

# Southwark Green Investment

Cllr Emily Hickson  
Deputy Cabinet Member, Green  
Finance



# Southwark Green Finance

The council has declared a climate emergency and committed to doing all it can to make the borough carbon neutral by 2030.

Our climate emergency strategy will require considerable central government investment, but needs to consider other sources of income.

Southwark Council's delivery plan commits the council to 'launch Southwark Green Finance, to create new ways for local people and businesses to invest in making our borough net-zero.'

- **£3.92 billion capital costs of the Climate Change Strategy (2021)**



# Introducing Southwark Green Investment

A 'Community Municipal Investment' (CMI) product that will:

- **Raise up to £6million by 2030**

Launch our first £1million tranche this year.

- **Engage residents**

Engage residents and businesses in our climate emergency plan.

- **Pay back a low risk, fixed return of 4.6%.**

**As of Tuesday evening, we'd raised £238,515.**

**What is a community municipal investment (CMI)?**

Regulated investment products launched by Councils to access cost-effective funding for specific decarbonisation projects, offering local people an opportunity to invest in their area in a way similar to crowdfunding and to make a return from doing so.

**Key details:**

- **This is (cheaper) debt, not new income. We are borrowing from residents.**
- **Fundraising round open for 3 months**
- **Investments are for a 5 year term**
- **Hosted by Abundance Investors**
- **Investors can be local residents, charities, endowments, businesses, as well as general users of the Abundance Investment platform.**

# Benefits of a CMI

- **Simple**

Raise funds through crowdfunding platform directly from the public, who can invest as little as £5.

- **Responsible**

Provides a saving for the council vs them borrowing elsewhere. Investors can decide to donate back interest to council.

- **Proven**

Nine councils have issued thus far, including West Berkshire, Warrington, Islington, and Lewisham.



# Projects

## What will we spend this money on?

- **School retrofit**

Install air source heat pumps in sports hall at Brunswick Park Primary School.

- **Cycle hangars**

Expand cycle hangar programme

- **LED street lighting**

Speed up rollout, leading to significant emissions reductions.

- **Energy efficiency at 6 Leisure Centres**

Improved management systems, covering lighting, heating, cooling and ventilation.



# Guided by a Green Finance Framework

Our Southwark Green Finance Framework guides all our current and future projects funded by Southwark Green Investment.

Investors will receive updates every 6 months, detailing progress in terms of implementation and emissions reductions.



# Why is this relevant for business?



- **Alternative Investment** – for those businesses who make investments as part of their core operation or through their financing arm, this is a safe, long term investment at an attractive return, whilst aligning fully with any ESG or local investing strategies.
- **Alternative way to give small grant / donation to community projects** – consider donating your interest payments as a direct grant to local community projects, whilst receiving your original capital back in 5 years.

# How can you get involved?

- **Consider investing**

Make sure you follow Southwark Council's social media channels or sign up to our resident newsletter to get all the details on launch day.

- **Questions**

Get in touch with Cllr Emily Hickson, Deputy Cabinet Member for Green Finance  
[emily.hickson@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:emily.hickson@southwark.gov.uk)

- **Share**

Help us spread the word to any relevant groups or residents you think might be interested to find out more!