

Decision Maker: Environment and Community Services Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 1 September 2021

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Key

Title: LBB's NET ZERO CARBON ACTION PLAN – Reporting Year 2

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Chief Officer: Colin Brand, Director of Environment & Public Protection

Ward: n/a

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 This report details the changes in LBB's organisational emissions for year two (2020/21) of the Council's net zero action plan. It provides an update on progress made towards achieving the Council's net zero carbon target by 2029, outlining various initiatives, funding options currently available, and governance and reporting processes.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The ECS PDS is asked to:

- 2.1 **Review and provide comments on the progress made to reduce the Council's organisational emissions to net zero by 2029.**

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: n/a
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Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Year 2 update on progress made towards LBB's 2029 net zero carbon target.
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council
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Financial

1. Cost of proposals: See Appendix A for indicative estimates
 2. Ongoing costs:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Carbon Management Team
 4. Total current budget for this head: £142k
 5. Source of funding: Existing revenue budget 2021/22 for staffing costs, energy management software and project expenses. Various internal and external funding options for net zero carbon initiatives (see section 6)
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 3 fte
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-statutory – Government guidance
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: None
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): This action plan will not only benefit the Council by achieving carbon, energy and financial savings, but it will provide broader environmental benefits to the wider local community.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: n/a

3. COMMENTARY

Background

- 3.1 A Council Motion on 15th July 2019 unanimously approved a ten-year plan to ensure that the council reaches net zero carbon emissions by 2029.
- 3.2 A 2029 Net Zero Carbon Strategy was reviewed and approved at the Environment and Community Services Policy Development and Scrutiny (ECS PDS) Committee meeting on 29th January 2020, where it was also agreed that a net zero action plan (NZAP) be presented to the ECS PDS committee in the autumn (2020).
- 3.3 The NZAP uses 2018/19 as the baseline year, against which progress is monitored and measured over ten years leading up to 2029. In addition, progress is also measured on an annual basis against the previous year's performance.

Measuring the Council's Organisational Emissions

- 3.4 We use tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) to allow for comparison between different Greenhouse Gas (GHG) sources.
- 3.5 The GHG Protocol categorises emissions into three different scopes, which helps define operational boundaries:
- **Scope 1:** Direct GHG emissions occurring from sources that are owned or controlled by the organisation, such as the emissions from burning gas to heat a building, and the emissions directly entering the atmosphere from using company vehicles.
 - **Scope 2:** Electricity indirect GHG emissions produced from the generation of purchased electricity.
 - **Scope 3:** An optional reporting category that allows for the accounting of other relevant indirect emissions (i.e. emissions resulting from the consequence of an organisation's activities, occurring from sources not owned or controlled by the organisation).
- 3.6 LBB measures carbon emissions for the activities shown in table 1:

Table 1

Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building heating: gas & oil consumption (LBB estate)• Council owned fleet: petrol/diesel consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Purchased electricity (LBB estate / borough street lighting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business travel• Staff commuting• Electricity (transmission & distribution)• Waste (Civic Centre)• Water (LBB estate)• Paper (Civic Centre)• Procured services

- 3.7 The Council's net zero target applies to all those emissions that it **directly controls**, namely, all scope 1 and 2 emissions, plus scope 3 emissions for business travel, water and paper usage, office waste and electricity (transmission & distribution).

- 3.8 The Council does not directly control scope 3 emissions arising from staff commuting and procured services, which are therefore excluded from our net zero scope of emissions.
- 3.9 However, LBB's forthcoming annual Carbon Management Plan 3 (CMP3) report will provide greater detail on all organisational emissions, along with procured services and borough-wide emissions, and other projects.
- 3.10 In year 1 (2019/20) the net zero profile emissions totalled **6,584 tCO₂e**, equivalent to an 8.5% reduction against 2018/19 baseline emissions (**7,196 tCO₂e**).
- 3.11 In year 2 (2020/21) the net zero profile emissions totalled **3,985 tCO₂e**, equivalent to a 45% reduction against the 2018/19 baseline.

	Emissions (tCO₂e/yr)	%
Buildings (electricity & gas)	1,942.5	48.7
Street lighting	1,889.2	47.4
Fleet	48.2	1.2
Waste	0.3	0.01
Water	7.0	0.2
Paper	10.7	0.3
Business travel	87.3	2.2
Total (tCO₂e/yr)	3,985	

- 3.12 Compared to the previous year (2019/20), our total emissions in year 2 reduced by 39.5%.

