

# Green Heritage Homes Project

Local Energy Advice Demonstrator (LEAD)  
Project

Retrofitting Listed Buildings in Bath

Bath & North East  
Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives



# The Background – Retrofit of Historic Homes

- National government review – key themes:
  - The planning system
  - Local authority skills, training, and capacity
  - Guidance and information
  - Construction industry skills, training, and capacity
  - Affordability and financial incentives
- Issues – complexity of planning, consistency in decision making, cost, timescale, and lack of non-technical guidance.

The screenshot shows the GOV.UK website page for the report 'Adapting historic homes for energy efficiency: a review of the barriers'. The page is published on 3 January 2024 and is authored by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities, the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, and the Department for Culture, Media & Sport. The page includes a table of contents with sections for Introduction, The planning system, Local authority skills, training, and capacity, Guidance and Information (for homeowners and occupiers), Construction industry skills, training, and capacity, Affordability and financial incentives, and Summary and next steps. The main content area is titled '1.2. The role of historic buildings' and discusses the importance of improving the energy efficiency of historic homes to achieve Net Zero by 2050. It highlights that historic buildings have a significant role to play in the transition to Net Zero and that improving their energy efficiency is part of the solution. The page also mentions that the UK is home to around 30 million buildings, with 5.9 million built before 1919 and 4.3 million before 1944. It notes that listed homes and homes within conservation areas are a small but important proportion of the existing UK housing stock and that retrofitting these buildings can be more challenging and costly due to the specific skills and materials required, along with additional permissions required in some cases. It emphasizes the importance of ensuring that historic buildings are adapted appropriately, with the right design based on the construction and use of the building, to ensure that the most cost and energy efficient approaches are implemented. Selecting the right measures upfront can help to avoid unnecessary costs further down the line. The special considerations required when assessing the impact on the historic and architectural significance of a building provide an opportunity to ensure the right design for the function and construction of the buildings is developed.

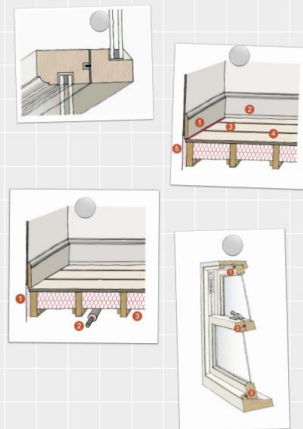
# The Background – Retrofit of Historic Homes


- Guidance produced by organisations and local authorities
- Historic England *HEAN* July 2024
- B&NES update of SPD – *Energy Efficiency, Retrofitting and Sustainable Construction SPD* January 2022

Energy Efficiency, Retrofitting and Sustainable Construction

**SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**


Bath & North East Somerset Council  
Improving People's Lives January 2022





 Historic England

## Adapting Historic Buildings for Energy and Carbon Efficiency

Historic England Advice Note 18 (HEAN 18)



 HERITAGE BUILDING RETROFIT TOOLKIT

 ISLINGTON  
For more English history

### Net Zero Carbon Supplementary Planning Document Scoping Paper

18/08/2023

1. Purpose and background
- 1.1 The purpose of this scoping paper is to get feedback on the framework for a new Net Zero Carbon Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The SPD is intended to provide guidance to help bring forward development proposals with minimal carbon emissions, to inform how development proposals will be assessed at the planning application stage, and how residents can retrofit their homes to reduce carbon emissions and energy costs.
- 1.2 Tackling climate change is a major priority for Islington council as confirmed by the declaration of a climate emergency on 27th June 2019, committing the council to working towards Islington having net zero carbon emissions by 2030. Improving the energy efficiency of all buildings in the borough is one of the priorities of Islington's Vision 2030 (2020) strategy, and this is central to the work of the planning teams.
- 1.3 Planning applications are evaluated against the policies of the Development Plan, this consists of Islington's Local Plan and the London Plan. National legislation also informs the decision-making process and how the material impacts of a development proposal are assessed. Reducing carbon emissions and sustainable development are addressed in these policy documents.
- 1.4 Islington's new Local Plan, which will soon be adopted, contains progressive new policies on sustainable development requiring new development to meet high environmental standards. The SPD will complement these policies and provide further detailed guidance on how they will be implemented. An SPD cannot introduce specific policies, but it can provide guidance to explain how existing policies will be applied and this guidance can be given material weight in the planning decision making process.
- 1.5 The SPD will also provide advice and guidance for property owners or developers in the borough on how they can more widely align with the objectives of the Vision 2030 strategy.

**Lewisham Planning - Energy Efficiency in historic buildings**

Advice and options to improve energy efficiency and reduce CO2 emissions

The sustainable retrofit of Lewisham's historic buildings will help us address the climate emergency by reducing heat loss and energy use, and contributing to renewable energy generation. The borough's historic buildings are inherently sustainable, being durable and adaptable and built with materials that can be repaired and maintained to extend the building's life indefinitely. They also contain a large amount of embodied carbon that was expended during their construction. The key energy is used in them, however, can be significantly improved to ensure that they continue being comfortable, healthy and affordable places to dwell in.

There are a wide range of ways that historic buildings can be retrofitted and the Council will support measures that are compatible with traditional building materials and do not harm the building or conservation areas special character.

Because historic building materials perform differently to modern ones - relying on moisture permeability and ventilation rather than impermeable materials and air tightness - some retrofit measures can cause moisture to become trapped. This has the potential to reduce energy efficiency because wet building fabric takes more energy to heat, dries the building fabric, and risks the health of occupants through mould growth. An understanding of how an individual building has been constructed, its context and how it is used by its occupants will help to minimise these risks. This is called the 'whole building' approach. More information on this can be found in Historic England's energy efficiency guidance, and at the [Sustainable Buildings Alliance's website](#).

**Retrofitting your home**  
September 2022

**How to retrofit Solar Panels**  
March 2024

**How to make your windows more energy efficient**  
August 2022

**Heritage Retrofit Guidance – Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction**  
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 18  
May 2024

**RETROFIT HOW TO GUIDE**  
THREE

**RETROFIT HOW TO GUIDE**  
ONE

**City of Westminster**  
ZERO CARBON 2040

**City of Westminster**  
ZERO CARBON 2040

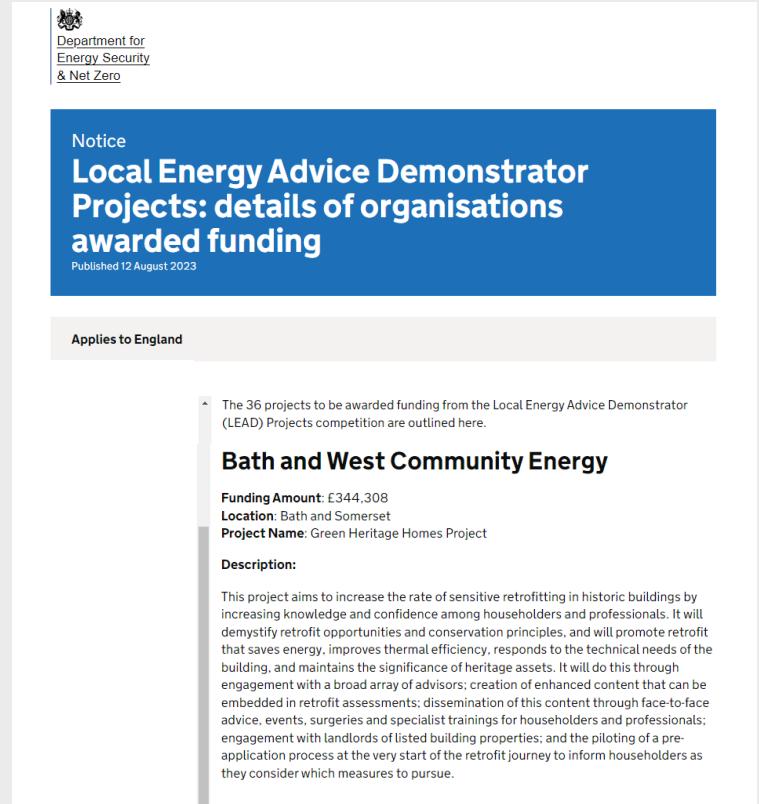
**City of Westminster**  
ZERO CARBON 2040

**OXFORD CITY COUNCIL**

# Green Heritage Homes Project

- Enable sensitive retrofitting of historic buildings.
- Demystify the listed building consent process.
- Offer guidance on effective retrofit solutions informed by conservation principles.

**“Increasing the rate of sensitive retrofitting of historic buildings by growing knowledge and confidence among householders and professionals.”**



Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

Notice  
**Local Energy Advice Demonstrator Projects: details of organisations awarded funding**  
Published 12 August 2023

Applies to England

The 36 projects to be awarded funding from the Local Energy Advice Demonstrator (LEAD) Projects competition are outlined here.

**Bath and West Community Energy**

**Funding Amount:** £344,308  
**Location:** Bath and Somerset  
**Project Name:** Green Heritage Homes Project

**Description:**

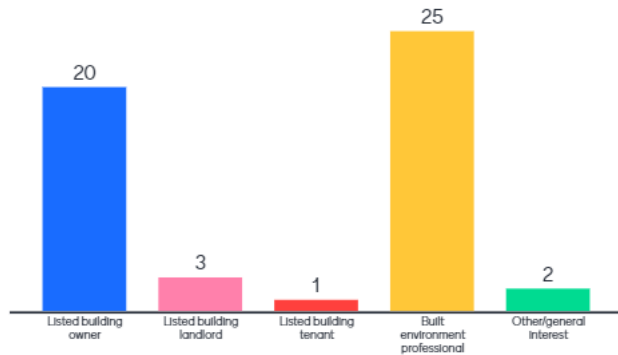
This project aims to increase the rate of sensitive retrofitting in historic buildings by increasing knowledge and confidence among householders and professionals. It will demystify retrofit opportunities and conservation principles, and will promote retrofit that saves energy, improves thermal efficiency, responds to the technical needs of the building, and maintains the significance of heritage assets. It will do this through engagement with a broad array of advisors: creation of enhanced content that can be embedded in retrofit assessments; dissemination of this content through face-to-face advice, events, surgeries and specialist trainings for householders and professionals; engagement with landlords of listed building properties; and the piloting of a pre-application process at the very start of the retrofit journey to inform householders as they consider which measures to pursue.



