



# One Planet Sutton

April 2011-2012



# Foreword



**Cllr Colin Hall**  
Lead Councillor for  
Environment and Climate  
Change

**Welcome to One Planet Sutton, a document that gives details of the ten One Planet principles and summarises targets for this and future years.**

Sutton's community has a long history of environmental achievement. For example the Council published its first environmental policy in 1986 and adopted a council-wide environmental management system in 1996. Over the years we have cut carbon from council buildings by 50 per cent, water use by 36 per cent and have a well established green procurement policy.

In 2007, with support from Transport for London we launched the UK's largest sustainable transport project Smarter Travel Sutton. This project engaged with all households and thousands of employees in small and large businesses. By 2010 it had increased cycling by 75 per cent, bus use by 16 per cent and reduced car trips by 6 percentage points, and the smarter approach continues as we develop area improvements for sustainable travel in Wallington.

In 2009 the council, its partners and the community made Sutton the first One Planet Borough by launching our One Planet Action Plan committing us to live within our fair share of the earth's resources by 2025. We set ourselves some of the most challenging environmental targets in the UK and we are making good progress.

But the key ingredient of Sutton's success is our partnerships and engagement with residents. For example, last year we worked with EcoLocal and BioRegional, Sutton Nature Conservation Volunteers, B&Q, the Hackbridge Community Forum and Environment Agency to secure over £3m of external funding to deliver projects that help us towards a One Planet borough. These include the pilot Pay As You Save and Hackbridge Low Carbon Zone schemes to identify how we can best engage with residents to make homes more energy efficient. BioRegional and EcoLocal developed the innovative One Planet Food project to reduce the environmental impact of our food consumption.

To help us work towards our vision for a sustainable "One Planet" borough we aim to engage with even more volunteers and partners. This approach is consistent with the government's Big Society initiative for which Sutton is a vanguard authority and builds upon our successes to date.

Throughout this document are weblinks to make it easier for you to get more information. I hope you find something that inspires you to contribute to the vision and to get involved.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Hall'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

# Introduction

**Sutton aims to become London’s most sustainable suburb – a place where people want to live and work because of its excellent quality of life.**

If everyone in the world lived as we do in Sutton, we’d need almost three planets’ worth of resources to sustain us – this is called our ecological footprint. We need to reverse this and get our footprint down to a sustainable level.

To help us do this we’re part of an international network of ‘One Planet’ communities, local authorities and businesses, co-ordinated by local sustainability experts BioRegional. We are using BioRegional’s One Planet Living framework to examine the sustainability challenges that we face, and to develop appropriate solutions.

This document sets out our shared One Planet vision for Sutton. The vision will be delivered by a Partnership – including the Council, local schools and colleges, the health service, the business community, local voluntary and community organisations.

Our Community Strategy seeks to make Sutton Fairer, Safer and Greener – One Planet Living is the key framework for delivering our Greener aspirations.

Our One Planet vision and the ten principles embrace both environmental issues and how we live as a community. They embody our responsibility to each other, to the most vulnerable in our society, and to the place we live, in a local and global context.

The plan includes some of the most ambitious environmental targets set anywhere in the UK. Meeting these targets will be challenging but the Sutton community has a long history of environmental achievements that puts us in good standing to deliver our shared vision.

Many of the projects that will help us become a One Planet borough will be rolled out to everyone straight away, others will be piloted in Hackbridge first. This is because Hackbridge has been identified as Sutton’s flagship sustainable community.

We’d need three planets to support us if everybody lived the same lifestyle as a UK resident



The ten principles of One Planet Living provide a framework that help us live within a fair share of the resources of the one planet that we actually have

- 1 Zero carbon
- 2 Zero waste
- 3 Sustainable transport
- 4 Sustainable materials
- 5 Local and sustainable food
- 6 Sustainable water
- 7 Land use and wildlife
- 8 Culture and heritage
- 9 Equity and local economy
- 10 Health and happiness



To find out *your* footprint and get advice on how to reduce it visit: [www.oneplanetsutton.org/footprint](http://www.oneplanetsutton.org/footprint)



