

# **Climate Action Plan - 2030**

# Foreword from the Mayor

As the Executive Mayor of Croydon, I am proud to introduce our Climate Action Plan 2030, a critical step forward in addressing the pressing challenge of climate change. Croydon is a vibrant and diverse borough, home to residents who care deeply about the future of their environment. This plan outlines the actions we must take to create a cleaner, healthier, and more resilient borough for everyone.

Climate change is not just an environmental issue; it is a social and economic one. Whilst Croydon has faced significant challenges, we now have an opportunity to lead by example. This plan prioritises the well-being of our residents by embedding sustainability in our operations—whether through improving energy efficiency, tackling waste, or creating better transport and urban spaces. Reducing emissions across the borough will require hard work and collective effort. Building a low-carbon future is challenging, but they are necessary if we are to protect Croydon's future. This plan focuses not only on cutting emissions but also on creating opportunities for economic growth through green jobs, enhancing our green spaces, and empowering residents to take part in this transformation.

We cannot do this alone. The success of this plan depends on partnership working with our residents, businesses, schools, and community organisations. Each of us has a role to play in creating a sustainable Croydon, whether by making small changes in our own lives or contributing to the larger initiatives outlined in this plan.

Croydon's Climate Action Plan is more than a policy; it is a shared commitment to securing a brighter, greener future for our borough. Together, we can ensure that Croydon becomes not only more sustainable but also stronger and better prepared to face the challenges ahead.

Jason Perry

Executive Mayor of Croydon



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# Introduction

Climate change is a significant challenge, requiring ongoing and coordinated efforts from all levels of government and society.. As one of London's most vibrant and diverse boroughs, Croydon Council recognizes its responsibility to lead in the fight against climate change. Our community faces both the risks posed by a changing climate and the opportunity to build a more resilient, sustainable, and equitable future.

This Climate Action Plan sets out Croydon Council's actions towards carbon reduction. It reflects our commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing environmental sustainability, and supporting the health and well-being of our residents. We understand that achieving these goals requires not only strategic planning and implementing initiatives but also collaboration with our residents, businesses, and community organisations.

This plan outlines a set of actions across key sectors, including energy, transport, waste management, and economic and urban development. It focuses on initiatives that support green energy, reduce waste, improve green spaces, and promote sustainable transport. Equally important, we will ensure that the transition to a low-carbon economy is just and inclusive, benefiting all residents, especially the most vulnerable.

The success of climate action depends on the collective efforts of our community. We invite residents, business, and organisations in Croydon to join us in our efforts. Together, we can create a Croydon that is not only more sustainable but also stronger, fairer, and better prepared to face the challenges of tomorrow.

# Revised Climate Action Plan



The recommendations of the Climate Crisis Report has been considered along with the commitments in the Mayor's business plan towards carbon reduction.

Lead action to reduce carbon emissions in Croydon Tackling the Climate Emergency is vital, but it is not something we can do alone. The Council will lead a borough-wide partnership to secure external funding and focus efforts on driving down carbon emissions.

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

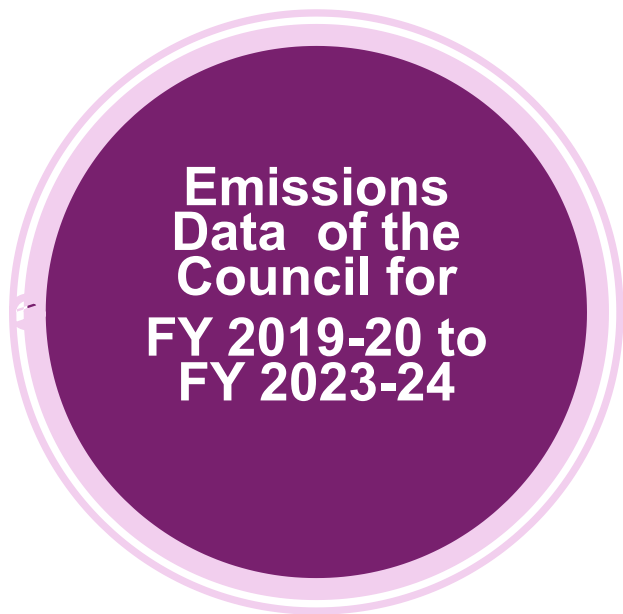
# Working Towards Zero Carbon

Working towards net zero will mean that the overall carbon emissions for Croydon are reduced to nil. This doesn't necessarily require a complete elimination of emissions but does necessitate that any remaining emissions be offset by activities that remove an equivalent amount of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

