



## THE GREEN GENIE

## All your green questions answered

**Q: I saw in the news that China has announced they will no longer accept plastics for recycling from overseas. Does this mean the plastic I put in my recycling will get sent to landfill now?**

**A:** Hackney's recycling gets sorted at two material recovery facilities in Edmonton and Bow, along with six other London boroughs. These facilities send almost all their plastics to UK reprocessors, so the Chinese restrictions are not expected to affect Hackney's plastic recycling. The most important thing is to make sure you only put plastic bottles, tubs and trays in the recycling. Some other plastics, including plastic film, bags and wraps cannot be recycled.

You can now RECYCLE all of these PLASTICS from around the home



## MORE INFO

To ask the Genie a question, e-mail: [recycling@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:recycling@hackney.gov.uk), or write to: **Green Genie, Communications, Hackney Town Hall, Mare Street, E8 1EA**. For more information on recycling in the borough call: **020 8356 6688**, or visit: [www.hackney.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.hackney.gov.uk/recycling)



Have your say on a consultation to help reduce pollution by banning high emission vehicles in two zones in Shoreditch



## Low-emission zone

**H**ACKNEY and Islington councils are consulting on a scheme which could see all but the cleanest vehicles banned from two zones in Shoreditch.

The scheme would mean that petrol, diesel and older hybrid vehicles would not be allowed to enter nine streets during the peak commuter periods of 7am to 10am and 4pm to 7pm, Monday to Friday.

Ultra low emission vehicles like electric cars, e-bikes, the newest hybrids and hydrogen vehicles, as

“The streets around Shoreditch suffer from some of the worst air quality in London”

well as pedestrians and cyclists, will be allowed.

Cllr Feryal Demirci, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Transport and Parks, said: “The streets around Shoreditch suffer from some of the worst air quality in London. Ultra low emission streets will have reduced levels of air and noise pollution, make

it easier and safer to walk and cycle and improve the character of the area for all residents and businesses.

“To start with we’re proposing to ban petrol and diesel vehicles in the morning and evening rush hours to reduce people’s exposure to dangerous fumes and make the streets safer when people are walking and cycling to and

from work and school.

“Our ultimate goal is to reclaim the streets from polluting motor vehicles: this ground breaking scheme is the first step towards doing that.”

Residents and businesses in the streets affected would still be able to use their cars.

The consultation closes on 14 February.

## MORE INFO

For more info, and to have your say, visit: [consultation.hackney.gov.uk](http://consultation.hackney.gov.uk)

## Reduce carbon emissions with a renewable energy website

**HOW** many times a day do you type a word into Google, or click send on an e-mail? Each time we use the internet we are generating carbon emissions.

In fact, it is estimated that the ICT industry generates 830 million tonnes of carbon dioxide every year. That’s two per cent of all global emissions, and the figure is rising rapidly.

One Hackney businessman is waging war on that pollution. Dalston resident Ben Clifford spent a decade working at a major multinational software company before, he explains: “I noticed there was a real lack of awareness around how the ICT sector contributes to the problem. People tend not even to know that websites

can create emissions until I mention it to them.”

As a result, last year he founded Erjio a web-design business. Ben offers his customers a hosting plan that makes sure that their websites are powered by 100 per cent renewable energy.

Ben explains that data centres are required to house the world’s websites. They

need a vast amount of energy to keep them online, but most are still powered by fossil fuels. In fact, these data centres are predicted to produce 1.9 gigatons of CO2 annually by 2025, the equivalent of running 400 million cars for a year.

For more info on creating a greener alternative website, visit: [www.erjiostudios.com](http://www.erjiostudios.com)