# Zero Carbon Buildings

## Targets

- All new homes in the borough to meet Code for Sustainable Homes level 4 from April 2011 onwards.
- All new residential and non-residential buildings to be Zero Carbon in Hackbridge from 2011 onwards.
- Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> from council buildings (including schools) by 10% by April 2012 (April 2011 baseline).
- Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from all buildings in the borough by 3% by April 2012 (April 2011 baseline).
- Achieve a 40% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions (compared to Building Regulations 2010) for all new residential and major non-residential developments from 2013.
- All new residential developments to meet zero carbon standards from 2016.
- All major non-residential developments to achieve a BREEAM rating of 'Outstanding' from 2017.
- Aim for council owned buildings to be net Zero Carbon by 2017.
- All new major non-residential developments within the borough to achieve zero carbon standards from 2019.
- Aim for a zero carbon-enabled borough by 2025.



**Our aim is to eliminate carbon dioxide emissions from energy use within buildings, becoming a Zero Carbon council by 2017 and a Zero Carbon-enabled borough by 2025.**

Heating and powering our homes, businesses, and the other buildings we use creates CO<sub>2</sub>. We want to make it easier for people to reduce the environmental impacts of the buildings they use, reduce CO<sub>2</sub> and save themselves some money too.

Technology provides opportunities to make new buildings 'zero carbon' and planning policies help ensure that happens in Sutton. However, only one per cent of buildings each year are new, so we need to find ways of making existing buildings Zero Carbon too.

Achieving Zero Carbon in existing buildings involves addressing how much energy we use and where our energy comes from. We need to minimise energy consumption by changing our behaviour, for example turning off appliances when we are not using them. Then we need to make physical changes to improve energy efficiency, for example insulating lofts and cavity walls. When we have made buildings as energy efficient as possible, we need to ensure that the energy they do need is from a renewable resource.

We have set some of the most challenging carbon targets of any UK council but we think that they are achievable. Since publishing the first One Planet Action Plan we have made good progress. We've obtained funding to run a variety of pilot schemes for CO<sub>2</sub> reduction across the borough. These include developing a Low Carbon Zone, piloting Pay As You Save loans for improving home energy efficiency, helping schools and businesses, and researching new low carbon technology to inform future housing policy.

This principle is about CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from buildings but we are of course working to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> from lots of different sources, not just buildings! CO<sub>2</sub> from transport is addressed in the Sustainable Transport principle, CO<sub>2</sub> from food in the Local and Sustainable Food principle and the CO<sub>2</sub> used to make goods is covered in the Local and Sustainable Materials principle.

### Want to know more or get involved?

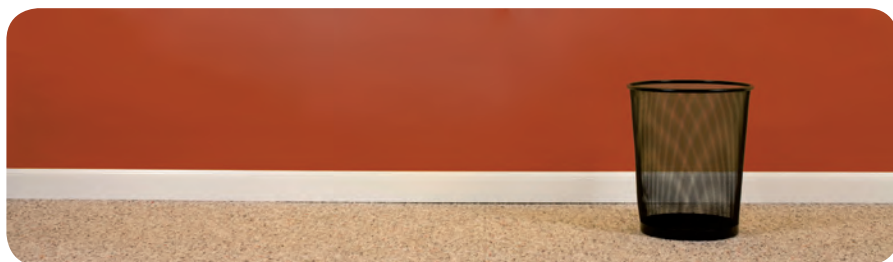
Low Carbon Zone: [www.sutton.gov.uk/lcz](http://www.sutton.gov.uk/lcz)

Pay As You Save: [www.sutton.gov.uk/pays](http://www.sutton.gov.uk/pays)

Retrofit for the Future: <http://retrofit.oneplanetsutton.org>



# Zero Waste



**Our aim is to reduce the waste that we create, reusing where possible, and ultimately sending zero waste to landfill. Eventually we want to create a culture where everything is reusable and recyclable.**

More than 80 per cent of rubbish produced in the UK could be recycled or composted. We all play a part in creating rubbish and can all help reduce it. In Sutton our residents already recycle and compost 38 per cent of their rubbish but we want to make it easier for people to reduce, reuse and recycle more.

