# Responsibilities

The development of a strategy and action plan have been overseen by the Authority’s Scrutiny Committee and will be adopted by all staff within the Authority. Overall responsibility for this strategy lies with all Authority staff accountable to the Senior Management Team (SMT), with delivery delegated to an Environmental/Energy Group which will be set up as a cross department project group chaired by the Head of Projects and Funding Delivery. The Group will oversee the implementation of the strategy and associated action plan, which will include activities to meet aims, enable communications and monitor progress on a regular basis.

Implementation will require ownership across the Authority. Members of the Environmental/Energy Working Group will become champions who will monitor and encourage compliance with this strategy, and will feed back through the group to SMT and Members on progress and any barriers to implementation.

This strategy seeks to cover all areas of Authority operations including venues (contracted out and Authority run), built infrastructure, open spaces, new construction, events and corporate activities. It will seek to include all leased and management contracted sites, and future contracts will demand compliance with minimum standards. It will also seek to influence suppliers and the types of contractors that we procure. All staff will have some form of part to play and should be encouraged to think about all their actions, if they are necessary and if alternatives are an option or preferable. Every member of staff will be encouraged to become an energy manager and act accordingly to reduce energy usage through training and support from the senior team. Procurement and communications will also play a leading role in delivery of this strategy and we will work to ensure they can deliver the aims we are setting out.

# Detail

|  |
| --- |
| This procedure covers the following points:  [Responsibilities](#_Toc320170281)  [Detail](#_Toc320170282)  [Background](#_Toc320170283)  [Context to the Development of the Authority’s Environment Strategy](#_Toc320170284)  [Areas of operation](#_Toc320170285)  [New Builds](#_Toc320170286)  [Open Spaces](#_Toc320170287)  [Venues](#_Toc320170288)  [Events](#_Toc320170288)  [Corporate](#_Toc320170290)  Strategy Themes…………………………………………………………………  Travel……………………………………………………………………………  Organisational Resource use (paper, supplies etc.) ………………  Machinery……………………………………………………………………………  Water usage…………………………………………………………  Energy usage…………………………………………………………  Waste management………………………………  Land use (including contaminated land) ………………………………  Biodiversity and nature improvement………………………………  Learning………………………………  Sustainable Design………………………………  Procurement………………………………  Communications………………………………  [Relevant Policy and Procedures](#_Toc320170296)  [Monitoring and Review](#_Toc320170297)  [Review](#_Toc320170298)  [Appendix 1 – Action Plan](#_Toc320170299) |

# Background

The IPCC 2018 report on climate change found that meeting a 1.5°C target is still achievable, success is dependent on an ambitious international effort and an increase in investment. Exceeding the 1.5°C target would affect weather patterns, cause sea levels to rise further, create food and water shortages, and affect human security and economic growth. The special report Global Warming of 1.5°C (IPCC, 2018. Summary for Policymakers) shows that 420 million additional people will be exposed to extreme heat and up to 270 million additional people to water scarcity if global temperatures rise by 2°C, compared with a 1.5°C scenario. The world is now clearly amid a climate and ecological emergency and there is now a unanimous consensus from the scientific community on the need for rapid action.

There is clear recognition that this challenge can only be overcome by taking urgent, radical action. This crisis is something that will influence us all, and for some the impact of climate change is already being felt. The UK is committed to playing its full part in meeting the international target to limit the global average temperature rise to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels by the year 2100, and aiming for 1.5°C, known as the Paris Agreement within the United Nations Framework on Climate Change.

Understanding climate risk, to our own organisation, and what implications it may have to the public and our users is key to developing a robust policy and strategy for the Authority. There are many reports alongside the 2018 IPCC report, which detail short-, medium- and long-term risks. These have informed the development of the Environment Policy. Along with the policy this strategy seeks to ensure that it is resilient and can adapt to climate change, new technologies and flex as new information unfolds as well as having the key aim of contributing to limiting global warming. However, the Authority recognises that most individual organisations cannot provide all the solutions, as combating climate change needs system-wide change that involves world leaders, governments, communities, businesses, individuals and stakeholders across all sectors of the economy, across the country and the wider world. This Strategy will seek to adapt where it can as other changes to how we live start to take shape. The reputation of the Authority is key and developing a strategy seeking to support the current global issues on climate change will demonstrate that the Authority is seeking to play its part and contribute to the solution.