Source	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20 – 2020/21	
	tCO₂e/yr	tCO₂e/yr	tCO₂e/yr	tCO₂e/yr	
	Baseline Year	Year 1	Year 2	Tonnage change	Percentage change
Buildings	3,954	3,822	1,942.5	-1,879.5	-49.2
Street lighting	2,888	2,451	1,889.2	-561.8	-22.9
Fleet	60.9	33.8	48.2	14.4	42.6
Waste	3.4	2.5	0.3	-2.2	-88.0
Water	54.6	54.6	7	-47.6	-87.2
Paper	44.4	35.1	10.7	-24.4	-69.5
Business travel	190.7	184.0	87.3	-96.7	-52.6
Total (tCO₂e/yr)	7,196	6,584	3,985	-2,597.7	-39.5

Accounting for Change – Emissions Comparison Between Year 1 and Year 2

The large reduction in emissions (39%) achieved in year 2 (2020/21) is predominantly a result of Covid-19 impacts on council operations. However, other factors have also helped to influence a continued reduction in emissions:

- **Covid-19 pandemic:** Noticeably the pandemic resulted in the majority of Council staff working from home for a prolonged period. Through the 2020 lockdown periods this meant that staff occupancy at LBB offices remained at around 10% of pre-Covid levels.

Hence, certain assumptions were applied to year 1 (2019/20) data to calculate year 2 (2020/21) emissions to allow for reduced water, waste, paper use and business travel.

Compared to year 1, remote working and reduced staff occupancy levels throughout 2020/21 had a significant impact on emissions arising from office use:

- Paper use (down 69.5%)
- Water use (down 87.2%)
- LBB energy consumption from buildings (down 49.2%)
- Office waste (down 88%)
- Business travel (down 52.6%)

The only source reporting an increase in emissions was from LBB fleet (42.6%). This is due to the resumption of normal gritter activity following an unusually temperate winter in the preceding year.

Irrespective of a significant occupancy rate reduction, emissions from the Council's buildings only reduced by 49% due to several factors: they still required low level heating (especially during the winter months to prevent damp); servers still needed to operate in back offices; and lighting was still required for security, deep cleaning and work purposes. Therefore, emissions reductions were not as steep in percentage terms, as those for other sources (e.g. waste, paper, water).

Business travel decreased significantly due to Covid-19, though not as much in percentage terms as emissions from other sources such as waste, paper, and water. This is attributed to drivers that claim mileage (e.g. those in Public Health and Public Protection), who did not have their services curtailed due to restrictions.

- **Flexible working:** The Covid-19 pandemic catalysed flexible working for the majority of council staff, with staff occupancy rates expected to remain at around 50% for the foreseeable future.
- **Paperless office and digitalisation:** as the Council continues to push ahead with its paperless office environment (supported by a wide digitalisation exercise), it is expected that paper emissions will remain low post-Covid.
- **Council emissions and trends:** electricity emission factors are expected to continue to decrease over time as more national grid electricity is generated from renewables and fossil fuels are phased out. This will help lower LBB's emissions from electricity consumption. However, there remains significant uncertainty over the rate of this change, hence why strong action to implement energy efficiency measures will remain imperative for achieving carbon neutrality by 2029.
- **Progress on Initiatives:** The 22.9% reduction in emissions from street lighting is attributable to progress made on Initiative 1 (i.e. the replacement of 3638 old lanterns with energy saving LED lanterns). See Initiative 1 for further information.

Getting to Net Zero Emissions by 2029

- 3.13 To streamline our net zero action plan, the eight priority initiatives (presented to ECS PDS on 17th November 2020), have been condensed to seven initiatives outlined in table 2 below.
- 3.14 In line with best practice, our approach is to reduce both our vehicle emissions and energy demand on the national grid as far as possible through **four key initiatives** (potentially delivering a 95% reduction in emissions), then offset all remaining residual emissions through a mix of suitable initiatives.
- 3.15 Initiatives 1 - 4 will help drive down the Council's direct emissions as far as possible, whilst initiatives 5 - 7 will be assessed to determine the best mix for offsetting the Council's remaining residual emissions.

