CASE STUDY

Hornsey Lane Estate Community Association
HLECA

THE COMPANY

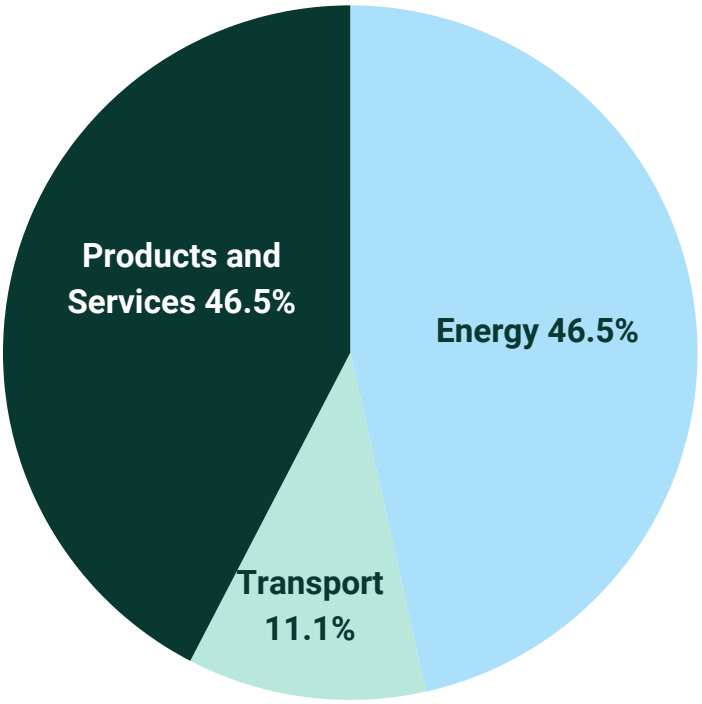
Hornsey Lane Estate Community Association (HLECA) is a community centre that provides full-time nursery care for children aged 5 and under, and out-of-school services for children aged 4-11, both of which have recently been rated outstanding by Ofsted. The centre also provides other support services including employment and senior persons support.

AT A GLANCE

- **£250-500k revenue**
- **11-50 employees**
- **Community support**
- **London Borough of Islington**
- **12.9 tn CO2e in 2022**

CHALLENGES

HLECA's baseline carbon footprint in 2022 was **12.9 tonnes CO2e**, which is equivalent to 18,458 miles driven by an average petrol-powered passenger vehicle. The largest part of the carbon footprint (58%) comes from their energy use.



HLECA's carbon footprint for 2022 (Source: Climate Essentials)

"A big thank you to Better Futures+ for supporting us to look at our carbon footprint and to look at ways to be Net Zero by 2030. We now have an action plan in place"

IRENE WINTER
Centre Manager

SUPPORT PROVIDED

The HLECA team attended a Better Futures+ workshop, a one-to-one session with a specialist advisor and received an on-site energy audit.

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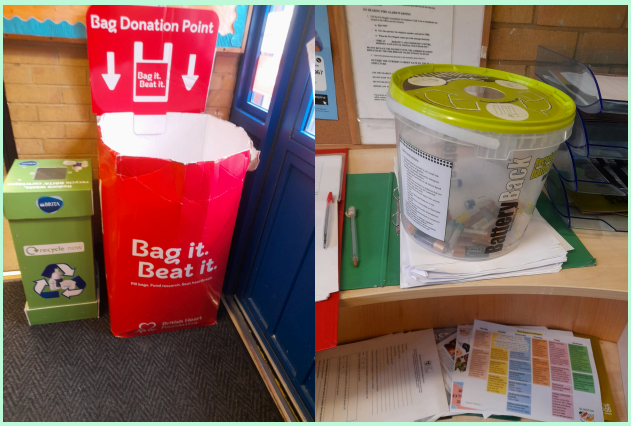
CHANGES

RECYCLING

HLECA have setup a recycling point for the local community where they can recycle clothing, toys, books, videocassettes, games and other small items with the British Heart Foundation. They have also set up bins to recycle other items that are difficult to recycle for households, such as pens, batteries, and Brita water filters.



Recycling bins set up for the community by HLECA.

Through these initiatives, HLECA hope to encourage more recycling in their area and make a positive impact in their local community.

FOOD WASTE

To minimise food waste, HLECA started feeding families with surplus food every week and composting any remaining food waste. By accumulating food donations, they saved an estimated 2,385 kg CO2e at their 2022 Christmas event alone. This is calculated by estimating the embodied carbon emissions generated when producing the food such as from farming, processing and transporting. Food waste in the UK is responsible for 25 Mt of CO2e (WRAP), using surplus food for meals is a great way to go towards reducing reduce this appalling wastage.

Pictures inside the community centre

ENERGY

HLECA received an on-site energy audit and advice on how to improve their building's Energy Performance Certificate (EPC). The recommendations suggested four options to decarbonise the community centre and improve their rating: replacing all single-glazed windows with double glazing; replacing all Halogen lights with LEDs saving 6.2 tonnes CO2e annually; replacing their inefficient gas boiler with Electric Fanned Room Heaters or Split Air Conditioning; and installing solar panels on the building's roof. By making these changes, HLECA could improve their rating from a D to a B. They are currently in discussions with their landlord and looking into different funding avenues for the recommendations above.

COMMITMENT

HLECA have plans to become Net Zero by 2030.