

25<sup>th</sup> March 2024

# Climate Emergency

Overview and Scrutiny Spotlight

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# What this presentation will cover



## (1) Climate Change Overview and COP 28 outcomes

## (2) Net Zero Carbon Commitments

### Council Carbon Emissions

- Data analysis of our carbon emission so far and projections going forward
- Projects delivered over the last year
- Future Planned projects
- Rebase line of emissions to include schools, leisure services and THH carbon emissions and its impact
- Engaging staff members on climate change issues

### Borough wide emissions

- Data analysis of our carbon emission so far and projections going forward
- Projects delivered over the last year
- Future Planned projects

## (3) Governance

- Climate Partnership
- Mayors Advisory Board for Climate Change



# Climate Change Overview



## Why is 1.5°C important.

The world will see serious climate impacts at 1.5°C. But after that it gets much worse. The difference between 1.5°C and 2°C is...

- the difference between 70% or 99% of coral reefs dying.
- double the likelihood that insects, vital pollinators, lose half their habitat.
- ice-less summers in The Arctic Ocean once per century or once per decade.
- 1 meter added in sea-level rise.
- 6 million or 16 million affected by sea-level rise in coastal areas by the end of this century.

Source: [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\)](#)

## COP 28 Outcomes

- Signalling the 'beginning of the end' for the fossil fuel era.
- New funding for loss and damage.
- Enhancing global efforts to strengthen resilience.
- Linking climate action with nature conservation.
- Ramping up practical climate solutions.
- Looking ahead.



# Council emissions



# LBTH Net Zero Carbon commitment vs Commitments across London



- 75% reduction in council emissions by 2025, and offsetting residual 25% to achieve Net Zero Carbon
- Borough to be Net Zero Carbon by 2045

Net Zero Carbon targets across London

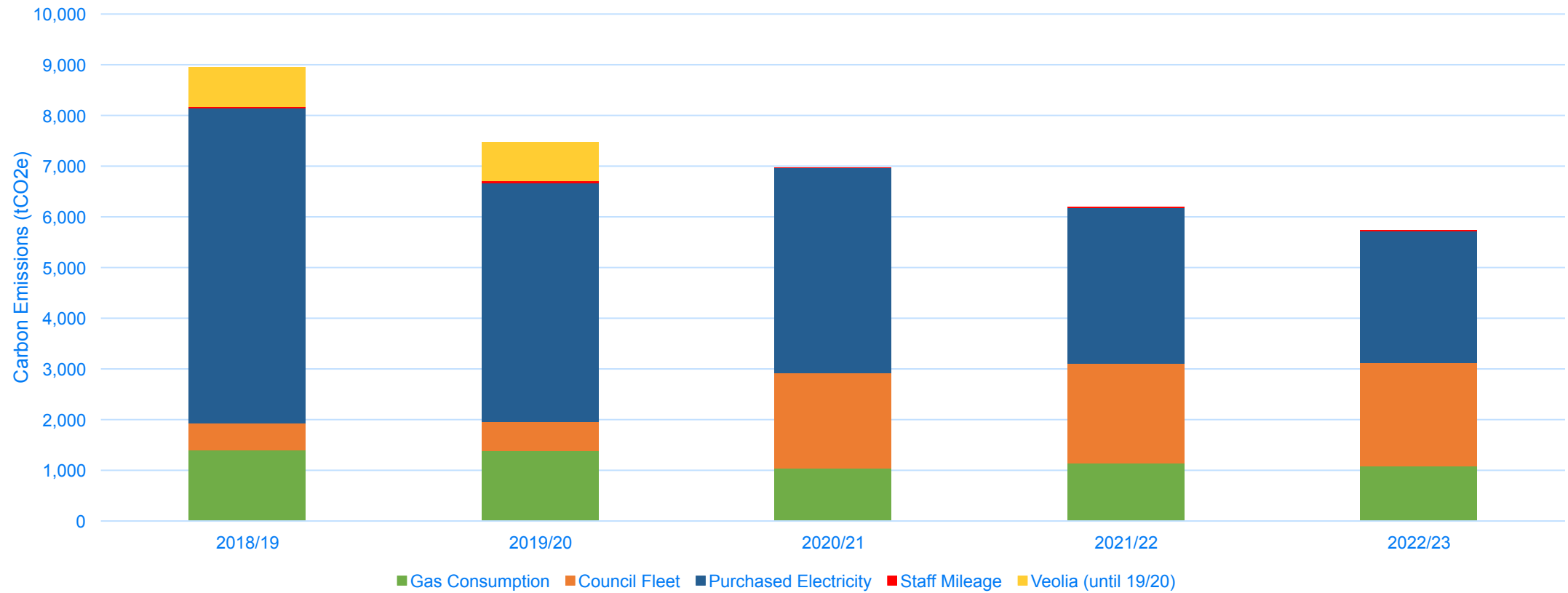
Borough	Council	Borough	Borough	Council	Borough
Tower Hamlets	2025	2045	Newham	2030	2050
Haringey	2027	2041	Redbridge	2030	2050
City of London	2027	2040	Barking & Dagenham	2030	2050
Bromley	2027	None	Greenwich	2030	2030
Hillingdon	2030	2030	Lewisham	2030	2030
Harrow	2030	2030	Southwark	2030	2030
Barnet	2030	2042	Lambeth	2030	None
Brent	2030	2030	Croydon	2030	2030
Ealing	2030	2030	Wandsworth	2030	2043
Hounslow	2030	2050	Merton	2030	2050
Camden	2030	2030	Sutton	2030	2045
Hammersmith & Fulham	2030	2030	Kingston	2030	2038
Kensington & Chelsea	2030	2040	Richmond	2030	2043
Islington	2030	2030	Westminster	2040	2040
Enfield	2030	2040	Havering	2040	2040
Hackney	2030	None	Bexley	None	None
Waltham Forest	2030	2030			



