

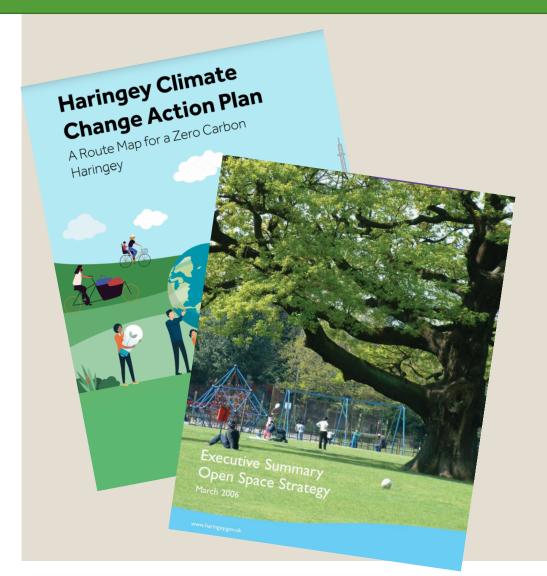
#### PARKS AND GREENSPACES STRATEGY

Cllr Mike Hakata,
Cabinet Member for Climate
Change, Environment and
Transport
Paul ELY
PGSS PROJECT MANAGER

Haringey Climate Forum, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2022



#### Climate Change



Addressing Climate Change is....

- Reducing our emissions
- Preparing for a changing climate
- Addressing social inequalities



## What is the role of a Park in a Changing Climate?

- Civic leadership
- Community hub
- Educational asset
- Carbon reduction
- Climate adaption
- Community resilience
- Biodiversity protection & store

#### Climate Change – Mitigation

- Park Buildings
- Supply Chains / Techniques
- Carbon sinks
- Active Travel
- Events
- Renewable Generation
- Parks Service



#### Climate Change – Adaptation

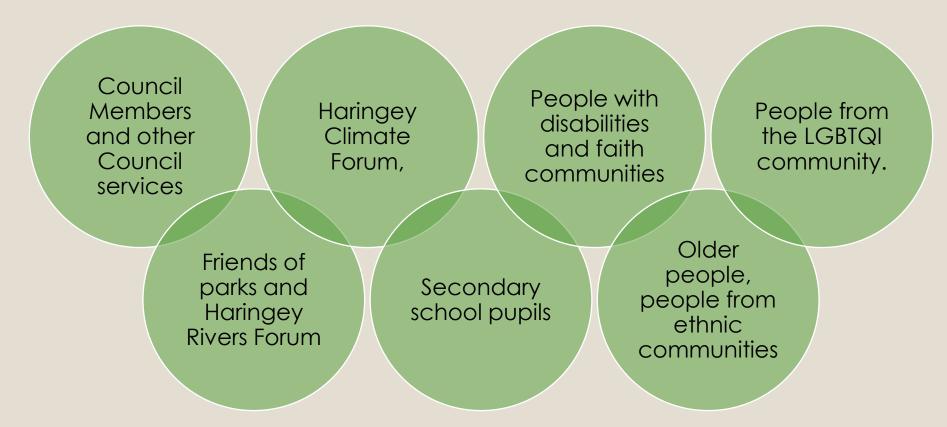
- Rain water storage natural soak away
- Air quality improvements
- Microclimate disrupter
- Open and outdoor space Amenity & events
- Natural cooling
- Space for biodiversity

### Physical scope of the strategy

- 148 Parks and Greenspaces
- 59 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC's)
- 27 Allotment Sites
- 5 Local Nature Reserves (LNR's)
- 2 Cemeteries
- 40,000 trees
- 37 Play areas
- 10 Outdoor gyms
- 56 buildings
- 83 hard sports facilities
- 22 Grass pitches



#### Co-production over 2 ½ years



Culminating in a Parks Summit in March 2022 at Alexandra Palace where the community endorsed the draft strategy







