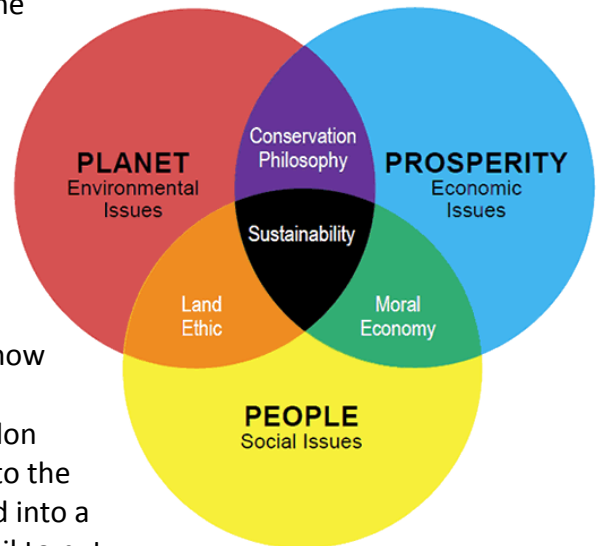


Putting Sustainability Front and Center in the City of London

London needs a much stronger sustainability agenda. The London Plan has done a great job in addressing some aspects of sustainability, like the chapter on Food Systems but it is weak and fragmented in its treatment of the overall concept of sustainability. For example, nowhere in the text is there a heading with the word sustainability in it nor is there even a definition of sustainability. Sustainability goals and targets are not well defined. Likewise there is not much information on the city's website on sustainability and how the city is using this concept in its planning and management. We see this as a big gap for London. London already has some great programs and ideas that speak to the concept of sustainability but none of it is well integrated into a common sustainability agenda. ACE recommends council to put sustainability **explicitly** on its agenda, not just because it is a nice thing to do but because our common future is at stake. We believe that this could be achieved with relatively little effort on the part of staff, a little help from friends (like ACE and the citizens of London) and a little financial support.



ACE **recommends** that the City of London should put sustainability front and center in its agenda through the following three actions:

1. The City should develop a Sustainability Statement which would not only be included in the London Plan but would form the basis of a sustainability framework and be featured prominently on the city's website and publications. The Sustainability Statement should include a vision, goals, principles, strategies and a definition of sustainability.
2. The London Plan should be updated to include the Sustainability Statement. It should form the basis of a revamped Green and Healthy City section which should be moved to the front of the City Building Policies Part of the London Plan.
3. Stemming from a Sustainability Statement, a Sustainability Strategy or Plan should be developed as soon as possible to spell out in more detail how the vision and goals of the Sustainability Statement will be achieved. This plan should be a community driven effort and tie together all current sustainability-related initiatives and policies.
4. The City should create a position of Sustainability Officer who would have the job of making sure that the sustainability agenda is applied: currently the City doesn't have this position. The Sustainability Officer should report directly to Council on all matters related to sustainability including the review of policy, city programs, planning applications, and sustainability indicators.