# Council Carbon Emissions – to date



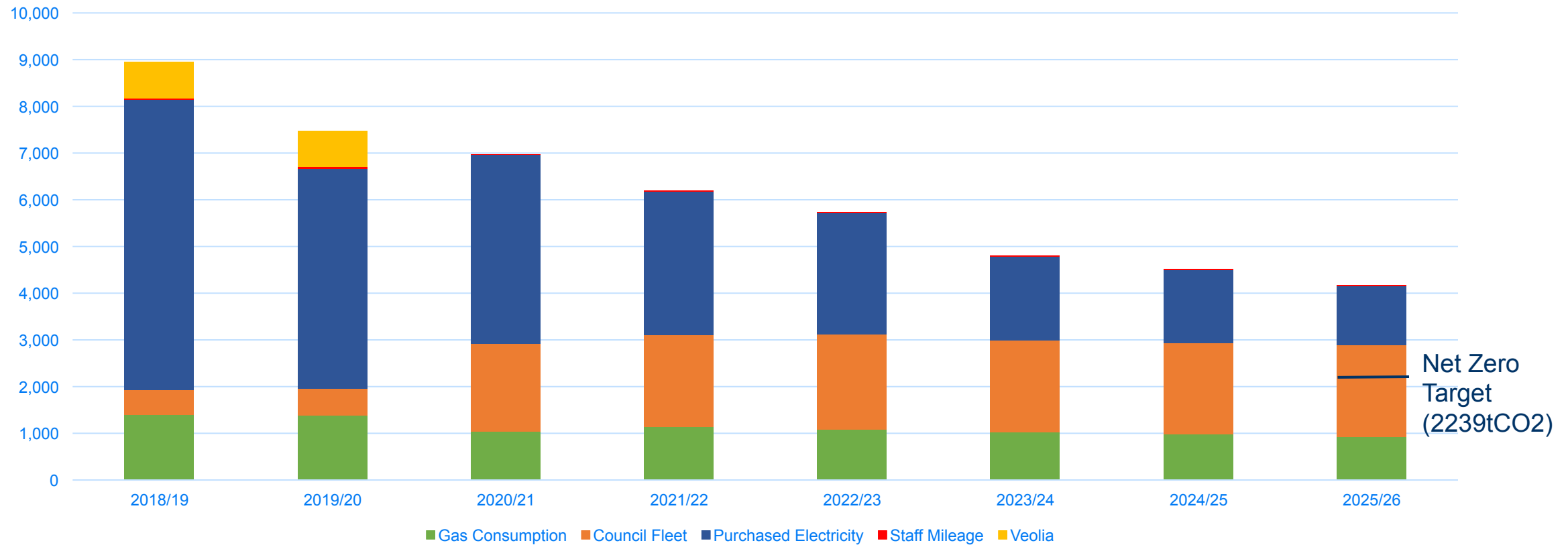
LBTH Emissions breakdown since Climate Declaration