The Authority recognises it has a responsibility and needs to do what it can to minimise the negative impacts on the environment and support the climate change emergency within the requirements of the Park Act, the need to operate as an effective business and the requirement to reduce the burden on the taxpayer. It also acknowledges the contribution it can make to protecting and enhancing the land and buildings in its custody whilst being sensitive to environmental, economic and social considerations. The Authority has an opportunity to develop an integrated approach to its Environment Policy and Strategy.

# Context to the development of the Authority’s Environment Strategy

The Authority is uniquely placed to respond to the climate change challenge. It is guardian and manager of the Regional Park; a ‘green lung’, providing open spaces and leisure opportunities for people to enjoy. The Park is an important element of the region’s green infrastructure; it contributes to air quality, assists in reducing urban heat island effect, provides open spaces to meet the needs of a growing population, and a diverse range of ecological habitats and species. The Park forms part of the wider Lea Valley hydrological system storing and supplying water, helping to maintain the quality of water and manage flood risk.

The Authority has an overarching Environment Policy which is influenced by a range of documents including the Park Act, Business Plan, Park Development Framework (PDF) and other relevant policies and procedures. The policy sets out five areas of operation under which we will seek to manage our Environmental performance. Under each area of operation, we detail further a suite of common themes forming a framework for specific actions. We will develop an action plan under each area of operation which are specific to those areas of organisational operation (Fig 1).

The Authority’s adopted PDF, ‘Vision, Aims and Principles’ (2010) identifies environmental sustainability as an important ‘principle’ to guide the development and management of the Regional Park. The PDF recognises that the Park contributes to the environmental sustainability of the region and that it will play an increasingly important role in helping to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The PDF sets out a series of objectives and proposals to guide the Authority and its partners in the sustainable management and development of the park, recognising the importance of co-ordinated and collaborative working.

The Authority’s performance management framework includes key performance indicators (KPI’s) on a range of measures. This Strategy will propose measures and KPI’s which will monitor the performance under each area of operation and common theme. It is important however that the Authority has an Environment Policy and Strategy to support continued work coming out of the PDF, the business plan and any further proposals it may develop in the future. This Strategy is therefore focused on the work of the Authority, and its approach to the design, delivery and ongoing management of open spaces, venues, new builds, corporate activities and events. As the guardian of the Park the Authority will take a leading role in the sustainable development and management of its estate. This will also help to influence partners and stakeholders and enable expertise, resources and advice on success to be shared.

***Fig 1 Structure of Environment Policy, Strategies and relevant documents***

This Strategy recognises the impact of the rising costs of resources and raw materials and the pressure these places on the Authority to look at new ways of managing its venues and open spaces. However, new practices will only be adopted after a thorough evaluation of their sustainability and/or carbon footprint. This may involve an analysis of the product ‘lifecycle’ or the cost in terms of environmental sustainability or damage. There are a range of climate impact assessment tools available, and the Authority will seek to find an appropriate one to use which will be used to assess projects, new builds and development works to ensure we are doing the best we can in these areas of regeneration. We will investigate things such as the Passivhaus standards on new builds and assess if they are able to be applied going forwards. This strategy is designed to influence suppliers, contractors, staff, visitors and customers to ensure they also contribute to a sustainable environment and to a reduction in global warming in any actions they undertake on behalf of or for the Authority.

The Authority’s Business Plan will always include some form of development and renewal of facilities and spaces. Any new development will increase consumption of resources such as energy and water above existing baseline levels. It is important that the Authority maintains a programme of action consistent with this strategy to ensure improvement in these areas strive towards a net zero operational management ethos and where possible the lowest carbon footprint of all new builds.

The Authority’s mission statement for how it will manage the Environment is set out in our policy and repeated below:

*“The Authority will, in the context of its statutory remit, pursue best practice in environmental innovation for the design, delivery and management of its operation across its, open spaces, biodiversity and built facilities. It will support the UK Government and climate emergency agenda and is committed to it achieving a net zero position, working in partnership with various agencies and the Park’s many communities.”*

This strategy will enable us to deliver this mission statement.

# Areas of operation

The strategy will outline aims under each of its areas of operation below together with the relevant measures required to achieve or assist in achieving the Vision. These measures will guide the Authority in the way it manages its estate and operations to achieve the vision. An Action Plan included at Appendix A identifies how these aims and measures could be delivered.

