



Camden Climate Citizen Panel: Year 2 Meeting 1

Date: Thursday 14 October 2021, 18.00 – 21.00

Location: The Wesley Euston Hotel, 81-103 Euston St, London NW1 2EZ

Attendees: Anna P, Anna W, Chris, Mike, Niall, Sarah, Shana, Steven, Will

From Camden: Abigail Roberts, Jackson Bylett, Cllr Adam Harrison

Apologies: Beverly, Chandrima, Dwayne, Penny, Victor, Rumi

The panel received a brief re-cap on year 1 of panel meetings and how feedback has helped to shape the approach for year 2 of meetings. The panel were presented with a proposal that for the remainder of year 2, an independent facilitator will chair panel meetings with technical support provided by Camden Sustainability Officers. This was warmly received by the panel.

Panel members received a presentation on the progress of the Climate Action Plan Review document, which summarises progress of the delivery of the Climate Action Plan in its first year since published in July 2020. Panel members contributed directly to the development of the review, with a 'metrics dashboard' incorporated into reporting to help demonstrate tangible progress, which will act as a benchmark for future reviews and highlight the scale of progress made moving forward.

The information shared with panel members helped to kickstart discussions of how the panel would like to focus their work over the course of the next year and what they felt were the key priorities where they could have the greatest influence and impact.

Some reflections and comments that emerged during discussions relating to the delivery of the Climate Action Plan, Climate Action Plan Review document and the role of the panel are set out below:

- Transparency is key when communicating the scale of the climate crisis - what is possible within the remits of the Council and the urgency of a multi-stakeholder approach. Clarity required on how far the plan will go in terms of reaching net zero.
- What are the levers of influence that the Council has control over in relation to planning, policy, finance, permits and transport.
- The current definition of the 'purpose' of the panel doesn't incorporate the scrutiny element of the panel – 'advise' could be an appropriate way to provide clarity on the panel's role.
- Difficulty in striking the right balance between shocking people into action with information and disengaging people with the climate crisis.
- Understanding the rate of decarbonisation across Camden separate from decarbonisation of the grid and what further needs to be done – this would help to further communicate the scale of the challenge in the borough.
- Continue to push boundaries and break down silos across Camden teams to encourage a more collaborate approach to ensure all teams are working with sustainability in mind.

- Exploring heat waste options in Camden e.g., the tube network within/across the borough.

Reflections and comments relating to the key priorities that the panel would like to discuss in future sessions:

Thematic area	Climate Comms
Development of theme Relevant information Potential contributors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging residents with creative, meaningful, and powerful content. • Develop a network of pop-ups to help inform and engage residents so that the Council can help citizens to help themselves. This would benefit from including carbon literacy and skills training for residents and organisations. Particular attention could be paid to informing and re-informing recycling processes on housing estate, promotion of home retrofit where residents are already completing renovations and owners with cars in the borough. • Mapping networks and communications channels so that a greater reach is achieved, this should also include faith organisations and their places/buildings of worship. • Target businesses and organisations in order to increase the number of businesses joining the Camden Climate Change Alliance and encourage businesses to embed sustainability into their ethos and operations and move away from sustainability being an 'add-on'. • Link initiatives and create a network of knowledge sharing • Camden Corporate comms, CCCA, community groups, active networks, the panel. • Promote opportunities to citizens about responsible investment such as climate bonds.

Thematic area	Transport
Development of theme Relevant information Potential contributors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future vision of the borough, initially more cycle routes and fewer private cars with the implementation of more Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LENS). • Particular focus on encouraging private car owners to switch to electric vehicles (EV) and other alternative modes of transport. What will be the role of permits and tax in disincentivising private car owners. • Greater emphasis on mobilising car sharing pools – what is needed to make these a success? • The panel endorse the ambition of the vision for fewer cars on the road • Colleagues from across Camden's transport team, green spaces team, as well as businesses and organisations, Sustrans, local visionaries – local voices.

Thematic area	Retrofit
<p>Development of theme</p> <p>Relevant information</p> <p>Potential contributors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home energy efficiency upgrades embedded and promoted through the public information campaign and residents encouraged to insulate homes whilst carrying out other home improvement works. • Ensuring policy and Council stance supports heat pumps and phasing out of boilers. • Enable a more proactive environment in Camden. Explore sustainable finance opportunities for residents, break down barrier for planning to make solar panel installation easier. • Develop a Camden ‘Retrofit Army’ of ‘do-ers’ and ‘designers’, link in with a training programme for retrofitting skills. Work with schools to inspire younger generations into the industry to help fill skills shortages in the industry. • Specific focus on improving the energy efficiency of Camden schools with a ‘fabric-first’ approach. Involve pupils and give agency to help mobilise educational shift and understanding of buildings and their impacts on the environment. Schools to deliver school projects in relation to this topic. • Re-use of council building stock/structures.

Thematic area	Governance and Finance
<p>Development of theme</p> <p>Relevant information</p> <p>Potential contributors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of how teams from across the Council are working to the aspirations of the Climate Action Plan. • Cross collaboration approach between Camden teams. • Council leadership and incentives – what is within the Council’s remit and what financing options or opportunities exist to assist with roll out of the some of the large scale retrofit projects necessary to move closer to the net zero trajectory. • What funding mechanisms do residents have access to, in order to mobilise local action. • Planning, housing, fleet operators, Streetscape.