Green Heritage Homes is a partnership project, managed by Bath & West Community Energy and funded by the South West Net Zero Hub, which is hosted by the West of England Combined Authority through the Local Energy Advice Demonstrator Programme.

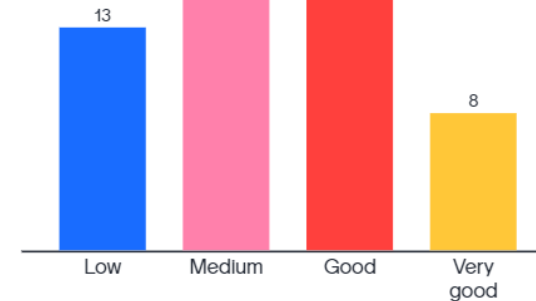
# Training Modules – Assessing Heritage Significance & The Listed Building Consent Process

## I'm here as a...



**88% attendees were homeowners (39%) or professionals (49%)**

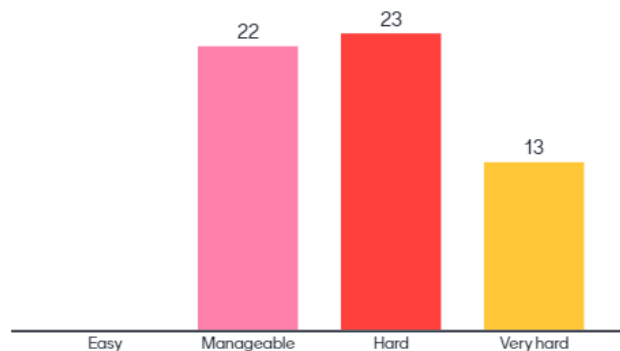
## My knowledge of the listed building consent process is...



*Greater understanding of energy efficiency than LBC:*

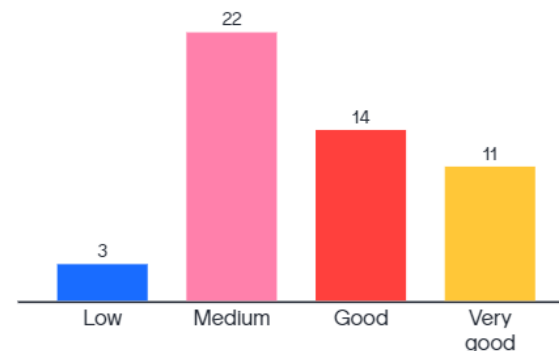
- **LBC – 45% good or very good, 26% low**

## How easy do you think it is to get listed building consent for energy measures?



**62% viewed getting LBC as hard or very hard.**

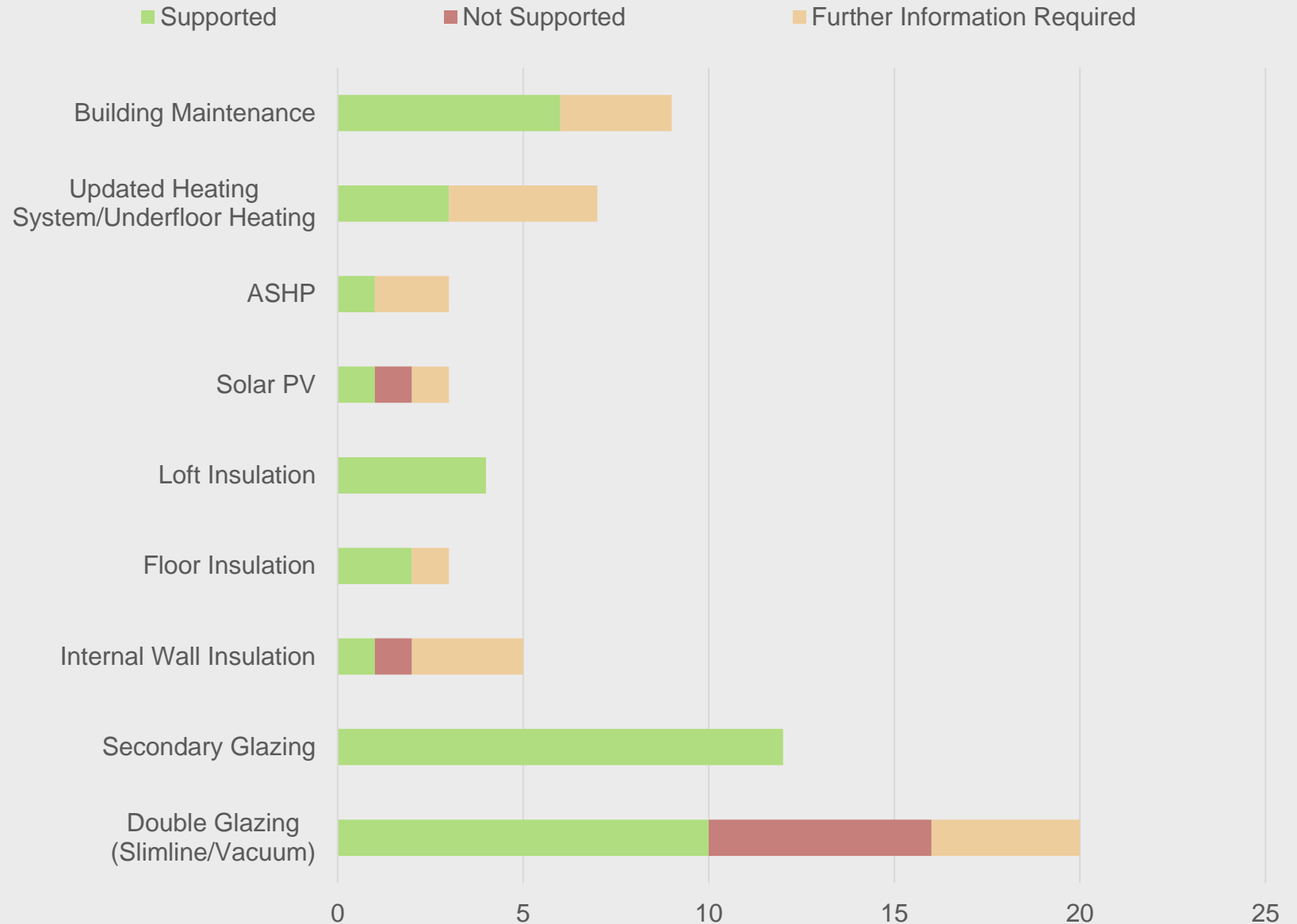
## My knowledge of energy efficiency in historic buildings is...



- **Energy efficiency - 50% good or very good, 6% low**

# Level 0 Pre-App

- New pre-app service for listed building retrofit service.
- Work with a B&NES Council Conservation Officer.
- Accessible cost - £69.
- Piloting pre-app in partnership with BWCE – Listed Building Energy Champions.
- Progress: 19x submissions (15x reports issued)



# Level 0 Pre-App

	Double Glazing (Slimline or Vacuum)	Secondary Glazing	Insulate Internal Wall	Insulate Floor	Insulate Loft	Solar PV	ASHP	Updated Heating Systems/ Underfloor Heating	Building Maintenance
Site 1	Further Info Required	Yes							
Site 2	Yes/No	Yes			Yes	No		Yes	Yes/ Further Info Required
Site 3	Yes		Yes/No		Yes		Yes		
Site 4	Yes/ Further Info Required	Yes							
Site 5	Yes	Yes	Further Info Required	Further Info Required					
Site 6	Yes/ Further Info Required	Yes				Yes	Further Info Required	Yes	Yes
Site 7	Further Info Required	Yes	Further Info Required			Further Info Required		Further Info Required	
Site 8	Yes/No	Yes			Yes			Further Info Required	
Site 9	No	Yes							Yes/Further Info Required
Site 10	Yes/No	Yes	Further Info Required		Yes		Further Info Required	Yes	Yes/Further Info Required
Site 11	Yes/No	Yes		Yes				Further Info Required	Yes
Site 12	Yes/No	Yes		Yes				Further Info Required	Yes
Site 13	Yes	Yes							

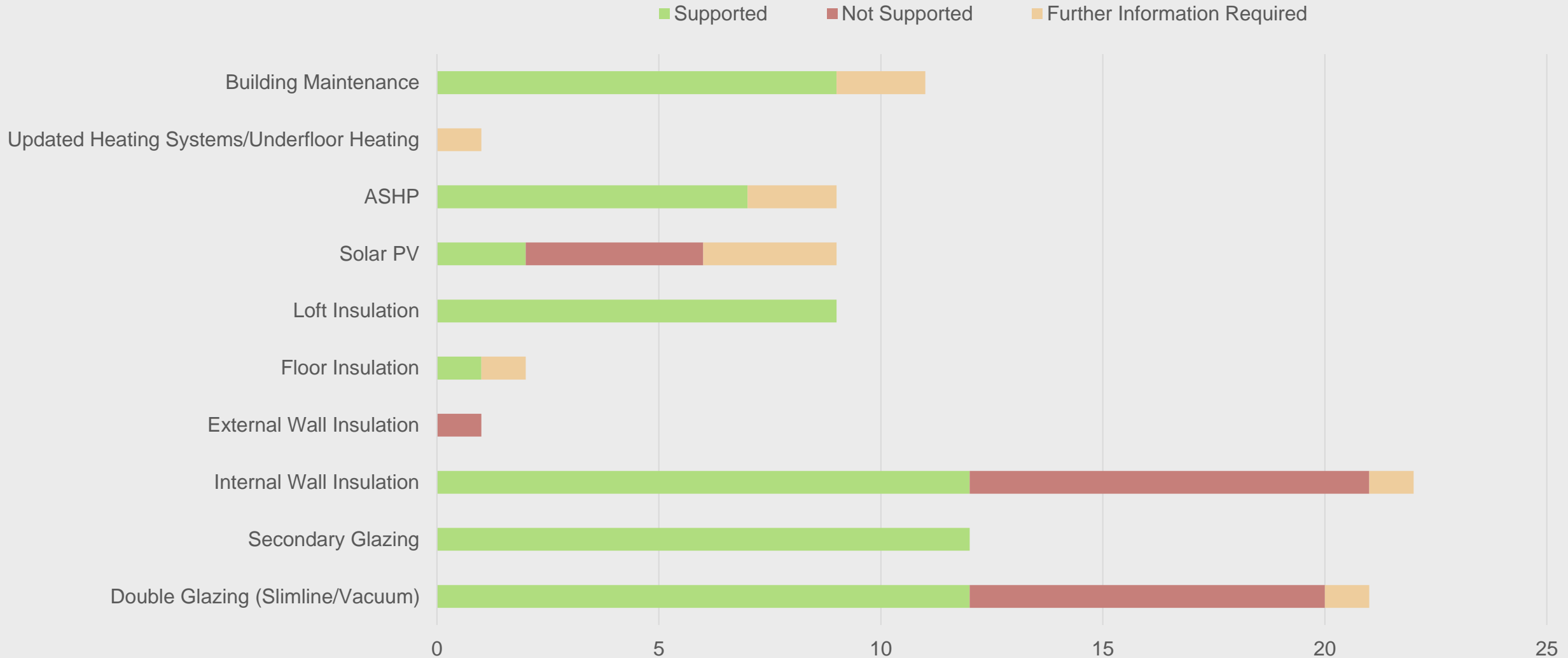
# Listed Building Energy Champions

- B&NES & BWCE service for listed building owners and occupiers.
- Project contribution:
  - Published case study.
  - Questionnaires and feedback.
  - Ongoing comms.
  - Potential monitoring works.
- Common building type – terraced properties (53%) in private ownership (93%). Majority have some element of minor energy improvement.



