

Merton Climate Change Update

Katie Halter,
Climate Change Officer
March 2020



A framework to meet net-zero targets....

Since the Declaration of a climate emergency, we have developed a sound strategic approach and a framework for delivery.

Passed
Merton's **Climate Strategy and Action Plan** was adopted in November 2020.

Climate Delivery Plan – Year 1
adopted in January 2021



Merton Climate Action Plan

19%
of borough emissions

Transport

What you can do:

- Reduce car use in favour of walking and cycling
- Switch to ultra-low emission vehicles such as electric
- Schools and businesses adopt travel plans
- Avoid flying

What the Council will do:

- Support new cycle paths and wider pavements
- Work with TfL for faster transport decarbonisation and vehicle share schemes
- Consult on emission-based parking charges

81%
of borough emissions

Buildings & Energy

What the Council will do:

- Require new buildings to be low carbon and resilient to the impacts of climate change
- Lobby for tighter regulations and further funding for low carbon buildings

What you can do:

- Save energy by switching off appliances and turning down the heating
- Use green electricity
- Avoid gas by buying a low carbon heating system (e.g. a heat pump)
- Invest in insulation and renewable energy

-0.1%
of borough emissions

Green spaces

What you can do:

- Grow vegetation around your home
- Remove paving from your front garden to plant trees
- Join or sponsor a community planting group

What the Council will do:

- Maintain existing green spaces and plant more trees

Major contributor of emissions

Green Economy

What the Council will do:

- Encourage waste reduction
- Help build low carbon skills
- Encourage green businesses

What you can do:

- Buy green and local products
- Eat less meat, fish and dairy
- Reuse items and buy products with less packaging



Actions in 2020

We continued to reduce emissions from the Council's estate.

Shift to 100% **renewable electricity.**

Completed LED **streetlight programme.**

Bid for £0.5 M grant to **decarbonise children's centres** and community buildings.



Actions in 2020

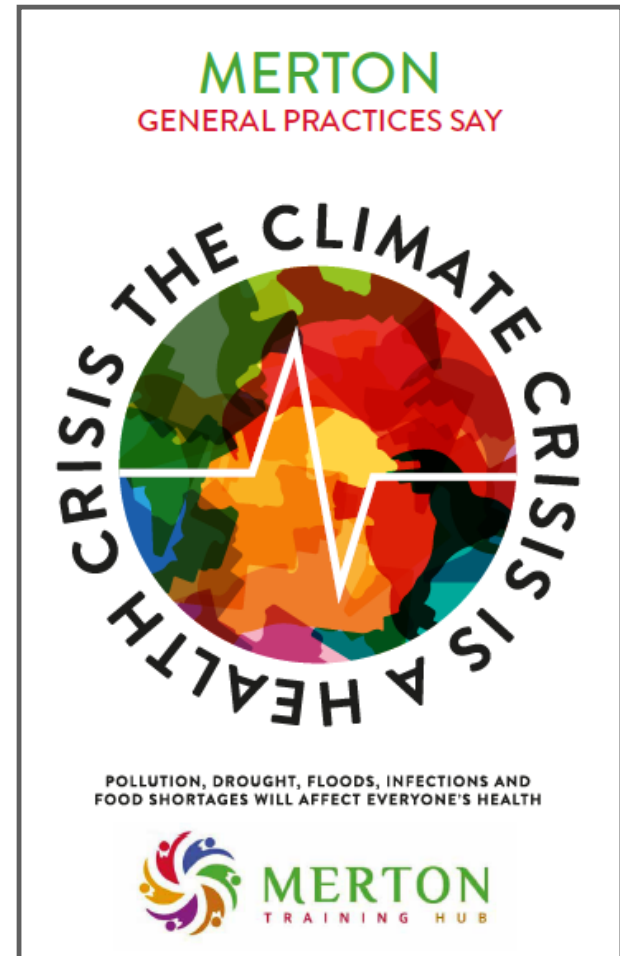
We continued to support emissions reductions within the borough

£400,000 of **Neighbourhood Fund** allocated to climate reduction projects

More funding for **Warmer Homes** Project

Draft **Local Plan** policies consistent with Climate targets

Campaigns to support change, such as Climate Champions in GP practices.



Coming up in 2021

Register for new **email updates**

Google “Merton climate emergency”

Sign up to receive future updates on
Merton's Climate Strategy and Action Plan

Make a climate change pledge

Pledge to make Merton a net-zero carbon borough by 2050.

Make your climate change pledge

Make a **pledge**

Google “Merton climate pledge”

The Big Pedal – register your school!

www.bigpedal.org.uk



Join the **Climate Action Group**

Google “Merton climate action group”

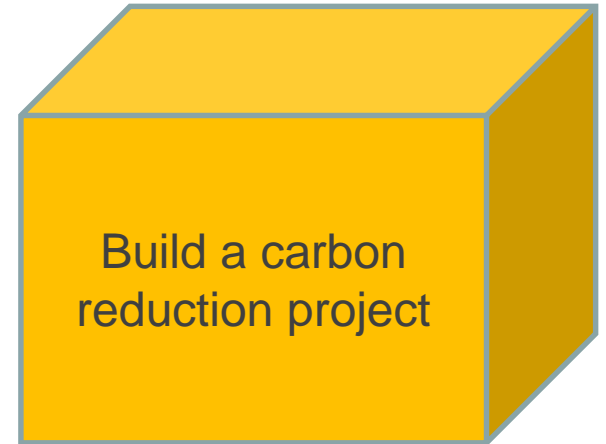
How the Climate Action Group will work

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Want to take action?
Have an idea?

Come to a meeting

Build a carbon reduction project



Climate Action Group Structure

Co-Chairs

Ramya Venkataraman: cag.engagement@gmail.com
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Next Steps

Meeting dates

Wednesday 31st March – Greening Merton

Wednesday 28th April – Building & Energy

Wednesday 26th May – Transport

Wednesday 30th June – Progress Meeting

Keep in touch

- Check the Climate Action Group website or sign up for climate updates
- Contact a community lead or climate change officer

End

