

GREATER **LONDON** AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA250820-2023

16 September 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 24 August 2020. Your request has been dealt with under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004.

Please find attached our response to your questionnaire.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>

Questionnaire Climate Action – GHG emissions reduction – UK local authorities

1. What is the name of your Local Authority? [Greater London Authority](#)
2. Has your Local Authority made any local commitment similar to the national declaration of climate emergency?
 - a) [Yes](#)
 - b) No
3. If yes, when was it? [2018](#)
4. Is your Local Authority signatory of the Covenant of Mayors?
 - a) [Yes](#)
 - b) No
5. Does your Local Authority have a designated department dealing climate action? [Yes](#)
If so, what is it? [Climate Change Team](#) Who is the head of department? [Peter Daw](#)
6. Does your Local Authority have a Climate Action Plan or any similar Initiative? If yes, please would you provide a link or send it to [REDACTED]. (If the answer is “yes” go to question 10; if the answer is “no” go to question 7)
 - a) [Yes](#) <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/climate-change/climate-action-plan>
 - b) No
7. If not, are there plans to create one? (If the answer is “yes” go to question 8, if the answer in “no” go to question 9)
 - a) [Yes](#)
 - b) No
8. If there are plans to create a Climate Action Plan, what is the current situation of these plans? _____
9. If there are no plans to create a Climate Action Plan, how is the Local Authority addressing the climate crisis, specifically the national plans regarding GHG emissions reduction? _____
10. Please could you send a link to any information about how your Local Authority plans to address GHG emissions, or email documents to [REDACTED]
[London's Zero Carbon Pathways Tool shows the ways that carbon emissions might be reduced to net zero](#) <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/london-s-zero-carbon-pathways-tool>; [London Environment Strategy](#) <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/london-environment-strategy>
11. If there is a Climate Action Plan or similar initiative, how far has the plan progressed? Please select all the options that apply.
 - a) Discussion phase
 - b) [Implementation phase](#)
 - c) Evaluation of implemented measures phase
 - d) Other _____
12. To what extent do you associate the declaration of emergency (development of climate crisis plans or similar actions) to the increase in civil movements, such as the School Strike for the Climate and Extinction Rebellion?
 - a) Not at all
 - b) To a small extent
 - c) To some extent
 - d) [To a moderate extent](#)

- e) To a great extent
- f) To a very great extent
13. To what extent do you associate the declaration of emergency (development of climate crisis plans or similar actions) to the publication of Specialists Reports, such as the one from Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change – IPCC (<https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>)?
 - a) Not at all
 - b) To a small extent
 - c) To some extent
 - d) To a moderate extent
 - e) To a great extent
 - f) To a very great extent
14. Does your Local Authority have GHG emissions reduction targets?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
15. If yes, what are the targets? How are they assessed? The Mayor has recently announced his commitment to bringing forward London's zero carbon target to 2030 London's Zero Carbon Pathways Tool shows the ways that carbon emissions might be reduced to net zero <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/london-s-zero-carbon-pathways-tool>,
16. Is the Local Authority measuring GHG emissions?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
17. If yes, what is the process employed to measure GHG emissions? The GLA's London Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory - <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/leggi>
18. Is your Local Authority Climate Action Plan/GHG emission reduction Plan or similar initiatives targeting the Local Authority's operations only or is it targeting the whole area?
 - a) Own operations
 - b) Local Authority whole area
 - c) Both
 - d) Other _____
19. What are the sectors included in the Climate Action Plan/similar initiative regarding GHG emissions reduction? Please select all the options that apply.
 - a) Building
 - b) Electricity Generation/Distribution
 - c) Heating/Cooling
 - d) Transport
 - e) Housing
 - f) LULUCF (Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry)
 - g) Waste
 - h) Other _____
20. Are there priorities in GHG emission reductions policy? Please rank from the least prioritized sector (1) to the most prioritized sector (8):

Sector	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Not Applicable
Building									All emission sectors have a trajectory to reduce GHG
Energy Generation/									

Distribution										https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/london-s-zero-carbon-pathways-tool
Heating/Cooling										
Waste										
Housing										
Transport										
LULUCF										
Other _____										

21. What are the main implementation hurdles faced by your Local Authority regarding GHG emissions reduction? Use 0 if the hurdle is not applicable. If the options indicated are not relevant hurdles, please indicate different options in the box "other". Please rank from 1 (smallest hurdle) to 5 (biggest hurdle).

Hurdles	0	1	2	3	4	5
Insufficient Capacity/ Expertise			2			
Lack of appropriate funding						5
Lack of jurisdiction						5
Lack of support from central governance						5
Lack of staffing				3		
Other _____						

22. Concerning challenges in the implementation of GHG emissions reduction/Climate Action Plan or other similar initiatives, rank the sectors that present more challenges, from the least challenging (1) to the most challenging (8).

