



Climate Action Strategy

2020-2027

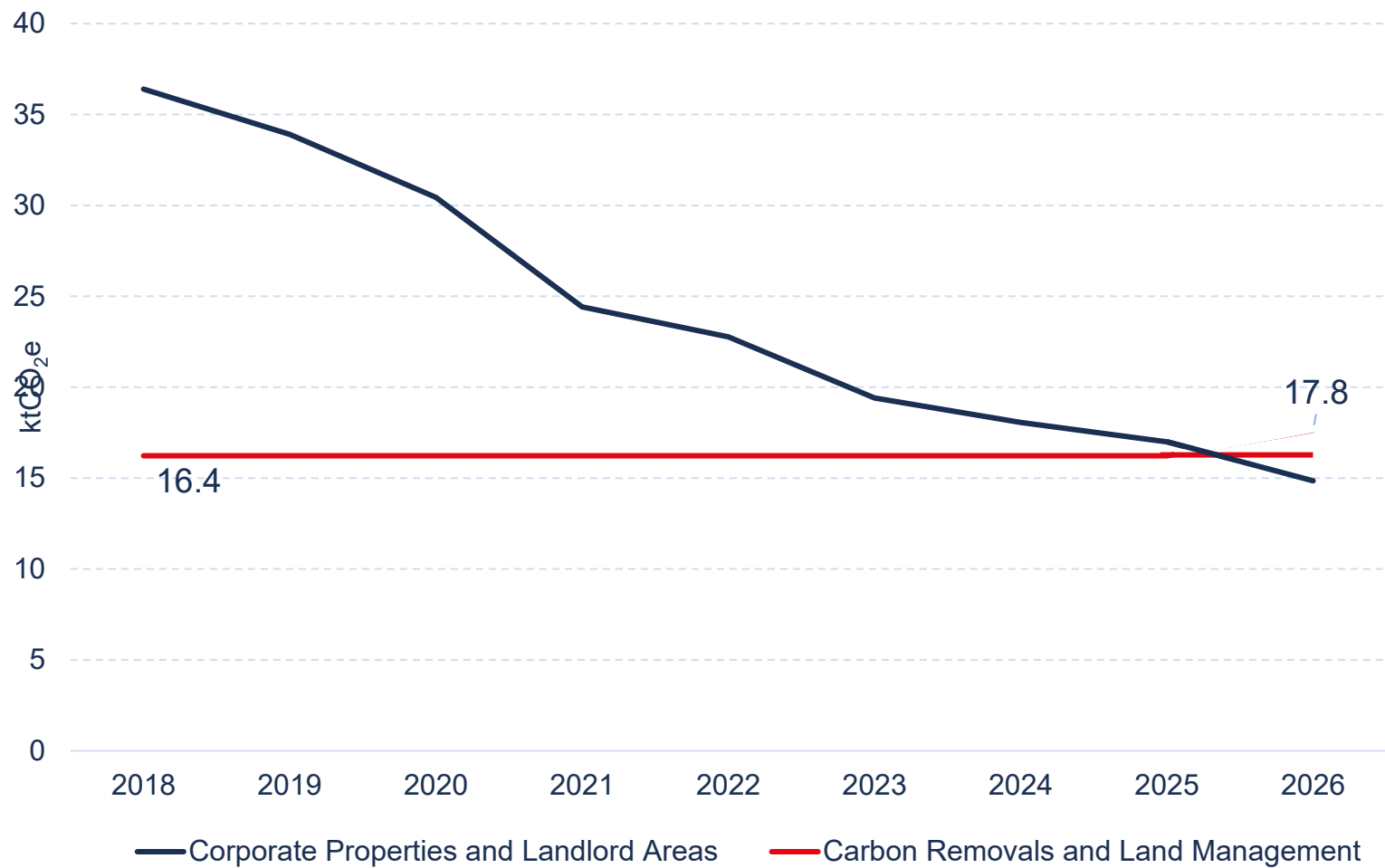
Carbon Removals Project

Current Status

Net Zero by 2027

Emissions (1&2)
are balanced by
Removals
from Open Spaces

Open Spaces
carbon
sequestration
baseline
16.4kt +/- 20-50%



Project History – April 2020-August 2022

Feasibility Study 1

- High-level; affected by Covid-19 restrictions
- Concluded sequestration increase potential: 6-10kt