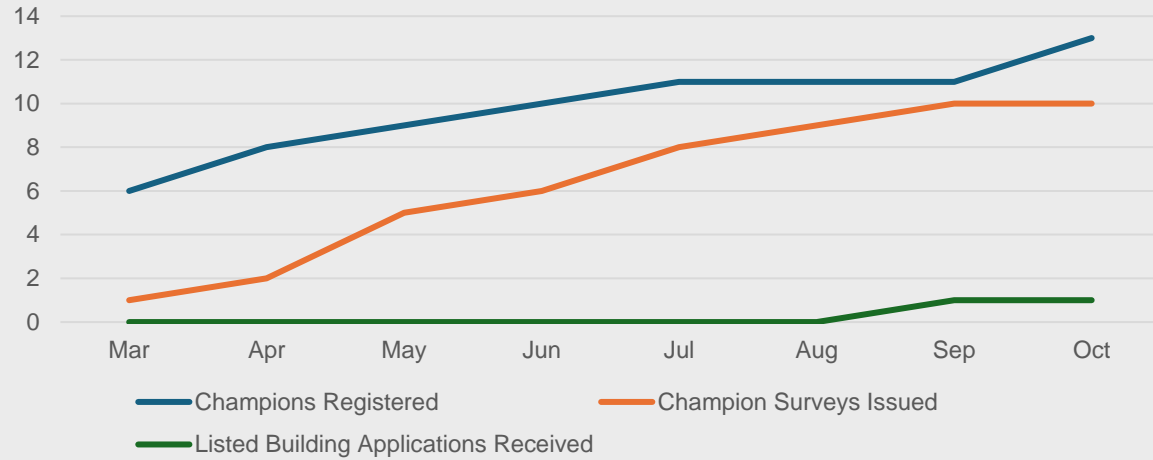


# Listed Building Energy Champions – Pre-App Recommendations

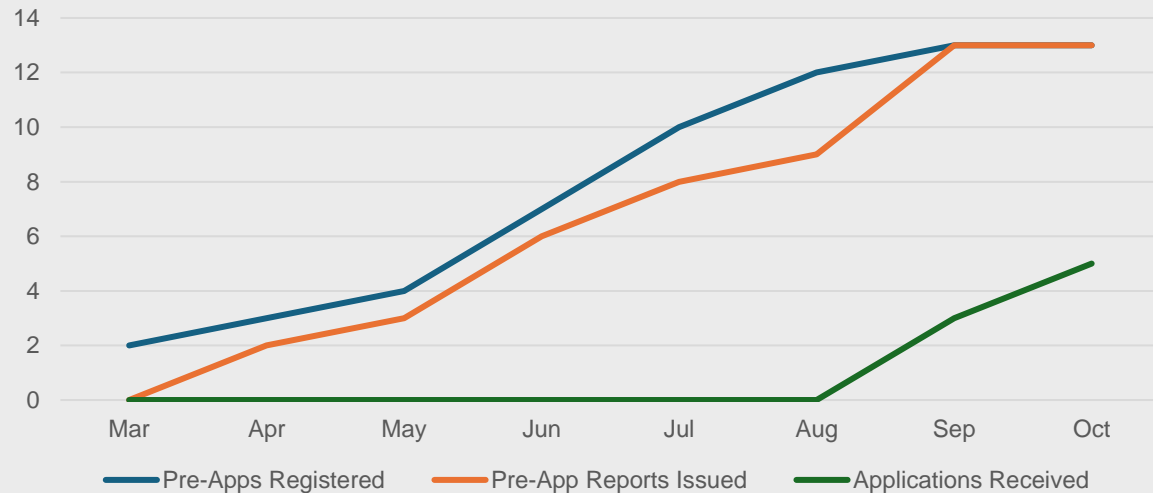


# Application & Pre-App Outcomes

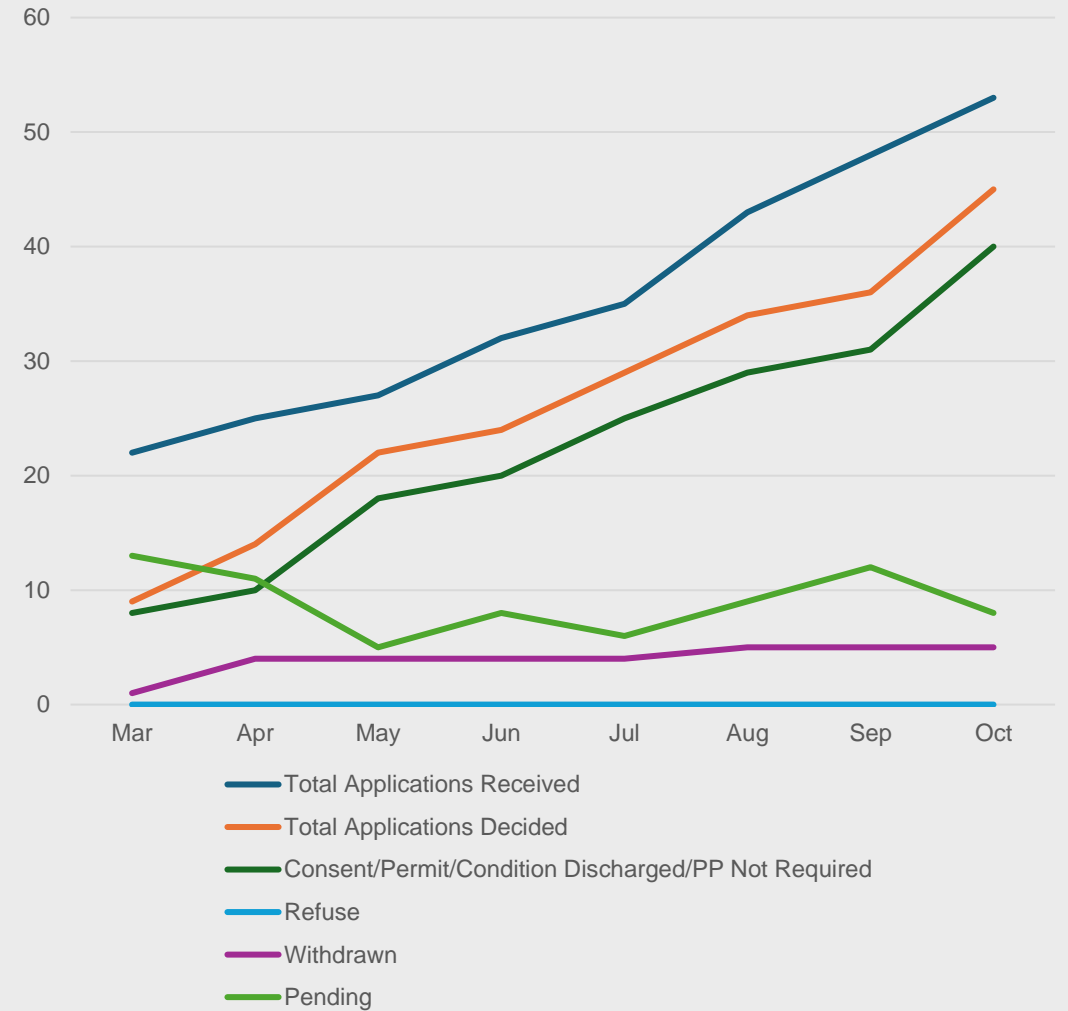
## Listed Building Energy Champions



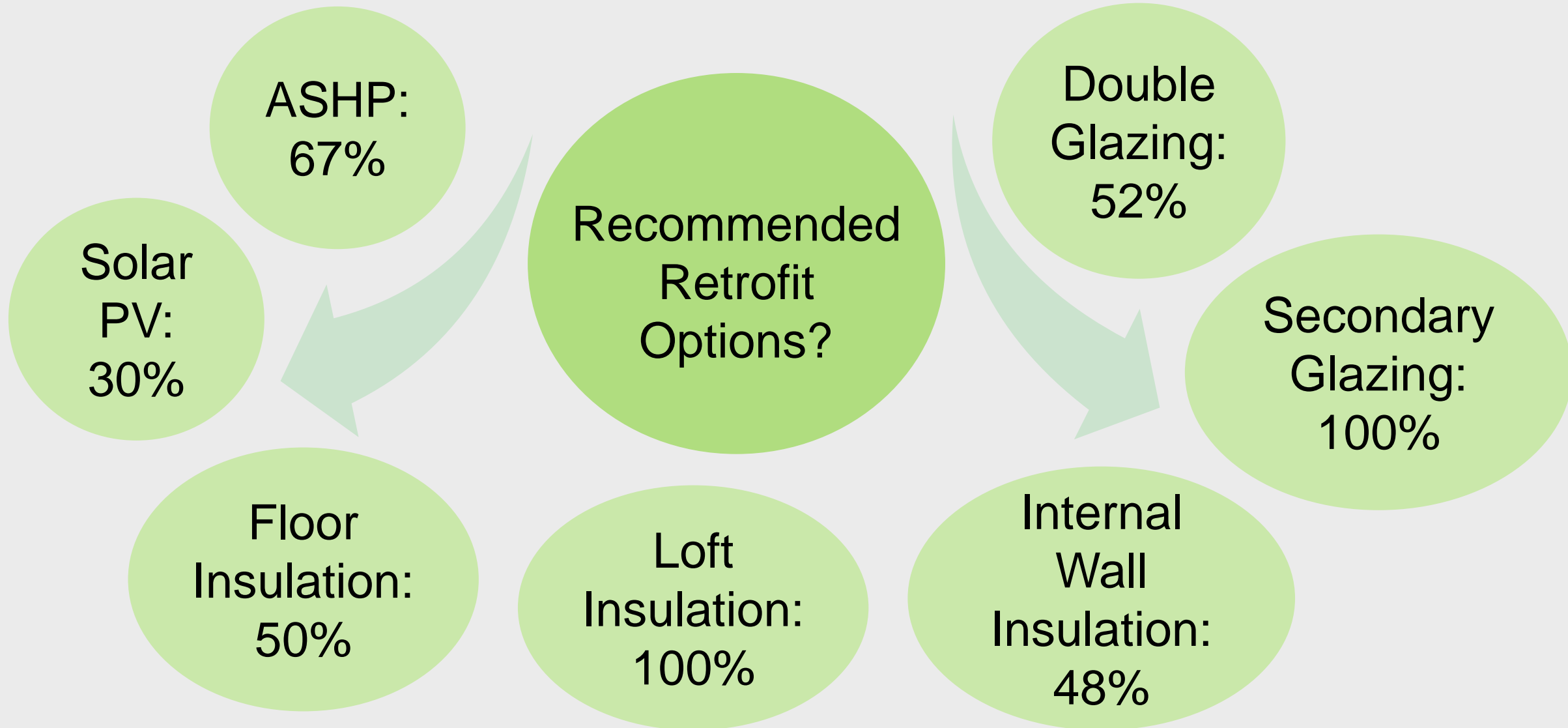
## Level 0 Pre-Apps



## B&NES Council Planning Applications & Listed Building Applications



# Level 0 Pre-App & Energy Champions – Initial Findings



## Level 0 Pre-App – Conservation Officer Recommendations

“Where existing windows are non-historic, the principle of replacement or retrofit with more thermally efficient glazing is acceptable. Any replacement window should be appropriately detailed and finished [...]”

“Building fabric which is in a poor condition will naturally be less efficient and may have an adverse impact on the energy savings of a retrofit project. Ongoing maintenance is vital to ensure building fabric is dry and in good condition.”

“Other options may be considered such as the use of secondary glazing.”

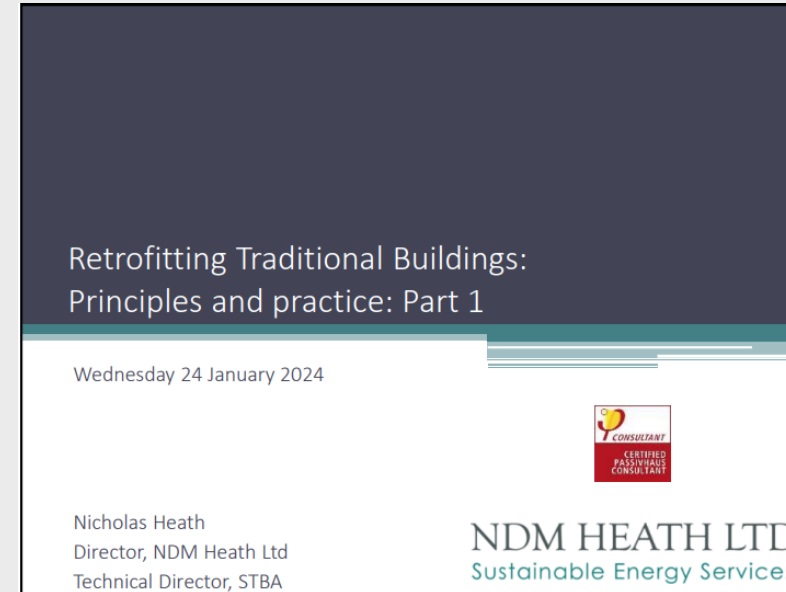
“There is little to no surviving internal historic finishes, and there is clear evidence of later alterations. The installation of internal wall insulation would therefore result in no loss of historic fabric and would be acceptable.”

“[...] it is unlikely that solar slates would be viable in this location. The chimney stack, bay window roof, and dormer are all features that cast shadows at certain times of day and would limit solar gain.”

“The principle of solar panels is welcomed within the inner roof valley, where installation would be concealed from public views of the listed building and its terraced setting within the Conservation Area.”

## Internal training & shared understanding

- Series of internal training sessions for project team and wider audience, including a full-day online course, Retrofitting Traditional Buildings, and a heat pump-focussed session. Well-attended by a mix of conservation officers and retrofit & energy professionals.
- Shared Understanding workshop hosted by an external facilitator to help share knowledge and build a shared understanding of sensitive retrofit.



Retrofitting Traditional Buildings:  
Principles and practice: Part 1

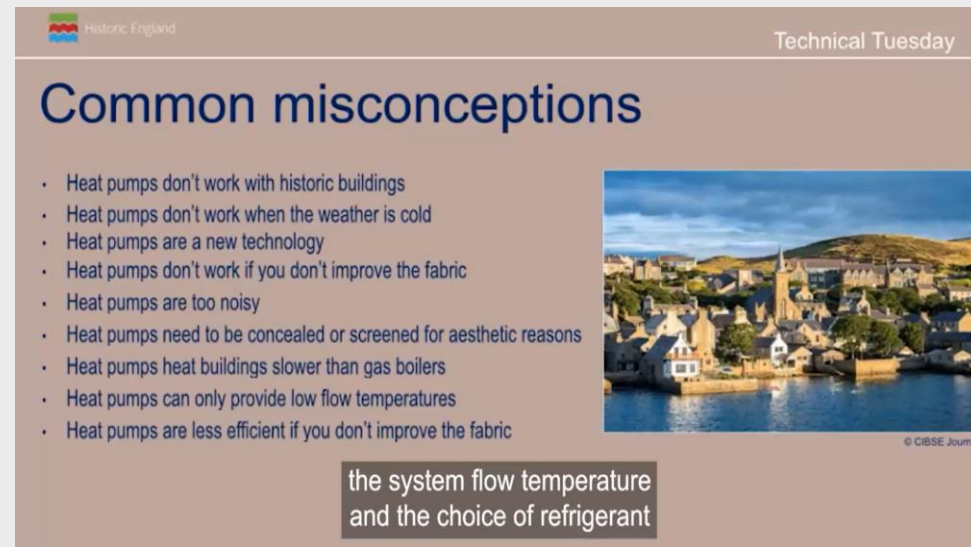
Wednesday 24 January 2024

Nicholas Heath  
Director, NDM Heath Ltd  
Technical Director, STBA

CONSULTANT  
CERTIFIED  
PASSIVE  
CONSULTANT

NDM HEATH LTD  
Sustainable Energy Services

**Retrofitting  
Traditional  
Buildings course  
Parts 1 & 2 by  
the Green  
Register**



Historic England

Technical Tuesday

### Common misconceptions

- Heat pumps don't work with historic buildings
- Heat pumps don't work when the weather is cold
- Heat pumps are a new technology
- Heat pumps don't work if you don't improve the fabric
- Heat pumps are too noisy
- Heat pumps need to be concealed or screened for aesthetic reasons
- Heat pumps heat buildings slower than gas boilers
- Heat pumps can only provide low flow temperatures
- Heat pumps are less efficient if you don't improve the fabric

the system flow temperature  
and the choice of refrigerant

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ab Achieve Breakthrough™

Shared Understanding  
Green Heritage Homes

**Shared Understanding workshop facilitated by Achieve Breakthrough**

**Heat pumps in historic buildings webinar by Historic England**

# Factsheets

Energy Measures & Listed Building Consent

**Factsheet**

GREEN HERITAGE HOMES

Guidance for residents of Bath & North East Somerset Council

Basic maintenance and repairs should be done first to mitigate damp or underlying issues, with the appropriate consent.

- 1 Check out the Bath & North East Somerset Council guidance for further information  
<https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/policy-and-documents-library/energy-efficiency-retrofitting-and-sustainable-construction-spd>