Reducing the waste we create is the most important thing we can do. For example, avoiding over-packaged goods or choosing items that last instead of disposable ones, such as bags for life at the shops. By being creative we can reuse old items or give them to someone else to reuse, such as donating clothes to a charity shop. If our waste can't be reused we can recycle it so it can be turned into something new. But these three things alone will not get us to zero waste. We also need to think about the unavoidable landfill waste that we create and how we can make that useful too, for example creating energy from waste.

The way waste is treated and disposed of has changed beyond recognition in recent years. The days of being able to simply bury our waste in large holes in the ground are gone. Councils across the country are trying to find better ways of recovering, reusing, recycling, treating and disposing of waste. This is a big challenge and the cost of getting it wrong – financially and environmentally – is huge. Faced with this challenge, we're working with Croydon, Kingston and Merton as the South London Waste Partnership to find better and more cost-effective solutions for our waste.

Working in the South London Waste Partnership, we have already changed the management of Sutton's Household Reuse and Recycling Centre, increasing recycling and composting from 32 per cent to 75 per cent at the centre, putting us in the top five councils in the UK.

## Want to know more or get involved?

Waste and recycling: [www.sutton.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling](http://www.sutton.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling)  
South London Waste Partnership: [www.slwp.org.uk](http://www.slwp.org.uk)

## Targets

- Reduce waste from council offices by 35% by 2012.
- Increase recycling and composting in council offices to 85%\* by 2012.
- Reduce waste from households by 10% by 2020.
- Increase the borough wide recycling rate to 60% by 2020.
- Increase the borough wide recycling rate to 70% by 2025.
- At least 80% of waste by weight generated by commercial operations to be reused, composted or recycled by 2025.
- At least 70% of waste by weight generated by construction and demolition to be reclaimed or recycled by 2025.
- Increase recycling and composting in council offices to 100%\* by 2025.
- Become a zero waste council and borough by 2025.
- Reduce waste from households by 15% by 2025.

\*Waste analysis shows that 82% of the waste generated by the council can be recycled or composted. The target is for 85 per cent of that component of the waste stream to be recycled and composted.



# Sustainable Transport

## Targets

- More than 65% of council staff commuting to work using sustainable modes of transport by 2012 (from 54% in 2009).
- More than 75% of council staff commuting to work using sustainable modes of transport by 2014.
- Increase journeys to school by sustainable modes from 76% (2009) to 79% by 2014.
- Increase residents' use of sustainable modes for travel from 48% to 58% by 2016.
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from Sutton Council fleet to be reduced by 50% by 2017.
- More than 90% of council staff commuting to work using sustainable modes of transport by 2017.



**Our aim is to make getting around the borough as environmentally friendly and fuel efficient as possible, making Sutton a cleaner, greener and healthier place to live.**

We've put sustainability at the heart of our transport strategies. Ultimately, we want walking, cycling or public transport to be people's first choice for short trips and have developed a strategy to help us achieve this. Our first sustainable Transport Strategy was produced in 1999; this helped Sutton to become Transport for London's (TfL) first Integrated Sustainable Transport Borough and led to the £5m Smarter Travel Sutton project to engage and work with the community on sustainable travel choices.

The Smarter Travel Sutton (STS) project opted for a personalised approach using trained advisors to visit over 70,000 households to offer free support and advice about travelling around the borough. STS also assisted schools and workplaces to develop travel plans. 16,000 employees across the borough are covered by workplace travel plans including council staff. Sutton's schools were the first to achieve 100 per cent coverage by a travel plan.

The STS project has been successful, increasing cycling by 75 per cent and bus use by 16 per cent; car use and traffic congestion has reduced. To ensure that this good work continues, we will deliver a series of Integrated Transport Packages across the Borough, engaging the community to draw up ways to improve a local area. The first Integrated Transport Package in Wallington has resulted in better street lighting, wider pavements, more trees and seating areas, whilst at the same time working with local schools and businesses to increase the number of trips made by sustainable modes. The next scheme, in Worcester Park, will soon be underway.

