

APPENDIX 1 to Paper No. 07-929

REVISED ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY 2007 – 2009/10

Issue 1 - Climate Change – Energy Use

Whenever coal, gas and oil are burned to create energy, carbon dioxide is produced. This is the most important of the "greenhouse gases" that the majority of scientists now believe contribute to climate change, including changes in weather patterns, rising sea levels and flooding. Under the Kyoto Protocol, the government is committed to reducing emissions of a basket of six greenhouse gases by 12.5 % from a 2000 baseline by 2008-2012. It is also committed to cutting carbon dioxide emissions to 20% below 1990 levels by 2010 and providing 10% of UK electricity from renewable resources by 2010.

The Council has an important role to play in tackling climate by investing in energy efficiency measures for Council homes and in its own premises, wise energy management and investigating low carbon energy sources. Many people are not able to afford warm homes and so help, such as grants, is targeted towards low-income households to make warmth more affordable.

We will encourage the efficient use of energy and the use of low carbon sources, where cost-effective, and tackle fuel poverty.

We will do this by:

1. Implementing an Energy Code to ensure that energy efficiency improvements and opportunities for low carbon solutions for new and refurbished Council buildings and plant are properly considered at the brief, specification and design stages.
2. Maintaining our status as accredited member of the Energy Efficiency Accreditation Scheme awarded by the Energy Institute.
3. Supporting primary and secondary schools to meet Best Practice Energy Usage Benchmarks and to develop cost-effective low carbon energy.
4. Using small-scale energy technologies, such as solar water heating, photo-voltaics (PV) and combined heat and power and purchasing energy from low carbon resources, where feasible and cost-effective.
5. Promote the use of Combined Heat and Power (CHP) schemes to generate electricity locally, such as in Leisure Centres and Housing Estates.
6. Implementing the Fuel Poverty Strategy to provide vulnerable households with grants and advice to help take them out of fuel poverty in line with Government targets.
7. Promoting the "Coldwatch" scheme to train front line workers to give energy advice to elderly and vulnerable people.
8. Referring all residents and business to our local energy advice centre (Creative Environment Networks) for assistance.
9. Encouraging private landlords to make their properties more energy efficient through the Landlord Grant system.
10. Monitoring energy consumption at Council buildings and identifying operational improvements to save energy, such as switch off campaigns and staff energy awareness training.

11. Including planning policies on energy conservation and the use of renewable resources in the Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy.

Using trading standards powers to ensure that suppliers of white goods comply with water and energy labeling standards.

Our key targets are:

1. Improve the energy efficiency of domestic properties by 30% from 95 levels by 2010.
2. To improve the energy efficiency of Council premises by 10% from 2000 by 2010.
3. To further reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from Council premises to 25% below 1990 levels by 2010.
4. To purchase at least 55% of the Council's electricity from low carbon sources
5. To improve the SAP (energy) rating of Council homes from 71.9 in 06/07 to 73.5 in 2009/10.
6. To achieve a 'very good' Eco-home rating on all new "hidden homes" developments.
7. To ensure that all Council homes continue to meet the National Decent Homes Standard.
8. To make a public commitment by 2008 to tackling Climate Change.

Issue 2 - Water Consumption

Demand for public water supply is expected to rise by 10% in England and Wales between 1992 and 2012. In the Thames catchment, water abstraction for supply amounts to 55% of the effective rainfall, making it one of the most developed river basins in the world.

Water abstraction can lead to low flows in rivers and demand for more reservoirs and water transfer facilities. Water efficiency is needed to reduce demand for new supply facilities and impacts on the wider river environment. As supply is sought from further afield, local industrial abstraction has decreased, leading to a rising groundwater problem under central London that, if unchecked, could affect the foundations of buildings.

We will reduce the amount of metered water used by the Council and work with partners to encourage water conservation and borehole water abstraction.

We will do this by:

1. Monitoring our use of metered water.
2. Investing in a programme of water-saving measures such as waterless urinals, dual flush WCs, push taps and tap restrictors.
3. Installing 3,000 water saving devices (Hippos) in void properties and handing them out to residents on council estates in 2007/08.
4. Maintaining and swiftly repairing water supply pipes to reduce leakage.
5. Where appropriate, using boreholes for water supply in parks and investigating other ways of reducing use of metered water, such as "grey" water schemes and planting more drought-tolerant shrubs.
6. Promote the use of porous landscaping to allow rainwater to go to ground.