Table 2

Reduce LBB's Direct Organisational Emissions		
1	Street Lighting LED Upgrade	Upgrade remaining 14,000 street lights to LED (including dimming capability and photocells).
2	Buildings: energy efficiency	Work closely with LBB's Energy Manager to identify and install energy efficiency measures and smart technology across Bromley Council's estate by targeting the most energy intensive buildings with the highest consumption.
3	Renewable Energy	Procure 100% renewable electricity and gas.
4	Council Fleet	Switch to an electric vehicle fleet.
Offset Residual Emissions		
5	Alternative Technologies and Renewables Investment	Establish a portfolio of renewable Council owned, or joint owned investments.
6	Woodlands, Parks & Greenspaces	Additional tree planting and development of green infrastructure.
7	Certified Carbon Offsets (from UK-based projects)	This is considered a last resort option when all other options have been exhausted, as Bromley's preferred option is to tackle our carbon emissions directly.

During the first several years of the NZAP the Carbon Management Team will continue working on both mobilising carbon reduction projects and assessing the feasibility of initiatives that could potentially feed into our overall net zero action plan.

3.16 Each of the 7 initiatives are described below, including our progress to date and the key actions moving forward.

3.17 Initiative 1: STREET LIGHTING LED UPGRADE

In 2020/21 electricity consumption from Bromley's 28,000 street lights accounted for approximately 47.4% of the Council's carbon emissions. Bromley's street lights total around 28,000, of which there are now only approx. 6,300 remaining to upgrade to energy efficient LEDs.

Progress:

In October 2020 a project begun to upgrade a further 4,200 traffic route street lights (10m and 8m columns) to LEDs with dimming capability and photocells – installation is expected to complete shortly. Due to Covid-19 lockdown measures, the production/supply of the new lights was impacted, consequently delaying the original planned installation date. Apart from the benefits of improved light quality for both pedestrians and road users, this latest project is set to achieve the following:

- Annual cost saving: ~£380k
- Annual carbon saving: ~600 tCO_{2e}
- Project payback: 3 years

Next Steps:

- Develop/deliver a phased upgrade programme for updating the remaining 6,300 non-LED lights. It is worth noting that the remaining columns will predominantly be 6m columns with relatively low wattage lamps, therefore offering lower energy savings compared to the old high wattage lanterns used for the 10m and 8m columns. However, an initial assessment suggests that the potential annual carbon and cost savings could be 347 tCO₂e and £165k respectively.

3.18 Initiative 2: BUILDINGS (ENERGY EFFICIENCY)

In 2020/21 energy consumption from the operation of LBB's buildings accounted for 48.7% of total emissions - this compares to 58% in year 1 (2019/20). This change to LBB's total emissions profile is primarily a result of Covid-19. To realise future cost/energy/carbon savings it is imperative that the Council continues to improve the energy efficiency of the estate and move towards the use of low carbon energy sources for heating whenever feasible.

As more buildings (heating) and vehicles switch towards electricity, it becomes increasingly important to ensure that electricity is supplied by renewable sources to not only relieve pressure on the national grid, but to also provide security of electricity supply and protect against electricity price increases.

Progress:

During 2020/21 the Carbon Management Team (CMT) developed a business case for the design and installation of a solar photovoltaic (pv) system on the rooftop of the Civic Centre's North Block building that will help supply the Council with its own generated electricity. The CMT are currently seeking approval for the project which could serve as a template for developing further solar rooftop projects across the Council's estate.

An exercise to assess LBB's most energy intensive properties in 2020 was delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions. LBB's Energy Manager is now aiming to deliver a planned assessment of the LBB estate in 2021 and develop a programme to install Automated Meter Reading (AMR) meters at strategic sites. Based on the energy efficiency assessment findings, a planned upgrade programme will be developed that will in turn inform accurate carbon savings.

Next Steps:

- Estate rationalization - undertake operational property and Civic Centre accommodation reviews, taking into account post-Covid working patterns.
- Develop an energy efficient upgrade programme for the priority sites.
- Ensure any site refurbishments and new build projects incorporate low carbon design elements and installation of a solar photovoltaic system wherever viable.
- Roll out an AMR meter installation programme to achieve more accurate and timely billing and energy monitoring capability.

