priorities for 2023

Continuing to develop or support activities progressed in 2022 where appropriate.



Recruiting a new member of staff to lead on the development of a low carbon economy, by promoting low carbon business, helping maximise green skills and jobs opportunities, and promoting a circular economy.

Developing a business retrofit support scheme which will enable greater engagement with businesses.

Developing a Climate Action Fund to support community-led climate action projects.

Exploring opportunities to establish a reuse shop.



Finalising and adopting Merton's Climate Engagement Strategy to maximise the impact of Merton's climate engagement.



WS2: Retrofit of the residential and non-residential building stock

Key areas of progress in 2022

Recruiting two new Community Retrofit Officers to lead on the retrofit of residential and non-residential buildings in Merton.

Promoting Phase 5 of the Mayor's Solar Together scheme¹⁰.

Lobbying central Government for appropriate policies and funding schemes to support retrofit through the Net Zero Review consultation.



Supporting fuel poor households in accessing funding to retrofit their homes through the Mayor's Warmer Homes Scheme¹¹.

Using Merton's Carbon Offset Fund to top-up national and regional funding streams for retrofit where appropriate.

Supporting Housing Associations in bidding for national retrofit funding schemes (e.g. Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund).

Working with the Buildings & Energy sub-group of Merton's Climate Action Group to promote energy efficiency and retrofit by developing case studies and delivering the Energy Matters project in Merton schools.

Securing funding for the delivery of relevant initiatives in 2023.



Key priorities for 2023

Developing an Energy Masterplan for the borough to consider energy infrastructure needs to support the transition to net-zero.

Developing a Retrofit Strategy for the borough.

Continuing to develop or support activities progressed in 2022 where appropriate.

Developing a business retrofit support scheme.

Working with the South London Partnership to develop a retrofit roadmap to encourage residents to retrofit their homes.

Investigating how the Council can support residents in accessing Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding.



Developing a recycled loan fund for homeowners looking to retrofit their homes who aren't eligible for national and regional retrofit funding.

Recruiting additional capacity to lead on the enforcement of Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) in Merton's Private Rental Sector.

Considering what 'good retrofit' looks like in the context of conservation and heritage.

Running a retrofit workshop with housing associations and green skills partners in February 2023 to discuss lessons learnt, challenges and opportunities in decarbonising Merton's housing stock.

Supporting the Mayor's bid for Home Upgrade Grant 2 (HUG 2) funding for off-gas grid properties in London.

Considering local green skills and jobs needs, as well as upskilling and employment opportunities, for borough-wide retrofit.



WS3: Future new build and regeneration

Key areas of progress in 2022

Supporting the Examination in public of Merton's draft Local Plan which has ambitious climate change policies.

Lobbying for faster change to national and regional planning policy to ensure that all new development is compatible with our net zero commitments.

Collaborating with a consortium of 19 London boroughs to develop the evidence base to support more ambitious local planning policies.

Recruiting two Community Retrofit Officers who will lead on the development of an Energy Masterplan for Merton.

Key priorities for 2023

Developing an Energy Masterplan for Merton to consider any energy infrastructure needs to support the transition to net zero (buildings and transport).

Adopting Merton's new Local Plan.

Continuing to lobby for faster change in the built environment.



WS4: Transport infrastructure & modal shift

Key areas of progress in 2022

Working with TfL and other transport providers to improve access to public transport in Merton.

Undertaking preparatory work and engagement in relation to Merton's EV, cycling and walking strategies.

Continuing the implementation of Merton's Air Quality Action Plan and active travel initiatives (e.g. air quality and traffic monitoring, air quality audits, anti-idling campaigns and signage, the Non-Road Mobile Machinery and Clean Air Village initiatives, and Air Quality comms and events).



Establishing an EV task group via the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny and Overview Committee.

Securing a phase 1 GLA School Superzone grant for a Merton school to pilot mechanisms to reduce the number of students driven to school.