Our key target is to:

Reduce the Council's use of metered water by 10% from its 2004/05 baseline by 2010.

Issue 3 - Transport

Transport plays an important role in the economic and social life of the Borough. It can also contribute to environmental problems, such as climate change and more locally, noise and air pollution. Sustainable transport proposals are integral to the Council's transport programme and in its annual bid for government funds. Transport and parking issues are frequently identified as key concerns for Borough residents and businesses.

We will reduce of the impact of transport on the environment, whilst providing an acceptable level of accessibility.

We will do this by: local measures to implement the Mayor of London's Transport Strategy, as set out in the Council's Local Implementation Plan (2007) and supplemented by annual LIP progress reports submitted to the Mayor/Transport for London. Policies include:

1. Opposing major road building that would generate more traffic, involve demolition of properties or otherwise affect the environment.
2. Adopting planning policies that reduce the need to travel by, for example, locating employment, shopping, leisure and other community facilities in areas that are easily accessible by public transport.
3. Adopting planning policies that promote the transport potential of the Thames and the Riverside Wharves for freight transport.
4. Ensuring that road transport improvements are environmentally sensitive and fully consider the needs of all users.
5. Considering the environmental impact of the levels of car parking provided with new developments and ensuring that businesses are encouraged to develop travel plans that encourage access by public transport, cycling or on foot.
6. Working with partners to secure public transport improvements, such as:
 - a) bringing forward the Crossrail 2 project with direct links to the West End and Kings Cross/St Pancras;
 - b) improving services on the West London Line;
 - c) connecting Clapham Junction to the Underground by linking the planned East London Line extension to the station;
 - d) providing direct rail services to Heathrow and Gatwick;
 - e) introducing more Metro-style 'turn up and go' services on local lines;
 - f) improving Clapham Junction as an interchange by ensuring all services call at the station;
 - g) creating an additional station entrance at Clapham Junction on St John's Hill to ease overcrowding; and
 - h) improving bus services, backed up by upgraded waiting, timetabling and interchange facilities.
7. Implementing the Air Quality Action Plan.
8. Reducing car use by Council staff by implementing the Council Services Travel Plan (CSTP) and conducting regular surveys on attitudes to travel and modes.

9. Taking measures to reduce the environmental impact of the Council's own fleet, including the use of alternative fuelled vehicles and cleaner fuels, using remold tyres, where practical and undertaking driver training to minimise unnecessary trips, encourage fuel efficient driving and ensure that vehicles are not left idling.
10. Promoting travel plans with other business and organisations
11. Providing cycle training and publicity that promotes safe cycling practices, expanding the London Cycle Network and introducing secure cycle and motorcycle parking.
12. Encouraging walking by:
 - a) creating a pleasant walking environment and walking routes;
 - b) improving road crossing, safety and access for disabled people;
 - c) addressing footway problems, clutter and signage;
 - d) designing and implementing local walking improvement measures; and
 - e) making effective use of parking, loading and other traffic laws.
13. Promoting and encouraging car clubs to reduce car ownership and use.

Our key targets are to:

1. Constrain traffic levels in 2011 to no more than 1009 million vehicle km (2% below 2001 baseline level of 1030)
2. Increase walking trips by 10% (1.086 trips per person per day by 2015 from the 2001 baseline of 0.987)
3. Increase cycling trips by 80% (0.113 trips per person per day by 2011 from the 2001 baseline of 0.063).

Issue 4- Sustainable Procurement and Consumption of Resources

The Council spends approximately 10% of its annual budget on supplies and services.. . As a major purchaser, the council influences its suppliers and contractors to make their goods and services less harmful to the environment and to develop their own environmental policies. By purchasing recycled goods, the Council is able to support the emerging market for waste products.

We will reduce the environmental effects caused by purchasing and consumption by the Council, staff and contractors.