3.19 Initiative 3: 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY

The most effective solution for reducing emissions is a rapid shift to 100% renewable electricity. In 2020/21 electricity associated emissions accounted for 73% of LBB's total net zero profile emissions, whilst gas emissions accounted for 23%. Procuring 100% renewable energy therefore offers the most impactful opportunity for carbon reduction – a potential 96% reduction – by allowing LBB to discount all their energy emissions.

Two main options exist for switching to renewable energy sources:

- **Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin certificates (REGOs)** can be purchased from energy suppliers that certify the electricity coming from the renewable energy element of the national grid - approximately 25-30% of the national grid's electricity comes from renewables (not to be confused with zero-carbon electricity that includes nuclear).
- **Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs):** a direct agreement with a renewable energy generator. These types of agreements typically allow for further investment that directly leads to increased renewable generation.

There is an on-going debate around additionality and whether REGOs lead to increased renewables generation (i.e. where demand translates into new sources of green, renewable energy being built), which is considered a key requirement for being able to report zero emissions for energy.

Progress:

On 23rd October 2020 the Leader of the Council made an executive decision that the Council proceeds with the procurement of green energy. In October 2020 the Council switched to purchasing REGO-backed renewable energy from Haven Power, and green gas from Total Gas & Power. Unlike many energy suppliers who supply a mix of both green and brown energy, Haven Power only supplies 100% renewable energy.

At the time of writing the Council are awaiting a response from the GLA and London Councils regarding their position on REGO-backed electricity from 100% renewable suppliers. In particular, whether this will allow LBB to credibly discount our electricity emissions. If not, it is likely that LBB will need to switch to a PPA in the future at contract renewal.

Next Steps:

- Quantify any additional costs for switching to a PPA.
- Review green energy options for both gas and electricity when the existing energy contract nears expiry, including Power Purchase Agreement options to purchase directly from a renewable energy generator.

3.20 Initiative 4: COUNCIL FLEET ELECTRIFICATION

Council fleet refers to vehicles directly managed by the Council but not vehicles used by the Council's contractors (e.g. Veolia for Waste Services). The remaining fleet operated directly by the Council now consists of a mixture of light vehicles, minibuses operated at three educational establishments, and several pool cars. Our gritters are owned by LBB but operated by our contractor as part of the Highways contract.

Although the Council's fleet only accounts for around 1% of the Council's emissions, this is deemed an important initiative for helping to advance vehicle electrification in the broader context. Also, the benefits of electrifying the Council's fleet extend to improving air quality, which feeds into Bromley's Air Quality Action Plan objectives.

Progress:

The Council's draft Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy (subject to approval) will guide the transition to EV use for LBB fleet. Work continues closely with other service areas to assess electric vehicle options as and when existing fleet vehicles are either decommissioned or lease agreements renewed.

The installation of electric charge points has been included in the Council's capital works programme for the depot, however budget overspend to redress priority health and safety issues at the depot, has temporarily side-lined installation of charge points. The Carbon

Management Team are now appraising options to use the Councils' Carbon Neutral Fund to cover costs and future proof the depot for future charge point installation.

Next Steps:

- Install electricity charge points at the main depot to enable electrification of both the Council's own fleet and the next fleet of refuse collection vehicles.
- Switch to a 100% electric fleet

3.21 Initiative 5: ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGIES AND RENEWABLES INVESTMENT

Following the government's recent announcement for the UK to become a world leader in clean wind energy and all homes to be powered by renewable energy by 2030 it is envisaged that renewable investment opportunities will increase during the course of this plan, allowing organisations to either use the generated electricity themselves, offset their emissions, or create a revenue stream.

Progress:

Bromley may be able to accommodate some ambitious renewable projects. Early stage feasibility assessments are being undertaken to determine the suitability for renewable opportunities in the Borough, with the Council also monitoring the market for opportunities elsewhere.

Next Steps:

- Explore commercial renewable investment opportunities as and when they materialise
- Explore joint partnership opportunities with other Councils

3.22 Initiative 6: WOODLANDS, PARKS & GREENSPACES

Tree planting is a medium to long term solution for carbon sequestration because young trees absorb small amounts of carbon during their early years. In the context of the Council's ten year net zero target, a significant number of trees/saplings would have to be planted across vast acres of land to make an impact. Tree establishment also comes with its challenges – a robust maintenance programme to stimulate healthy growth, and tree/site protection is vital for its success.

