

Phase One Summary Report: 2023-2025

Started in 2022, South Kensington Zero Emissions (ZE) Nature Positive (N+) is an innovative collective response to the climate and biodiversity crisis in our neighbourhood. The aims of South Ken ZEN+ are to:




Amplify the world-leading progress already happening across our network

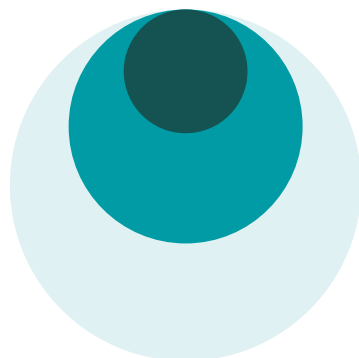
Accelerate collective action through greater collaboration

Exemplify what is possible when we join forces

Inspire transformational change

Our momentum model

-  **A powerhouse partnership** – demonstrating a place-based approach at scale
-  **Leveraging collective action** – creating the conditions for others to act or increase impact
-  **Acting as a catalyst** that triggers wider change, unlocking and enabling new opportunities



South Ken ZEN+ is a **powerhouse partnership** for change, demonstrating a place-based approach at scale.

±700

days of member engagement between 2022 and 2025, through workshops, round-tables and events.



“ By building confidence together, by talking to our neighbours and sharing lessons learned, we can really be bold.”

“ We’re all moving at different rates, but coming together in one hub to share learning and experience is invaluable.”

“ The sense of mutual challenge in the company of trusted friends has really helped us lift our ambitions and keep our promises to ourselves and our trustees.”

Our partnership approach brings together world-leading institutions, creative minds and communities to work towards a greener future.



45+ local case studies showcased on our website



Regular newsletter connecting partners



Fostering local partnerships e.g. the Dye Garden



Collaborating with local communities e.g. the 'Decision Tree' project



Initiating Citizen Science projects e.g. the Planters project



200+ people from 22 organisations regularly involved



100+ local employers, charities, educational organisations & community groups reached



20,000 people engaged locally in climate change issues

South Ken ZEN+ **leverages collective action**, building momentum and creating the conditions for others to act or increase impact.



“ A hub of brilliant minds – by tapping into that and learning from each other, there’s real power in collaboration.”

“ South Ken ZEN+ is a lightning-rod – pulling us together, inspiring momentum and shared learning.”

We develop strategic collaborations that unlock additional funding, drive innovation and influence systems beyond South Kensington.



±4,800 hours of time contributed since 2022 (equivalent to ±£250,000)



£370k in additional grants secured for joint projects so far



15 organisations continue to participate in collective Emissions reporting



Neighbourhood Heat & Energy Project is equipping members for a decarbonised future



9 members have ratified the South Ken ZEN+ Supply Chain Charter so far



South Kensington Biodiversity Baseline & Action Plan compiled & delivered



Greenwashing Guide & training collectively developed



Circular Economy Reuse Hub launched in 2024

South Ken ZEN+ **acts as a catalyst** that triggers wider change, unlocking and enabling new opportunities.



Winner of the **Sustainability Impact Award** at the Kensington & Chelsea & Westminster Business Awards, October 2025.



“ The workshop was incredibly timely – seeing what others are doing is so helpful as we start to tackle new aspects of sustainability.”

“ Wherever you look, you see the influence of South Ken ZEN+ in the decisions we make and the actions we take.”

Our capacity-building function is key to helping members accelerate their progress at every stage of their sustainability journey.



60+ people newly trained as Carbon Literate



9 new trainers up-skilled for the network



£5k+ of in-kind training delivered in just 6 months



40+ walking tours delivered leading to 500+ people engaged since 2024



9 members developed their first-ever carbon footprints in 2024



40+ workshops delivered since 2023



4 knowledge-sharing groups established and meeting regularly

“ The ripple effect is real...”

Phase Two: 2026-2030

Zero Emissions

- + Delivering decarbonisation workshops
- + Supporting emissions-reductions projects
- + Driving heat & energy collaborations
- + Convening supply chain & waste initiatives

Capacity-building

- + Delivering training:
 - Carbon literacy, biodiversity literacy, greenwashing, sustainable procurement etc.
- + Arranging round-tables & specialist networking/ knowledge-sharing:
 - Estates, catering, events, retail, education, procurement, biodiversity and more

Nature-Positive

- + Fostering climate resilience – on our own estates and across the neighbourhood
- + Initiating green infrastructure & biodiversity projects
- + Generating local engagement and activism

Climate Advocacy

- + Delivering talks, walks, articles & local engagement projects
- + Showcasing best practice, innovation & case studies
- + Sharing knowledge & lessons beyond South Ken

Since 2022 – every £1 of core funding received by the programme has leveraged at least £1.20 in grants and in-kind support.

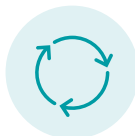
Our programme priorities



**ZERO
EMISSIONS**



**NATURE
POSITIVE**



**CIRCULAR
ECONOMY**



**SUSTAINABLE
TRANSPORT**



Our South Ken ZEN+ Goals

- 01

Become a net-zero neighbourhood before 2040
- 02

Reduce emissions from our operations by [50%] by 2030
- 03

Increase urban green space by [20%] by 2030
- 04

Create a significant net gain in biodiversity and ecological connectivity
- 05

Reduce waste, and recycle at least [75%] of our business waste by 2030
- 06

Increase sustainable and active travel for staff, students, residents and 20m+ visitors
- 07

Make transport for [all] our deliveries and services net-zero by 2040

Square brackets indicate numbers that will be reviewed as more data becomes available in Phase Two 2026-30.

The Exhibition Road Cultural Group

is a long-standing partnership of 22 leading arts and science organisations in London's original cultural district.

The South Ken ZEN+ Programme

empowers us to deploy our world-leading creativity and expertise to reach beyond our individual organisations, and develop a unified approach to achieving our collective net-zero, nature positive goals.

Design Museum	Royal College of Music
Goethe-Institut	Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851
Kensington Palace	Royal Geographical Society
Imperial	Royal Society of Sculptors
Institut français	Science Museum
Ismaili Centre	Serpentine
Japan House London	South Kensington Estates
Natural History Museum	The Royal Parks
Royal Albert Hall	V&A South Kensington
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea	Westminster City Council
Royal Brompton Hospital Trust	
Royal College of Art	