# Council Carbon Emissions - projected



Projected emissions of current scopes



# Additional Scopes of Emissions



- Up to now schools, council housing and leisure centres have fallen out of scope of council emission targets.
- As council housing\* (2023) and leisure centres (2024) assets come under direct council control their emissions need to be considered.
- Whilst we do not have day to day control over school emissions, they are part of the council estate, so consideration needs to be given to their inclusion in council emission targets.
- Detailed analysis is underway to assess the above and to understand the full impact, (including financial) and target setting.

\*Council housing emissions include only the areas that are in direct control of the Council such as communal parts of a building.

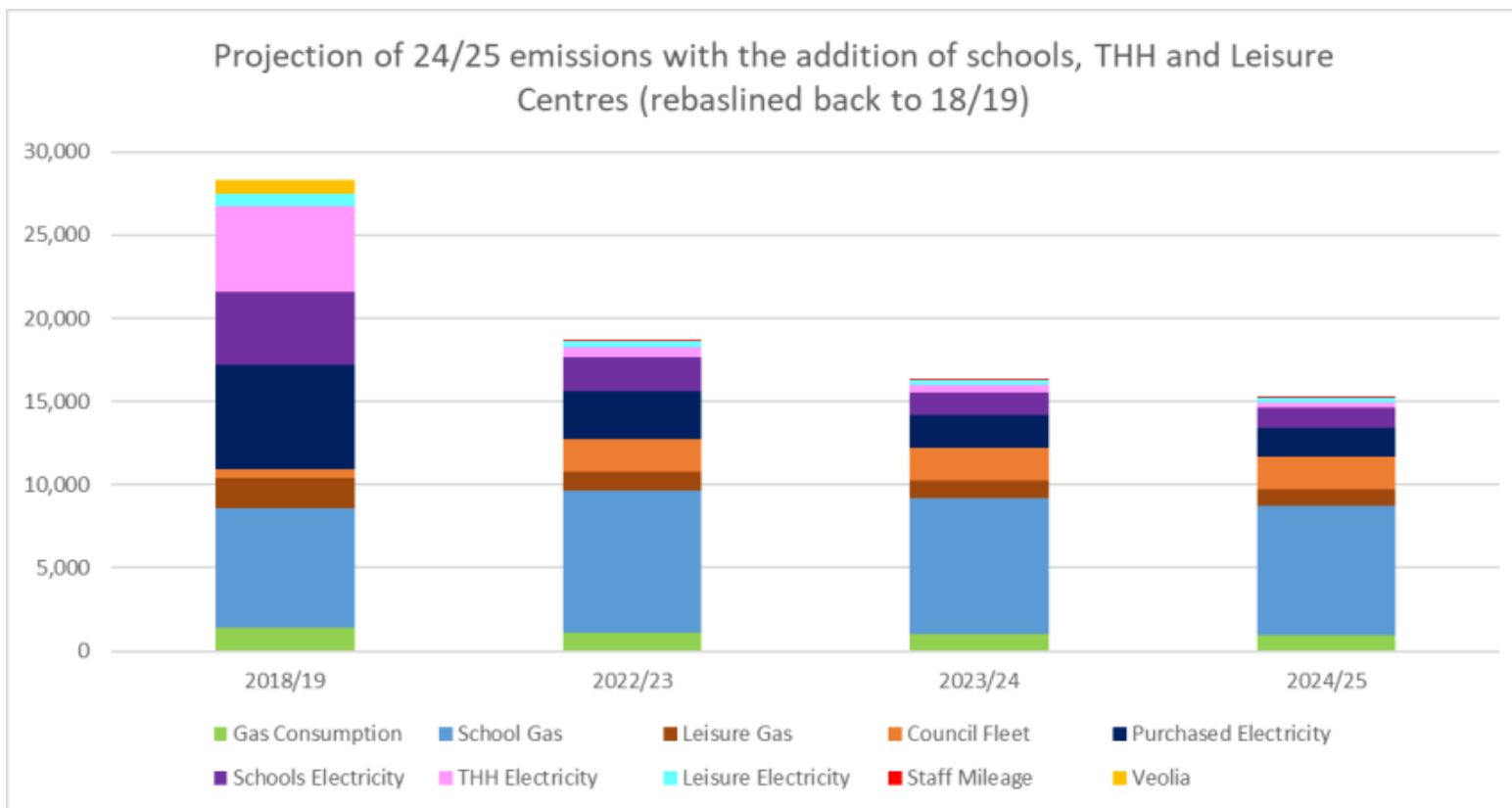




# Impact of Additional Scopes of Carbon Emissions



GHG Reporting	2018/19	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
<b>Total Emissions (tCO2)</b>	28,288	18,684	16,314	15,242
<b>% reduction on 2018/19</b>		34%	42%	46%
<b>Scope 1</b>				
Gas Consumption	1,369	1,074	1,020	969
School Gas	7,193	8,586	8,157	7,749
Leisure Gas	1,859	1,119	1,063	1,010
Council Fleet	541	1,993	1,967	1,964
<b>Total</b>	10,962	12,772	12,207	11,692
<b>Scope 2</b>				
Purchased Electricity	6,222	2,855	1,980	1,710
Schools Electricity	4,376	1,997	1,385	1,196
THH Electricity	5,143	613	425	367
Leisure Electricity	768	424	294	254
<b>Total</b>	16,509	5,889	4,084	3,527
<b>Scope 3</b>				
Staff Mileage	38	23	23	23
Veolia	779	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	817	23	23	23



# Projects



- Project underway to install solar panels on 11 buildings. Due to be completed by early 2025.
- Majority of streetlighting is now LED. This has halved emissions associated to streetlighting and energy costs.
- A Net Zero Building Action Group has been set up that brings stakeholders from across the Council together to coordinate activities which will reduce emissions from council buildings.
- eLearning made available to all staff to provide training on climate change and what the Council is doing.
- £721K secured from government Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme that was matched by the Carbon Fund and Facilities Management to install air source heat pumps at Toby Lane Depot, Jack Dash House and Overland and Mowlem Children Centres.



# Planned carbon fund projects



- LED lighting to council offices – Working with Technical Services to identify opportunities for LED lighting installation to be rolled out
- LED floodlighting to sports pitches – Leisure centres coming back in house from early 2024
- Community Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Generation
- Schools PV project – rollout of PV across education estate
- LBTH decarbonisation projects – Investment grade proposals being undertaken for our buildings
- Heat decarbonisation projects within council homes