The focus is on five key areas of operation and subdivisions as set out in the Authorities Environment Policy and reminded here:

**New construction**

* New builds and major projects
* Minor construction works/extensions/refurbs etc

**Open and water spaces**

* Multi use parklands
* Water bodies
* Nature reserves or designated and non-designated sites
* Event spaces
* Gardens
* Public car parks

**Venues**

* The six contracted out venues
* Leased out venues
* Other buildings and venues

**Events**

* Lee Valley Regional Park led events
* Major external provider events
* External and community events

**Corporate**

* Procurement
* Travel
* Vehicles and machinery
* Public awareness
* Waste and recycling
* Energy suppliers

# Strategy common themes

The aims and measures have been grouped under common themes most, but not all of which will be relevant to each of the above areas of operation. These may be subject to further refinement or change as technologies develop. Two areas, Procurement and Communications will be considered separately as corporate elements but not common themes. An action plan for each theme will set out how the aims and measures can help the Authority achieve its mission and vision. The common themes will cover:

* Travel
* Organisational resource use (paper, supplies etc.)
* Machinery
* Water usage and quality
* Energy usage
* Waste management
* Property and land use (including contaminated land)
* Biodiversity and nature improvement
* Learning
* Sustainable design
* Procurement (Corporate)
* Communications (Corporate)

The Action Plan included at Appendix 1 includes a programme which will change the Authority’s approach over time in line with its mission and vision.

For each common theme we will seek to meet the following aims in the specific way relevant under each theme. These will be set out clearly and in more detail in the Action Plan at Appendix 1 where we will propose specific actions under each area of operation and common theme.

**Travel**

Officers of the Authority need to travel for business and to get to their place of work. Individual officers may choose to use public transport or purchase “green” vehicles which support the global aim to reach carbon neutral and reduce climate change. Technology is not yet at a point where this is possible for everyone, and the Authority is now looking at EV charging points around the park to support the drive to phase out fossil fuel vehicles. Authority vehicles will eventually all require to be “green” (e.g. electric, hydrogen, biofuel), and this should be investigated to better understand what is required to move from a fleet of fossil fuel vehicles to electric. Our working policy should encourage staff to seek to travel to work as sustainably as possible or work from home where this is an option to reduce travel to and from the office. The Authority has a Corporate Travel Policy which is regularly reviewed and will seek to drive towards a carbon neutral travel position.

With a large number of visitors to the park each year the Authority should seek to ensure that visitors are aware that travelling to the park in a sustainable way is the preferred option. We currently seek to encourage this but further measures such as supplying EV points in our car parks will go a step further in achieving this.

**The Authority will:**

* Aim to make business travel carbon neutral

**It will aim to achieve this by:**

* Changing its fleet to “green” vehicles
* Ensure the travel policy encourages sustainable travel
* Investigate a roll out of EV points for staff and public to use
* Investigate ways to encourage staff to make their travel to and from their place of work carbon neutral
* Investigate ways to understand the travel of contractors, suppliers, consultants and if these activities can be reduced or made carbon neutral
* Encouraging visitors to visit facilities by public transport
* Consider utilising a standardised flexible working policy to reduce the need to travel
* Work with our riparian authorities and statutory bodies to improve public transport options and cycle/walking routes for accessing the Park
* Working with contractors to reduce construction traffic
* Examine our modal split and seek ways to encourage visitors to consider coming to the park in the most sustainable transport mode possible

**Organisational resource use (paper, supplies etc.)**

The Authority uses many resources, and this theme seeks to address some of the resources that might not always be considered in these types of policy. When carrying out our activities we should always consider if we need to actually do something or is there a better or different way that might not use up so much resource. For example, printing off documents can sometimes not be avoided but there are many instances when we print things off that we do not need to. Resources can also include various chemicals or consumables that we use in the day-to-day operations that we undertake. Ensuring we do not overuse or use the right quantities is a good practice to adopt and all staff should be aware and think about their actions. As well as the environmental implications this also has a cost implication for the Authority and could potentially save money in various areas.

**The Authority will:**

* Aim to ensure that it does not unnecessarily use organisational resource in a wasteful way

**It will aim to achieve this by:**

* Educating staff on resource use
* Seeking to not over order resources
* Recycling or reusing any resources not required any further
* Review paperless administration, making greater use of electronic documents

**Machinery**

The Authority uses a large range of different types of machinery from ranger brush cutters and chain saws, farm machinery, generators, printers etc. In recent times many of these pieces of machinery have been replaced with electric versions or energy efficient versions. This should continue to be investigated and all machinery the Authority operates should eventually move to either an electric version or a low energy rating piece of equipment ensuring the equipment is suitable for the work required. Staff should be made aware of the environmental implications of sourcing particular types of machinery and should always seek to find the most environmentally friendly option.