Sutton's planning policies are also supporting sustainable travel by requiring new development that makes walking and cycling easier and protecting and improving local facilities to reduce the need to travel to shop or work.

**Want to know more or get involved?**

Smarter Travel Sutton: [www.smartertravelsutton.org](http://www.smartertravelsutton.org)



# Local and Sustainable Materials



## Targets

- Launch Sutton Bookshare by 2011.
- All new development should use: 5% reclaimed materials, 25% recycled content by value, 50% local materials by weight, 95% timber should be FSC certified by 2012.
- Achieve Level 5 of Defra's flexible framework for the Council by 2017. The flexible framework is a tool to measure how sustainable and ethical procurement is. Level 5 is the highest level.

**Our aim is to reduce the impact of the things we buy, using products made from sustainable supplies that have a low or positive impact on the environment.**

The things we buy and the materials we use to build our homes, schools and roads, etc. all have a major environmental impact, something we aim to reduce significantly.

Consumer goods such as furniture, electrical appliances and clothes eat up raw materials, oil and chemicals during their production, manufacture, storage and distribution. They also produce waste, carbon dioxide and other emissions. The typical Sutton resident buys consumer goods that account for about 14 per cent of their ecological footprint each year and 12 per cent of carbon emissions. As businesses adopt environmental policies, the impact from consumer goods will reduce. However, we can do our bit as consumers by consciously trying to buy less, looking instead at opportunities for repairing, sharing or reusing.

We can make simple changes to our shopping patterns and use our purchasing power to support eco-friendly products. Buying goods that are built to last and not throwing them away before the end of their life will save us money and protect the environment. Hiring and borrowing items, from libraries or schemes like Sutton bookshare for example, will also help. The Council has been supporting green purchasing since the early 1990s and has a sustainable procurement policy that places requirements on suppliers to reduce their environmental impact.

The environmental impact from building services is also significant and accounts for 12 per cent of a typical Sutton resident's ecological footprint and 13.5 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions.

Our approach to reducing the environmental impact of building materials seeks to introduce requirements for developers to use reclaimed and recycled materials, use local materials and use timber certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

### Want to know more or get involved?

Join Sutton Bookshare: [www.suttonbookshare.org.uk](http://www.suttonbookshare.org.uk)

Council's procurement policies: [www.sutton.gov.uk](http://www.sutton.gov.uk)



# Local and Sustainable Food

## Targets

- Work with local producers to integrate local produce into school meals by 2012.
- Equip 7,000 people with food growing and healthy eating skills, by 2012.
- Create 60 new community food growing spaces by 2012.
- Develop a local food strategy by 2015.
- Establish Sutton Community Farm as an independent self-sustaining social enterprise by 2012.
- Maintain three outlets of local, fresh sustainable food in the borough e.g. The Veg Van, Wallington Farmers' Market and Sutton Farmers' Market.
- Have at least 20 schools signed up to the Food for Life programme by 2013.



**Our aim is to create a borough where communities are involved in growing local produce – from leafy window boxes to a fully fledged community farm; where residents can walk to buy fresh, affordable produce, and have the skills to grow and prepare healthy sustainable meals.**

Food accounts for over 26 per cent of Sutton's ecological footprint and has clear links with health and wellbeing. It is therefore a key area to address if we want to reduce our impact on the environment at the same time as increasing our quality of life.

Food has such a big environmental impact because lots of agricultural processes are very energy and chemical intensive. Each month, the average family throws away £50 of food that is unused, while 95 per cent of all our fruit and half of all vegetables are imported. So if our food makes it to the plate it is likely to have travelled a long way and created a lot of pollution getting there.

We know that sustainable food can be a complex issue, for example meat and dairy has a bigger environmental impact than vegetables, grains and pulses - but some fruit and vegetables also have a high impact, such as tomatoes grown in hothouses in the winter.

We want to help people understand the impact different foods have on the environment so that they can make informed choices.

Our partners BioRegional and EcoLocal are delivering a project called One Planet Food. From food growing at Westmead training centre and allotments to Sutton's first community farm people are learning to grow their own. More local produce is making it to our plates now we have The Veg Van and schemes with St Helier Hospital and Hackbridge Primary School.