# Programme Management



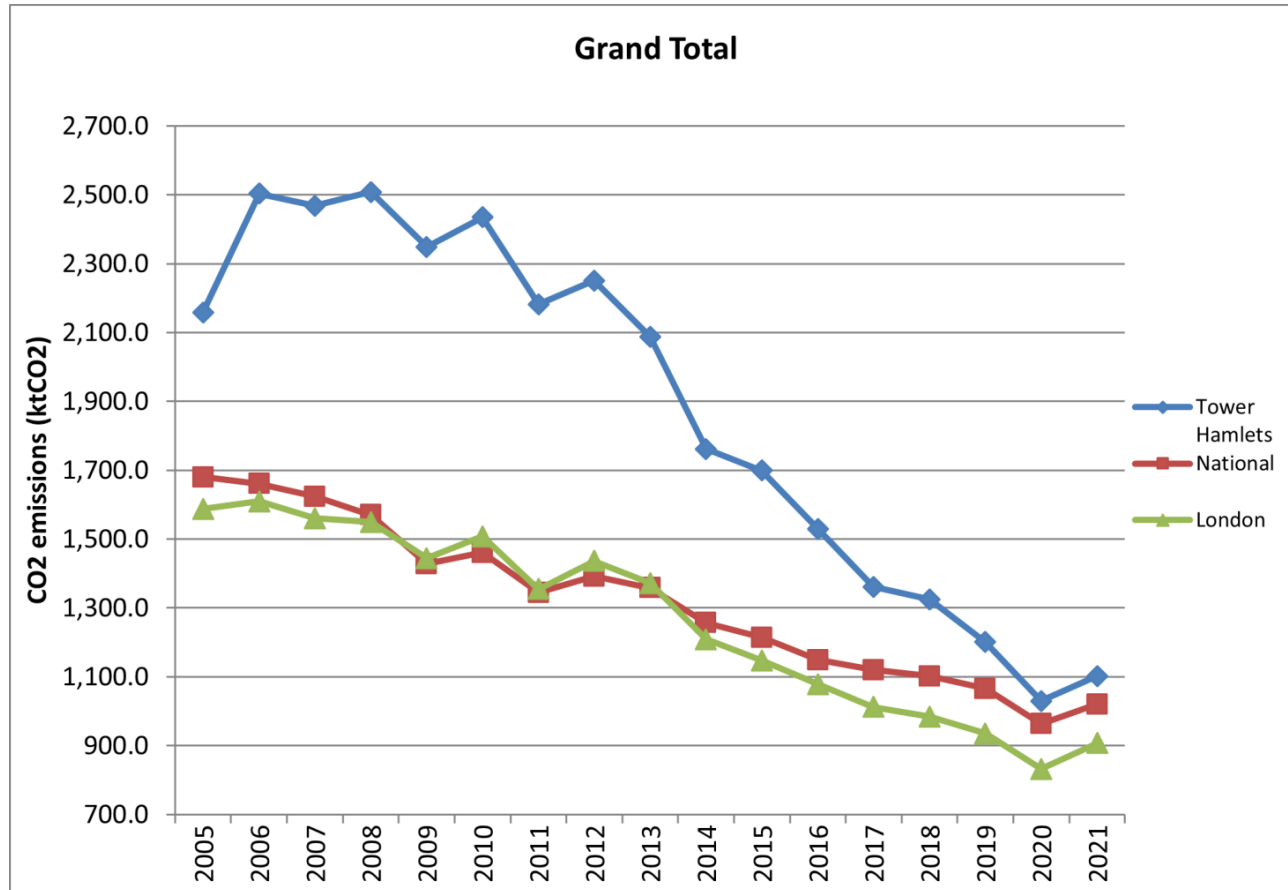
- Internal officer group set up to analyse the impact of the additional scope of emissions.
- 'Investment Grade' surveys being carried out for high emitting buildings.
- Alignment with the Strategic Asset Management Plan 2024-29
- Development of an investment plan
- Cabinet Report summer 2024



# Borough wide emissions



# Borough emissions



- Carbon emissions in Tower Hamlets have reduced by 49% since 2005.
- This is the 5<sup>th</sup> highest reduction in emissions amongst London Boroughs.
- The biggest proportion of the Borough's emissions is from Commercial activities which make up 30% of emissions. Next is domestic (21%).