**The Authority will:**

* Aim to ensure that as it replaces all machinery it will move to electric and low energy machinery where possible

**It will aim to achieve this by:**

* Educating staff in machinery use and replacement
* Seeking to replace all machinery with electric or low energy rating versions

**Water usage**

Water represents a critical and increasingly threatened resource. The regions covered by the Regional Park are regularly experiencing reductions in rainfall. Demand for water has increased in recent years and further new housing growth proposed for sites around the park will put more pressure on that demand.

The Authority’s annual water usage is high, and measures should be put in place to investigate areas where this can be reduced as well as establishing a baseline of use to set targets to reduce usage where possible. Many new technologies are now available, and these should be implemented wherever possible.

Water quality within the waterbodies of the park remains an issue and whilst it has improved immensely in the last 40 years needs to be monitored and areas of pollution identified and rectified. There are concerns over the quality of water throughout the park given increasing amounts of nitrates (from leachate) from surrounding agricultural land, pollution from industrial areas as well as dispersal from sewage treatment works and other pollution sources which can quickly change water quality and severely affect wildlife or other environmental factors. As well as the regulatory monitoring by a range of organisations the Authority currently carries out water monitoring and uses barley straw to prevent blue/green algae – a perennial problem across some sites.

**The Authority will:**

* Improve its management of water use and quality

**It will aim to achieve this by:**

* Adopting best practice measures to manage water consumption and will retro fit measures to reduce consumption where economically feasible to do so
* Examining opportunities to increase flood mitigation measures on its land
* Using available systems to monitor water quality
* Work in tandem with riparian landowners to agree a protocol in the reduction of nitrate rich fertilisers, leading by example

## Energy usage

The continued decline in available energy resources, associated rises in energy costs and the development of energy sources derived from renewables require the Authority to continually review this area.

The Authority has introduced a range of energy measures over the last ten years fitting photo voltaic panels, LED lights, rainwater harvesting and ground source heat pumps. It can however do more, and all new builds should look at every option to ensure that the latest energy efficient fittings or solutions are used.

Now more than ever is energy use a key consideration and one of the main drivers in the climate change challenge. However, it is not just about use of energy but supply of energy. Green energy is starting to reduce in price and options for this should continue to be investigated. Much of the supply of energy will rest with other organisations and governments in how quickly they can implement a green and affordable energy source – either solar, wind or other. Much progress has been made but before the Authority is able to go fully green energy more competitive options need to be available. We will continue to monitor and investigate options until we meet our aim.

The Authority will continue to review options for the future.

**The Authority will:**

* Maximise the efficient use of energy and seek to ensure energy supplies are from green energy to meet our target of net zero operational for our buildings

**It will aim to achieve this by:**

* + Ensure all it’s built estate are to the highest energy certification and specification possible with respect to the fabric of the building ensuring the insulating properties of our built estate. This may require investigation into improvements to insulation, windows and doors where heat loss can occur from poorly maintained or old parts of the buildings
  + Reducing demand for energy through the introduction of measures such as condensing boilers and low energy electrical fittings
  + Seeking to fit and manage LED lighting in all new builds and retro fit where economically feasible. Including sensors to enable automatic shutdown of lights
  + Assessing opportunities for green energy derived from renewable resources.
  + Investigate options for generating solar, wind producing units
  + Investigating ground source heat systems to replace fossil fuel systems
  + Looking at all buildings and landholdings to understand the options for solar, wind or hydro generating of power and implement where feasible
  + Educate staff to turn off equipment, lights, heating etc. when not in use.

## Waste management

Waste management for the Authority has been a long running issue which we have not been able to analyse fully. The baseline data supplied from our waste removal contractors is sometimes ambiguous and needs more clarity. Several attempts to understand what percentage of our waste is recycled overall have failed. Some small wins at various events have proven successful and we have been able to understand the impact of some activities but not the organisation. It is unlikely that we know what our waste production is on an annual basis, and this is something that should be investigated. Landfills in the UK are closing and there is a move towards incineration of waste. This will by default result in reduced volumes of waste going into landfill, but this is not of the Authority’s doing. Staff should also be educated to produce less waste and consideration should be given to the best option for cafés that we operate, events we run and our daily operation on the best way to manage our waste.