It is clear that this £1 million project, primarily funded by the Big Lottery, is already having a huge impact, enabling Sutton residents to buy affordable, nutritious local food, and get fit and healthy through growing their own.

### Want to know more or get involved?

Sutton Community Farm: [www.suttoncommunityfarm.org.uk](http://www.suttoncommunityfarm.org.uk)

The Veg Van: [www.vegvan.org.uk](http://www.vegvan.org.uk)

EcoLocal: [www.ecolocal.org.uk](http://www.ecolocal.org.uk)

Allotments: [www.sutton.gov.uk/allotments](http://www.sutton.gov.uk/allotments)



# Natural Habitats and Wildlife



## **Our aim is to protect and expand existing natural habitats and create new spaces for wildlife.**

Sutton is rich in open spaces with many parks and private gardens, so nearly a third of our land is classified as green space.

We're conscious that there is a global decline in biodiversity as people's needs encroach on space for wildlife and our ecological footprint increases. WWF's research shows a 30 per cent worldwide decline in biodiversity since 1970.

Sutton has 42 Sites of Importance for Nature conservation – 11 of these have been declared Local Nature Reserves, the highest protection that can be given to a nature conservation site by a local authority. In addition, there are a large number of wildlife areas in people's gardens, school grounds and allotments.

In 2010, Sutton launched a new Biodiversity Action Plan that set out the steps the council and its partners are taking to protect habitats, by managing them to improve their biodiversity value, and raise awareness of nature conservation.

As part of our Action Plan we want to engage as many people as possible in Nature Conservation. Since December 2009 we have connected with more than 1,300 schoolchildren and over 900 adults in nature conservation activities.

We are also creating extra space for wildlife by bringing more areas into active conservation management, encouraging the creation of wildlife gardens in schools and developing planning policies that encourage nature conservation. Many of the borough's major new developments now include nature friendly features such as green roofs and walls, community gardens and nature areas.

Our work is strongly supported by Sutton Nature Conservation Volunteers. The volunteers carry out valuable work on sites spread throughout the borough, from small pockets of green space to large Local Nature Reserves.

## **Targets**

- Ensure 80% of homes built each year are on previously developed sites.
- Maintain current volunteer numbers that participate in nature conservation projects through Sutton Nature Conservation Volunteers.
- Maintain current nature conservation value on council owned sites through appropriate habitat management as prescribed in site management plans.
- Secure higher level stewardship funding for the management of nature conservation sites by 2013.
- Improve biodiversity on two social housing areas, e.g. through hedge and tree planting projects by 2013.
- Engage 5,000 schoolchildren and individuals in nature conservation by 2013.
- Implement 100% of actions in the Biodiversity Action Plan by 2015.
- Improve biodiversity and nature conservation on 50% of major building developments by 2025.

### **Want to know more or get involved?**

Sutton's Biodiversity Action Plan: [www.sutton.gov.uk/biodiversity](http://www.sutton.gov.uk/biodiversity)

Sutton Nature Conservation Volunteers: <http://tinyurl.com/sutton-ncv>

Visit one of the borough's nature conservation sites.



## Sustainable Water

### Targets

- Seek resources to deliver flood risk reduction by 2012.
- Publicise self help measures to minimise the impact of flooding by 2012.
- 8,000 households to self audit and reduce water consumption by 2013.
- All homes to have access to information on sustainable use of water by 2015.
- All new homes to have maximum water use of 80 litres per person per day by 2016.
- All council buildings to meet best practice guidance on water usage for building type by 2017.



### **Our aim is to use water more efficiently in buildings and in the products we buy, tackling water stress, local flooding and water pollution.**

Although, we think of the United Kingdom as a wet place, it is also very densely populated and demand for water is high. There is actually less water available per person here than in many hotter countries. London is drier than Istanbul and the South East of England is more water stressed than both Syria and Sudan. So water isn't as abundant as it might seem and we need to use it wisely.