- Per capita emissions in Tower Hamlets have fallen from 8.6tCO<sub>2</sub>/per person in 2012 to 3.5tCO<sub>2</sub>/per person in 2021. There is also a 70% reduction from the high of 11.5tCO<sub>2</sub>/per person in 2006.



# Energy Infrastructure Challenges



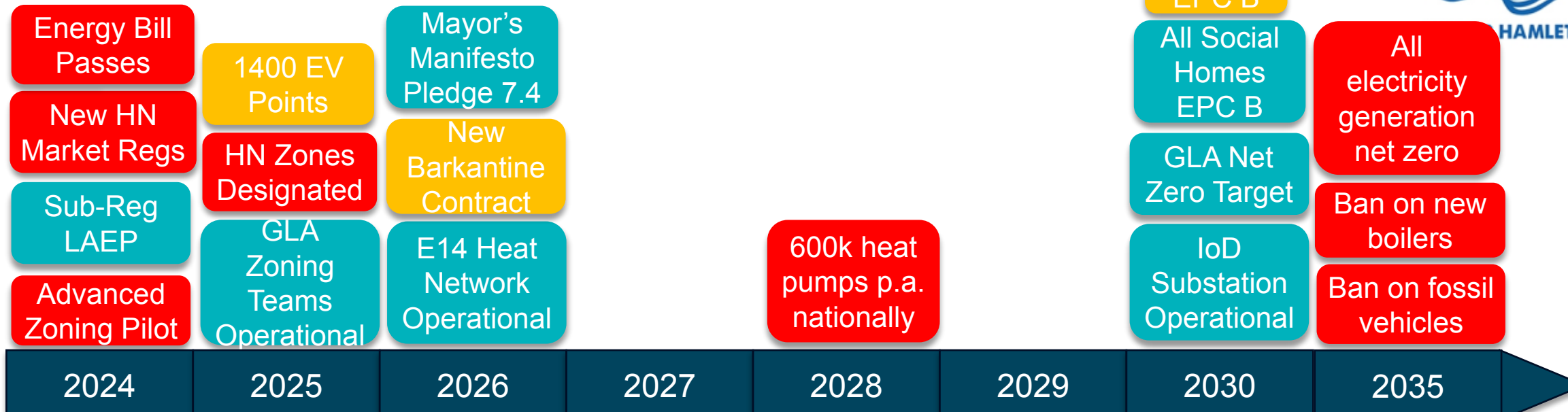
- 52,000 new homes + 32,000 new jobs = significant demand for reliable electricity supply
- Growth in data centres = significant demand for reliable electricity supply
- National transition to decarbonised energy = much more electricity capacity required
  - 2035 ban on gas boilers for new homes = more heat pumps
  - 2035 ban on sale of fossil fuel cars = more electric vehicles
- West London case study - 10 years+ delays to housing developments



