

Climate Action Plan

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Introduction

Croydon Council recognises its responsibility to lead on climate action

The climate change challenge will require ongoing and coordinated efforts from all levels of government, businesses and communities

The Climate Action Plan outlines our commitment to reducing emissions and promoting sustainability

The plan outlines actions in energy, transport, waste and green infrastructure

A just and inclusive low-carbon transition will benefit all, especially vulnerable residents

Together, we can build a stronger, fairer, and more climate-resilient Croydon

Revised Climate Action Plan



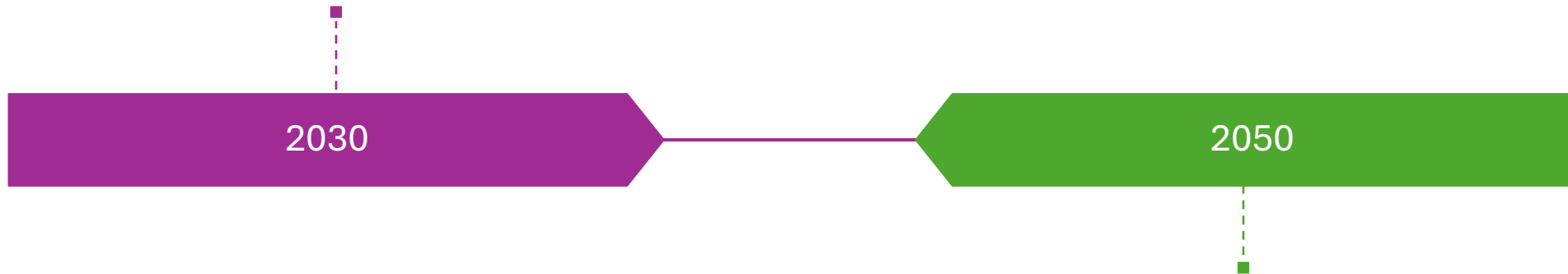
Mayor's Business Plan Outcome 4, priority 5

Lead action to reduce carbon emissions in Croydon. We will work with partners across the borough to:

- Embed climate adaptation and carbon reduction in the strategies of the council and its key partners.
- Drive a green economic recovery, developing skills and local retrofit capacity.
- Develop a pipeline of retrofit projects and promote public transport and active travel.
- Encourage people, businesses and partners to take action to reduce carbon emissions and tackle the climate emergency.
- Lobby government and the GLA for regulation and funding to scale up action

Croydon's Net Zero targets

Croydon Council to be carbon neutral by 2030
(excluding social housing)



Croydon to be a net zero borough by 2050

- 6 London boroughs have revised net zero targets
- 4 London boroughs did not declare a climate emergency, but three of them have since set 2040 targets and one does not have a borough wide target

Achieving Zero Carbon – We can't do this on our own!



- Croydon's net zero approach includes broader well-being goals, not just carbon reduction
- The focus is on a just and equitable transition, prioritising social equity and health
- Achieving net zero for the borough requires the **collective effort** of the council, partners, businesses and the community

Progress To Date...



The Air Quality Action Plan has been presented to Cabinet.



The Local plan is on its path for review and it is updated to meet the London Plan requirements. The London plan was one of the top 5 scorers in the Planning and Land use section of Climate Emergency Scores.



The first phase of Local Area Energy Plan is underway with the GLA.



We are working to publish our emissions and the proposed new procurement strategy includes initiatives on carbon reduction commitments.



The Council has been working with schools within the borough on sustainability, grant funding and energy audits and will continue to engage with schools on decarbonisation measures.