We will do this by:

1. Implementing our Environmental Purchasing Policy and monitoring targets. Key aspects are:
 - a) considering the whole life cost of products and investing in more durable quality products that offer better long-term value;
 - b) purchasing less environmentally damaging and recycled products, subject to cost and quality considerations;
 - c) avoiding the use of non-renewable resources;
 - d) giving preference to timber and timber products that carry either the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Trademark or equivalent independent certification and monitoring;
 - e) "greening" the Councils' fleet;
 - f) avoiding the use of peat, moss, plants and bulbs taken from the wild;

- g) ensuring that potentially harmful substances, such as herbicides and pesticides are only used where absolutely necessary and in accordance with appropriate guidelines and safeguards; and
 - h) Continuing as a signatory to London's Green Procurement Code and submitting purchasing data for independent audit.
2. Including clauses in the major contracts likely to have a significant effects on the environment, to require contractors and suppliers to minimise their environmental impact and adhere to this Environmental Policy.

Our key targets are to:

Subject to ongoing cost and quality considerations:

1. Use recycled aggregate as "type 1" fill for repairing potholes and other road defects.
2. Ensure that at least 25% of stationery supplies are purchased from the environmental range of the corporate contract (06/07 performance - 26.6%).

Issue 5 - Waste Management

Waste minimisation, re-use and recycling reduces the consumption of raw materials, saves energy and limits the need for landfill and incineration. The Council is a waste collection authority. It collected 103,00 tonnes of household waste in 2006/07, of which 23,000 tonnes (23%) was recycled or composted. This is delivered to its joint waste disposal authority, Western Riverside Waste Authority (WRWA). Waste is taken by river to landfill sites in Essex. Recyclables are sorted and sold on to reprocessors who manufacture them into recycled products.

The Government is committed to the targets in the EC Landfill Directive (99/31/EC) to reduce biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) to landfill. As a consequence, landfill is not a long-term option for waste disposal.

We will encourage waste minimisation, re-use, recycling, composting and Energy from Waste to reduce the amount of waste to landfill, in accordance with the waste hierarchy

We will do this by:

1. Promoting waste minimisation, re-use, recycling and composting schemes to residents.
2. ***Working jointly with community organizations, such as Wandsworth Environment Forum to organize waste minimization events, "such as give or take days" and packaging reduction campaigns and messages.***
3. Providing an "Orange Sack" kerbside recycling service for all households with individual bins or sack-based refuse collections.
4. Providing more conveniently-located "Orange Bank" recycling facilities for residents currently served by communal bulk bin refuse collections. ,
5. Providing free Orange Sack or Bank services to organisations that generate household waste, such as educational establishments, charities, churches and hospitals.
6. Separating and recycling scrap metal and wood from "bulky waste" collections, where practical.

7. Enforcing planning policies and that require developments to provide suitable waste and recycling facilities.
8. Working with WRWA, neighbouring boroughs, residents' and interest groups to implement the Riverside Waste Strategy – borough action plan. Key aspects of the Strategy are:
 - a) using the river for waste transport to reduce road traffic;
 - b) pursuing the waste hierarchy;
 - c) switching from landfill disposal to an Energy from Waste plant once a new facility in Belvedere, Bexley becomes operational;
 - d) building a state of the art plant to segregate mixed recyclables in Smugglers Way, Wandsworth; and
 - e) continuing improvements to the Civic Amenity Sites to make them more convenient for residents to recycle.
8. We will lead by example in tackling our consumption and waste by:
 - a) providing incentives for staff to cut waste, re-use and recycle more;
 - b) ensuring convenient and practical recycling systems for a wide range of materials, including toner cartridges, furniture, IT and other equipment, where practicable;
 - c) complying with the Waste, Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive and;
 - d) composting biodegradable waste in parks and open spaces.

Our key targets are to:

1. Meet the statutory performance standards and recycle or compost 26% household by 2009/10.
2. ***Increase the amount of recycling collected from 165kg per household in 2005/06 to 222 kg in 2009/10. – new***
3. ***Increase the % municipal waste recycled from 18.6% in 2005/06 to 23.3% in 2009/10 - new***

New targets to be confirmed following consideration of National Waste Strategy 2007.