- 2 Green Heritage Homes and further resources  
<https://www.bwce.homeenergy.coop/listed-buildings>

Energy Measure	What is it?	Key Considerations
<b>General Draught - Proofing</b> Listed Building Consent <b>not usually required</b>	<p><b>Floors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caulking smaller gaps with flexible caulking strips or mastic.</li> </ul> <p><b>Doors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installation of brush seal draught strips along door bottom and sides and over the letterbox flap, and use of key-hole escutcheons.</li> </ul> <p><b>Chimneys:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chimney dampers or balloons can reduce draughts when the fireplace is not in use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draughtproofing should be discreet in appearance and colour, and not adversely impact historic fabric.</li> <li>Rebated draughtproofing should be installed by a professional.</li> </ul> <p><b>Floors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some ventilation should be maintained to avoid damp issues in floor joists.</li> </ul> <p><b>Doors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Historic joinery and finishes should not be compromised.</li> </ul> <p><b>Chimneys:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total sealing of flues is not recommended, and some air flow maintained.</li> </ul>
<b>Window Draught-Proofing</b> Listed Building Consent <b>not usually required</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The elimination or reduction of gaps around windows to reduce cold draughts.</li> <li>Use of release tape, mastic beads or compressible and wiping seals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Historic windows contribute to a building's special interest and should be retained and refurbished.</li> <li>Windows and associated joinery, e.g. shutters, should remain operable and functional.</li> <li>Rebated draughtproofing should be installed by a professional.</li> </ul>
<b>Secondary Glazing</b> Listed Building Consent <b>is required</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Glazing fixed internally to the frame of an existing window.</li> <li>Consists of single glazed glass or a lightweight acrylic or polycarbonate sheet.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Units which don't require a sub-frame are preferable, e.g. magnetic strip, to minimise appearance and use of material fixings.</li> <li>Units should be visually discreet, align with window glazing bars, and avoid obscuring distinctive architectural detailing.</li> <li>Installation should not impede use of historic windows or shutters.</li> </ul>
<b>Slim-Profile Double Glazing/ Vacuum Glazing</b> Listed Building Consent <b>is required</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replacement of existing windowpanes or entire sash/casement units.</li> <li>Typical 12mm glazing thickness.</li> <li>Vacuum glazing is even thinner - 6-7mm thickness.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing historic windows should be retained and refurbished.</li> <li>Replacement windows may be acceptable where:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing windows are modern or of no historic significance/ heritage value.</li> <li>Existing original or historic windows are beyond feasible repair.</li> <li>Replacement would enhance the special architectural or historic interest of the building.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Replacement windows should be of a sympathetic design to the building.</li> </ul>

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This work is being delivered under the Local Energy Advice Demonstrator Programme (LEAD) funded by the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero supported by the South West Net Zero Hub.