#### Three core Aims



Inclusion and Wellbeing



Mitigating the impact of climate change



Improving service quality



#### Mitigating climate change - actions

- 1. To work towards making the management of Haringey's parks net zero carbon by 2041, by reducing or eliminating carbon generation from buildings, plant, vehicles and machinery and the overall delivery of the Parks Service
- 2. To establish an interdepartmental coordinating group with representation from Parks, Planning, Housing, Highways, Flood Management and Regeneration to ensure effective collaboration between services in the development and ongoing management of programmes and policies that support the council's approach towards the Climate Emergency with regards to green and blue infrastructure, climate vulnerability and the natural environment
- 3. To increase the overall area of green spaces in Haringey in new developments and through the delivery of pocket parks by 250 sqm each year, supported by the new Local Plan
- 4. To recruit a new officer to strengthen the contribution made from planning applications for trees and biodiversity through enhanced protection and biodiversity net gain
- 5. To undertake a review of all current SINC's with a view to updating SINC designations and habitat and species information for SINC's
- 6. To develop updated management plans for Local Nature Reserves
- 7. To increase tree canopy cover in Haringey from 25% (2020) to 30%, and plant at least 10,000 new trees by 2030 in order to reduce carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, improve air quality and reduce ambient temperature
- 8. To develop new Local Nature Reserves and 10 new Sites of Importance for nature Conservation.
- 9. To encourage biodiversity improvements to be delivered through sustainable urban drainage systems
- 10. Provide activities and events that help promote access to the natural environment to people from BAME communities



#### New Polices

Barbecues and fires in parks and green spaces Alcohol in parks and green spaces Smoking and vaping in parks and green spaces Dogs and dog control in parks and green spaces Boundaries and security in parks and green spaces Chemicals and pesticides in parks and green spaces Invasive non-native species in parks and green spaces Lighting in parks and green spaces CCTV in parks and green spaces Vehicles in parks and green spaces Sustainable waste management in parks and green spaces Amplified music and speech in parks and green spaces Rough sleeping and camping in parks and green spaces Toilets, urination and defaecation in parks and green spaces Permitted activities for commercial gain in parks and green spaces Graffiti, fly posting and banners in parks and green spaces Enforcement in parks and green spaces



#### Proposed quality measures

Strategic Aim	Quality measure	Purpose
Inclusion	Profile of park users compared to that of the population of the borough	To identify any gaps in provision/use.
Inclusion	Number of visitors to a representative sample of parks	How well-used/popular are parks.
Inclusion	Number of community groups active in parks and green spaces	Community involvement, engagement and partnership
Climate Change and sustainability	Increase tree planting across the borough and develop strategies to increase canopy cover across public and private land in the borough.	
Climate Change and sustainability	To establish new local nature reserves and sites of importance for nature conservation and create new wildlife habitat every year in parks and greenspaces	, , , ,
Climate Change and sustainability	The core operational buildings and all transport related activities for service delivery to be net zero carbon by 2027.	Reducing the carbon footprint of parks
A Quality Service	Number of parks and green spaces with a Green Flag accreditation	An independent measure of quality
A Quality Service	The proportion of park users who are very satisfied or satisfied with Haringey parks	Shows perceived quality of parks
A Quality Service	Percentage of park assets that are graded good or excellent	Indication of asset quality over time
A Quality Service	The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) parks staff per hectare of managed greenspace	Staffing numbers as a proxy for investment and visible presence in parks. Track over time

#### Next steps

- September 29<sup>th</sup>-November 27th
   Public engagement and consultation
- Incorporate feedback into documents
- March 2023 Final Approval of Strategy.
- April 2023 Launch new Strategy, plans and polices at Parks Summit!



## Consultation and engagement post Cabinet on 13<sup>th</sup> September

- Council website for formal feedback
- Banners on railings of district and local parks
- Sessions in libraries and parks cafes
- Via Friends groups and other existing contacts, Voluntary sector team, Bridge Renewal Trust and Active Communities newsletter to schools for dissemination to community organisations
- To groups already engaged with: DAH, Haringey Circle, Parkview Academy, Wise Thoughts,
   Difficult Parent, School head teachers, +++
- To Parks summit attendees
- Further focus groups e.g., MIND, Pedal Power, older women, parents of under 5's young adults, primary school children?

- Target of 0 vehicle emissions by 2027.
- Seeking to purchase first vehicle before end of financial year (03/23)
- Have introduced cargo bikes, mainly for litter collection. Are also looking to introduce for Zonal Team
- Cost is a challenge as electric is over 2X the cost
- For machinery, significant proportion of hand held machinery will be battery operated by 03/23 ready for Spring
- For operational buildings, about to start investigation of existing operational buildings to assess how to reduce energy usage/generate energy sustainably (covering areas such as insulation, water usage and use of solar power and ground source heating)
- For leased buildings, will be assessing to ensure currently buildings meet EPC E and will identify changes required to achieve EPC grade C.
- Have a new Environmental Services Manager post in structure.
   Would lead on this work.