As highlighted by the Committee on Climate Change in their report "Net Zero: The UK's Contribution to Stopping Global Warming," some level of offsetting is likely to be needed due to the challenges in fully eliminating emissions in certain sectors.

However, Croydon's approach to net zero will not be limited to a narrow focus on carbon reduction alone. The journey to net zero will also emphasise the broader aspects of well-being, ensuring that the transition is just and equitable for all residents. This means prioritising social equity, health, and quality of life alongside environmental goals.

The goal is to create a sustainable future that benefits everyone, ensuring that no community or individual is left behind in the shift towards a low-carbon economy. A just transition will address potential inequalities and ensure that the economic, social, and environmental benefits of achieving net zero are shared fairly across the borough.

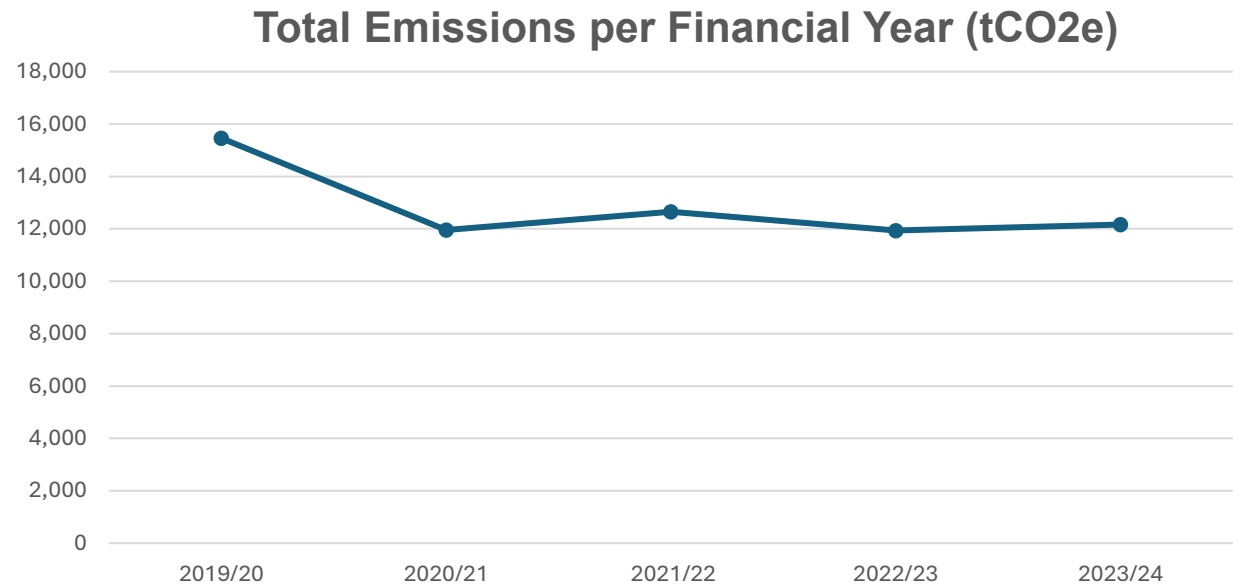


Emissions Data per Financial Year (tCO2e)						
Scope	Emissions Type	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Scope 1	Heating	7,843	4,320	5,701	6,586	5,148
	Fugitive Emissions	0	0	0	152	629
	Authority's Fleet	1,013	452	420	459	440
Scope 2	Electricity	6,605	7,183	6,538	4,741	5,951
Total Emissions		15,461	11,955	12,658	11,939	12,169