Applying for **Listed Building Consent**

GREEN HERITAGE HOMES

Guidance for residents of Bath and North East Somerset

**Understanding Heritage Significance**

Understanding heritage significance is key to making a good Listed Building Consent application. This means understanding what makes your unique building special and worth protecting. A comprehensive assessment of your building's significance should inform your retrofit project at an early stage to ensure that the most appropriate measures for your building are being considered.

**Significance - Quick Facts**

- Listing applies to the exterior and interior of a building, as well as any connected or associated land or structures – called 'curtilage'.
- Identified significance will vary between buildings, even on the same street, based on a building's unique story and values. Consent is determined on a case-by-case basis.
- Consider the building's relationship with its setting or other heritage assets (e.g. listed buildings, Conservation Area, World Heritage Site).

**Heritage Values**

**What makes a building significant?**

- The level of value depends on factors such as age, rarity, the intactness of historic fabric and detailing, quality of design, and contribution to understanding or knowledge.
- A building may not have equal levels of attributed value. E.g. a Georgian townhouse may have high historic and aesthetic value, but low communal value.

**Consider how the following values apply to your building:**

- Historic** – how past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present (illustrative, associative).
- Evidential** – physical remains of past human activity, including historic materials and building techniques, as well as archaeological deposits.
- Aesthetic** – the visual and intellectual qualities of a site, and its relationship with its setting.
- Communal** – the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it (commemorative/symbolic, social or spiritual values).

**A Heritage Statement/Assessment should include:**

- The site location and any local heritage designations (e.g. Conservation Area)
- Overview of the building's history, including historic evidence such as map progressions, photographs, drawings, diagrams, floor plans, etc.
- Outline of the proposed works
- Reference sources of information and consultations undertaken
- A statement on what makes your building significant and its identified heritage values
- Assessment of how proposed works would affect the building's significance and justification of how harm may be appropriately mitigated or minimised.

A Heritage Statement/Assessment is key to your Listed Building Application. This is a description of the significance of your listed building, its setting, and how this may be affected by the works proposed.

The level of detail in a Heritage Statement should be proportionate to the works proposed, and your building's significance. For minor works, you may consider completing the Heritage Statement yourself. For more complex cases, we recommend using a heritage consultant.

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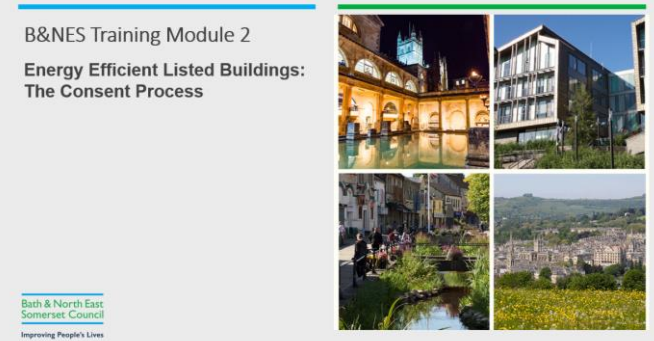
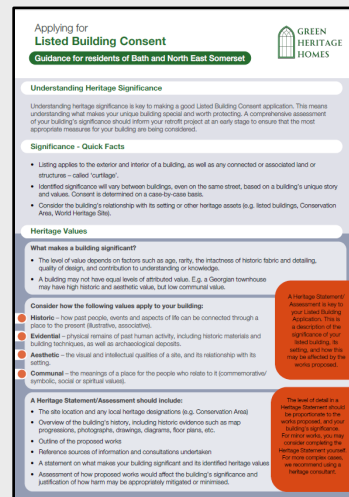
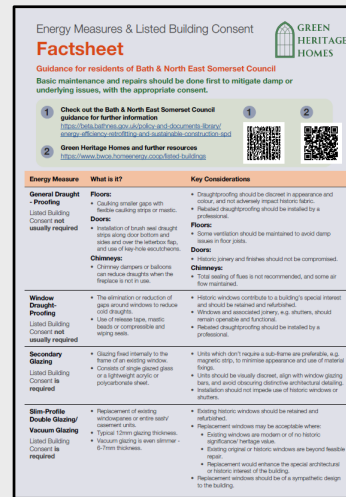
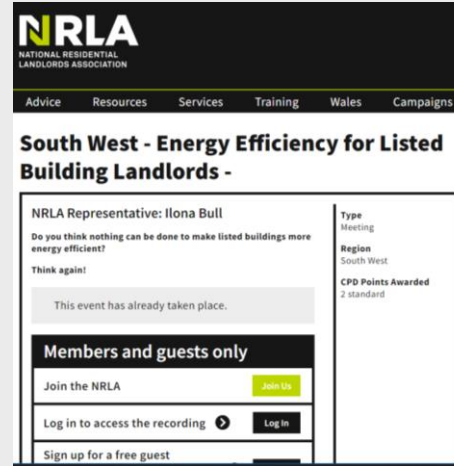
This work is being delivered under the Local Energy Advice Demonstrator Programme (LEAD) funded by the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero supported by the South West Net Zero Hub.

- We have developed factsheets designed to assist homeowners in their retrofit journey and encourage them down the road of a full listed building consent application.
- These cover key facts and guidance on the listed building consent process and key considerations for each retrofit measure (and whether LBC is required or not).
- These will be linked on the council and Energy at Home websites as PDFs. Print copies are also available.
- We have also created national versions so residents in other local authority areas can benefit from the guidance.

# Promotion & Training: External Resources

- Creation of accessible training resources:
  - Listed building consent factsheets.
  - Videos covering different retrofit interventions

- Module training – listed building consent & heritage significance
- Landlord webinars.
- Homeowner surgeries.
- External project promotion.



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# Conclusion

- Misconceptions about the planning system & listing – addressing through increased engagement and guidance
- Spectrum of popular vs. unpopular retrofit options.
- Energy inefficiency associated with poor building condition/unsympathetic works.
- Consideration of factors, e.g. unauthorised works.
- Next steps – follow through to ensure ‘build out’ of consent and development of case studies.





# Case Study: 97 Bailbrook Lane

<b>Age:</b>	Early 19 <sup>th</sup> century
<b>Listing:</b>	Grade II (91-113, Bailbrook Lane)
<b>Building Type:</b>	Two storey mid-terrace
<b>Bedrooms:</b>	2
<b>Wall Type:</b>	Solid wall Bath stone ashlar
<b>Planning History:</b>	20/04607/LBA: Replacement of rear ground & first floor windows with double glazing (consent)



# Case Study: 97 Bailbrook Lane

## Key Areas of Alteration:

- Modern kitchen fittings, including new floor and internal brick slip overlay of rear wall
- Replacement of rear windows with double glazed casements
- Internal drylining of rear bedroom and modern replica skirting
- 20<sup>th</sup> century additions of rear dormer and replacement front porch
- Sash windows replaced in 1970s

## Retrofit Proposals:

- Replacement sash windows – slim-profile/vacuum glazing
- Secondary glazing
- Internal wall insulation to rear kitchen wall, rear dormer, and porch
- Update loft insulation
- Underfloor insulation
- ASHP in rear courtyard
- Potential for ground-mounted solar array to the rear (pending further assessment of visual impact and setting)

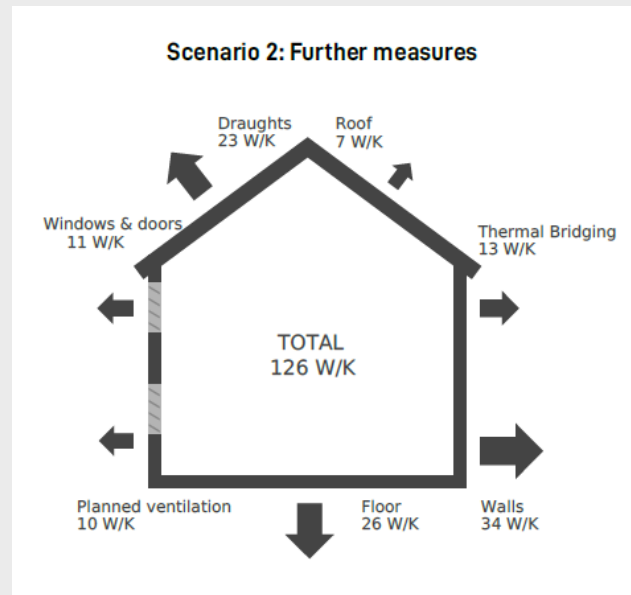
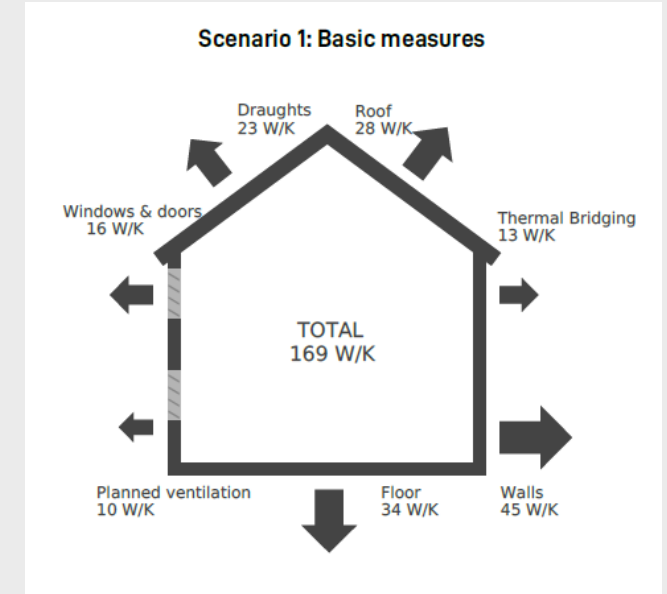
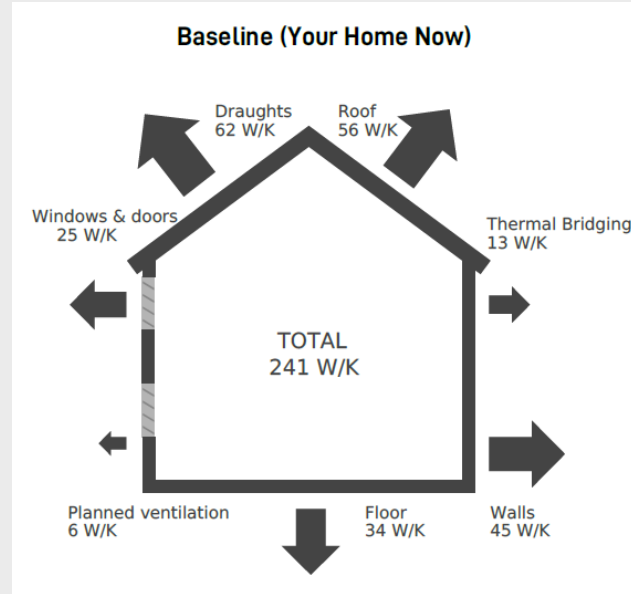
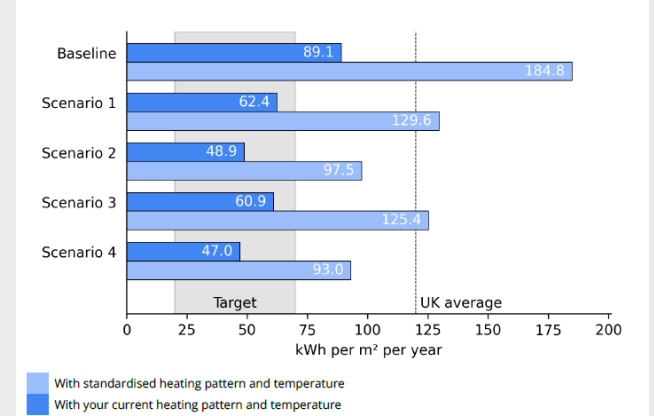