Parks vehicles, machinery and buildings

#### Trees including tree maintenance

- Seeking to increase tree planting across the borough and develop strategies to increase canopy cover across public and private land in the borough.
- Targets of:
- > 10,000 new trees by 2030
- > 30% canopy cover across all wards
- New trees through street tree planting and tiny forests (Earthwatch, WHL REC, 600trees and 50 vols)
- 30% canopy cover will be updated for baseline measurement to recalculate cover based on new ward boundaries before Xmas. Have applied for funding including for Project Officer to progress to Woodland accelerator fund
- Are commissioning Treeconomics to assist with baselining, with identifying potential sites and with benefits identification
- Will identify long list, use Street View to shortlist and then officers to assess in situ. Initial planting by Autumn 2023
- Also planning to undertake an I Tree survey with volunteers and to re-establish the Tree Wardens scheme
- Maintenance a climate challenge! Haringey a high risk area for subsidence, particularly in the west = more claims against Council trees.
- Budget increased to support greater inspection frequency from every four to every two years.
- Only new trees are watered for three years though doubled capacity last summer (allowed to continue watering by TW despite ban)
- Are looking at using run off from buildings and new Splash Play waste water will be used for new trees and non herbicidal weeding treatments
- Considering amending tree sponsorship scheme to include option to self water with cost differential

- SINC's review. Assessment of condition of existing 59 SINC's and identification of 10 potential additional sites
- New LNR at the Paddock. Are assessing other potential sites for LNR designation
- Five updated management plans for Parkland Walk, Bluebell Wood, Coldfall Wood, Queens Wood and Finsbury Park
- Funding secured from the Rewild London Project for restoration works at Bluebell, Coldfall and Queen's woods <u>Rewild London: Haringey's Ancient</u> Woodlands – GIGL
- Strong partnership working with Planning in development of new Local Plan.
   Stronger policies in support of biodiversity including for Biodiversity Net Gain
- Piloting a project for new meadow creation (Page Green Common)
- Discussions with Housing about rewilding green areas on estates
- Nature conservation action plans for Green flag parks
- Funding from the prosperity fund: encourage community led greening within the street environment– trees, planters, SUD's bug hotels instead of bollards IDEAS?

Biodiversity in parks and greenspaces









# EXAMPLES FROM A PREVIOUS HARINGEY SCHEME

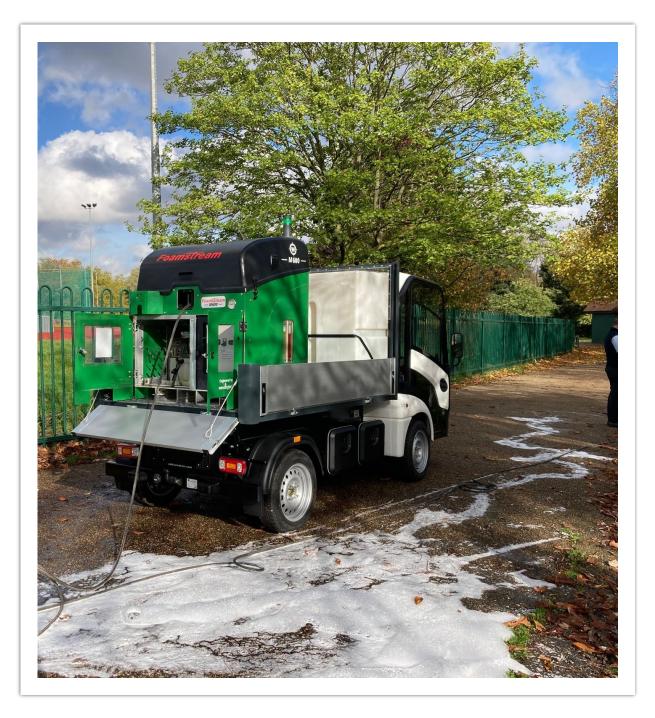
- Partnership working with City of London and Ali Pali
- Contribute to and influence planning decisions on important development sites (St Annes)
- Seeking to actively incorporate flood risk mitigation in improvement projects
- Need support from across the Council= action to establish interdepartmental coordinating group to ensure effective collaboration

Biodiversity in other SINCs and the wider area inc gardens, swales, parklets (and paved front gardens!)



#### Water habitats

- Historically water an important part of the parks and greenspaces offer: wildlife and biodiversity, amenity
- Have developed Water Courses and Flood Management Plan
- Key project to open up the Moselle Brook at Lordship Rec
- Seeking to strengthen expertise in managing aquatic environments.
- Are developing/implementing further projects e.g. Chestnuts Park
- Cllr Jameson now councillor Champion for the Moselle
- Challenges around approaches: engineering versus nature and joining this up!



## Herbicides and pesticides

- New Policy commits to eradicating use (though has to be tempered by resource availability).
- Implementing use of Foam Stream and Root wave (plant based spray and electrocution!)
- Indication can be more effective in treating Japanese Knotweed