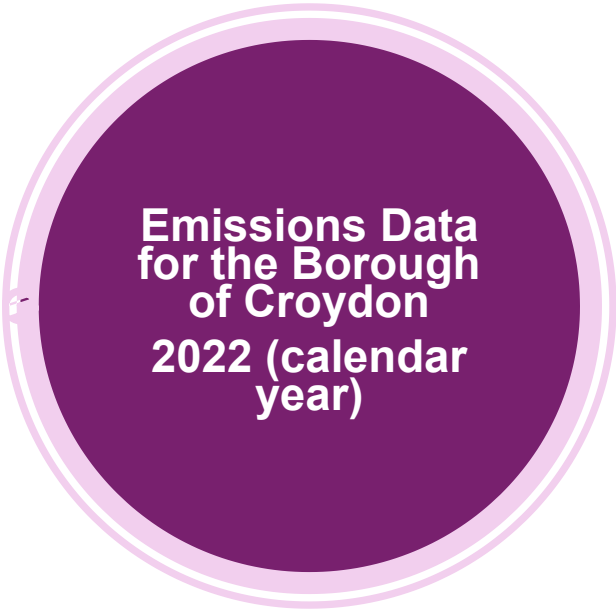
\*2019/20 this now forms the Council's baseline figure

\*Some fleet emissions are based on averages and/or assumptions

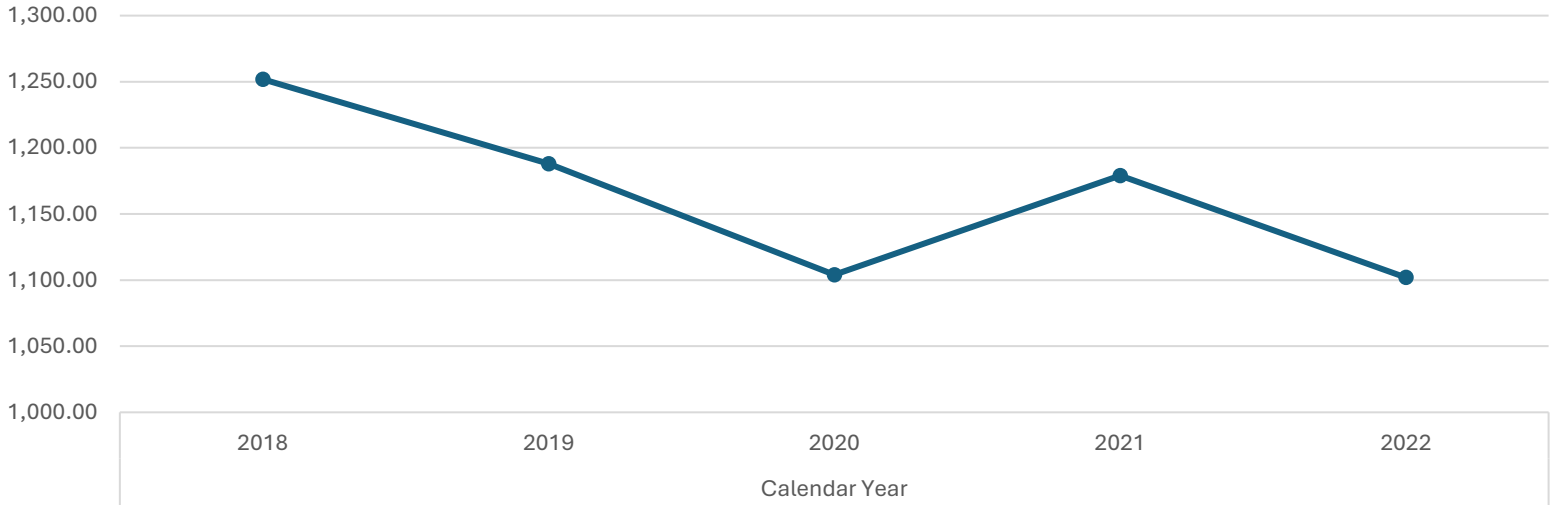
**Emissions  
Data for  
FY 2019-20 to  
FY 2023-24**