Issue 6 - Air Quality

The main air pollutants in Wandsworth are caused by road traffic. The levels of these traffic-derived pollutants is declining overall. However, the rate of decline for particulates (PM10) and nitrogen dioxide (NO2) was not quick enough to ensure that National Air Quality Objectives for these pollutants was achieved next to busy roads by then end of 2004 and 2005, respectively. For these reasons, an Air Quality Action Plan has been produced.

We will improve air quality.

We will do this by:

1. Working with partners to take London-wide measures to tackle air pollution and annually updating our Air Quality Action plan. Key initiatives include:
 - a) a London-wide low emission zone;
 - b) an Air TEXT service and website www.wandsworth.gov.uk/airquality to provide information on pollution levels; and
 - c) the South London Freight Quality Partnership.

2. reviewing and assessing local air quality, including the use of passive and continuous monitoring and modeling work.
3. Continuously monitoring ozone, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and particles at two sites in the Borough and participating in national monitoring networks.
4. Making the results of the monitoring widely available, including the use of a pollution "hotline", the Internet, leaflets and exhibitions.
5. Implementing the sustainable transport policies outlined in Issue 3
6. Regulating Industrial Installations in the Borough
7. Taking enforcement action against polluters where possible, or encouraging action by the appropriate authority.
8. Planting trees and maintaining green spaces to help improve air quality.
9. Ensuring that Air Quality is a material planning consideration and taken into account in assessing planning applications as well as ensuring that concerns about air pollution from incineration of waste are fully addressed.
10. Continuing to phase in alternative fuelled and cleaner, more efficient vehicles in the council's fleet and ensure driver education to avoid wasted trips, vehicles left idling etc.

Our key target is to:

Work towards ensuring that National Air Quality Standards are not exceeded by implementing the Air Quality Action Plan.

Issue 7 - Water Quality and Resources

Thames Water Utilities Plc is responsible for the quality of the drinking water they supply to the Borough. The Council also commissions independent checks on the quality of drinking water. Water sampling carried out by the Council includes checks on the levels of a suite of chemicals such as pesticides, as well as bacteriological checks to indicate whether the water could spread disease.

The River Wandle and Beverley Brook run through the Borough. Although they are highly urbanised channels, they offer important opportunities for wildlife habitats as well as recreation and amenity. The Council works with a range of partners to ensure that appropriate management (including enhancement) is in place on our water bodies (rivers and lakes) to maximize water quality in order to support biodiversity. Regular water quality monitoring enables improvements to be assessed year on year.

We will ensure that drinking water, rivers and lakes meet high standards of safety and cleanliness and that our water resources are valued and managed as amenity and ecological assets.

We will do this by:

1. Working with partners such as the Environment Agency, Thames Water Plc and the Drinking Water Inspectorate on water quality and river ecology issues.
2. Ensuring that opportunities to improve river habitat through negotiation with developers are maximized.

3. Working with partners on habitat and access improvement initiatives along river corridors.
4. Regularly monitoring water quality in lakes and taking appropriate action if problems are experienced.
5. Minimising the use of chemicals, such as fertilisers and herbicides that may adversely affect water quality
6. Rigorously examining drinking water quality reports and carrying out independent drinking water sampling.
7. Working with bodies, such as Thames 21, to encourage clear-ups of rubbish dumped in and around watercourses.

Our key targets are to:

1. Ensure that drinking water complies with national and European safety standards.
2. Ensure that the River Wandle and Beverley Brook comply with their chemical and biological River Quality Objectives.
3. Ensure that the water quality of our lakes continues to improve.

Issue 8 - Noise

Excessive noise can spoil residents' enjoyment of their homes and, in extreme cases, pose a threat to human health. The Environmental Protection Act 1990 gives the Council powers to take action to solve or limit noise pollution problems. Aircraft noise, particularly night flights disturb residents. The Council has no powers to control this directly, but can monitor its effects and will use its influence on government to restrict flights and alter runway take-off and landing patterns.

We will prevent and control noise nuisances.