Feasibility Study 2

- More detailed; Site and opportunity-specific; forecasted
- Identified sequestration increase potential <0.5 kt 2027, >0.5 kt 2040
- Created 6 month delay to project
- Externally reviewed

Project History: April 2020-August 2022 (in progress)



Pr



Of



Now the seed is sown the wild flowers will start appearing in summer 2022.

➤ Converting Feasibility Study 2 into revised project proposal for P&R

Project Risk & Issues

Site & Timeline Constraints

- SAC, SSSI, NNRs, SMs, RPGs, SMINC, SNCIs
- Limited opportunities
- Lag period in sequestration increase

Threat to Existing Sequestration Capacity

- Extreme weather, wildfires, pests and diseases

Staffing Resource

- Unsuccessful recruitment for PM

Project Revision

Original - 2020	Revised – Autumn 2022
Target 6-10kt sequestration increase	Revised potential increase <1 kt
Original budget: £3.67m	Proposed budget: £3.67m or less
Aim: Increase carbon sequestration with biodiversity and ecosystem service enhancements	<p>Aim: A lower increase carbon sequestration with biodiversity and ecosystem service enhancements</p> <p>Investigate how to protect existing sequestration</p>
High-level suggestions: pollarding, coppicing, grassland management, biochar	Specific opportunities: arable reversion, engagement opportunities, cessation of amenity mowing, woodland/wood-pasture expansion

Project Proposal – For Committee Review

- Retain Carbon Removals project
- Revise Scope
- Deliver Identified Opportunities Early
- Seek external income/funding to reduce call on budget
- Explore purchase of land
- Split budget between delivery and protection of existing sequestration
- Commit sufficient staffing resource

Carbon Removal – Preview of Recommended Opportunities

- Copped Hall – Arable Reversion
- Copped Hall – Wood pasture creation & Parkland restoration
- Hampstead Heath & Queen's Park – Cessation amenity mowing
- Hampstead Heath & Coulsdon Common – Woodland expansion
- West Ham Park & Queen's Park – Hedgerow creation
- Hampstead Heath – Reedbed creation
- Other – tree planting, heathland creation, pollarding study/pilot

Carbon Removals – Next Steps

Site	Actions	Risks
Patmore's	Establishment Pond creation	
Copped Hall	Wood pasture, tree planting & access plan Stakeholder engagement Site baselining Arable reversion Fencing for tree planting and natural regeneration	Stakeholder reaction Historic England
West Ham Park	Stage 1 hedge restoration	Insufficient carbon sequestration return
Project Monitoring	Phase 2 Project Monitoring Plan and deliver Phase 3 Project Monitoring Plan and tender	Insufficient budget
Phase 3 Plans	Site selection Detailed site plans Committee approval Tender works	Costs of works exceed budget
Recruitment	Recruit to Carbon Removals Project Team	Capacity of existing cover Insufficient applications

Carbon Removals – Next Steps

- **Report to Committees – If approved:**
- Winter 22/23 - Project Manager Recruitment/Staffing needs resourced
- Spring 23
 - Tender Phase 2 land management works
 - Tender Phase 2 consultancy needs
 - CSS grant application
- Summer 23
 - Baseline sites
 - Cessation of amenity mowing
 - Protection of existing sequestration capacity work
- Autumn 23 – Copped Hall arable reversion
- Winter 23/24 – Hedgerow creation
- 2024-2027
 - Delivery of Phase 3
 - Monitoring of sites