# Energy Infrastructure Plan



Drivers



Interventions



NOTE: There are no increased electric capacity milestones

**Legend**

- Ext. Drivers (teal box)
- Int. Drivers (yellow box)
- THLEP Response (green box)
- Govt. Drivers (red box)





# Projects



- The first and second phases of the Carbon Reduction Community Grants programme awarded £531K to 33 charities and community groups in 2022 and 2023
- The projects included community engagement, Solar PV, heat pumps, LED lighting and insulation.
- It is projected the projects will result in carbon emission reductions of 457tCO<sub>2</sub>.
- A third phase to award the remaining funding was launched in February.



# Projects



- We have also provided grants to Schools and SMEs over the last 5 years to help reduce emissions.
- The Schools Energy Retrofit Project has provided fully funded grants of £670K to 24 schools to complete projects that have reduced emissions by 374tCO<sub>2</sub>.
- The SME Energy Improvement Grants Programme provided 50% match funded grants totalling £656K to 140 SMEs to complete retrofit projects. This projects resulted in emission reductions of 383tCO<sub>2</sub>.



# Governance



# Climate Partnership



- The Climate Partnership (and its sub-groups) will promote and encourage leadership on climate action and policy, identify feasible interventions to be carried out by residents, council, and partners to tackle the climate emergency and reduce carbon emissions to net zero by 2045 or sooner.
- Provide strategic Leadership, coordinate, develop and implement Partnership/Borough Action Plans, identifying costed delivery plans, seeking funding and sponsorship opportunities.
- Share data, expertise, knowledge, information, and resources and identify good practice, and opportunities to achieve systematic and transformative change, environmental sustainability, and support a fair and just transition to net zero.
- Engage education providers in the borough on green skills, and local businesses on green jobs.
- Conduct collaborative projects to develop local skills to enable mass retrofit of buildings and all tenures of housing.
- Oversee the implementation, monitoring, reporting and review of the Tower Hamlets Net Zero Partnership Action Plan (NZCPAP) relating to greening, growing and biodiversity; and oversee the implementation, monitoring, reporting and review of the Tower Hamlets Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP).
- Promote the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and climate resilience in Tower Hamlets and beyond.



# Planned Climate Partnership projects



- Support creation of a borough-wide Climate Alliance and guide its activities.
- Develop a net zero carbon communications campaign, support partnership member communications and map existing initiatives, campaigns and communicate these.
- Work in partnership locally, regionally, and nationally to deliver policies and frameworks to achieve net zero.
- Create a transparent and consistent approach to Carbon Accounting - to use as a borough-wide real-time proxy baseline from which to improve.
- Support climate partnership members to deliver projects to reduce carbon emissions in the borough including carbon reduction projects, retrofitting, behaviour change, and resident engagement.



# Mayor's Advisory Board for Climate Change



## Pledges:

- Mayor's Advisory Board for Climate Change
- Create green jobs whilst cutting living costs
- Make council carbon neutral
- Make our homes energy efficient
- Work with private and social landlords to improve insulation standards in our homes
- Install green heating systems on our estates, including the use of solar panels, wind turbines and heat and power schemes
- Tree-planting
- Parks and other open spaces
- Tackle air pollution in Tower Hamlets
- Research the causes of poor local air quality
- Increase the number of charging points for electric vehicles in the borough
- Greening our fleet