However, the Council recognises the value and many benefits that greenspaces, parks and woodlands provide to residents and natural ecosystems, and the need to protect and enhance them for future generations. As more and more carbon is sequestered over time, this initiative will help the Council maintain its net zero target post 2029 and reduce borough wide emissions.

Progress:

The Council's Arboriculture team are currently producing a new Tree Management Strategy to take forward from 2021 onwards.

LBB's Parks and Greenspaces team are currently preparing applications for a range of woodland and other habitat grants to manage the rare and priority habitats overseen by our contractor's Bromley Countryside Team. In addition, a few large projects are being prepared ready for funding applications along with a range of smaller ones.

The Carbon Management Team has begun joining up its carbon mitigation objectives with the Parks & Greenspaces and Arboriculture teams, their respective service providers, the public, and councillors to develop and implement a holistic strategy that is able to satisfy cross service objectives.

A Woodlands Establishment Board has been created to drive forward rewilding projects (woodlands, grasslands, and meadows) that will deliver carbon reductions against the Council's NZC target. The project board has shortlisted sites located within the borough for further suitability for woodlands creation. The board intends to take advantage of significant national grant funding to access arboricultural expertise for biodiversity impact assessments, woodlands management plan development, initial planting and establishment, annual maintenance and more. We will adopt the "right tree, right location" approach and the species' suitability for planting in specific areas will be determined at a later stage. This will subsequently inform the many variables required for the carbon calculations such as age, attrition rate, hardwood/softwood, etc. We therefore cannot provide an estimated sequestered amount of carbon at this time but will be in a better position to do so if our grant funding applications are successful and allow us to proceed to the next stage.

Next Steps:

- Produce a new Tree Management Strategy
- Consider offsetting opportunities associated with registering new tree planting under the government approved Woodland Carbon Code.
- Quantify/compare carbon sequestration levels for native trees, grasslands, wild meadows, hedgerows, verges.
- Conduct feasibility assessments for shortlisted LBB-owned sites deemed suitable.
- Deliver suitable projects in a cost-efficient manner, maximising grant funding opportunities where possible.

3.23 Initiative 7: CERTIFIED CARBON OFFSETS

Purchasing certified carbon offset credits remains a last resort option for offsetting any residual carbon emissions that cannot viably be offset through initiatives 5 – 6. If the Council does exercise this option the preference will be for a UK-based project, typically involving tree planting, new woodland creation or peatland bog restoration.

Progress:

The Carbon Management Team will look to identify the most appropriate and cost-effective carbon offsetting credits further into the ten-year plan, once all the above initiatives have been fully appraised.

Next Steps:

- Research suitable UK-based carbon offset projects.
- Purchase offset credits in an honest and transparent way.

4. GOVERNANCE AND REPORTING

- 4.1 Performance against LBB's 2029 Net Zero Carbon target will be closely monitored, measured, and reported by the Carbon Management Team.
- 4.2 Achieving net zero emissions will be iterative, remain ambitious and subject to change as technology evolves, the regulatory environment changes, and more government funding becomes available. Hence, continual review will be required to ensure the action plan is on track.

- 4.3 Each new project/initiative will be quantified in terms of carbon, energy, and financial savings, and show before and after statistics to help assess project performance.
- 4.4 Carbon Management Performance reports are provided to the Director of Environment & Public Protection on a monthly basis at the Departmental Management Team (DMT) meetings. This report will include information pertaining to the progress of projects and other relevant carbon reduction work.
- 4.5 The Carbon Management Team will report biannually to the Environment Portfolio Holder on the progress made towards LBB's net zero target, and annually to the Environment and Community Services Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee.
- 4.6 Approval to spend the Carbon Neutral Fund on suitable projects will be sought through the Executive Committee as and when required.
- 4.7 The annual 'Bromley's GHG Emissions Performance' report will continue to quantify the Council's performance in reducing their emissions and provide yearly progress statistics against the net zero target. It will include project specific information and report on actions taken to help reduce both scope 3 and borough-wide emissions, ensuring that reporting is accurate, complete, and transparent (via the Council's website).
- 4.8 The Green Recovery Working Group, established in December 2020 to help align council services with national aspirations to sustainably recover from Covid-19, will also support in the governance and project delivery of initiatives contained within this plan. Providing a platform for internal discussion, sub-groups are being formed to drive projects forwards, which address our organisational emissions. It is worth noting that the GRWG group also aims to address borough-wide emissions.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Aligning with the Transforming Bromley Agenda, the initiatives proposed in table 2 complement the following corporate priorities:
 - **Responsible Financial Management Strategy:** reduced future costs to the council through lower energy bills.
 - **Maintaining Organisational Resilience:** A 25-year installation with forecasted output provides stability to external electricity price shocks.
 - **Modern, Efficient and Flexible Work Environment:** As part of the accommodation strategy to modernise Civic Centre buildings.
 - **Effective Resident Engagement:** Demonstrates our environmental commitments to the wider public.
 - **Improving the Public Realm, maintaining our Green Spaces and Promoting Economic Growth:** Safeguarding the environment and promoting a green recovery.
- 5.2 This plan will contribute to achieving the Council's 2029 Net Zero Carbon target commitment.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 At this point in time it is difficult to know the amount of funding required for LBB to become a net zero carbon council due to the uncertainty of which projects will be most suitable. However, feasibility assessments are being conducted to identify and help inform the most viable and cost-effective projects/initiatives to take forward.