**The Authority will:**

* Minimise our waste generation and contribute to sustainable waste management practices
* Start by setting our head office up as an example of good practice and demonstrate how other sites should be operating

**It will achieve this by:**

* Understanding how much waste we produce
* Developing a baseline of recycling and waste to measure improvement actions
* Reducing the volumes of waste generated through re-use and recycling targets
* Ensuring contractors and operators are monitored and meet their contract requirements regarding waste management and in particular recycling as a percentage of waste

## Property and land use (including contaminated land)

There are a range of aspects to the Authority’s role here. The Authority owns 1,560ha within the Regional Park. As well as the various uses of land owning such as providing different types of open space, we should consider addressing the legacy of contaminated land, and sustainable management practices for grounds maintenance.

Much of the Authority’s land holding acts as a carbon sink and continues to sequester carbon on an annual basis. Calculating how much carbon various types of habitats contain as a sink is a new science and a simple calculation for a land use is not easy to come to however it is fair to say that some of the Authority’s land holdings do contribute to negative emissions. Much of the work today has been undertaken on woodland and farmland because woodland potentially holds the highest amount and farmland is one of the most common global land uses. Although wetlands are good with much of the valley being this type of habitat, grassland and in particular amenity parkland is probably of a low level of carbon capture. Clearly the Authority needs to manage its land in accordance with the Park Act and although there are opportunities for tree planting, to make the valley a woodland would in fact be detrimental to other biodiversity.

The creation of the Regional Park from what the Civic Trust described as London’s ‘privy and workshop’ means there are large areas of contaminated land (the legacy of heavy industrial use in the Lower Lea Valley). In many areas landfill has been insufficiently regulated resulting in contaminants being introduced to sites which had previously been used for mineral extraction.

The Authority employs contractors to carry out the ground's maintenance of its estate. On each renewal of the contract this strategy will seek to ensure sustainable practices are in place and contractors have an acceptable environment policy in place.

**The Authority will:**

* Seek to calculate the carbon sink value and carbon sequestration of its land holding and measure going forwards any improvements
* Seek to mitigate or remediate the impacts of past land uses and activities particularly in respect to contaminated land
* Work with our ground maintenance contractor to introduce sustainable practices for grounds maintenance
* Remediate where possible all contaminated land in line with the Authority’s contaminated land strategy

**It will aim to achieve this by:**

* Seeking a way to measure carbon capture and sequestration for the different types of land use
* Reviewing the extent of our contaminated land holding
* Developing a strategy to inform the Authority’s approach to remediating sites and assess risks for public access
* Requiring the inclusion of sustainable practices in the ground's maintenance contract in the future

## Biodiversity

The Authority’s estate includes areas of unique habitat some of which is internationally recognised. There are eight SSSIs within the boundary of the park, four of which join to form the Lee Valley Special Protection Area and Ramsar site. Alongside these statutory designated sites there are a number of non-statutory, locally designated sites of importance for nature conservation. The Lee Valley Regional Park Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) is a tool which guides work on the protection of habitat and species within the regional park. The current ten-year BAP plan was approved in 2019, ensuring sites across the park are protected and enhanced to the highest standards. The Authority will also explore opportunities for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) to support other organisations or itself to improve the nature based solutions and to lever in funding for its important biodiversity work.

**The Authority will:**

* Work with partners and communities to conserve, create, restore and enhance the biodiversity of the park, providing access to and appreciation of this area

**It will aim to achieve this by:**

* Delivery of the four key objectives of the BAP
* Ensuring that all open spaces have a current management plan recognising the biodiversity value of the site itself and within the wider context of the regional park
* Ensuring that biodiversity is a key consideration in all future Authority led projects
* Look at all opportunities where its landholding can be used for BNG for either nature-based solutions or to lever in funding to support its biodiversity work

## Learning

The Authority should start with the education and development of its staff and seek to develop a “golden thread” running through the organisation which considers environmental sustainability in everything it does. It should be the responsibility of all staff to ensure they are considering the impact of everything they do and challenging practice where there might be better more sustainable options. It can also demonstrate by clear and effective action and successful projects which meet aims and targets in this strategy and associated action plan. This will demonstrate good practice and encourage others to seek similar actions. It can also encourage all of its users to be considerate in how they use the park right down to how they travel to the park to how they dispose of any waste they bring or generate. The Authority’s large estate also provides an extensive and varied resource for learning. The Authority’s Learning and Engagement team run courses and activities in environmental education for over 20,000 people per annum. This is supplemented by guided walks, interpretation and other activities for adults and families provided by the Biodiversity and Sport and Active Recreation teams. The continued development of this service can be used to serve the region.