Figure 3. Space heating demand (kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-year)



# Case Study: 14 Sydney Buildings

<b>Age:</b>	Mid/late 19 <sup>th</sup> century
<b>Listing:</b>	Grade II (12-16, Sydney Buildings)
<b>Building Type:</b>	Four-storey mid-terrace
<b>Bedrooms:</b>	4
<b>Wall Type:</b>	Solid wall Bath stone ashlar
<b>Planning History:</b>	<p>23/00996/LBA: Internal alterations including double door opening between principal ground floor rooms (refuse, approved at appeal)</p> <p>12/03249/LBA: Installation of new boiler and extractor flue (consent)</p> <p>07/01510/LBA: Insertion of slim-profile double glazed French doors in rear bay window (consent)</p>



# Case Study: 14 Sydney Buildings

## Key Areas of Alteration:

- Alteration and sub-division of lower ground floor, including tanking of east room and installation of concrete slab floor throughout
- Indication that dormer window sashes have been replaced in like-for-like style – loss of historic fabric, but aesthetic maintained
- New loft insulation & recent roof repairs
- Consent for internal alterations, including new opening between ground floor rooms and demolition of lower ground floor modern partition wall (not yet built out)

## Retrofit Proposals:

- Replacement dormer window sashes – slim-profile/vacuum glazing
- Secondary glazing to all other historic windows
- Draughtproofing doors and fireplaces
- Internal wall insulation at lower ground floor and address ongoing damp issues
- Update loft insulation and address areas of water ingress
- ASHP in rear garden

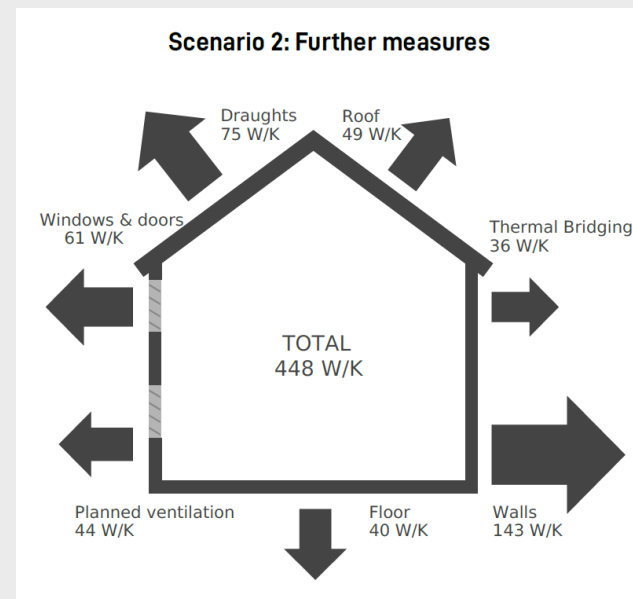
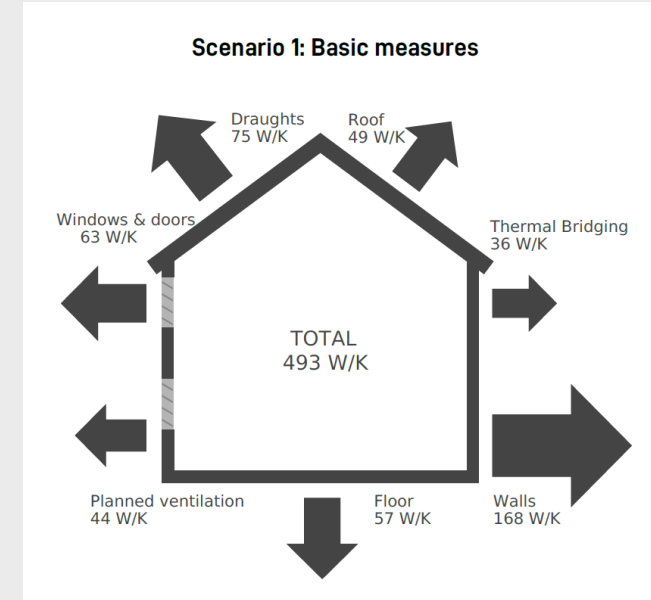
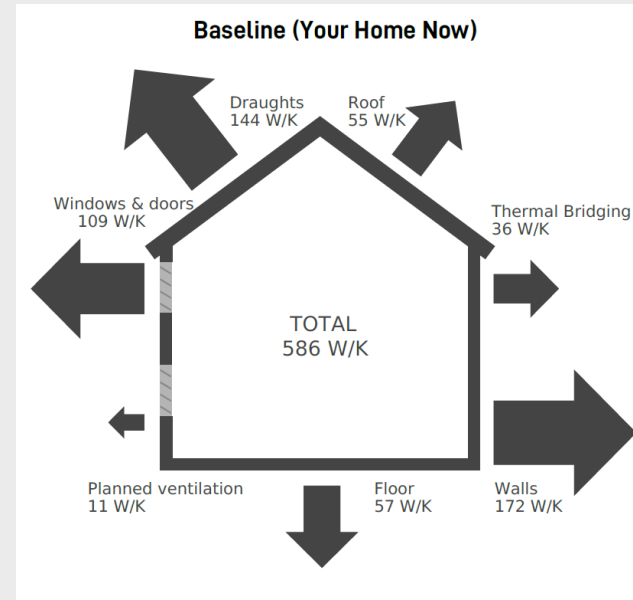
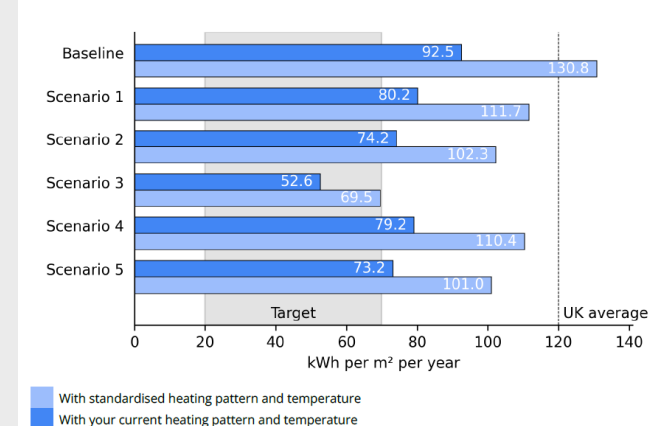


Figure 3. Space heating demand (kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-year)



# Just Transition Plan for the London Borough of Newham

APSE Southern Region

January 2025

Andrew Kemp – Senior Climate Action Programme Manager



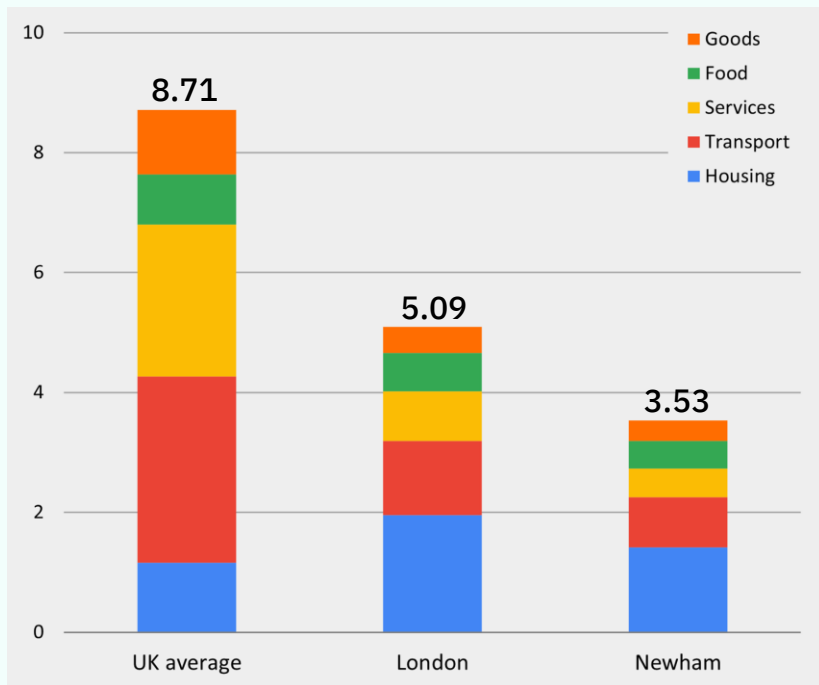
# Why is a Just Transition Plan necessary in Newham?

