

MAYOR OF LONDON

RETROFIT ACCELERATOR – WORKPLACES THE NEW NAME FOR RE:FIT LONDON NEWSLETTER SPRING 2020



The Mayor's Energy for Londoners initiative is designed to make **London's workplaces more energy efficient and London's homes warm, healthy and affordable.** To align the two main Energy for Londoners programmes RE:FIT London has been renamed Retrofit Accelerator – Workplaces and RE:NEW has been succeeded by Retrofit Accelerator – Homes. The Retrofit Accelerator – Workplaces procurement framework of service providers will continue to be known as the National RE:FIT Framework.

Climate action gathers pace

In recent months, we have seen 14.7 million acres of Australian land burn, with 480 million animals perishing across New South Wales alone. Greta Thunberg has challenged international politicians and business leaders at the World Economic Forum in Davos, while Sir David Attenborough spoke on behalf of the British government at the UK Climate Change Conference declaring that 2020 would be the year of action!

Climate action is certainly gathering pace. Since October last year eight more London Boroughs have declared climate emergencies meaning 29 out of 33 boroughs are now committed to net zero. New diesel taxis are no longer being licensed in London and the NHS has set up the Net Zero Expert Panel to accelerate its decarbonisation.

The private sector is getting on board too! Telecommunications giant O2 has pledged to achieve net-zero across its entire business and mobile network by 2025 and become the UK's first net-zero mobile network provider. The Royal Bank of Scotland has announced an end to funding coal, oil and gas businesses not transitioning to net zero carbon; and EY has committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2020.

Do you need support with climate action?

The Retrofit Accelerator – Workplaces team is ready and willing to support you with fully funded start-to-finish consultancy and guaranteed carbon savings. If you would like more information, please contact RetrofitAccelerator@london.gov.uk



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NHS

NHS Chief Sir Simon Stevens announced the NHS and its staff will be taking action to tackle the climate “health emergency” which is helping to prevent illness, reduce pressure on A&E and saving tens of thousands of lives. This initiative follows the launch of the Climate Assembly UK which discusses how the country can reach net zero.

The NHS faces huge barriers, not least, clinical priorities and lack of funding and resources. Retrofit Accelerator - Workplaces undertook some research in November last year in a special research project produced in partnership with NHS Improvement & NHS England. [For the full report click here.](#)

The health care system in England is responsible for 4-5% of the country’s emissions. Air pollution is linked to killer conditions like heart disease, stroke, and lung cancer which contribute around 36,000 deaths annually. **By working closely with Retrofit Accelerator - Workplaces London hospitals are saving energy, carbon as well as cash to reinvest it in patient care.**

The journey to achieving net zero can yield double benefit to the NHS. Money saved from energy reduction can be put back into the system to address the clinical and resource issues currently faced and with London’s cleaner air, NHS doctors will be able to breathe a sigh of relief.

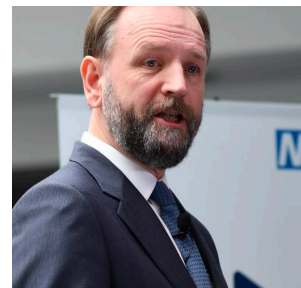
Currently the Retrofit Accelerator programme is working closely with 12 NHS Trusts and Simon Corben, Director and Head of Profession NHS Estates and Facilities is urging other trusts to follow suit and work with Retrofit Accelerator. **South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust** are taking action with plans to install LED lighting, renewable energy, BMS controls and backlog maintenance work across their Maudsley and Bethlem sites. Similarly **Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust** are progressing with an LED replacement scheme across Lewisham and Queen Elizabeth sites which will save over 430 tonnes of CO2 per year. Ameresco are currently in the process of developing an IGP which will be ready for approval in Spring.

Universities

By spring 2020, University College London (UCL) will have replaced all single-use plastics from the delivered hospitality service with reusable crockery, cutlery and serving trays. This will save half a million disposables annually. It is good universities are taking this seriously and brilliant initiatives like this are making a positive impact.

UK universities are world renowned centres of academic excellence, pioneers of research, science and technology, yet most are failing to stay on track to achieve carbon footprint reduction targets. Out of 154 UK universities ranked on sustainable development, only a third are on track to meet carbon reduction targets by 2020. This data should be a “wake-up call to vice-chancellors who think the HE sector is doing enough to help combat climate change”, said Iain Patton, chief executive of EAUC – The Alliance for Sustainability Leadership in Education.