Water shortages don't just affect us, they harm our environment because we share our water sources with plants and animals. Every drop we use has some effect on the environment and not just because we are using a resource. Before our water comes into our homes it is cleaned and processed, which uses lots of energy - and if we heat water it uses even more energy, contributing to carbon emissions and climate change.

People in the UK typically use 150 litres of high quality drinking water a day. In London it is 190 litres and in the USA it is even more, at around 430 litres a day. We want to help people use less water and save money (on energy and water bills).

We're working closely with Sutton and East Surrey Water to help homes, businesses and schools in the borough conserve water. Planning policies will ensure that new homes are water efficient with a maximum water use of 80 litres per person per day by 2016.

Sometimes it's not having too little water but having too much that is the problem. In July 2007 Sutton suffered some of the worst floods in London during a period of heavy rainfall that lasted just one hour. We've developed a Flood Action Plan for Sutton to help deal with flooding in the borough.

### **Want to know more or get involved?**

Conserving water: [www.waterplc.com](http://www.waterplc.com)

Environment Agency: [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)



## Culture and Heritage



**Our aim is to increase participation in community life, encouraging residents to take part and take pride in local culture, sports and recreational activities.**

Sustainable living has to be about more than just reducing our environmental impact. There would be little point in us living lives with a low eco-impact if we didn't enjoy them. Our culture and heritage can help us understand, enjoy and share our lives. We want to support communities and their local identity, knowledge and values, as well to encourage participation. For some, culture is about the activities we take part in: arts, sports, libraries and museums through to tourism, parks and recreation. For others it's about their heritage, beliefs, traditions and the values that shape their lives.

We recognise that Sutton comprises a mix of different neighbourhoods and people with their own priorities and needs. We want to celebrate this diversity and adapt services to best meet community needs. This is about working with local people to preserve the individuality of each neighbourhood. Sutton will also capitalise on London hosting the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games in the areas of business and tourism, education, sport and physical activity, volunteering, arts and culture, by developing an action plan to promote our involvement.

We will continue to improve access to culture and heritage through the library service and our museums. Last year's projects included the new Circle Library and the Sutton Life Centre. This year we will undertake the refurbishment of The Honeywood Museum, refurbish Westcroft Leisure Centre and create a cultural hub.

Festivals and events, Take Part Take Pride, and IMAGINE continue to engage local people in the arts. These, alongside other cultural activities, can provide local groups with a voice and enhanced identity. Above all they bring people together, validating their efforts and developing local pride.

### Targets

- Hold an annual arts festival.
- Stock eBooks in libraries by 2011.
- Refurbish Honeywood museum by 2011.
- Upgrade and refurbish Westcroft Leisure Centre by 2012.
- Develop an Action Plan to link sports and cultural activities to the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012.
- Develop a programme of activities that support increased participation and active citizenship by 2012.

#### Want to know more or get involved?

Take Part Take Pride: [www.sutton.gov.uk/takeparttakepride](http://www.sutton.gov.uk/takeparttakepride)

Sutton's Imagine Arts festival: [www.sutton.gov.uk/imagine](http://www.sutton.gov.uk/imagine)

Team Sutton: [www.teamsutton.co.uk](http://www.teamsutton.co.uk)



## Equity and Local Economy

### Targets

- Update the Economic Strategy and develop the next action plan by 2012.
- To maintain a claimant rate for working age people on 'out of work' benefits of 3.3 percentage points below the England average rate by 2012.
- Aim for 100% of council properties to meet the decent homes standard by 2020.
- Reduce inequality gap between pupils eligible and ineligible for free school meals by 2% per year to 2020.
- Aim for 100% of people eligible for adult social care to have individual care plans and budgets by 2020.
- All schools and colleges, 50% of workplaces and major community facilities buying and promoting Fairtrade by 2025.



**Our aim is to make Sutton fairer, creating an inclusive borough where residents feel empowered in their communities. We want Sutton to have a thriving, diverse and resilient local economy that supports fair employment and international fair trade.**

Decisions we make and actions we take here in Sutton have the potential to impact on the lives and wellbeing of many people. We recognise the need to think about those impacts and the people they affect – both locally and across the globe. Sutton is notable for the spread of inequality between its wealthy residents, who are among the most affluent in the country, and others who experience significant deprivation. This inequality is not only about income but also quality of life, such as health and education.