We will do this by:

1. Responding promptly to deal with excessive noise from domestic or commercial sources including the use of out-of-hours patrols.
2. Taking enforcement action against persistent offenders.
3. Participating in studies of traffic, rail and aircraft noise and vibration.
4. ***Continue to take a lead in the 2 M (two million voices) Group to challenge the Government's proposals for Heathrow expansion and an increase in night flights, including lobbying for*** lobbying for a reduction in aircraft noise in the Borough, particularly at night and for the Government to mount a new research study on the effect of air noise disturbance on households.
5. Seeking to reduce the impact of noise caused by rail and road traffic,
6. Scrutinising all applications under the Licensing Act 2003 and making representations if noise problems are likely.
7. Use the planning process to anticipate developments likely to be associated with noise problems.

Our key target is to:

Reduce the number of repeat complaints about individual sources of noise.

Issue 9 - Underused land and empty properties

Derelict and vacant land and properties are eyesores that often attract vandalism and can make communities feel run down and unsafe. This land may be polluted, risking the quality of ground water and/or affect health. Redevelopment of such sites presents opportunities to clean them and to make more effective use of properties and sites. However, vacant land in urban areas may also be a haven for wildlife, so redevelopment needs to be done with care in order to accommodate existing wildlife habitats and species and to limit potential pollution problems.

We will improve and return to use vacant, derelict and underused land and empty homes.

We will do this by:

1. Where redevelopment of a potentially polluted site is proposed, ensuring that measures are taken to minimise pollution and environmental risks and that the development can be safely built and occupied or that the site is in a safe condition for the proposed use.
2. Maintaining a register of contaminated land, monitoring major sites and implementing the Contaminated Land Strategy.
3. Implementing the Empty Homes Strategy and using fiscal measures, such as grants and, as a last resort, enforcement in the form of Compulsory Purchase Orders to bring vacant properties back into use.
4. Ensuring that ecological advice and surveys are undertaken on redevelopment schemes and requiring the developer to build in appropriate ecological mitigation measures as part of planning conditions.
5. Including appropriate habitat in the redevelopment of sites and ensuring that temporary uses, such as allotments are found for long-term vacant land.
6. Promoting an "eyesore" grant for improvements to derelict land.

Our key targets are to:

1. **Continue to** reduce the amount of vacant sites (>0.25 ha) in the National Land Use Database from 42 hectares in 2002 by 25% by 2006. **22ha in 2006/07.**
2. Ensure that the overall vacancy rate for premises in town and local centres does not exceed 10%.
3. Bring back into use 60 long-term (**over 6 months**) vacant **domestic** properties per year.

Issue 10 - Open Spaces, Ecology and Trees

Wandsworth's parks and open spaces provide a home for wildlife, relaxation and the chance for active recreation. They are widely cited by residents as "one of the best things about living in the Wandsworth" and contribute to clean air and reduced flood risk. London is a hive of biodiversity. Peregrine falcons nest in the Borough and there are nationally important populations of stag beetles and black redstarts. Wimbledon Common is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), an international designation for wildlife habitats

and species. The Council is working with partners to produce Local Biodiversity Action Plans to ensure long-term ecological management for wildlife habitats and species protection.

Trees enhance the quality of the urban environment and are important for our health and wellbeing. The Council is responsible for around 50% of trees in the Borough (75,000). The rest are in private gardens or are owned by other bodies, such as transport providers.

We will maintain and develop a diverse range of open spaces and trees to meet residents' expectations and conserve biodiversity (the variety of life).

We will do this by:

1. Implementing planning policies protecting public open space and maintaining an up to date schedule of public and private open spaces.
2. Implementing the Parks Management Strategy to ensure continuous improvement in the quality of provision of open spaces.
3. Using S.106 agreements to secure more **and improve existing** public open space as a result of development.
4. Maintaining an up to date database and Geographic Information System (GIS) of plant and animal species and habitats
5. Retaining and, where possible, enhancing the diversity of habitat – restoring lost or damaged habitats to allow colonisation by native species, creating new habitats and protecting areas from overuse or misuse.
6. Improving access for disabled people and improving facilities in parks and commons
7. Encouraging volunteers, and working with local groups, such as Wandsworth Action Volunteers on the Environment (WAVE).
8. Running an allotment service to provide residents an opportunity to grow healthy food
9. Protecting trees and taking action against those causing willful damage
10. Managing and maintaining trees on public land across the Borough
11. Implementing a planting programme for street trees and in the event of losses, aiming to replace trees on a one for one basis, as near to the removed tree as possible.
12. Requiring tree planting, as appropriate, from developers by attaching conditions to planning permission
13. Involving residents, business and schools in caring for and planting trees
14. Promoting green links and chains between open spaces for amenity and wildlife.
15. Identifying opportunities for introducing ecologically sensitive management practices for land owned or managed by the Council, such as leaving areas of long grass and not removing fallen trees and branches.
16. Working with the London Biodiversity Partnership to implement habitat and species action plans that form Wandsworth's Biodiversity Action Plan.
17. Encouraging responsible dog ownership through the dog warden service.