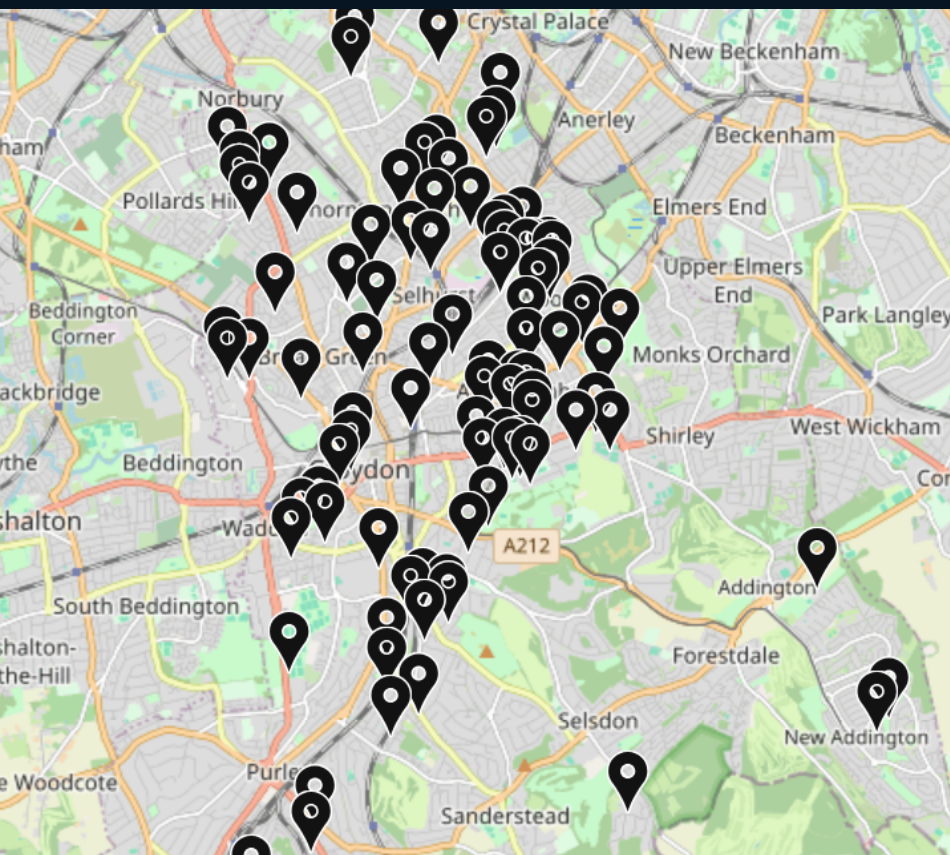


The Council will continue to work with businesses on carbon reduction through the Green Business Network which is currently underway.



All other charities, faith groups and registered/unregistered organisations in the borough are welcome to join the Sustainable Croydon Forum to enable further collaboration with the Council.

Strategic Transport



- Over 100 new electric vehicle charging points have been installed, with funding
- 18 healthy school streets and 6 healthy neighbourhoods have been made permanent for hundreds more planned
- Over 2,900 children and 900 adults have received cycle training, with 33 new cycle hangars provided for residents
- £18.5m in Government Levelling Up Funding was secured to support the delivery of a range of improvements in Croydon Town Centre, including public realm, walking and cycling

Croydon Healthy Homes

- The CHH service improves home energy efficiency and reduces fuel bills for vulnerable homeowners and renters, helping them access grants and support through government and supplier schemes, with assistance from application to post-installation.
- Run in-house since 2020, CHH provides a flexible, personalized service that adapts to new grant opportunities and simplifies access to complex funding for households.

Total number of households supported	2322
Homes identified as suitable for typical measures available via grants (Subject to consent, resident details are held if they are not currently eligible, or if a grant scheme is currently closed)	711
Referrals completed to external grant schemes (completed installation figures in separate box below)	625

Completed grant funded measures*	Total
Emergency boiler / first time central heating	80
High heat retention storage heaters	6
Heating controls	25
Air source heat pump	5
Loft / underfloor insulation	155
Solid wall insulation (external & internal)	125
Cavity wall insulation	17
Solar PV	223
Total number of measures installed	636
Total value of grant funded measures secured	£3,027,697
Total average annual CO₂ savings from installed measures (tonne)	351

*figures are not available from all grant schemes



Pensions

The Pension Committee adopted a Responsible Investment Policy, prioritising climate change and carbon-foot printing

Plans include net zero training to align with the new policy goals



Economic Development

- Collaborating on green skills initiatives and quarterly employment and skills forums

- LBC officers contributed to the SLP to produce a report skills gap report, published in September 2023

Waste and Recycling



We have maintained and increased recycling across the Borough



We have ensured a greater participation in the Food waste service



Green Spaces and Biodiversity



There has been a 10% increase in naturalized grass and 10K sqm of chalk flower beds were created in collaboration with external partners



The creation of wildflower verges - one implemented by the London Wildlife Trust and another delivered by the Council



1085 new standard trees have been planted in streets, parks and housing sites, as well as approximately 500 whips in parks and woodlands

Parking

The 2023 Parking Policy aims to improve transparency, efficiency, and support for local businesses

Emission banding for parking charges has been tightened to encourage less polluting vehicles

Over 400 electric vehicle charge points are available, with more planned to meet demand