We want to reduce these existing gaps and make Sutton a fairer place. Part of this process involves strengthening Sutton's local economy by supporting businesses through the current difficult financial climate and encouraging new businesses - particularly those related to the "green economy". The updated Economic Development Strategy will look to develop local skills for carbon reduction and renewable energy, linking with Carshalton College and Kingston University. Through innovative approaches such as Work Clubs, targeted support to specific areas and groups and Enterprise Clubs to support entrepreneurs we aim to further improve levels of employment in the borough.

Sutton has become one of a growing number of Fairtrade Boroughs, joining 400 towns across the UK. We've committed to purchasing Fairtrade products at the council while encouraging business, community groups, schools and colleges to do the same.

### Want to know more or get involved?

The Fairtrade Foundation: [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)

Sutton Fairtrade: [www.fairtrade.insutton.org](http://www.fairtrade.insutton.org)



# Health and Happiness



## Targets

- Increase percentage of adults who participate in sport and active recreation from 21.8% in 2010 to 23.8% by 2012.
- Develop a Health Improvement Strategy for Sutton by 2013.
- Develop a mechanism to measure life satisfaction and wellbeing by 2015.

## **Our aim is for everyone living in Sutton to be able to improve their health and wellbeing.**

Research studies show real evidence of a link between being healthy and being happy. We know that where people live, the quality of their living environment and their lifestyle can all impact on health; but together with opportunities for continuing to learn life skills, being active physically and mentally, supporting our friends and neighbours and being part of a community can improve our well being and happiness.

Happiness for ourselves and good health for both ourselves and the planet are the ultimate goals of sustainable living. Our aim is to enable our residents to enjoy active, sociable lives that promote good health and wellbeing. We will continue to work with our residents to develop Sutton as a place where people feel well informed and enjoy genuine opportunities to be involved in the decisions that affect their lives, shape their community and the services they use.

A British Household Panel Survey revealed that Sutton is the happiest place to live in London. It is also one of the safest boroughs in the capital. There are clear links between how safe people feel and how happy they are and we will continue to work with the police through the Safer Sutton Partnership to reduce crime and fear of crime even further.

We will work with residents to narrow health inequalities, enabling people to achieve and maintain a healthy life and positive physical and mental well-being and to be resilient for themselves, as a family and as part of our community.

To support these aims in partnership we are developing a Health Improvement Strategy for Sutton which will outline how we will work together to enable and support local people improve their health and wellbeing, and to reduce inequalities. The strategy will build on what we have already achieved locally and is our response to the Public Health White Paper *Healthy Lives Healthy People*.

### **Want to know more or get involved?**

Volunteering in the borough: [www.vcsutton.org.uk](http://www.vcsutton.org.uk)

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment: [www.jsna.suttonandmerton.nhs.uk](http://www.jsna.suttonandmerton.nhs.uk)

Public Health White Paper: <http://tinyurl.com/healthyliveshealthypeople>

# Climate Change Adaptation

## Targets

- Introduce an interactive Climate Risk Map by August 2011.
- Include adaptation to climate change in our planning policies by 2012.
- Develop a comprehensive adaptation action plan for the council by 2013.
- Work with other essential services e.g. police and fire services in the borough, to jointly develop adaptation action plans by 2014.



**Beyond the ten One Planet Living principles, our aim is to make plans so that we are prepared and able to adapt to changes in climate.**

Climate change is caused by increased levels of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in our atmosphere. The gases trap heat by forming a blanket around the earth. Once released the greenhouse gases stay in the atmosphere for many years. As they build up, the planet's temperature rises.

The world has already warmed by 0.7°C since pre-industrial times, when we started burning lots of fossil fuels such as coal. Due to the time delay between the release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere and its effect on temperature, we are already locked into a further minimum 0.6°C increase, even if we stopped all carbon dioxide emissions today! That's a minimum increase of 1.3°C in total. So we need to prepare for some degree of climate change, however much greenhouse gas emissions are reduced. Planning and adapting now will make us more resilient and comfortable in the future.