- 6.2 Outlined below are several potential funding streams available to the Council for the initiatives described in this report. More financial options have become available over time as the government introduces further green deals to accelerate national and regional decarbonisation.
- 6.3 Carbon Management Recycling Fund (£500k): Although the total fund amount has been committed to the current street lighting LED upgrade project, as soon as the works are completed LBB will start paying back the fund from the energy savings. Hence, the fund will start building up again, and the money will be made available for further invest-to-save projects.
- 6.4 Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme: The scheme replaced the Salix Energy Efficiency Loan Scheme (SEELS) and allows public sector bodies (PSBs) to apply for a grant to finance up to 100% of the costs of capital energy-saving projects that a) deliver stimulus to the energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation sectors, supporting jobs and b) deliver significant carbon savings within the public sector. SEELS funding of £624k is already being used alongside the Carbon Management Recycling Fund for the current street lighting LED upgrade project.
- 6.5 The Mayor of London's Energy Efficiency Fund (MEEF): An investment fund, established by the GLA, which will help achieve London's ambition of being a zero carbon city by 2050. MEEF has been developed with Local Authorities as a core sector given their leadership in the low carbon development industry. MEEF has access to £500m of financing that can provide funding for up to 100% of the capital cost of a project. Features include: minimum investment size of £1m; fixed term interest rate; as well as funding individual projects MEEF can also fund estate wide maintenance and refurbishment.
- 6.6 Carbon Offsetting Funds (s106 contributions): The release of Carbon Offsetting Funds (COF) are based on the cost of reducing a tonne of carbon. This is currently set by the GLA at £95 per tonne of CO₂. It is to be used on a variety of carbon reduction projects across the borough. Projects can include energy efficiency measures on council property and street lighting. The current available balance is approximately £260k, with £71,000 committed to various projects and over £1M in approved planning applications.
- 6.7 The GLA's "accelerator" frameworks aim to finance projects in their development stage, such as the commissioning of feasibility studies, consultation services, public engagement etc. With this enabling financial mechanism, the Carbon Management Team envisages more viable projects in the future at no cost to the Council throughout the project's development stage. This mechanism is also designed to deliver projects at pace by streamlining the process to achieve financial and carbon savings earlier.
- 6.8 Carbon Neutral Fund: In recognition of new investment being required to achieve LBB's net zero target, as part of approving the 2020/21 revenue budget the Council agreed to establish a Carbon Neutral Fund. This will provide pump-priming funding of £0.875m for new initiatives to reduce the Council's carbon footprint whilst reducing its long-term energy costs.
- 6.9 Capital Programme/Invest to Save Funding: For future energy efficiency initiatives as part of the Environment Work Programme, such as building refurbishment, further street lighting upgrades, and renewable energy projects.
- 6.10 Each initiative to achieve the Council's net zero target will be assessed through a detailed business case process, taking into account available funding, revenue budget savings and other investment priorities. Savings generated from these projects will need to be factored into consideration of the Council's future budget strategy.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children Legal Implications Personnel Implications Procurement Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Carbon Management Programme: Executive Report ED98067 (7 October 2008) <u>Bromley Council's GHG Emissions Reporting</u>