## Thousands join miners protest in Warsaw against coal power plant closures

JAN 10, 2025 | ENERGY & CLIMATE, POLITICS, SOCIETY



# Newham's residents pollute less than the UK average



**Consumption emissions measure the emissions that result from the production and distribution of goods and services to end-consumers living in the borough.**

Newham recorded 3.53 kt CO<sub>2</sub>e per resident in 2020, representing the **lowest emission per person** when compared to London and UK averages.

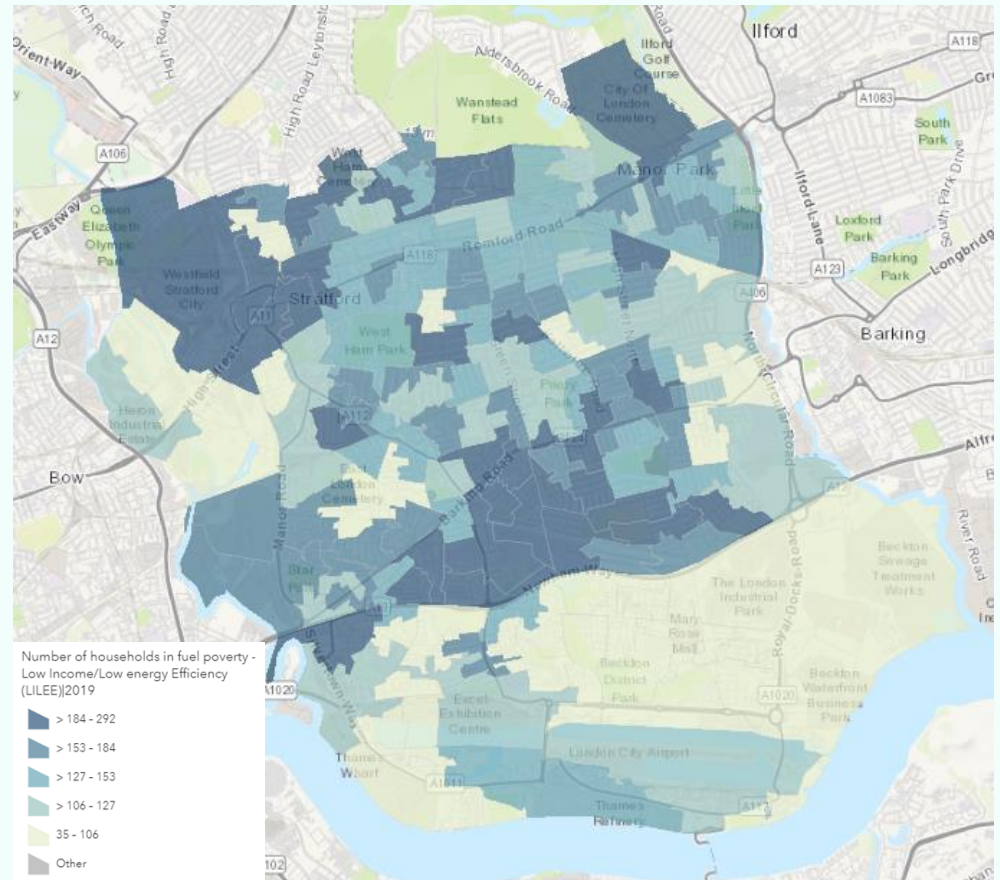


# Fuel poverty is a significant issue in Newham

Do we have secure, sustainable and affordable heating and power in our homes?

This map shows that fuel poverty is particularly pronounced in Canning Town, Plaistow and Stratford.

This indicator in consideration with building stock quality (especially around insulation) also gives an insight into which areas need support.



Number of households experiencing fuel poverty according to English Housing Survey (EHS)

Source:  
London Borough of Newham Deprivation map by LSOA,  
<https://www.newham.info/deprivation/map/>

# The cost of living crisis is hitting Newham's residents hard, and climate inaction will make this even worse

Acting on the climate is often positioned as a cost that shouldn't be imposed on citizens who are already financially stretched.

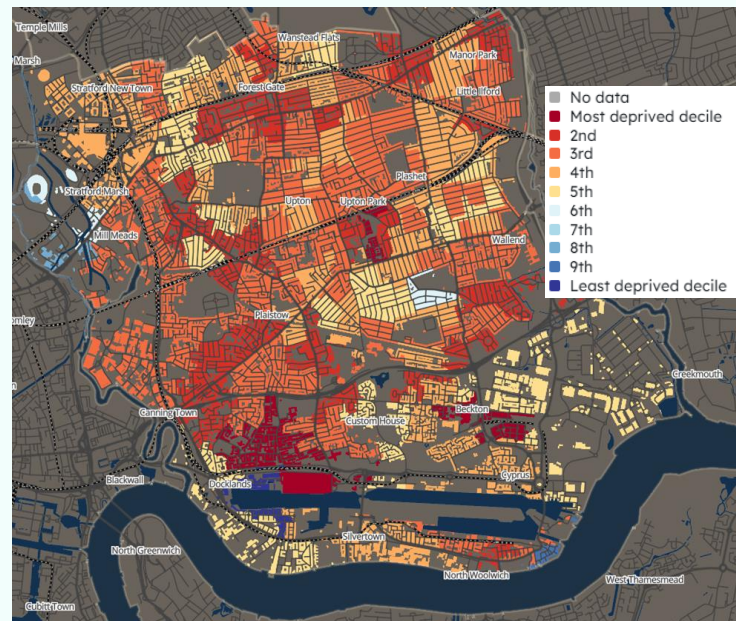
However, there is significant evidence that climate inaction will only increase costs for citizens down the line. For example:

→ **Newham has one of the highest rates of private residential renters in the UK.** Delaying required improvements to home energy efficiency will increase future bills.

→ **Renewable energy is now cheaper than fossil fuels in many cases.**

Delaying the transition to a decarbonised energy system will lock in higher prices for energy in the long term.

→ **Acting on the climate saves future emergency costs for citizens,** such as those associated with extreme heat, flooding, unhealthy housing, etc.



Index of Multiple Deprivation Newham - Income

Source: GDRC Mapmaker

# Climate action in Newham must address the interlinked challenges faced by residents and workers

## Health and wellbeing

Newham residents experience the highest rates of death attributable to air pollution in London (1/7 deaths in 2019).

According to a 2020 British Heart Foundation study, Newham has the worst levels of fine particulate matter pollution (PM 2.5) in the whole of the UK.

726 people in Newham died of Covid-19 between March 2020 and April 2021. Newham's mortality rate was more than double England's average.

## Essential Services

Some 35.5 percent of all homes in Newham are now owned by private property owners. Average rent represents 65% of average wages, compared to 30% across the UK.

Newham has the highest number of households in temporary and non-secure housing in the UK.

Over two thirds of Newham residents are worried about being a victim of crime.

## Economic Prosperity

1 in 2 children in the borough live in poverty.

Over a quarter of Newham residents are paid below the London Living wage. After housing costs, almost half of Newham residents live in poverty.

A quarter of Newham neighbourhoods are in the 20% of most deprived neighbourhoods in the country.

## Planetary Boundaries

Newham is among six London boroughs particularly exposed to extreme flood and overheating risks relating to climate change.

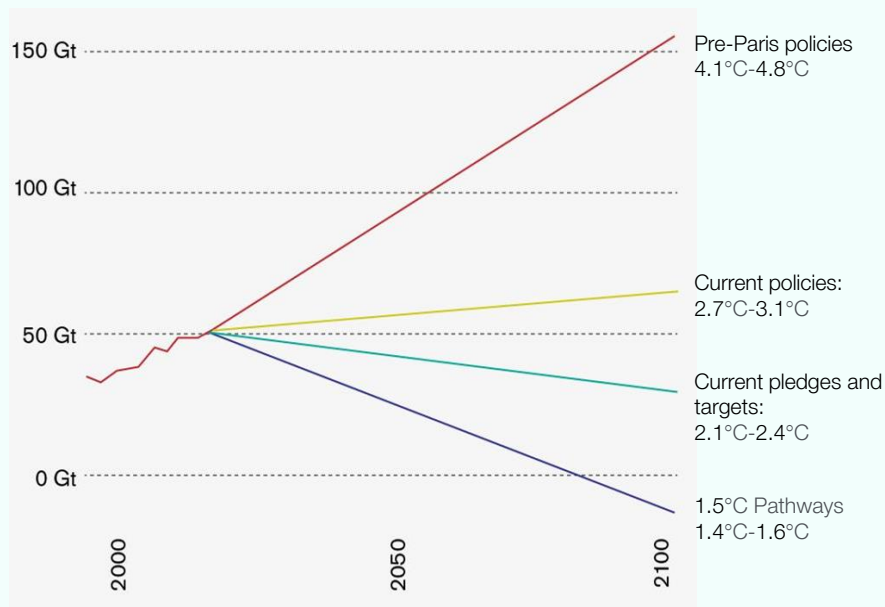
There were 41 callouts to grass fires in Newham during the July 2022 heatwaves: three times as many as in the same month in 2021.

# Climate stress is an intersectional issue

A person's experience of climate change risks, impacts in their neighbourhood, and the benefits of this Just Transition Plan depend on their identities and privileges (or lack thereof). A Just Transition should meet people where they are at to relieve deprivation, manage existing vulnerabilities, and distribute benefits to those who need it most. The following is a sample of the intersectional considerations that inform this Just Transition Plan and any future climate-related policy and planning in Newham.

	<b>Impacted group(s)</b>	<b>Potential climate risk stressors</b>
<b>Income level</b>	In 2021, 23.5% of residents were estimated to be earning below the Living Wage.	The average cost of flooding damage to a home is £30,000, and £82,000 for a business.
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Residents are predominantly Asian (42%), where up to 8% of residents report limited fluency in English.	People of colour are four times more likely to live in areas at high risk of heatwaves. Newham has the second-highest number of at-risk neighbourhoods in the UK.
<b>Seniority</b>	Over 65s represent 7.3% of the population.	Elderly individuals are more susceptible to heat stress and less accessible for emergency communications.
<b>Youth &amp; children</b>	People under the age of 16 represent 20.1% of the resident population.	Extreme weather events can lead to school closures and disruptions in education.

# UK policies are currently not on track to tackle the climate crisis and limit warming to 1.5°C



Global greenhouse gas emissions  
in gigatonnes CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. per year

In 2023, we have already exceeded six of nine interlinked planetary boundaries, which represent the safe operating space for humanity.