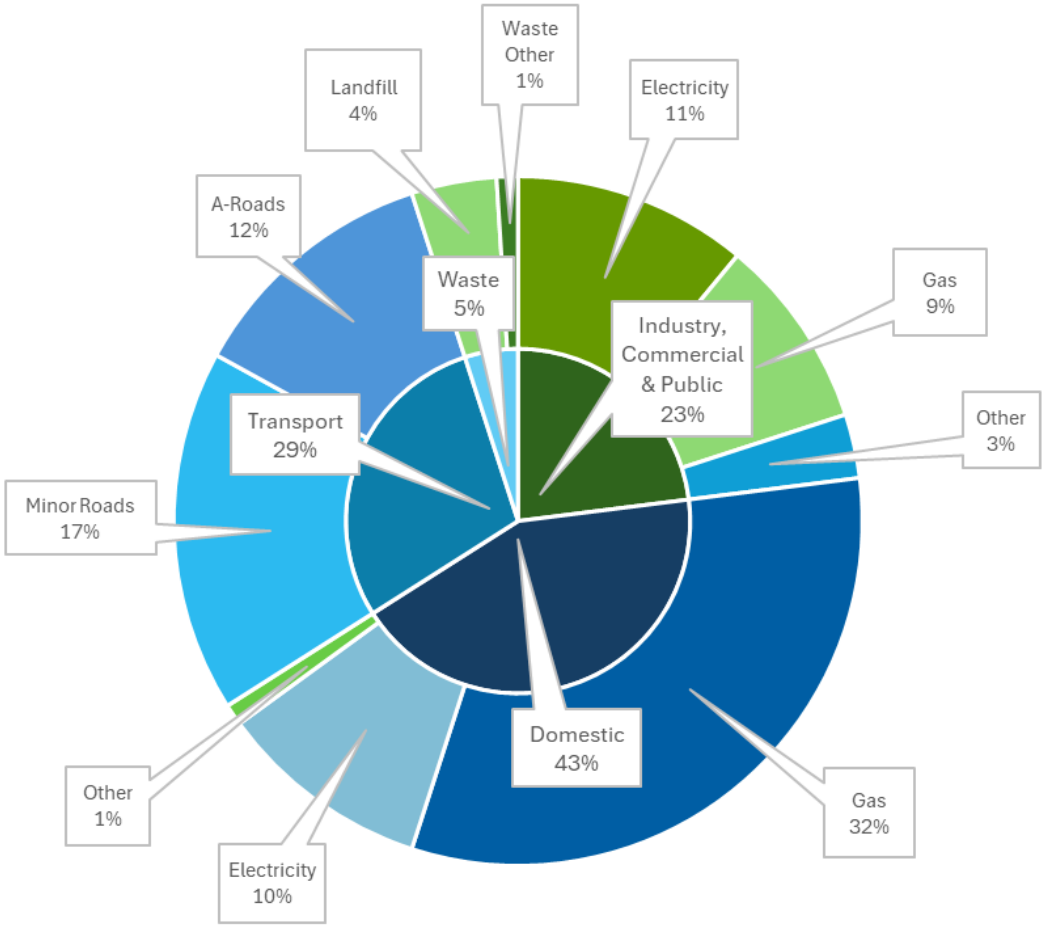
Total Carbon Emissions for the Croydon Borough per Calendar Year (kTCO2e)