Securing £750k of funding to provide up to 500 lamp column EV chargepoints.

Delivering funded active travel infrastructure schemes.

Identifying schemes for Merton's Local Implementation Plan (LIP) bids for FY23/24 and FY 24/25.

Continuing to deliver Merton's active travel programmes (e.g. cycle training, schools STARS travel plans, free Dr Bike sessions, etc.)

Funding a number of multi-modal traffic monitors that will be used to inform the development of Merton's cycling and walking strategies.

Continuing engagement with car clubs about a transition to electric – a significant proportion of the car club fleet in Merton is now electric.

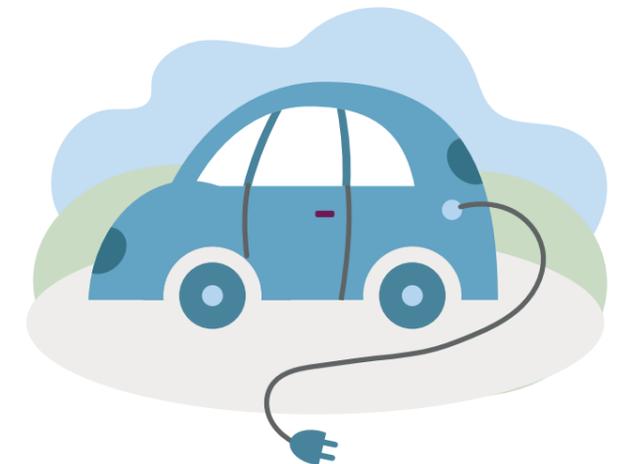
Key priorities for 2023

Continuing to develop or support activities progressed in 2022 where appropriate.

Recruiting a new member of staff to lead on the development of Merton's EV, cycling and walking strategies.

Working with operators for dockless electric bike hire schemes to enter into formal agreements to provide designated parking areas and to expand the scheme to all parts of the borough.

Delivering active travel infrastructure improvements included in the FY23/24 LIP bid.



Progressing the delivery of more rapid charge points, likely through an operator funded model.



WS5: Green infrastructure

Key areas of progress in 2022

Developing and consulting stakeholders on Phase 1 of Merton's Tree Strategy for the management of council owned trees.



Planting 299 standard trees and 1200 whips in parks across the borough as part of the Urban Tree Challenge Round 2.

Planting 560 standard trees as part of Merton's annual Street Tree Replacement Programme.

Securing funding from Thames' Water Surface Water Management Plan for additional SuDS features.

Increasing the proactive inspection of Street and Park Trees on the Council's current tree management software (Ezytree) and actively logging any losses to ensure priority replacements within 1 year wherever possible.

Designing a large green infrastructure Sustainable urban Drainage System (SuDS) solution for Raynes Park Town Centre on Pepys Road.

Supporting the Examination in Public of Merton's draft Local Plan which includes several Green and Blue Infrastructure policies.

Successfully retaining all 6 Green Flag Award winning parks in Merton with positive feedback for Merton's Friends of Park groups.

Supporting and funding the second year of the Climate Action Group's Merton Garden Streets initiative via Sustainable Merton¹², with 124 streets signed up in 2022.

Proactively engaging with the Independent Merton Greenspace Forum and Merton's existing Friends of Parks network to share knowledge and experience as well as encourage new groups to form.



Key priorities for 2023

Continuing to develop or support activities progressed in 2022 where appropriate.

Adopting Phase 1 of Merton's Tree Strategy for the management of council-owned trees.

Planting a community woodland with Trees for Cities on Cranmer Green with 6000 whips and 12 standard trees.