Our key targets are to:

4. Ensure that that Borough's street tree stock levels are maintained (13,800 in 2007)
2. Develop a tree policy **outlining proposals for replacing street tree losses.**
3. Ensure that 26 major parks and open spaces have new locally agreed and up to date management plans by 2010
4. Ensure that there is no net loss of public open space
5. Develop 10 further biodiversity action plans by 2010 in conjunction with London Biodiversity Partnership.

Issue 11. Planning and Sustainable Development and the Built Environment

The Council's Unitary Development Plan (UDP) sets out planning policies that guide development and other use of land in the Borough and detailed policies for deciding planning applications. Sustainable development is a key element of the plan's approach. The revised plan looks forward to the next ten years. Its policies have been subject to an environmental appraisal to assess their positive and negative environmental effects.

We will promote and control development in the Borough so as to protect and enhance the quality of life, and improve economic and social opportunities, in line with objectives of sustainability, and to contribute to the Council's Environmental Action Plan and to wider London-wide objectives in line with Strategic Guidance.

We will do this by:

1. Reducing the need to travel by, for example, by requiring employment, shopping, leisure and other community facilities to be located in areas that are easily accessible by public transport.
2. Protecting, conserving and enhancing the existing varied character, heritage and archaeology of the Borough and important views and skylines, paying special regard to conservation areas and other areas of special or local character including the Thames riverside.
3. Encouraging new development to be compatible with its surroundings, with its layout, form and design requiring it to contribute positively to the local environment.
4. Requiring applicants requesting planning permission for major developments to demonstrate that their proposals will not have an adverse impact on the established pattern of development, traffic conditions or the environment generally.
5. Promoting environmentally-sensitive regeneration, especially in town centres
6. Promoting high standards of energy efficiency, the incorporation of energy conservation and small-scale energy generation **and the use of low carbon solutions to mitigate the effects of climate change .**
7. **Manage the consequences and reduce the risk of flooding by undertaking a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and promoting the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes.**

Our key targets are to:

1. Maintain the number of listed buildings at risk below 20.

Environmental policy revised

2. Ensure that all conservation areas are covered by character statements and management plans that are no more than five years old by 2009/10.
3. Ensure that 100% of new homes are built on previously developed land.

Issue 12 - Encouraging and Involving others

The Council has an important role to play in raising awareness of environmental issues and encouraging others to participate in campaigns and practical projects. The Council will be, and be seen to be, a good steward of the local environment and encourage others to do the same.

We will encourage active participation by residents and business in local environmental projects and events.

We will do this by:

1. Co-ordinating and participating in a programme of events, publicity and awards to promote care for the environment amongst residents and business. These currently include, the Wandle Valley Festival, the Greener Borough initiative, the "Good Going" transport campaign, Walk to School on Wednesdays, "Wandsworth in Bloom" and the Recycle Western Riverside 2 Campaign.
2. Establishing a "pledge" scheme for residents and staff to adopt practical steps to reduce their environmental impacts and promoting this widely.
3. Publicising examples of good practice, such as pledge success stories, through the media, such as "Brightside", "Homelife", press releases, posters, leaflets, the Internet and public venues such as libraries, leisure and health centres to enable residents to make informed lifestyle choices.
4. Working in partnership with Wandsworth Environment Forum, **Groundwork London**, volunteers, residents' and amenity groups and societies and charitable organizations to develop, fund and support practical environmental projects.
- ~~5. Working in partnership with Wandsworth Chamber, Southlondon.biz and other business support organisations, such as the Town Centre Partnerships to assist local businesses to improve their own environmental performance and support local environmental projects and events.~~
- ~~6. Funding and administering a programme of loans and grants for business to undertake environmental and business improvements (Town Centre Improvement Scheme).~~
Moved to business section
7. Leading by example in how we manage our own environmental performance.