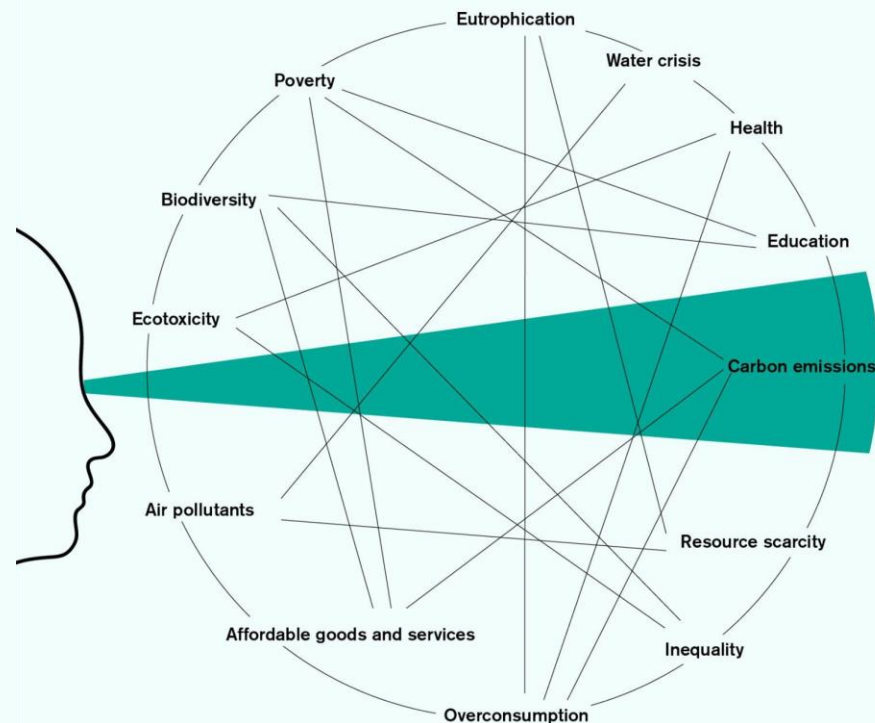
Delivering on even our most ambitious climate pledges will lead to massive impacts for people in Britain and across the world.

Even if we meet our climate pledges, we will still see significant climate change risks and impacts for Newham's 350,000 citizens, 120,000 households and 14,000 businesses.

# We must avoid 'carbon tunnel vision', and recognise the polycrises linked to climate change.

The case for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and the means by which to do so, are familiar, albeit difficult. But the climate emergency comprises a range of factors that impact human and nonhuman life and environments across the globe. Meaningful climate action needs to look beyond 'carbon tunnel vision'.

In attempting to address the climate emergency holistically, Newham can initiate its Just Transition.



# Climate change compounds poverty and structural disadvantage

This moment calls for a long-term and systemic view to address the personal, social and environmental factors that determine the way that climate change will affect people, communities, and places. The combination of these factors makes a strong case for solutions that integrate equity considerations into climate change policy, and vice versa: building climate into our understanding of other areas of governance.

## **Five main forms of climate injustice have been identified in the UK:**

- Lower-income and other disadvantaged groups contribute least to climate change; but are likely to be the most impacted by it
- These communities pay, as a proportion of income, the most towards implementing climate policy responses; but benefit least from these policies
- Their voices tend to go unheard in decision-making

## **The time to act is now**

Now is an opportune moment to reconsider how we position climate goals relative to the economy in the decades to come. In financial terms, as well as in terms of justice, the cost of action will only increase over time.

People of colour in the UK are four times as likely to live in areas at high risk of dangerous heat.

Source: Friends of the Earth

# Our Just Transition Plan



# What is a Just Transition?

"It isn't just about cutting CO2 emissions: it's about creating a better city for Londoners. It means making homes efficient and warm, tackling fuel poverty and the cost-of-living crisis. It means making neighbourhoods more liveable and walkable, with vibrant local high streets and less traffic pollution, reducing health inequalities. It means good, green jobs with decent wages and conditions."

London Sustainable Development Commission, *London's Just Transition*; London City Hall

# Why do we need a Just Transition?

- **We deserve a fairer Newham:** a Just Transition means increasing equality, improving health for our residents and providing opportunities for work and education.
- **Newham is vulnerable:** Our residents and businesses have already suffered from extreme weather events, fuel poverty and soaring living costs.
- **We need to be future ready:** Even small changes to the climate will lead to increased costs of living, migration pressures, and unpredictability and scarcity of supplies, such as food.



# How does the Just Transition plan work?

## 3 Principles



Increasing equity



Reducing emissions



Future-readiness

## 6 Futures



Our homes, workplaces and schools are comfortable, healthy and efficient



Our energy system is resilient, equitable and not dependent on fossil fuels



We prefer to walk, cycle or use public transport and goods are safely moved without polluting our streets



We increase sharing and reduce waste building a sharing and circular economy



We eat well and sustainably



Our neighbourhoods are resilient, connected and green

## 5 Enablers



Growing the Council's Climate Action capacity and effectiveness



Targeting and increasing investment



Partnering with Newham's Anchor Institutions



Enabling civic and place-based action



Working beyond Newham's borders

## 3 Principles

# Three principles shape this plan.



## Increasing equity

- Addressing the unequal impacts of the climate emergency by taking on the inherited imbalance of power
- Leveraging the Just Transition to improve the employment opportunities, living conditions, health and wellbeing of all Newham residents



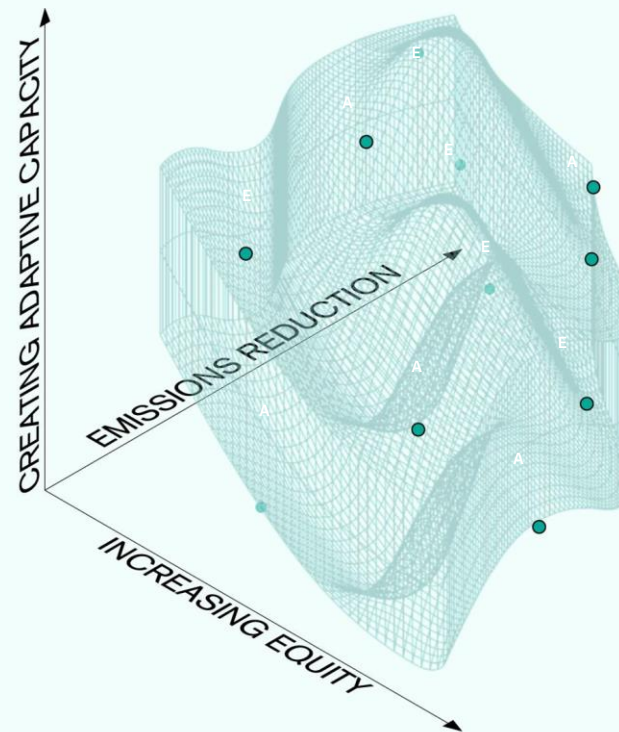
## Reducing emissions

- Accelerating our pathway to net zero within Newham and via the supply chains it engages
- In doing so, we will reduce the externalities associated with resource extraction and economic growth, reflecting a shift in our collective understanding of value



## Future-readiness


- Building Newham's physical, social and organisational capacity, to absorb, adapt and respond to the negative stresses and shocks associated with the climate emergency
- Growing the presence of care across our economies





## 6 Futures


## Newham will be a place where:


**F1**  Our homes, workplaces and schools are comfortable, healthy and efficient

**F2**  Our energy system is resilient, equitable and not dependent on fossil fuels

**F3**  We prefer to walk, cycle or use public transport and goods are safely moved without polluting our streets

**F4**  We increase sharing and reduce waste building a sharing and circular economy






**F5**  We eat well and sustainably

**F6**  Our neighbourhoods are resilient, connected and green

# What does this look like in practice?

## 5 Enablers

# We will do this by:

- E1**  Growing the Council's Climate Action capacity and effectiveness
- E2**  Targeting and increasing investment
- E3**  Partnering with Newham's Anchor Institutions
- E4**  Enabling civic and place-based action
- E5**  Working beyond Newham's borders

# Growing the Council's Climate Action capacity and effectiveness

- **Ensure timelines and targets reflect the urgency of the Just Transition:** Prioritising according to local needs and making data-supported decisions.
- **A 'hub and spokes' Just Transition team:** Coordinating and leading a Climate Action Delivery Group of colleagues from various teams across the council; coordinating projects and acting as a bridge between teams and external partners; training over 350 council employees
- **Enhanced governance infrastructure:** Updating procurement frameworks and policies; integrating Just Transition into internal decisions and reports; establishing legal precedents in community energy and other innovative programmes



# Targeting and increasing investment

- **Annual Carbon Budgeting:** Identifying carbon trajectory through planned projects and programmes; prioritising according to greatest areas of need and potential gains.
- **Exploration of borough-wide carbon insetting:** Working with developers and the planning team.
- **Newham Just Transition Fund: philanthropic and external partnering:** Ensuring that the council is best placed to make use of grant funding opportunities by securing the internal support and resources for feasibility studies, strategies and other important preliminary work.

# Partnering with Newham's Anchor Institutions

→ **Implementing a Newham Climate Contract with partners:** Royal Docks Climate Agreement

→ **Just Transition business, skills and supply chain programmes:** Collaborating with skills providers; Green Economy Lead; building green skills into Carbon Offset Fund delivery

→ **Working with universities and educational institutions:** Offering placements in the team; research; project delivery; co-creating modules for students; strong focus on working closely with schools

# Enabling civic and place-based action

→ **Citizens Participation embedded across all actions:** UEL research on barriers to climate action for residents and businesses; working with VCFS groups; co-design as a priority

→ **Future-ready Neighbourhoods:** Net Zero Neighbourhoods programme; pocket forest programme; exploring Nature Based Solutions using AI technology

→ **Driving strategic and enabling works:** Ensuring that the council is best placed to make use of grant funding opportunities by securing the internal support and resources for feasibility studies, strategies and other important preliminary work.

# Working beyond Newham's borders

→ **Next-generation Local Authority cross-borough partnerships:** Exploring cross-borough heat network opportunities in East London

→ **Building a London-wide Just Transition innovation coalition:** Working with Newham-based institutions with London-wide footprints; Royal Docks Climate Agreement; Just Transition university courses

→ **A climate campaigning council:** Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance; leading on community energy; participating in various multiborough networks; student council conferences