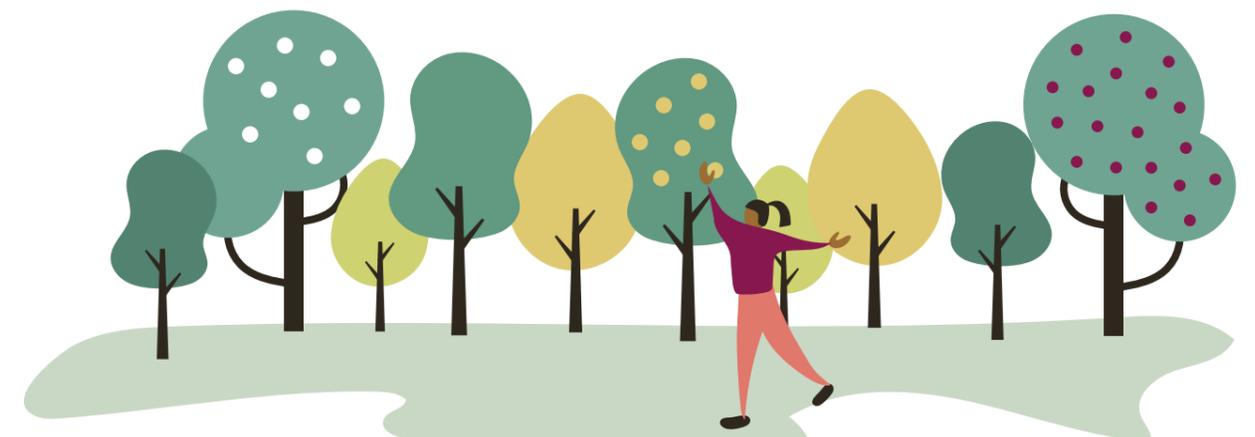
Developing Phase 2 of Merton's Tree Strategy for the management of trees on private land.

Planting 283 standard trees across Merton parks under Round 3 of the Urban Tree Challenge.

Developing a partnership with Trees for Streets and launching a Street Tree Sponsorship Scheme.

Considering the feasibility and delivery of a larger Green Infrastructure Pocket Park with attenuation at Home Park Road and Kenilworth Green.

Applying for 9 Green Flag Awards, including the 6 existing parks and 3 New Green Flag Award Management and Maintenance Plans.



WS6: LBM Estate and fleet management

Key areas of progress in 2022

Installing 4 solar PV-connected battery systems and loft insulation on Council buildings through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme.

Bidding for funding for additional streetlighting upgrades.

Commissioning and progressing building surveys for community schools, and the Council's operational and non-operational buildings.

Converting a further 170 lanterns to LEDs on our streetlighting assets.



Progressing recruitment for a new Climate Emergency Building Surveyor to lead on the decarbonisation of the Council's operational and non-operational buildings, and community schools.



Starting to investigate several potential frameworks for sourcing a long-term delivery partner for the decarbonisation of Merton's estate.

Securing funding for a number of relevant initiatives to be delivered in 2023 and beyond.

Key priorities for 2023

Recruiting Merton's new Climate Emergency Building Surveyor to lead on the decarbonisation of Merton's estate.



Commissioning Energy Performance Certificates and reviewing the leases for the Council's non-operational rented properties to inform future decarbonisation plans and funding bids.

Processing the results of Merton's building surveys carried out in 2022 to develop packages of work for future funding bids.

Commissioning a review of the heating and catering equipment in Merton's community schools to inform future decarbonisation plans and funding bids.

Implementing a mechanism to ensure all new council buildings are net zero carbon by 2030 without requiring significant retrofit.

Investigating Power Purchase Agreements for future inclusion in corporate utility contracts.

Continuing streetlight LED replacement through standard maintenance.

Reviewing outcomes of Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funded measures installed in 2022.

Commissioning consultant support to investigate fleet decarbonisation options and to form a strategy to decarbonise the Council's vehicle fleet and its supporting infrastructure.

Considering opportunities to improve Council-owned sites to encourage active and electrified travel by staff, while developing staff travel policies.