Our key targets are to:

1. Support a six-year programme of investment in environmental improvement projects with Groundwork London from April 2007
2. Increase awareness and change behaviour, measured through participation monitoring and resident attitude surveys.

Issue 13 - Working with business – new section

Business can make a substantial contribution to the environment in Wandsworth. Increased environmental awareness can lead to business cost savings, improved competitiveness and an enhanced reputation. By business addressing their environmental performance, they can contribute towards improving Wandsworth, as well as the global environment,

Supporting local shops and business helps to create a vibrant mixed economy as well as local jobs. This means the town centres keep their identities and that residents don't have to travel far to work, shop and enjoy leisure pursuits.

***We will support local business in improving their environmental practices and promote the vitality of town centres and local shopping parades
We will do this by:***

- 1. Providing environmental advice and support to business.***
- 2. Promoting sustainable business waste minimisation and recycling schemes.***
- 3. Promoting sustainable environmental practices amongst local business via award schemes and other activities.***
- 4. Working in partnership with Wandsworth Chamber, Southlondon.biz and other business support organizations to assist local businesses to improve their environmental performance via initiatives, such as the "Go Green" project and Town Centre Partnerships***
- 5. Promoting physical environmental improvements to town centres and secure environmental Improvements to older industrial and business estates***
- 6. Promoting local shopping and encourage investments in town centres to ensure that local centres serve local needs This includes supporting the retention of valued facilities, such as Post Offices and pharmacies, that encourage local shopping.***

Our key targets are to:

- 1. Conduct 170 business environmental reviews by March 2009, in our role as a partner in the Southlondon.biz "Greening Business" Project.***
- 2. Increase awareness and change behaviour, as, measured through business surveys.***

Issue 14 - Involving young people

Many young people have a high level of interest in the environment. They will be the decision-makers of tomorrow and are increasingly being involved in decisions today. We wish to encourage all young people to participate in practical environmental projects and activities, as well as using the education system to engender a sense of global awareness of environmental issues and the impact of human interactions.

We will encourage active participation by young people in local environmental projects and activities **and foster a greater global awareness.**

We will do this by:

1. Ensuring that education for sustainable development is addressed through the curriculum to highlight global and local dimensions of environmental issues. Much of this will be achieved through citizenship programmes and the "Every Child Matters" agenda.
2. Providing curriculum guidance, training and support for teachers and governors on the environment and citizenship issues.
3. Promoting environmental action in schools by extending and enhancing the Healthy Schools Programme
4. Running an annual "Eco-grant" for practical environmental projects in Wandsworth schools and promoting other awards, grants, competitions and funding opportunities, such as the London Schools Environment Award.
5. Working with young people outside school on environmental projects via Youth Services activities, voluntary agencies and the Youth Offending Team.
6. ***Promoting a grant managed by young people for young people (13-19) to enable them to carry out environmental activities and projects (Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF) and Youth Capital Fund (YCF)***

Our key targets are to:

1. Increase the no. schools known to be participating in environment/health programmes to 70% by April 2011.
2. Ensure that all schools have an approved travel plan by 2009.
3. Keep the proportion of pupils traveling to school by car at 2006 levels of 28% or below (2004 baseline result – 31%.

Principles of action

The following principles set out the ways in which this Council intends to deal with environmental issues. Our environmental management practices will include:

1. Seeking continual improvement of our environmental performance.
2. Ensuring that our environmental standards are upheld by contractors working for us.
3. Assessing all new policies, activities and practices for their effects on the environment and in cases of doubt applying the "precautionary principle."
4. Encouraging public access to environmental information and complying with the Freedom of Information Act and Environmental Information Regulations.
5. Ensuring that we respond promptly and take full account of environmental concerns expressed by residents and business.
6. Involving all sections of the local community, businesses and other groups in the development and implementation of environmental policies, including partnership arrangements.
7. Ensuring staff and contractors are aware of their responsibilities under this environmental policy.