# How Carbon Dioxide is Produced in Croydon 2022

2022 Carbon emissions (production based)



# Climate Action Plan – Getting the groundwork right

Establish oversight and accountability	Lead by example	Embed carbon reduction in strategies and activities of council
A lead Councillor to oversee the implementation of carbon neutrality initiatives and establish a governance board to drive the Climate Action Plan(CAP)	Promote a transformative organisational shift that prioritises carbon literacy and sustainability as core values, encouraging staff and councillors to participate in climate education	Conduct a climate risk assessment across the borough to address adaptation risks, while reviewing and updating council policies to integrate climate adaptation and emissions mitigation
Publish the council's Scope 1 and 2 emissions, baseline Scope 3 (supplier) emissions, and embed climate action across all strategies, policies, and procurement. Pension funds remain committed to investments aligned with its Investment Policy and strong ESG principles.	Enhance access to locally and plant-based food options at council events and encourage low waste council events	Switch to LED lighting for street lighting
Establish an external forum with diverse stakeholders to engage on progress towards carbon neutrality	Issue updates in Croydon magazine (Our Croydon) and publish annual review of the plan	

# Climate Action Plan – Greening our Neighbourhoods

Retrofit	Energy and Planning	Blue and green infrastructure
Secure and deliver Warm Homes Local Delivery Grants	Develop a Local Area Energy Plan	The Council's Trees and Woodlands Team secured £411k to plant 491 trees with a three-year maintenance plan, while 40 trees were sponsored through Trees for Streets, with 50 more planned. Ambitious tree planting targets include school drives and collaborative initiatives like Trees for Streets.
<p>Develop a pipeline of retrofit projects to decarbonise properties using the Warm Homes Social Housing Fund, once the stock condition survey is completed.</p> <p>Conduct a detailed housing stock retrofit analysis and support creation of private retrofit advice with South London Partnership</p>	Implement the Croydon Local Plan with the ongoing review expected to be adopted by December 2025.	Flood mitigation measures, including introducing SuDS(Sustainable Drainage Systems) on highways and wetlands at parks like Ashburton.
Croydon Healthy Homes (CHH) tackles fuel poverty by improving home energy efficiency. Secure Warm Homes Grant for eligible residents and deliver them.		Continue efforts to increase natural grasslands and create 25K sq m of flower meadows and replace end of life grounds maintenance tools from petrol to electric.

# Climate Action Plan – Transport and Fleet infrastructure

Strategic Transport	EV infrastructure and car usage	Council Fleet
The Council will design and implement bus priority schemes, deliver cycle training for all ages, install 10 cycle parking hangars, and improve two railway stations, while TfL procures a new tram fleet.	Install more electric vehicle charging sockets, secure LEVI( Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure) funding and procure supplier to implement LEVI project	Electrify council depot and provide EV infrastructure and introduce EVs in Fleet operations.
Additionally, the council will commence delivery of Reconnected Croydon schemes, consult on the next phase of Healthy School Streets, and complete TfL-funded projects for highway safety and active travel through LIP.	Introduce measures to reduce car usage such as car clubs.	
A three-year plan for TfL Local Implementation Plan funding will also be developed and agreed upon.		

# Climate Action Plan – Driving a green economy

Strengthen the local economy and encourage circular economy	Getting People and Businesses Involved
<p>Council officers, in partnership with London Southbank University, support businesses in carbon reduction, energy efficiency, commercial retrofits, and circularity, while also running an employment and skills forum to address skill gaps, establishing a green business network, and promoting carbon reduction toolkits for local SMEs.</p>	<p>Create a network of schools' and enable schools to prepare carbon reduction plans</p>
<p>The council aims to reduce food waste to landfill, promote reuse shops, and achieve 45% recycling target.</p>	<p>Explore funding schemes to implement and coordinate carbon reduction in schools. Enable availability of data to determine pathways to carbon reduction and applying for funding when they are available</p>

# Engagement on Climate Action Plan

Council services outlined on the original carbon neutral plan

GLA and London Councils on pan London programmes

South London Partnership on retrofit and green skills

Climate Emergency to understand climate scores and future opportunities to input into council climate action strategies.

Schools, through the Sustainable Croydon Forum to secure funding for potential projects.

Croydon Green Network to review progress to date and discuss future engagements.

# 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 an external forum to meet bi-annually**



# Next Steps..



To publish the detailed climate action plan on council's website



To establish an internal governing board to oversee the implementation