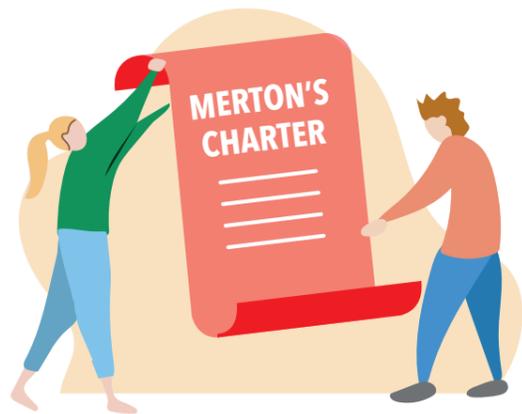


WS7: LBM Procurement and investments

Key areas of progress in 2022

Implementing Merton's new Contract Standing Orders (CSO) which require Responsible Officers to give due consideration to the Climate Emergency.

Incorporating climate considerations in the CSO training and Procurement Toolkit provided to officers.



Strengthening Merton's Social Value Charter to reflect Merton's Climate Emergency declaration.

Commissioning and delivering circular economy training for key commissioning leads.

Working with Merton's school meals catering provider to reduce emissions from this contract by promoting meat-free meals, food gardens and waste reduction, and utilising local supply chains.

Securing funding to increase capacity across the council to embed carbon reduction in council contracts.

Expanding the analysis of Merton's pension investments to assess a larger proportion of total assets held by the Fund and continuing to decarbonise Merton's investments.



Key priorities for 2023

Recruiting a new member of staff to lead on the decarbonisation of Merton's procured services, and support contract managers and commissioners across the Council in engaging with suppliers to measure and reduce emissions from Merton's new and existing contracts.

Reviewing Merton's procurement process and tender documents to further embed carbon reduction in our requirements for new contracts.

Including baseline emissions from Merton's school meals catering contract in Merton's Greenhouse Gas Inventory.

Developing and delivering bespoke training to empower contract managers and commissioners to consider carbon at all stages of procurement, alongside wider carbon literacy training for all staff.

Continuing to engage with suppliers to trial low carbon technologies in Merton's contracts where appropriate.



WS8: Communication, outreach and LBM corporate procedure

Key areas of progress in 2022

Developing and delivering a range of climate communications via Merton's social media channels and newsletters.

Organising and attending a range of climate engagement activities and events (including the Canons Summer Fair, World Car Free Day activities, Merton's second Schools Climate Conference, and providing a climate presence at other events).

Supporting Merton's Climate Action Group with the delivery of three NCIL-funded projects (Merton Garden Streets 2022, Energy Matters and the Wheel) and the development of case studies to showcase retrofit and low carbon development.

Procuring a partner to develop and deliver the first phase of Merton's carbon literacy training.



Re-establishing the Environment and Climate sub-group of Merton's Sustainable Communities Transport Partnership to engage with partners on the four key themes of Merton's Climate Strategy & Action Plan.

Producing and circulating regular editions of Merton's Climate Action Newsletter¹³ to provide updates on climate action in Merton.

Developing Merton's draft Climate Engagement Strategy for consultation with Cabinet Members and local groups in early 2023.

Securing funding to deliver sustained climate engagement and to support community-led climate action projects.

Taking part in a consortium project to pilot a tool for embedding climate considerations in all major council decision making.

Key priorities for 2023

Continuing to develop or support activities progressed in 2022 where appropriate.

Seeking feedback on, finalising and adopting Merton's draft Climate Engagement Strategy.

Developing and implementing a tool to embed climate considerations in all major council decision making.

Delivering the first phase of Merton's carbon literacy training.



Launching Merton's new Schools Climate Network and Charter.

Continuing to support the development and delivery of community-led climate action projects, and seeking wider engagement.



Setting up a Climate Action Fund to support the development and delivery of community-led climate action projects.