**The Authority will:**

* Seek to train and educate all staff to undertake their duties in the most sustainable way
* Encourage all park users to consider their impact when using the Park.
* Provide learning opportunities for all

**It will aim to achieve this by:**

* Educate and train staff in the best possible practice and in delivering this strategy and action plan
* Seek to influence all Park users in sustainable use of the park as well as informing them about our projects, operation and land management.
* Continuing to run and further develop its environmental education programme to meet curriculum objectives
* Promoting educational programmes on biodiversity, habitat management, water treatment and farming
* Developing a strategy to inform the Authority’s approach to remediating sites and assess risks for public access
* Promoting recycling through use of recycled products and promotion of a waste free lunch
* Encouraging visitors to continue to follow environmental practices by making a pledge to protect the environment

## Sustainable design

The Park Development Framework includes a number of overarching principles governing the Authority’s approach to the future development and management of the Regional Park. Two of these underpin sustainable design multifunction – the provision of facilities and open spaces designed to serve as many uses as possible, and flexibility – the provision of facilities and open spaces which can be adapted to meet changes in demand over time.

An example of multifunction is the use of areas of the park for flood mitigation. Several external developers from sites around the park have engaged in dialogue with the Authority looking at the possibility of using land in the park for flood storage to mitigate the impact of their new development. These areas can be enhanced for biodiversity given the wider range of habitats which can be created.

The inclusion of flexibility into the design of buildings and open spaces reduces wastage in the use of materials and extends their ‘life’ and allows them to adapt to different patterns of demand.

BREEAM is a voluntary code for sustainable design of buildings. The latest standard (2011) now includes a framework for the built environment. This covers how building design addresses energy and water consumption, access to public transport and the sourcing of materials. The Authority’s Olympic legacy facilities and Lee Valley Athletics Centre comply with this code, each rated as ‘good’. The Lee Valley Ice Centre which is our most recent development is rated as “Very Good“. It is recommended that this standard is adopted by the Authority to guide the future development of its facilities and any new built facilities or developments. Other parts of the action plan suggest Passivhaus which is another option which can be looked at in all new developments and design works to understand if this is feasible or not.

**The Authority will:**

* Adopt sustainable standards of design and management

**It will aim to achieve this by:**

* Adopting BREEAM standards and seek a ‘good’ score for new facilities
* Designing open spaces and built facilities to serve as many uses as possible to allow their adaptation over time to meet changing patterns of demand
* Seeking net gain for biodiversity – and considering Urban Greening Factor (London)

## In addition, we will look at two other areas procurement and communication.

## Procurement

The Authority is a signatory to the Mayor’s Green Procurement Code. It uses approximately 70% of its annual budget on the purchase of goods and services from external suppliers. The Authority’s adopted procurement strategy includes a commitment to ‘sustainable’ procurement.

**The Authority will:**

* Set up a “Pass/Fail” assessment for all tenders based on a “price” only assessment including environmental credentials of each contractor
* Request for Quotes (RFQ) and Invitation to Tender (ITT) would take into account the environmental impacts of a particular product or service over its whole-life cycle, and appropriate assessment criteria and weightings will be used
* Ask contractors to provide information and data on their emissions and any plans they have with regards to reducing their own emissions during their contract for the Authority. This will enable information for the Authority’s Scope 3 reporting and will be written into the procurement process
* Promote and use a climate impact assessment tool for all projects through the procurement process

**It will aim to achieve this by:**

* Implementing and updating all our procurement documents and assessment criteria as a mandatory process to adopt a pragmatic approach for a “green procurement” and obtain “carbon footprint” for all procurement

## Communication

It is important that our audiences, internally and externally, understand our environment strategy and policy and the actions we are taking and those which they can take.

There is also an opportunity here to show the public and others what we are doing and to encourage a more sustainable use of the park, including travel to and within the park. If we can make visitors think about how they are using the estate and demonstrate we are striving to support the drive to reduce global warming, then we will also meet some of our learning aims within this strategy.

