



Ealing Green Party

August 2020

Ealing Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency in April 2019.
What must now follow is a clear and ambitious plan for change.

The Council's draft climate and ecological emergency strategy is now open for consultation:

https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201042/current_consultations/2712/draft_climate_and_ecological_emergency_strategy_consultation

Our key messages in response:

- Ealing council needs to be more ambitious in **all** of its targets to achieve the aim of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.
- SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Timely) targets have to be set for each of the key areas, and responsibilities have to be assigned
- The methodologies and standards that Ealing Council will use to monitor their progress must be publicly stated. This must include a clear baseline reference year to compare performance against.

Ealing Council has to lead by example; to motivate its constituents by the principle of: "Do as I do - not do as I say."

At Ealing Green Party, we understand that to deliver on this vital strategy, having elected Green representatives matters. We will continue to strive for Green councillors for Ealing, and to work for change as active members of our local communities. We are committed to supporting and being part of ongoing engagement with the strategy development.

Detailed responses to Consultation Questionnaire

Additional co-benefits to be considered include:

Implementation of climate policies leads to both cost savings and improvement in health, and co-benefits lead to substantial health gains and reduced health risks.

Communication and education needs to be a key part of the strategy.

Specific further comments on identified themes/areas:

ENERGY

Targets need to be added for:

- promoting peer to peer micro-grids to diversify the energy mix in the borough and to foster and promote energy independency/resilience, with specific targets for this increase
- other council owned building such as schools/community centres need to be included
- private domestic home targets need to be much more ambitious, both renewable energy generation and energy consumption, with detail on what measures specifically will be taken to encourage and influence home owners
- targets for existing private commercial buildings must be included

TRANSPORT

Objectives should include:

- liaison with TfL and other key bodies, as transport responsibilities are not just Ealing councils, to work on shared objectives and targets
- to influence change to electric vehicles, for example different parking charges, as well as provision of charging points, and SMART targets need to be established

Targets

- Target for council staff must be all staff travelling by public or active transport by 2030, unless needed for role or disability reasons. This is an example where staggered SMART targets are crucial to achieving change. The council should look to support and develop similar schemes with employers across the borough

WASTE

Targets for organic waste reduction need to be specifically included. This means SMART targets for reduction in food, garden and other decomposable waste materials as these cause direct greenhouse gas emissions

GREEN SPACES

More protection in planning law for green spaces is clearly needed. This includes protection for all existing mature and maturing trees in the borough, regardless of whether or not Ealing Council manages them.

Specific targets linked to a council Tree Strategy are needed, and this must include SMART targets for tree planting which are essential to increase canopy cover.

Management practices must include measures to reduce and stop use of industrial pesticides in the management of green spaces.

FOOD

The strategy has not yet been released by Ealing Council.

Targets will be needed on encouraging local food production, and transitioning to plant-based diets.

To stay updated on Ealing Green Party's response, see our website and social media:

<https://www.ealinggreenparty.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/greenpartyealing/>

<https://twitter.com/EalingGreens>

<https://www.instagram.com/ealinggreenparty/>