Delivering climate engagement and communications activities in line with Merton's Climate Engagement Strategy.

Increasing engagement with business stakeholders in Merton.

Merton's Climate Engagement Strategy

98% of Merton's emissions are outside the influence of the Council. This means we all have a role to play in living more sustainably, and enabling a transition to a low carbon economy which is fair for everyone.

Everyone's journey might be different, but a key message of Merton's Climate Engagement Strategy is that achieving behaviour change, empowering communities to act on climate, and generating support for solutions which progress action towards net zero, stands a better chance of success if we work together.



Merton's Climate Action Group

We know that we have talented residents, from all walks of life, whose combined skills and resources can help address climate change.

Since January 2021, we have been privileged to work with Merton's Climate Action Group - an incredible group of local volunteers with a mission to develop community-led projects and events to reduce Merton's greenhouse gas emissions and build climate resilience.

Since the start, they have developed several projects and contributed to many more, including:

- Energy Matters
- Merton Garden Streets
- The Wheel
- Canons Summer Fair



Two local residents have been employed to deliver some of these projects, two university partnerships have been created and the Climate Action Group's work has enabled many businesses and charities to connect with residents to promote their work e.g. energy advice, repair cafes, bike repair and community planting.

If you are interested in joining a group of talented and passionate residents to make a change in Merton, please get in touch at future.merton@merton.gov.uk, scan the QR code, or visit our climate change webpages to find out more.



What you can do

Circular Economy

Get involved in a local repair café, or upcycling event with The Wheel¹⁴.

Use the South London Partnership Zero Waste Map, to find reuse and repair shops, refill stations, etc.¹⁵.

Use Morden's Library of Things, to rent items for short term projects¹⁶.

Donate to Merton's Community Fridge, or local foodbank¹⁷.



Green Careers and Skills

Visit the South London Careers Hub webpage to find jobs in South London¹⁸.

Register for Merton Council's Adult Learning courses¹⁹. Upcoming courses include 1) horticulture, 2) preparing for work in a green industry and 3) understanding permaculture environments.



Green Business

Visit the council's cost of living and climate action support webpage, for a variety of events and grant funds to save energy and reduce energy bills²⁰.

Get involved with BIG South London, a business innovation and growth programme to drive economic growth across South London, in particular the 'Low Carbon Innovation Network'²¹.



What you can do

Buildings and Energy

Go to Merton's 'Get help to make your home warmer and save energy' webpage, for grant funding opportunities, advice videos from local partners Thinking Works and much more²².

Read Sustainable Merton's Energy Saving Handbook²³.

Visit energyadvice.london for energy saving advice, as well as financial support and information on installing renewables.

Understand how to make your home more energy efficient by using EcoFurb's online Plan Builder²⁴.

Get advice from the Energy Saving Trust to see if solar panels could be right for you²⁵.



Active Travel

Ask your local school to get in touch with Merton's Road Safety Officers to develop a School Travel Plan to encourage sustainable modes of transport.

Sign up for Merton's cycle training for adults or children, or receive bike maintenance for free²⁷.

Trial a bike, before fully committing to cycling through Try Before You Bike²⁸.

Report a problem with a cycling route, or request cycle parking through Merton Council's Website.



Greening Merton

Remove paving to plant in your garden, plant in window boxes, consider installing a green roof on part of your property.

Support community planting by joining a volunteer group, such as the Merton Tree Wardens, a "Friends of" groups such as the Friends of Morden Park, Morden Park & Playing Fields Association or a community gardening group such as Mitcham Community Orchard and Gardens or Phipps Bridge Community Garden.

If you want to improve a space for wildlife, contact Habitats and Heritage's green hubs project or become a National Park City Ranger²⁶.



Electric Vehicles

Check out the Government Office for Zero Emissions Vehicles webpages, to see if you are eligible for a grant to reduce the cost of installing workplace, or home electric vehicle charge points²⁹.