**The Authority will:**

* Influence park users and internal audiences to support a more sustainable use of the park

**It will aim to achieve this by:**

* Generating and sharing stories and information about our environmental credentials and the changes we are making through a variety of media. Within this, having a “drumbeat” of social media about new initiatives, changes we are making and the effects we are having. This will be linked to the programme of investments in our open spaces
* Educating, exciting and empowering our own staff and volunteers through a variety of channels, intranet, social media, briefings, show and tell demonstrations etc
* Using all forms of media to bring the policy and strategy to life such as embedding key information on the website and having these available to view

# Relevant policy, strategy and procedure documents

This strategy has implications for all service areas and a range of policies and procedures. It will require solid, deliverable communication plans in order to achieve aims and outcomes. The document that this strategy sits under is the Authority’s Environment Policy and both documents should be referred to in conjunction with each other. The strategy should take account of the relevant policies and procedures and these currently are:

* Environnent Policy
* Procurement Policy
* Biodiversity Action Plan
* Corporate Travel Policy
* Corporate Land and Property Strategy
* Contaminated Land Strategy
* The Quality Management System and various relevant procedures
* Cycling Strategy
* Housing and Accommodation Policy (not yet adopted)

These will be reviewed regularly through the Policy and Procedure Group and Member sign off procedures to ensure compliance with this strategy.

# Monitoring and review

The effectiveness of the policy will be monitored through a review of performance indicators and delivery of the action plan which will be regularly reviewed by the Environmental Group.

The action plan sets out actions over the next ten years. This will be updated through the service planning process and future development. Progress will be monitored quarterly.

Within the Authority’s performance management framework, we will develop a range of performance indicators that align to this strategy, these will be reported quarterly through the usual reporting lines to Members.

The proposed measures to gain a base line in year one is as follows:

KPI Measures

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **KPI number** | **Measure subject** | **Measure output** | **Final target** |
| E1 | Utilities usage (electric and gas) | tonnes of CO2 pa | Green electric only used to meet zero CO2 Annual emissions for electricity. Annual reduction in gas usage to a point of no gas usage in the future |
| E2 | Water usage | Cubic litres pa consumption and RTS (Return to Sewage) | 30% reduction from baseline on cubic litres pa |
| E3 | Waste | % waste recycled pa | 100% recycled or to incineration that is net zero |
| E4 | Utilities supply (electricity) | Supply source % green electric supply vs % non-green (fossil fuel) supply | All electric use coming from green energy no electric supply from any fossil fuel generation |
| E5 | Travel | Modal split of travel   * Business miles petrol pa * Business miles electric pa * Business travel by public transport * Staff travel to place of work pa | All business miles are “green” only. Public transport carbon footprint to be investigated to understand if this can be reduced at all to a net zero position |
| E6a | New construction (new builds/refurb/extension etc) | tonnes of CO2 pa  (Climate impact assessment tool use) | All new builds carbon neutral. Climate impact assessment tool used on every project to determine new build CO2. Seek to have buildings energy negative and longer term aim to produce more energy from a building than it uses |
| E6b | New construction (new builds/refurb/extension etc) | Average BNG per annum from all new builds | All new builds to achieve the maximum BNG possible 30% and above |
| E7a | Open spaces carbon capture | t CO2 ha -1 pa | Establish base line measure and report increases/decreases to determine land use strategy |
| E7b | Farm carbon footprint | tonnes of CO2 pa | Establish baseline and monitor |
| E8 | Operator/Contractor Measures | tonnes of CO2 pa | All operators/contractors net zero. |
| E9 | Events | tonnes of CO2 pa | Achieve a 50% reduction in all outdoor event-related greenhouse gas emissions by 2025 to net zero in 2050 |
| E10a | Corporate | % of contracts awarded that have an environment policy or acceptable standards in place along with an action plan to meet net zero and information on performance and data supplied for Scope 3 data to the Authority. | All procurements meet environmental standards required by Authority 2030 |
| E10b | Corporate | % of staff trained in Environment Policy and Strategy Course and Environment Awareness course | All staff trained |
| E10c | Corporate | % of property which meets energy standard rating B | All properties to meet energy rating B |
| E10d | Corporate | Paper usage – per annum | Aim to become a paperless organisation |

# Review

This strategy will be reviewed every three years or more frequently if new legislation is introduced which will impact on the Authority.