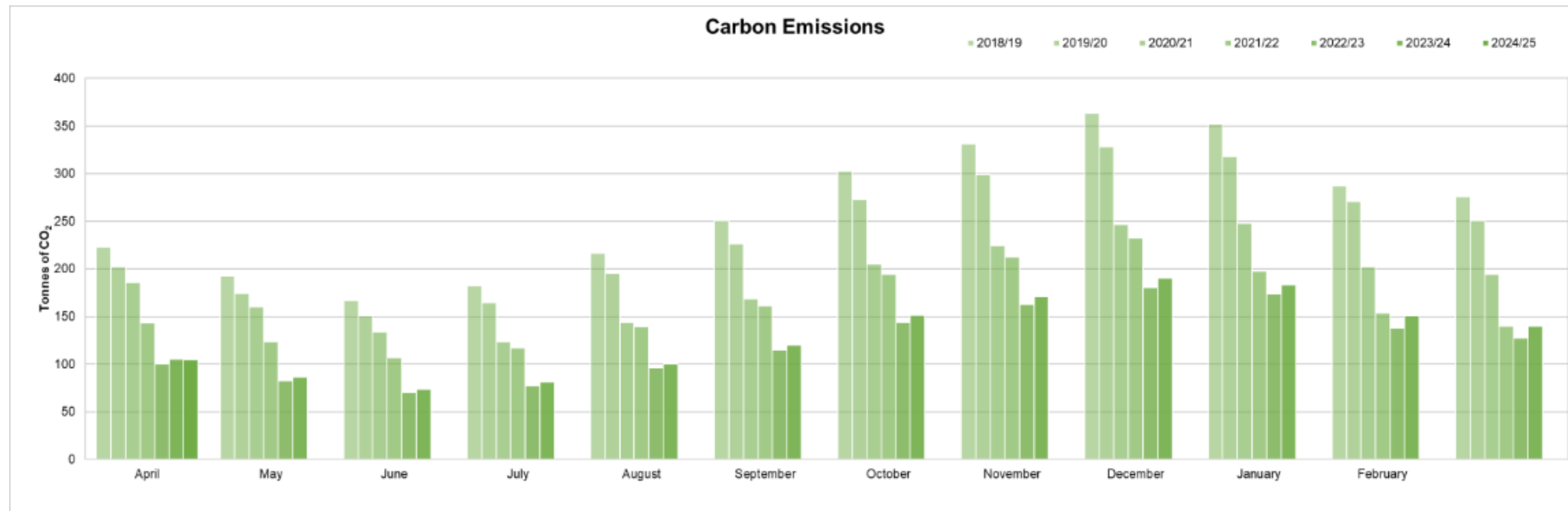
Photograph showing an electric vehicle charge point in the Borough

Street Lighting

Implemented dimming of street lighting to save energy costs which resulted in 30% demand energy reduction and has resulted in 45% reduction in carbon since the climate emergency declaration



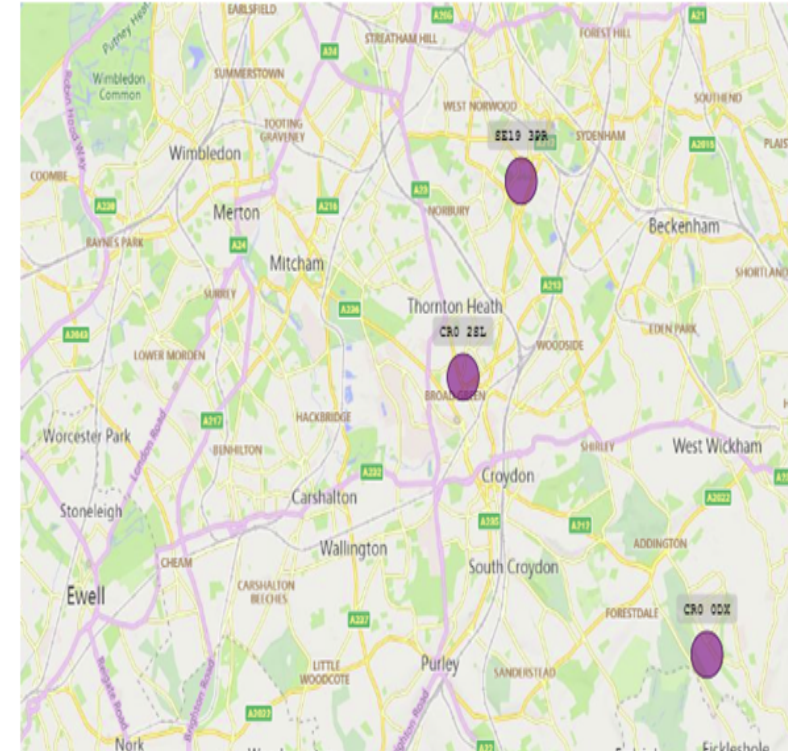
Photograph showing the street lighting dimming regime before and after implementation



Housing

- Ground source heat pumps installed in 3 housing blocks (118 homes) & 2 homes have air source heat pumps. Heat pump systems have the potential to deliver immediate carbon emission savings of 60-70% compared to conventional electric heating and 55-65% when compared to an efficient gas boiler.
- An Asset Management Strategy to go live following approval at Cabinet in July 2024 to set out our future investment strategy.

Ground Source Heat Pump systems installed across the borough.



Photograph showing the location of the heat pump systems across the borough

Review of CNAP – Gold Silver and Bronze options

Discovery
Exercise
undertaken

Gold Silver
Bronze options
explored

Estimated
costings
completed for the
options

Moving Forward

- To move forward with the Croydon's Climate Action Plan, it's essential to ensure that the plan remains dynamic, responsive, and continuously aligned with emerging environmental challenges and opportunities.
- Below is a brief outline for expanding this plan with a focus on annual reporting, reviewing, and revising:



Annual Reporting



Annual Review



Plan Revision and Update



Establishment of a well-represented External Forum

Next steps...



To present the revised Climate Action Plan to Cabinet in December



To publish an annual report alongside it which summarises the actions taken by the Council so far.



To establish an internal governing board to oversee the implementation