Take a look at Merton Council's Electric Vehicle Charging pages, to see where new charging points are being installed, or to request a charging point³⁰.

Find out what cost savings you could make by switching to an electric vehicle with Zap Map's Journey Cost Calculator³¹.

Debunk some electric vehicle myths, with the Energy Saving Trust's 'Electric vehicles: debunking the myths blog'³².



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- ²⁸<https://www.peddlemywheels.com/try-before-you-bike>
- ²⁹<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-grants-for-low-emission-vehicles>
- ³⁰<https://www.merton.gov.uk/streets-parking-transport/ev-charging/lamp-charging-project>
- ³¹<https://www.zap-map.com/tools/journey-cost-calculator/>
- ³²<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/electric-vehicles-debunking-myths/>

Acronyms

- BAU** – Business As Usual
- CDP** – Climate Delivery Plan
- ECO** – Energy Company Obligation
- EV** – Electric Vehicle
- FY** – Financial Year
- GLA** – Greater London Authority
- LBM** – London Borough of Merton
- LED** – Light Emitting Diode
- MEES** – Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards
- PPA** – Power Purchase Agreement
- SCTP** – Sustainable Communities Transport Partnership
- SLP** – South London Partnership
- SuDS** – Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems
- TFL** – Transport for London

Glossary

Carbon Literacy – An awareness of the carbon dioxide costs and impacts of everyday activities, and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, on an individual, community and organisational basis

Circular economy - A circular economy decouples economic activity from the consumption of finite resources. It is based on three principles, driven by design: eliminating waste and pollution, circulating products and materials (at their highest value), and regenerating nature – from the Ellen MacArthur Foundation.

Decarbonise, or Decarbonisation - The process of stopping or reducing carbon emissions, being released into the atmosphere as the result of a process.

Green and Blue Infrastructure - can comprise a range of spaces and assets (parks, woodlands, street trees, green roofs and 'blueinfrastructure' such as streams, ponds, canals and other water bodies to name a few) that provide environmental and wider benefits.

Green Skills/Jobs – skills or employment in an activity that directly contributes to, or indirectly supports, the achievement of the UK's net zero emissions target and helps mitigate climate risks from the Green Jobs Taskforce Report 2021.

Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) - The gases that trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere, an excess of which are increasing global average temperatures i.e., global warming. Among others, these include carbon dioxide and methane.

Local Implementation Plan – a plan that sets out how councils will deliver the Mayor's Transport Strategy, its priorities and objectives at a local level.

Macroeconomic – issues, objectives and policies that affect the whole economy.

Merton's Local Plan – a spatial development plan, which provides a sound basis for planning decisions.

Merton's Social Value Toolkit – tools to help implement the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 (Act) which came into force in January 2013 and requires all public sector organisations (and their suppliers) to look beyond the financial cost of a contract and consider how the services they commission and procure might improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of an area.

Net Zero - net zero means cutting greenhouse gas emissions to as close to zero as possible, with any remaining emissions re-absorbed from the atmosphere, by oceans and forests for instance.

Power Purchase Agreement - A long-term contract under which a business agrees to purchase electricity directly from a renewable energy generator. Power Purchase Agreements provide financial certainty to you and the project developer. PPAs therefore help to deliver more renewable energy, saving CO₂.

Procurement - The process of acquiring goods and services, which a Council chooses not to run internally, through fair and competitive bidding processes in an open market.

Retrofit - Retrofit is the process of making changes to existing buildings so that energy consumption and emissions are reduced. These changes should also provide the benefit of a more comfortable and healthier building with lower fuel bills. This can include a number of measures, for example installing loft or wall insulation, double or triple glazing or replacing an existing gas boiler with a ground or air source heat pump.

Shovel Ready – a project that is advanced enough to begin work immediately.

Solar Photovoltaic (PV) System – Solar PV panels convert light from the sun into electricity as a form of green energy.



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