Sector	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Not Applicable
Building								8	
Energy Generation/ Distribution							7		
Heating/Cooling								8	
Waste					5				
Housing								8	
Transport				4					
LULUCF									N/A
Other _____									

23. Are these challenges addressed directly through actions in your Local Authority Action Plan? Yes

24. To what extent do you think the COVID-19 pandemic will affect your Local Authority policies regarding Climate Action/GHG emissions reduction?
- a) Not at all
 - b) To a small extent
 - c) To some extent
 - d) To a moderate extent
 - e) To a great extent
 - f) To a very great extent
25. What are positive effects observed from the COVID-19 pandemic regarding the Local Authority Climate Action Initiatives? Shift in modal transport (increase in walking, cycling), awareness of the importance of green space. Polling has also shown desire by Londoners for a green recovery from COVID-19 showing desire for more climate initiatives.
26. What are negative effects observed from the COVID-19 pandemic regarding the Local Authority Climate Action Initiatives? Increased used of plastic (gloves, facemasks) and associated littering.
27. Does your Local Authority intend to change its current Climate Action Plans or similar Initiatives because of the effects of COVID-19 pandemic?
- a) Yes
 - b) No
28. If yes, what changes will be put into practice? As part of London's recovery from COVID-19, the Mayor has prioritised a Green New Deal for London which will focus on job creation in London's low carbon economy and tackling the climate emergency and making London a zero carbon city by 2030 <https://www.london.gov.uk/talk-london/environment/green-new-deal>
29. What sector/s related to Climate Action Plan/GHG emissions reduction are more likely to be affected by changes in policies due to COVID-19?
- a) Building
 - b) Electricity Generation/Distribution
 - c) Heating/Cooling
 - d) Waste
 - e) Transport
 - f) Housing
 - g) LULUCF
 - h) Other _____
30. Does your Local Authority have Carbon Offset Initiatives/Projects? (If the answer is Yes, "go" to question 32; if the answer is "no" go to question 31)
- a) Yes
 - b) No
31. If it does not, does it plan to have Carbon Offset Initiatives? (If the answer is "yes" go to question 32, if the answer is "no" go to question 44)
- a) Yes
 - b) No
32. If it has Carbon Offset Initiatives, how are these Initiatives put into practice?
- a) Forestry
 - b) Waste
 - c) Renewable Energy
 - d) Energy Efficiency

- e) Other _____
33. Are the Carbon Offset Initiatives geographically based (only occurring in your local area)?
- a) Yes
 - b) No
34. If not, please indicate where the initiatives are located. _____
35. Are the Carbon Offset Projects related to:
- a) Local Authority emissions
 - b) Other sectors emissions
 - c) Other (specify) _____
36. Are the Carbon Offsets related to:
- a) Direct emissions (scopes 1 and 2)
 - b) Indirect emissions (scope 3)
 - c) Both
37. What are the financing vehicles used for offsetting?
- a) Sale of carbon credits
 - b) Direct purchase of carbon credits
 - c) Dedicated framework
38. What is the source of financing?
- a) Fines/Taxes
 - b) General budget
 - c) Private capital
 - d) Other
39. How is your Local Authority measuring the success of Carbon Offset Initiatives? Please could you send a link or material regarding this information to

40. How much carbon emissions have been reduced through Carbon Offset projects?

41. Are the targets set for Carbon Emission Projects being met?
- a) Yes
 - b) No
42. Is there a cap on how much carbon emissions can be offset?
- a) Yes
 - b) No
43. If there is a cap, what is it? _____
44. To what extent do you believe the community should be involved in the Climate Action Plan/GHG emissions reduction plan/similar initiatives?
- a) Not at all
 - b) To a small extent
 - c) To some extent
 - d) To a moderate extent
 - e) To a great extent
 - f) To a very great extent
45. Does your Local Authority communicate to your community about Climate Action/GHG emissions reduction?
- a) Yes
 - b) No

46. What are the communication channels used by your Local Authority regarding climate change and the community (e.g. citizens' assembly, social media, website comment section, etc)? – website: <https://www.london.gov.uk/talk-london/>, social media: https://twitter.com/LDN_gov, citizens' assembly: <https://demo.london.gov.uk/questions/2020/0399>,
47. To what extent do you believe your local community is already engaged in Climate Action?
- a) Not at all
 - b) To a small extent
 - c) To some extent
 - d) To a moderate extent
 - e) To a great extent
 - f) To a very great extent
48. Since your Local Authority declared climate emergency (or similar commitment), to what extent has the role of the community in tackling climate crisis increased?
- a) Not at all
 - b) To a small extent
 - c) To some extent
 - d) To a moderate extent
 - e) To a great extent
 - f) To a very great extent
49. With what actors does your Local Authority engage in relation to Climate Action/GHG Emissions reduction plans? Select all that apply.
- a) Local Business
 - b) Citizens
 - c) NGOs
 - d) Citizens' groups
 - e) National Business
 - f) Other _____
50. Is your Local Authority working with non-government actors in Climate Action/GHG emissions reduction Initiatives?
- a) Yes
 - b) No
51. If yes, what are the Initiatives? Please could you send links or information to
- London Climate Action Week <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/climate-change/london-climate-action-week> , <https://www.c40.org/>, <https://www.uk100.org/>, <https://carbonneutralcities.org/>
52. If there is anything you want to add, please feel free to do so. _____
53. Thank you for your participation!