With the support of Retrofit Accelerator, **London Metropolitan University** was able to cash in early on 2020 reduction targets. LMU installed multiple energy saving measures including a roof mounted solar PV system. LMU had a small team and the additional support Retrofit Accelerator - Workplaces provided helped to push the project through. LMU reduced its carbon footprint in the first year by 340 tonnes of CO2, approximately 85 tonnes of CO2 per home, and have recently been awarded a plaque to commemorate their energy saving success (made possible by the Retrofit Accelerator - Workplaces programme).



Sir Simon Stevens
Chief Executive, NHS

RETROFIT ACCELERATOR - WORKPLACES



University College London



Zanda Pipira, LMU and
Angelos Vouros,
Retrofit Accelerator



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London Boroughs

Following up its declaration of a climate emergency, **London Borough of Barking & Dagenham** is working with Retrofit Accelerator to develop a borough wide retrofit project to start its journey towards net zero. The project is exploring the corporate estate, social housing, EV charging and renewables.

31 London boroughs gathered at the GLA's invitation for the **London Boroughs Climate Emergency Workshop** on 26 February 2020. Retrofit was a key topic as strategies to accelerate action to achieve net zero were discussed.

The Retrofit Accelerator – Workplaces team is ready and willing to support London Boroughs with fully funded start-to-finish consultancy and guaranteed carbon savings. If you would like more information, please contact RetrofitAccelerator@london.gov.uk



Retrofit Accelerator – Workplaces Update

The key achievements of the programme since 2009:

>220

PUBLIC SECTOR ORGANISATIONS
PARTICIPATING

£9m

PUBLIC SECTOR COSTS
SAVED EACH YEAR

>745

BUILDINGS SUPPORTED
FOR RETROFIT

>£130m

TOTAL INVESTMENT IN
RETROFIT PROJECTS

105m

kWh OF ENERGY
SAVED EACH YEAR

>36k

TONNES OF CO₂
SAVED EACH YEAR

A new iteration of the RE:FIT Framework to run from 2020 to 2024, is being procured and will be launched before the current framework expires on the 20th of April 2020. This overlap will enable a smooth transition between the two frameworks.

Thanks to support from the GLA and the European Regional Development Fund, Retrofit Accelerator – Workplaces' fully funded expert services will continue into 2022.

For more information on the articles in this newsletter and how Retrofit Accelerator can support your energy efficiency and energy generation projects please email RetrofitAccelerator@london.gov.uk



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Mayor of London launches £3.6m fund to create ultra-low carbon homes

Mayor Sadiq Khan has launched a new £3.6 million programme to help transform London's ageing and energy-inefficient housing to create warm, affordable and ultra-low carbon homes. The latest funding is part of the Mayor's Energy for Londoners programme to help London become a net zero carbon city. Under the programme, local authorities and housing associations will benefit from expert advice and guidance on large-scale deep whole-house retrofit projects.

Deep whole-house retrofit transforms a home in one step, instead of making a series of incremental improvements over a long period of time. It takes a holistic approach to the property, aiming to improve the 'building fabric' (walls, windows, floors and roofs), the heating system and to install renewable energy where possible (such as heat pumps and solar panels).

Sadiq Khan commented: "We are in the midst of a climate emergency which poses a threat to our planet and we can no longer delay the urgent action that is needed to address it. London's ageing and energy inefficient homes are responsible for around one third of the capital's greenhouse gas emissions and urgently need to be refitted."

Retrofit Accelerator - Homes provides financial support for public sector housing organisations to engage in deep whole-house retrofit programmes which reduce domestic carbon emissions by at least 60%. If you would like more information, please contact RetrofitAccelerator@london.gov.uk



Private sector joins decarbonisation drive

It's become clear the public sector alone can't substantially reduce the risk of catastrophic climate change. With constraints on public sector finances, the commitment of the private sector is widely agreed to be necessary if climate funding is to shift from billions to trillions of pounds and achieve the 2015 Paris Agreement's ambition of net zero by 2050. While many private sector players have supported the 2050 targets, support is no longer enough. There is however evidence of real commitment to change, with many private sector leaders raising their sustainability game.

EY is the first of the Big Four professional service firms to announce plans to go carbon neutral globally. And by the end of 2020, by both reducing and offsetting its carbon emissions. Volkswagen is the first big car maker to drive green and electric initiatives. Volkswagen's chief executive has pledged to employ a young climate campaigner to challenge the company's environmental policies aggressively.



In fact, many of the world's largest firms are aware of the risk that climate change poses to their business models. Coca Cola is concerned that water shortages will threaten its bottling operations, and Walt Disney worries holiday makers will avoid sweltering theme parks as temperatures rise.

The public sector is no longer alone in doing the right thing for our planet!

For further information please contact:

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