In Sutton we want to do our bit to help limit climate change to a maximum of two degrees Celsius. This is thought by experts to be a 'safe' amount of warming and if we plan properly and make changes to our lifestyles now, we should be able to cope with it. We don't want temperatures to rise above two degrees as this is thought to be 'dangerous' climate change that we might not be able to adapt to, as it will have a big impact on the earth as a whole, seen in effects such as rising sea levels, pressure on water and wildlife, and difficulty in growing enough food for everyone.

Our adaptation action plan will assess the risk of extreme weather events and explain what we will do to ensure that we can still deliver services in the event of them including how we will protect the borough's most vulnerable residents.

## Want to know more or get involved?

Find out more about climate change:

[www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate-change/guide](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate-change/guide)

# Glossary

## Biodiversity

Biodiversity or biological diversity is the variety of life in all its different forms, which includes the myriad of plant and animal species and the range of habitats in which they live.

## BREEAM

BRE Environmental Assessment Method – the most widely used environmental assessment method for commercial buildings. It is used to describe a building's environmental performance and was established in the UK by the Building Research Establishment (BRE).

## Code for sustainable homes

A rating system for the environmental impact of a house, used within England and Wales.

## Community Farm

A shared growing space for the local community to grow fruit and vegetables together.

## Flexible Framework

The Flexible Framework is a self assessment tool developed by Government to help organisations measure and monitor their progress on sustainable procurement. There are 5 themes each containing 5 levels, which support the Government Sustainable Procurement Action Plan commitments and the Sustainable Development in Government targets.

## Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Timber:

FSC is an accreditation logo given to Timber which has been sourced from forests managed in an environmental appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable manner.

## Green Roof

A roof that is planted with any kind of vegetation, either entirely or in part.

## Green Wall

A wall that is covered with any kind of vegetation, either entirely or in part. Green walls are usually covered by climbing plants that are supported by the wall itself or climbing frame.

## Local Nature Reserve

An area of land that is of special conservation interest and is of importance to both people and wildlife on a local level. LNR's are declared and managed by the owner of the site under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

## Low Carbon Zone

An area of Sutton which aims to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> from buildings by 20% by 2012 by providing residents with free energy audits and energy saving measures, and encouraging behaviour change.

## One Planet Living

A framework to help organisations and individuals live and work within a fair share of the earth's resources, based on ten principles developed by BioRegional.

## Pay As You Save

In Sutton 70 homes have been able to purchase energy saving measures for their home using a 40% grant and 60% interest free loan to cover the upfront costs. The money saved from energy bills will then be used to pay back the loan each month.

## Site of importance for nature conservation

Biodiverse sites that are or may be of particular value to nearby residents or schools. Local sites are particularly important in areas otherwise deficient in nearby wildlife sites.

## Sutton Nature conservation volunteers

The Sutton Nature Conservation Volunteers (SNCV) is the main nature conservation charity operating in Sutton. The SNCV's aims are the conservation and improvement of sites of wildlife value in the borough.

## Travel Plan

A package of measures and initiatives that aims to reduce the need to travel and increase the use of sustainable forms of transport, by providing people with greater choice.

## Zero Carbon

Carbon refers to the carbon dioxide emitted when burning fossil fuels to heat and power our buildings. Carbon dioxide is a gas that contributes to climate change. Zero Carbon is about making buildings more energy efficient and delivering all remaining energy with renewable technologies.

## Zero carbon building

A building which overall has a zero net energy use and zero carbon dioxide emissions annually.

## Zero Waste

This is about reducing the amount of waste we generate, reusing where possible, and recycling so we ultimately send no waste to landfill.

# Further information

To find out more about One Planet Sutton please call Katherine Hudson, Environmental Sustainability Manager at Sutton Council, on **020 8770 5330** or email **katherine.hudson@sutton.gov.uk**

You can also find out more at **www.sutton.gov.uk** and at **www.oneplanetsutton.org**

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