

Appendix A – Background Information

Lambeth Council has declared a climate emergency. As part of the response to this, the council has committed to ensuring that its operations become carbon neutral. Lambeth has also committed to facilitate a borough-wide approach to reach carbon neutrality, and to improve the borough's resilience to the impacts of climate change.

A major part of that work will be tackling emissions from buildings, which according to the SCATTER tool, were approximately 800ktCO₂e for the whole of Lambeth in 2017. Of that carbon footprint, emissions from natural gas were the largest source, and taken together, heating of space and water is the largest source of emissions in the borough.

Lambeth is in the process of developing a decarbonisation strategy for energy in buildings as part of a local area energy plan. To inform that strategy, Lambeth is commissioning technical research to profile domestic and commercial heat demand, options to reduce demand, and options to meet demand through low carbon heat technologies. This research should enable teams across the council that work directly or indirectly on heat to move to feasibility studies of infrastructure and measures to reduce carbon emissions, in particular, by identifying high confidence and quick win interventions. The research should also give Lambeth Council a good picture of the capital costs and carbon reduction potential associated with the measures reviewed. While the research should take into account the wider energy system as it is likely to develop over the next decade, the research should, where possible, remain policy neutral, and financing and policy tools needed to implement the identified measures are, unless identified in the specification, outside the scope of the research.

As Lambeth would like this research to inform the development of a local area energy plan that is both deliverable, and has the support of key stakeholders, Lambeth will look to establish an expert external advisory group, including representative from BEIS, the GLA and the energy sector, to help guide the research and take forward its recommendations. The authors will be expected to take into account the views of this advisory group.